



William Way LGBT Community Center ephemera files, 1972-2012 : Ms.Coll.35

Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Michael Gubicza
through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania
Small Archival Repositories on

PDF produced on July 17, 2019

John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center
1315 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
archives@waygay.org

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical/Historical Note	3
Scope and Content Note	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5

Summary Information

Repository:	John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center
Creator:	William Way Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center (Philadelphia, Pa.).
Title:	William Way LGBT Community Center ephemera files
ID:	Ms.Coll.35
Date [inclusive]:	1972-2012
Physical Description:	47 Linear Feet
Physical Description:	23 file drawers and flat file
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The William Way LGBT Community Center ephemera files, 1972-2012, consists of flyers, newsletters, advertisements, posters, and other ephemera from LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) organizations, events, businesses, community groups, etc.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical/Historical Note

The direct descendant of the William Way Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center is the Gay Community Center of Philadelphia (GCCP), which was located at 326 Kater Street from April 1976 to November 23, 1981. From 1982 to 1995, the organization continued as Penguin Place.

"The William Way Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center was formed in 1996, when a group of community leaders came together with the goal of creating a stronger, more stable community center out of Penguin Place, the community center at the time.

"After an extensive search, the Community Center purchased the former Engineers' Club of Philadelphia in March 1997. Soon after, renovations began, and the building opened to the public in July 1997. Since then, the Center has developed an array of programming and services that target LGBT groups, and community organizations have moved permanent offices into the Community Center. In addition, over 70 groups meet at the Community Center on a regular basis, and many more use the facility for special events. The building is open seven days a week and is currently [as of 2012] used by over 2,500 people each month."

Bibliography:

Quoted text from: William Way Community Center. "About Us." Accessed June 25, 2012. <http://waygay.org/aboutus/default.asp>.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of flyers, newsletters, advertisements, posters, and other ephemera from LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) organizations, events, businesses, and community groups. Most are based in the Philadelphia area, but there are also materials from other localities.

A listing of subjects in the ephemera file is available to on-site researchers.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center

1315 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
archives@waygay.org

Conditions Governing Access Note

Contact John J. Wilcox Jr. LGBT Archives of Philadelphia for information about accessing this collection.

Immediate Source of Acquisition Note

Ephemera collected over time by volunteers of the William Way LGBT Community Center.

Processing Information Note

Summary descriptive information on this collection was compiled in 2011-2012 as part of a pilot project conducted by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to make better known and more

accessible the largely hidden collections of small, primarily volunteer run repositories in the Philadelphia area. The Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories (HCI-PSAR) was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

This is a preliminary finding aid. No physical processing, rehousing, reorganizing, or folder listing was accomplished during the HCI-PSAR project.

In some cases, more detailed inventories or finding aids may be available on-site at the repository where this collection is held; please contact John J. Wilcox Jr. LGBT Archives of Philadelphia directly for more information.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Gay community
- Gays
- Lesbians
- Philadelphia (Pa.)
- Sexual minorities