

LGBTQ+ History Project

Finding aid prepared by Janine White
Historical Society of Long Beach
4260 Atlantic Ave.
Long Beach, California 90807
Phone: (562) 424-2220
URL: <http://www.hslb.org>
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Descriptive Summary

More than 20 Individual collections are housed at HSLB. They include photographs and photo albums, event programs, flyers, matchbooks, bumper stickers, clothing, Long Beach Pride souvenirs, pins/buttons, banners, posters, magazines, travel and guidebooks, newsletters, newspapers, art pieces and portfolios, tickets, advertisements, business cards, oral histories, videos, correspondence, and manuscripts.

Subjects and themes include Long Beach Pride, LGBTQ+ nightlife in Long Beach and the greater Los Angeles area, the International Imperial Court of Long Beach, AIDS activism, healthcare, and education in the 1980s and beyond, artists and art, and organizations and clubs, and political activism.

Title: LGBTQ+ History Project

Bulk Dates: 1970-2010

Collection Numbers: 2012.111; 2012.112; 2013.002; 2013.011; 2013.014; 2013.015; 2013.016; 2013.017; 2013.018; 2013.019; 2013.021; 2013.028; 2013.029; 2013.048; 2013.064; 2013.067; 2014.016; 2014.031; 2020.031; 2023.040; 2023.059; 2023.061

Creator: Various

Extent:

Total 12 linear feet

Repository: Historical Society of Long Beach

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Abstract

This collection covers the rich and vast history of the LGBTQ+ community in the city of Long Beach, collected from notable community members and organizations. Materials include photographs and photo albums, event programs, flyers, matchbooks, bumper stickers, clothing, Long Beach Pride souvenirs, pins/buttons, banners, posters, magazines, travel/guidebooks, newsletters, newspapers, art pieces and portfolios,

tickets, advertisements, business cards, oral histories, videos, correspondence, and manuscripts.

Language

Collection materials are in English.

Administration Information Access

There are no access restrictions on this collection.

Publication Rights

Requests for permission to publish or quote from materials must be submitted in writing to the Historical Society of Long Beach. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Historical Society of Long Beach as the owner of the physical materials, and does not include permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.

Preferred Citation

[Title of item], [Item Type], LGBTQ+ HISTORY PROJECT COLLECTION, from the archives of the Historical Society of Long Beach. Historical Society of Long Beach. Long Beach, California.

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated to the Historical Society of Long Beach (HSLB) by several different donors over the course of 2012-present: Long Beach Pride (LBLGP), Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club, The Center, Ray Lowen, Marsha Naify, Daryl Laris/Dorothy Big Mouth, Mikey Davis, and more.

Processing Information

Acquisition of the LGBTQ+ History Project began in July 2012. The project was launched by the Historical Society of Long Beach (HSLB) in order to collect, preserve, and share the history of Long Beach's LGBTQIA+ community. The project came to fruition under a steering committee led by Marsha Naify, former President of the Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club, and Julie Bartolotto, Executive Director of the HSLB, along with HSLB staff and board members, past and present board members from Long Beach Pride, The Center, the Lambda Democratic Club and the Imperial Court. Items in this collection were collected and displayed as part of the Coming Out in Long Beach exhibit at HSLB, which ran from February 26, 2013-May 2, 2014.

Since 2023, HSLB archives volunteer Janine White has been working under the supervision of HSLB Archivist Jen Malone to perform an inventory of the existing collection, and accession new and previous acquisitions. Effort was made to keep collection items in original order as much as possible. However, several different collections were housed together, or were received without original order, and in those cases intellectual arrangement was applied for clarity.

The processing of this collection and creation of this finding aid was made possible by generous support from the Port of Long Beach.

