New Exhibition! Firsts and Founders: Early Women in Drama at Yale

January 23–May 19, 2020

As we celebrate 50 years of women in Yale College and 150 years of women in Yale’s graduate and professional schools, a glance back into the archives shows us that women have been students, faculty, and staff in the Yale School of Drama since its beginnings as the Department of Drama in 1925. Championed by founding chair George Pierce Baker, women made up one-third of the first classes in the Department of Drama and one of the four first teaching faculty. Women have been involved in all aspects of theater production at Yale from the earliest days, and they have brought their talents to teaching, writing, and creating theater around the world. This exhibition, drawn from materials in Arts Library Special Collections and Manuscripts and Archives, highlights just a few of those first women.

Curated by Lindsay King, Associate Director for Access and Research Services, Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library, Yale University