

Ernie Harburg is a social psychologist and Director of The Yip Harburg Lyrics Foundation (YHLF), which is dedicated to his father Yip Harburg's vision of social justice. From 1969-2004 Ernie was the coowner of the counterculture Del Rio Bar in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which is the subject of his book, Liberty, Equality, Consensus and All That Jazz at the Del Rio Bar (Huron River Press, 2009). He is also the author of Who Put the Rainbow in The Wizard of Oz? Yip Harburg, Lyricist (University of Michigan Press, 1993, with Harold Meyerson) and The Broadway Musical: Collaboration in Commerce and Art (NYU Press, 1993, with Bernard Rosenberg).

Ernie is also a Senior Research Scientist Emeritus at the University of Michigan Departments of Epidemiology and Psychology and School of Public Health and has written close to 90 articles in the field (click here for a full list). He received a Classic Research Award from Psychosomatic Medicine (1959-1979) for a research project published in 1973. He was also an Associate Professor, Head and co-founder of a Nursing Research Program at the University of Michigan School of Nursing (half of the graduates published their theses). He is completing a book and a set of multi-media products (e-books) called Somewhere Over the Rainbow: The Story of a Song in collaboration with his wife Deena (author and educator) and Jonathan Zietz (CEO of ThinkVisual Group). He is still publishing research articles; co-producing with his wife Deena a musical (The Wizard of Oz: A Jazz Musical for All Ages), writing his memoirs and will soon publish his latest book, We're Off to See the Wizard: Yip Harburg, Lyrical Activist.