Scope and Content

The broader LGBTQ+ History Project encompasses over 20 Individual collections including photographs and photo albums, event programs, flyers, matchbooks, bumper stickers, clothing, Long Beach Pride souvenirs, pins/buttons, banners, posters, magazines, travel/guidebooks, newsletters, newspapers, art pieces and portfolios, tickets, advertisements, business cards, oral histories, videos, correspondence, and manuscripts. Subjects and themes include Long Beach Pride, LGBTQ+ nightlife in Long Beach and the greater Los Angeles area, the Imperial Court, AIDS activism, healthcare, and education in the 1980s and beyond, LGBTQ+ newspapers and publications, LGBTQ+ travel guides, LGBTQ+ artists, and organizations and clubs such as the Center, AIDS Walk Long Beach, Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club,

Arrangement

Arranged by individual collections:

2012.111.002-.015:

Matchbooks for Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride, Inc, as well as various bars and nightclubs including Floyds, Sweet Water Saloon, LeChat, Ripples, Mine Shaft, Brit A Gentleman's Pub, Birds of Paradise, IMPACT Long Beach

.016-.017: Long Beach Dyke March banner and shirt

2012.112

Several issues of Lesbian News, Blade Magazine, & Nitelife, as well as an Outfest guide, and correspondence to Denise Penn

2013.002 - Daryl Laris/Dorothy Big Mouth Collection

Extensive collection of event programs, flyers, pins/buttons, magazines, newspapers/periodicals, photos, tickets, clothing, and other ephemera documenting Long Beach's LGBTQ+ nightlife and social scene from the 1970s-2000s, particularly the Imperial Court.

2013.011

Correspondence, documents, advertisements, and ephemera commemorating Long Beach AIDS Walk 1988-1989, and the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt (1997).

2013.014 - Ray Lowen Collection

Personal collection of Long Beach artist and AIDS activist Ray Lowen. Includes Lowen's resume, artist portfolio, twelve art pieces, and a scrapbook of drawings, event flyers and programs, photos including several of various years' Long Beach Pride parades, correspondence, items from The Center including Center Post issues, and newspaper articles.

2013.015

Includes Long Beach Pride ephemera from various years, including pins/buttons, posters, programs, souvenir cups and keychains, t-shirts, tickets, and photos. Also includes various LGBTQ+ pins, programs, photos, banners, posts and other souvenirs

and ephemera from organizations and events such as Cal State University, Long Beach (CSULB), Long Beach Lambda, and AIDS Walk.

2013.016

Biography, photos of, and obituary for Brenda Weathers, CSULB alumni and Long Beach resident who started the Alcoholism Center for Women in Los Angeles in the 1970s, which focused on helping lesbians struggling with alcohol addiction, and later served as executive director of WomenShelter in Long Beach.

2013.017 - Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club Collection

Includes programs and ephemera from AIDS Walk Long Beach (1989-1998) and the Long Beach Lambda Human Rights Banquet (1985-2012), David Newell's ephemera from the Democratic Caucus (1986-87, 1991-92, 1994, & 1997) and the Lesbian and Gay Caucus, correspondence, Prop 64 and Prop 8 ephemera, Certificates of Recognition, newspaper clippings, and an oral history interview with David Newell.

2013.018 - Oral History Interviews

Oral history interviews with Ellen Ward, Judi Doyle, Bob Crow, Vanessa Romain, Kevin Geary, Flo Pickett, and Lorna Albertsen.

2013.019

Photo album containin photos from the 15th Annual Human Rights Awards Banquet

2013.021

Collection of LGBTQ+ pins/buttons: "We Deserve It! Gay Respect" CSULB; "I'm Circusized" Gay Pride 1980 Circus Disco; SocialJusticeSexuality.com 2010; Pink Triangle; Mother Lode Los Angeles 1980 Gay Pride Week; Girlfriends Magazine.

2013.028

Ephemera from various organizations including Long Beach City Council, Project 10 LGBT Youth Outreach Program, Raices Latinas, Long Beach Pride, First Congressional Church Long Beach, Mattchine Society Long Beach, Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club, AIDS Walk Long Beach, and ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Center. Items include programs, books, articles/publication clippings, posters, magazines, LGBTQ+ guide books, and a David Hensley oral history interview.

