COLLECTION NUMBER: Coll.7
TITLE: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator(s): Miscellaneous Groups, Organizations, and Individuals
Title: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth Collection
Extent: 1 linear foot
Date Span: 1969-2007
Repository: The History Project, Archives and Records Department

Finding aid prepared for The History Project, Archives and Records Department by Andrew Elder, Summer 2007.

SUBJECT TERMS

Subject Names:

Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY)
Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth (BAGLY)
Project Lambda
Charles Street Meeting House/Gay Community Center (GCC)
Project 10 East
Governor’s Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth (GCGLY)
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)
Boston Area Gay and Lesbian Schoolworkers (BAGALS)
Tufts University
Northeastern University
High School Gays United (HSGU)
Boston Intercollegiate Lesbian and Gay Alliance
Harvard/Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian Students Association

Subject Topics:

Gay youth—Massachusetts.
Lesbian youth—Massachusetts.
Bisexual youth—Massachusetts.
Transgender youth—Massachusetts.
Homosexuality and education—Massachusetts.
Massachusetts. Safe Schools Program for Gay & Lesbian Students.
ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Terms of Use/Copyright: Unrestricted, though some items in the collection are copyrighted by individuals and/or organizations outside The History Project.

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The variety of materials in this collection speak to the long tradition of activism around the rights and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth in Massachusetts, and attest to changing societal attitudes both across the state and around the United States concerning LGBT youth. Importantly, this collection shows the central role that LGBT youth have played in activist efforts in both the Boston area and throughout Massachusetts.

Materials in this collection reach as far back as 1969, when Time Magazine published a cover story called “The Homosexual in America” which discussed, as part of its scope, lesbian and gay youth. A few years later, in 1972, High School Gays United (HSGU) formed in Boston to provide an outlet for gay and lesbian youth. HSGU is the first documented group of its kind in Massachusetts. From that point, and moving toward the present, the groups, organizations, and movements included in this collection reveal the varying issues that have shaped both the LGBT youth community and the LGBT community in general.

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES


Series II – Groups/Organizations/Institutions (n.d., 1972 – 2007): Contains materials from various groups, organizations, and institutions concerned with the rights and well-being of LGBT youth. Many of the materials in this Series overlap notably with efforts to first develop and later enhance Safe Schools programs throughout Massachusetts and, to a lesser extent, across the country. Importantly, this Series includes information about various student-run groups from as early as 1980, as well as information documenting the efforts of higher education institutions to promote the rights and well-being of their campus’ LGBT community.

Series III – Events (1979 – 2005): The bulk of material in this Series pertains to LGBT/Gay and Straight Youth Pride, which officially began in 1995. Other materials in this Series include information about the 1979 Gay Prom to benefit the Committee for Gay Youth, as well as other LGBT youth-friendly events.

Series IV – Subseries A, B, and C – Safe Schools Programs (1993-2007): The development of a Safe Schools program in Massachusetts came after the founding of
several Gay/Straight Alliances (GSAs) throughout the state and throughout the country. This Series (including Subseries A, B, and C) document this struggle for safe spaces for students to learn and grow.

**Subseries A – General:** Included in this Subseries are materials from the (Massachusetts) Governor’s Commission of Gay and Lesbian Youth (GCGLY) – the first of its kind in the United States – and relevant Governor Proclamations concerning the rights and well-being of LGBT youth throughout Massachusetts. Also included are materials from the first official conference (Making Schools Safe) addressing statewide efforts to ensure the safety of LGBT youth, as well as the inclusion of LGBT concerns in educational curriculums.

**Subseries B – GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network):** In Subseries B are GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network) conference materials and miscellaneous organizational information from 1998-2007. GLSEN is a national organization with a group in Boston – GLSEN Boston. GLSEN’s central mission is to promote Safe Schools throughout the United States and to serve as a resource for the formation of Gay/Straight Alliances (GSAs) and for incorporating LGBT issues into school curriculums.

**Subseries C – Colleges and Universities:** Included in this Subseries are materials from various Safe Colleges conferences in 2000 – at Northeastern University and Tufts University.

