

# University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection

## Finding Aid - Luisa Muñoz del Valle Collection (CHC0237)

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# Luisa Muñoz del Valle Collection

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection
<b>Title:</b>	Luisa Muñoz del Valle Collection
<b>ID:</b>	CHC0237
<b>Date:</b>	1926-1987 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	Boxes
<b>Language:</b>	Spanish
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Luisa Muñoz del Valle was a teacher, poet, and journalist born in Sancti Spiritus, Las Villas, Cuba, on June 4, 1906.

The daughter of Luis Muñoz Valdés and Francisca del Valle Gonzáles, she was baptized Luisa María Juana Muñoz del Valle. For her early education she attended the Colegio San Francisco Javier in Sancti Spiritus. She began her postsecondary education at the Escuelas Normales de Santa Clara, Las Villas, ultimately earning her degree in education from the Escuelas Normales de la Habana, in 1930.

Muñoz taught in private schools from 1930 to 1938 while studying for her doctorate. She later went on to complete her doctorate in Pedagogy at the University of Havana, receiving her degree on November 18, 1937. During this time she had already started writing her poetry. Her first major award as a poet was at the Juegos Florales in Sancti Spiritus where she was awarded the Flor Natural (First Prize) for her poem, “Civilización Occidental” in 1934. In 1935, encouraged by Cuban poets Andrés de Piedra-Bueno and José Angel Buesa, she published her only book of poetry, *Angelus*.

In 1936 Muñoz received national recognition when her poem “Romance de la Virgen de la Caridad” won third place at the Eucharistic Congress and Coronation of Our Lady of Charity. From this point on, she published her poems frequently in magazines such as *San Antonio*, *Azul*, *El Fénix*, *La Milagrosa*, and *Semanario Católico*, with which she had collaborated since 1928.

Muñoz pursued another professional interest, in journalism, at the Escuela Profesional de Periodismo “Manuel Marquez Sterling.” When she graduated in 1950, she was first in her class—the first time a woman had done so. After spending a year studying in Spain through a scholarship from the Ministry of Education, she started working as a journalist, predominantly for *Alerta!*, where she edited the daily Catholicism column.

Luisa Muñoz worked less after the Revolution since many newspapers were closed down by the policies of the Castro regime. She chose, however, to remain in Cuba instead of going into exile like the rest of her family. She stayed living in Havana, publishing her poems whenever possible, while her health increasingly weakened. Her family in Miami, particularly her brother, Dr. Luis B. Muñoz del Valle, tried

to convince her to leave during the Mariel exodus in 1980 but she refused because she felt she would burden her family too much. Her health continued to deteriorate until her death on August 2, 1987.

## Custodial history

Friends of Luisa Muñoz del Valle mailed materials to Dr. Muñoz over a period of three years, following the death of Luisa Muñoz.

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## Scope and content

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The collection consists of manuscripts, publications, books, clippings and photographs. Of primary importance is the poetry of Luisa Muñoz del Valle, most of which is unpublished outside of Cuba.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Immediate source of acquisition

Gift of Dr. Luis Muñoz del Valle, 1991.

### Arrangement

The Luisa Muñoz del Valle Collection is organized into two series.  
Please see the Finding Aid/Inventory section of this guide for more detailed information.

### Restrictions on access

This collection is open for research.

### Conditions governing use

Requests to publish or display materials from this collection require written permission from the rights owner. Please, contact [chc@miami.edu](mailto:chc@miami.edu) for more information.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** ArchonInternalCollectionID:144

## Access points

- Muñoz del Valle, Luisa, 1906-1987 (subject)
- Poets, Cuban -- 20th century (subject)

## Series descriptions

### Series id6415: Poetry and Prose Works

Date: 1926-1959 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains the poetry (box 1) and prose (box 2) works of Luisa Muñoz del Valle from such Cuban publications as Azul, Semanario Católico, La Quincena, San Antonio, Alerta, and El Fénix.

Arrangement:

Alphabetically by title

Publication status:

Published

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
id46892	File -			1
id46893	File - Correspondence from A. de Mora to Ambrosio Valiente	Mora, A. de	1855	1 19

### Series id6416: Subject Files

Date: 1934-1987 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series includes books, publications, clippings, typescripts, and photographs. Among items of interest are copies of Angelus (box 3, folder 1); hymns written by Muñoz del Valle (box 3, folder 10); and photographs (box 3, folder 13).

Arrangement:

Alphabetical

Publication status:

Published

**File / item list**