2013.029

Assorted items including a photo of John Garcia and Ray Lowen, a photo of the AIDS quilt in Washington D.C., a Silver Fox reproduction matchbook, and a photo of the Apple Valley Steakhouse.

2013.048

Pamphlets from Edwin: A Performance Art Event at the OUT Theatre in Long Beach, as well as a biography about poet and CSULB alumni Clifton Snider.

2013.064

"I Do" support marriage equality poster from marriageequality.org. This poster was donated to the HSLB after prop 8 and the Defense of Marriage Act were both ruled as unconstitutional in the U.S. Supreme Court in June of 2013.

2013.067

Two photos, one of Long Beach Pride founders Marilyn Barlow, Bob Crow, and Judi Doyle, and one of Doyle, Robin Watkins (Administrative Assistant) and Carol Landess (Project Ahead Administrator).

2014.016

32nd Annual Human Rights Awards Banquet program.

2014.031

Clothing, including Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club t-shirts, a Pride t-shirt that reads "Look to the Future 1990. Long Beach, California."

2020.031

Clothing, including an LBLGP Inc. t-shirt and jacket, a jacket from Floyds bar, and an LA Rodeo '94 10th Anniversary Jacket.

2023.040

Ephemera from the MFA thesis project of artist Jamie Ross, including his thesis "Neptune's Closet: Sensing the 606 Club," an art piece titled "The Raid - Long Beach Recital of Shameless Men," a large-scale photo print of the early 1900s postcard "The Pike At Night," and a scan of the December 28, 1930 Los Angeles Times article "Do You Know Your Conchology?" which covers Los Angeles Conchology Club member Herbert Nelson Lowe, who was notably acquitted after being arrested during the 1914 police raid of the 606 Club, a weekly drag society gathering in Long Beach.

2023.059

Metal pin from Floyds bar, which was located at 2913 E. Anaheim Ave. in Long Beach.

2023.061 - Pastors Judy and Darletta Horn Collection

Personal collection of Judy and Darletta Horn, pastors who founded the LGBT-friendly Christ Chapel of the Rockies and Christ Chapel of Long Beach, and, after 30 years together, were the first couple to get married at the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office in Norwalk when gay marriage was legalized in 2013. Collection includes Imperial Court photos and ephemera, newspaper clippings, Long Beach Pride photos and 2017 Long Beach Pride Board Member badges, personal photos and photo albums, and Christ Chapel photos and ephemera.

Indexing Terms

Subjects

AIDS activists

AIDS information centers

AIDS education

Drag
Drag community
Drag performers
Drag balls
Dyke marches
Gay activism
Gay art
Gay artists
Gay bars
Gay choruses
Gay Christians
Gay community centers
Gay newsletters
Gay newspapers
Gay pride
Gay pride parades
Lesbian activists
Lesbian clergy
Lesbian Christians
Lesbian couples
LGBTQ+ weddings
Healthcare for LGBTQ+ people
Lambda
LGBTQ+ archives
LGBTQ+ bars
LGBTQ+ centers
LGBTQ+ clubs
LGBTQ+ culture
LGBTQ+ events
LGBTQ+ history
LGBTQ+ magazines
LGBTQ+ night life
LGBTQ+ people of color
LGBTQ+ press
LGBTQ+ tourism
Lesbian community
Queer Christians
Queer clergy
Queer community centers
Transgender community
Transgender community centers

Geographic Areas

Belmont Shore (Long Beach, Calif.)
Bixby Knolls (Long Beach, Calif.)
California

Central Long Beach (Long Beach, Calif.)
Downtown Long Beach (Long Beach, Calif.)
Long Beach Harbor (Calif.)
Long Beach (Calif.)
Los Altos (Long Beach, Calif.)
Marina (Long Beach, Calif.)
Naples (Long Beach, Calif.)
North Long Beach (Long Beach, Calif.)
Southern California
Waterfront (Long Beach, Calif.)
West Hollywood (Calif.)
Wilmington (Calif.)
West Long Beach (Long Beach, Calif.)
Westside (Long Beach, Calif.)