**Series V – LGBT Student Rights (1994 – 2004 and date unknown):** Materials in Series V deal with legal issues as they pertain, in particular, to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth. The bulk of materials in this Series are resource guides for LGBT youth detailing their rights in the state of Massachusetts – and prepared in part by the Governor’s Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth (GCGLY).

**Series VI – Journal, Magazine, and Newspaper Articles (1972 – 2007 and date unknown):** This Series provides scholarly and journalistic evidence of the long-running debate concerning the rights and well-being of LGBT youth throughout the country and, in particular for this collection, in Massachusetts.

**Series VII – Unity Conference (2001):** In 2001, at Franklin High School in Massachusetts, there was held a Unity Conference focusing on LGBT youth issues. Included in this series are materials the History Project acquired at this conference.

**Series VIII – The History Project: Millennium Rainbow (1970s – 2001):** In 2000, the History Project put together an exhibit of LGBT youth-related materials for display in the Gallery Lounge at Northeastern University. Other area groups involved in this project: Project 10 East, the Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth (BAGLY), Boston GLASS, NuBiLaGa, East Meets West, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. This Series includes planning materials, flyers, photographs, newspaper clippings, and high-quality color scans of items included in the exhibit. Of particular note are scans of flyers from the early 1970s advertising dances, events, and parties for gay and lesbian youth.

**Series IX – Mixed and Miscellaneous (1993 – 1998 and date unknown):** This Series contains miscellaneous ephemera, including stickers and photocopies of pins from the History Project’s larger collection. Also included are miscellaneous undated flyers and a
youth timeline, describing the history of LGBT youth in Massachusetts and across the country.

SERIES AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

Series I: Publications

Series II: Groups/Organizations/Institutions
Folder 6: High School Gays United (HSGU), (1972)
Folder 9: Boston Area Gay and Lesbian Schoolworkers (BAGALS), (1978)
Folder 14: Boston Intercollegiate Lesbian and Gay Alliance (BILGA), (1983 – 1989)
Folder 16: Northeastern University LGBT Community, (1994)
Folder 17: Greater Boston Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), ([1994]-2001)
Folder 18: Project 10 East: Ephemera, (date known)
Folder 19: Project 10 East: Flyers, Pamphlets, and Programs, (1999 and dates unknown)
Folder 23: Campaign to End Homophobia: Pamphlets, (date unknown)
Folder 24: National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender College Fund, (date unknown)
Folder 25: Pamphlets and Flyers, Miscellaneous Organizations/Groups: 
  - Fenway Community Health Center, (date unknown)
  - The Latino Gay Youth Project, (date unknown)
  - Boston GLASS Community Center, (date unknown)
  - Youth of Color Coalition, (2005)
  - Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE), (date unknown)

Series III: Events
Folder 26: Gay Prom: Fundraiser for Committee for Gay Youth, (1979)
Folder 28: Boston Youth Pride: Governor Weld’s Proclamation Concerning Youth Pride, (1995)

**Series IV: Safe Schools Programs**

**Subseries A: General**
Folder 34: Making Schools Safe: Conference Program, (1993)
Folder 36: “An Act to Prohibit Discrimination Against Students in Public Schools on the Basis of Sexual Orientation,” (1993)

**Subseries B: Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)**
Folder 45: TeachOut Conference: Programs (sponsored by GLSEN and GCGLY), (1998 and 2000)

**Subseries C: Colleges and Universities**

**Series V: LGBT Student Rights**

**Series VI: Journal, Magazine, and Newspaper Articles**
Folder 53: Journal, Magazine, and Newspaper Articles, (1972 – 2007 and date unknown)

**Series VII: Unity Conference**
**Series VIII: The History Project: Millennium Rainbow**


Folder 56: Flyers Used for Millennium Rainbow Exhibit:
- Student Homophile League (SHL)
- Charles Street Meeting House/Gay Community Center (GCC)
- Homophile Union of Boston (HUB)
- Arlington Street Church
- Oddfellow’s Hall
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Student Homophile League
- Boston University Homophile Club

**Series IX: Mixed and Miscellaneous**

Folder 57: Miscellaneous Ephemera, (date unknown)
Folder 59: LGBT Youth History: Timeline, (date unknown)
Folder 60: Northeastern University Archival Collections, (date unknown)