

LGBT History Project of Central PA: Lessons Learned Working with a Living Community Archive

Acquisition

Accession Number	Name of Donor	Name of Collection	Permission to Use Donor's Name	Restrictions	Basic Inventory (mmmm/yyyy)	Inventory Online (yyyy/mm/yy)	Finding Aid Progress	Finding Aid Online (yyyy/mm/yy)
LGBT-013	Selvey, Dr. Eric		Yes		2016-01-06	2019	Complete	2023_11_30
LGBT-014	Loveland, Barry		Yes		2020-11-12	2023_12_09	INVENTORY UPDATED	
LGBT-015	Barns, John R.		Yes		2016-07-14	2019	Complete	2023_12_09
LGBT-016	O'Leary, Gary		Yes		2016-01-06	2019	Complete	2023_12_09
LGBT-017	Pfeiffer, Tom		Permission via e-mail Jan 2016		2016-01-07	2019	Complete	2023_03_23
LGBT-018	Yuth, Gerald G.		Yes		2016-11-03	2019	Complete	2023_03_23
LGBT-019	Dattner, Nancy L. and Lukkar, Riitta		Yes		2016-01-08	2019	Complete	2023_03_23
LGBT-020	N/A	Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)					Complete	2022_01_34
LGBT-021	LGBT Center of Central PA		Yes		2018-02-22	2022_09_17	INVENTORY UPDATED	
LGBT-022	Kojima, Loraine		Yes		2016-05-06	2019		

In collaboration with Barry Loveland, the lead volunteer of the LGBT History Project, and Malinda Triller-Doran, Special Collections Librarian and my direct supervisor, I help with creating inventories for new acquisitions and adding collection information to our master acquisitions spreadsheet.

I have learned that since this collection is heavily used, it is best practice to create rough inventories of new donations right away. Also, with the master acquisitions spreadsheet, it is easier to add new acquisitions in, from new as well as previous donors.

Arrangement & Description

I helped to develop the final version of the Finding Aid Template specific to this project, and using that template, I arrange and describe items independently.

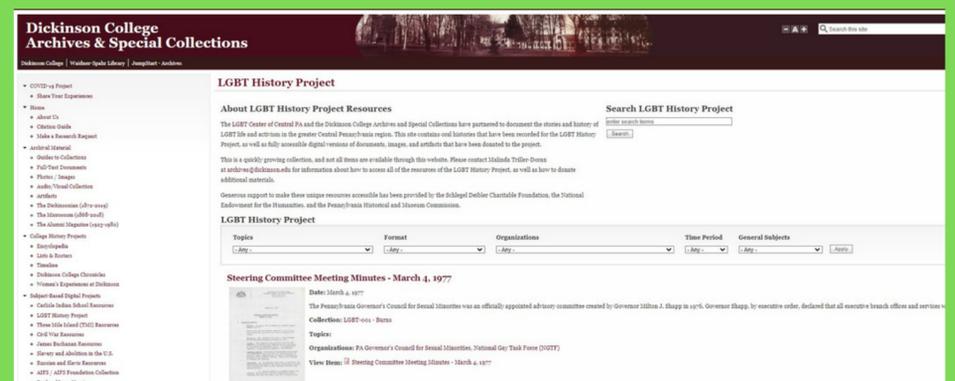
Since the collections within this project are living, we created a finding aid that provides room for growth that comes with the possibility of new donations being added to previously arranged items.



Access

After Barry and Malinda choose what items to digitize, I was/am the sole scanning technician for the project. Once items are digitized and edited, I create descriptive metadata to post on the LGBT History Project content page for digital access.

This part of the project allowed me to be a part of the digitization process from start to finish. I helped to finalize description standards for the digital surrogates, as well as learned more about copyright and privacy since we took great care in only posting digital surrogates we had permission to post. Also, gaining permissions to post items was easier since the majority of donors to this project are still living.



Use

I get to help with research requests pertaining to the collection, digital and physical exhibit creation, and currently, instruction for an undergraduate class using the collection for an end of term project.

Because of the nature of this collection is showcasing a small, local community, use of this collection is high! I not only get to process these materials, but I get to see my work being used, and be a part of that use.



History of LGBTQ+ Bars in Central PA

