



## NMSU Library News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT Jeanette Smith, Library, 646-7492, [jcsmith@lib.nmsu.edu](mailto:jcsmith@lib.nmsu.edu)

---

### Medoff Donates Papers to University Library

Internationally acclaimed playwright Mark Medoff recently donated a collection of his papers to the New Mexico State University Library.

The materials include original play broadsides, personal correspondence, photo scrapbooks relating to his plays, typewritten scripts for his plays, photographs, framed posters and ephemera from his plays and plays made into movies such as *Children of a Lesser God* and *Clara's Heart*.



*Mark Medoff.  
Photo, University  
Communications.*

“We are pleased to acquire such an important research collection,” said Steve Hussman, head of the Library’s Archives & Special Collections.

Medoff is best known for his 1980 Tony award-winning play *Children of a Lesser God*, starring Phyllis Frelich. Medoff also won an Obie award for his 1973 play *When You Comin’ Back, Red Ryder?* as well as many other awards. In 1999, he was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre.

Medoff also directs, acts and writes screenplays. He recently directed the film *Children on Their Birthdays*, based on a short story by Truman Capote. His opera *Sara McKinnon* premiered at New Mexico State University in 2001.

Medoff holds degrees from the University of Miami and Stanford University. He served on the English and Theatre Arts faculties at New Mexico State University for twenty-seven years and he co-founded the American Southwest Theatre Company.

Medoff and his wife, Stephanie Thorne (a former Library staff member), have three daughters. They have made their home in Las Cruces for thirty-five years.

For more information on the Medoff collection, contact the Library’s Archives & Special Collections staff at 505-646-3839.