K0620

Brandeis University National Women’s Committee, Greater Kansas City Chapter Records
[Jewish Community Archives]
1972-2007
4 cubic feet, oversize

Organizational records of the chapter dedicated to fundraising and support of the Brandeis University libraries. Includes flyers, invites, brochures, newspaper clippings, newsletters, photographs, photo albums, scrapbooks, and directories.

HISTORY:

Founded in 1948, the same year as Brandeis University, the only non-sectarian university in the world sponsored by the American Jewish community, the Brandeis University National Women’s Committee (BUNWC) is a volunteer fundraising organization that provides financial support for the university’s libraries. At the time of Brandeis’ creation, such an organization was sorely needed, as the university’s book collection initially consisted of a meager 2000 volumes housed in a converted horse stable. Determined to create a library rivaling those of the Ivy Leagues, the following eight women: Gladys Helzberg; Mildred Newman; Helen Blond; Gertrude Dann; Fanny Feld; Charlene Mag; Florence Margolin; and Julia Terte, met with George Halper, member of Brandeis University National Board to form BUNWC Greater K.C. It was to serve the dual mission of enhancing educational resources along with connecting Brandeis to its members’ communities through programs reflecting social justice and academic excellence. The BUNWC Greater Kansas City Chapter was chartered in 1952, with Gladys Helzberg serving as the first president.

Through their perseverance over the decades, these objectives were not only accomplished but surpassed, for BUNWC is presently the largest “friends of a library” organization in the world, with over 42,000 members in 83 chapters organized in 77 communities (with a National headquarters in Waltham, MA) who have raised over $100 million for Brandeis’ libraries and continue to utilize the university’s resources in unique education programs such as the renowned study group courses. Through its funds, BUNWC currently supports the

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development and expansion of Brandeis’ libraries through the acquisition of books (surpassing one million in 1997) and research journals, restoration and preservation, development of information technology, student work assistance, and the endowment of a $2.5 million University Librarian chair providing student scholarships.

Concentrated in Kansas City, Overland Park, and Shawnee Mission, the Greater Kansas City Chapter of BUNWC (now known as Brandeis National Committee) has sponsored numerous activities such as annual theater parties, art exhibits, book funds, book sales, telethons, film screenings, study groups, and Oakwood Country Club luncheons featuring comedians and musicians. Over the decades its members have included highly visible women in the local Jewish community such as Shirley Helzer, Debbie Granoff, Judy Kahn, Regina Pachter, and Maureen Durwood.

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Evelyn Lowenthal as accession KA1547 on August 30, 2007. Subsequent additions were received as follows: KA1848 from Patsy Dunn Shanberg on October 19, 2010; KA1857 from Peggy Simons on January 21, 2009. Accession KA2029 was received from Allan Garfinkle on July 21, 2011.

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PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; folder number; Brandeis University National Women’s Committee, Greater Kansas City Chapter Records (K0620); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

CONTACT:

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http://shs.umsystem.edu/index.shtml
DESCRIPTION:

This collection contains administrative records, forms, flyers, invites, brochures, newspaper clippings, newsletters, photographs, photo albums, scrapbooks, and directories.

INVENTORY:

**BOX 001**

**ADMINISTRATION/EVENTS**

Folder 1.1  Board minutes, 1988-1997  
Folder 1.2  Book & Author Events Guide, 1995  
Folder 1.3  By-laws, 1981-1999  
Folder 1.4  Certificates of appreciation, 1987-2005  
Folder 1.5  Executive board meetings, receipts, 1980-1984  
Folder 1.6  Forms, 1980s  
Folder 1.7  Invites, 1990s-2004  
Folder 1.8  Listen & Learn flyers, 1991-1997  
Folder 1.9  Member lists, 1979-2005  
Folder 1.10  Membership, 1981-1991  
Folder 1.11  Minutes, 1981-1982  
Folder 1.12  Minutes and attendance, 1976-1980  
Folder 1.13  Minutes and attendance, 1996-1999  
Folder 1.14  Minutes and attendance, 1996-1999  
Folder 1.15  Movie flyers, 1988-1997  
Folder 1.16  New membership luncheons, 1980-1982  
Folder 1.17  Past officers and board, 1977-1983  
Folder 1.18  Publicity, 1984-1985  
Folder 1.19  Study group brochures, 1982-2007

**NEWSLETTERS**

Folder 1.20  Brandeis Bulletin (Greater K.C. Chapter), 1979-2006  
Folder 1.21  Imprint (Women’s Committee), 1982-1985

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

Folder 1.22  Installation/luncheon, August 30, 1989  
Folder 1.23  Member dinner, 1997
Folder 1.24  “Miracle of Membership” conference, 1995

**PHOTO ALBUMS**

<table>
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<th>Folder</th>
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<td>1.25</td>
<td>Activities, 1986-1987, Part 1</td>
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<td>1.26</td>
<td>Activities, 1986-1987, Part 2</td>
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<td>1.27</td>
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<td>1.28</td>
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<td>1.29</td>
<td>Hawaii, 1980s, Part 1</td>
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**BOX 002**

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**SCRAPBOOKS**

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<td>2.5</td>
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<td>2.6</td>
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<td>2.7</td>
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**BOX 003**

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<td>3.1</td>
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<td>3.2</td>
<td>1998-March 1999, Part 2</td>
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<td>April 1999-2000, Part 1</td>
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<td>3.4</td>
<td>April 1999-2000, Part 2</td>
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**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Membership directory, 1998-1999
- Membership directory, 2004-2006
- Photo album of Oakwood party for Pearle and Alvin Cohn, 1990s
- Photo album of 50th anniversary cocktail supper honoring Maureen and Richard Durwood at the home of Lewis E. Nerman, Leawood, KS, April 25, 1999

**(1848kc):**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
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<td>3.5</td>
<td>Awards/certificates, 1985-1995</td>
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Folder 3.6  Directories, 1974-1987
Folder 3.7  Finances/donations, 1969-1987
Folder 3.8  Flyers/programs/invites, 1970s-1990s
Folder 3.9  Flyers/programs/invites- 50th anniversary, 2004
Folder 3.10 Luncheon invites, 1962-1972
Folder 3.11 Luncheon invites, 1973-1980
Folder 3.12 Mailings, 1987
Folder 3.13 Minutes, 1984-1987
Folder 3.14 Miscellaneous, 1960s-1980s
Folder 3.16 Newsletter- Imprint, 1985-2000
Folder 3.17 Newspaper clippings, 1985-1990
Folder 3.18 Newspaper clippings, 1986-1987
Folder 3.19 Newspaper clippings, 1988
Folder 3.20 Newspaper clippings, August 1988
Folder 3.21 Newspaper clippings, June 1989- June 1990
Folder 3.22 Newspaper clippings, July 1990- June 1991
Folder 3.23 Newspaper clippings, September 1991- June 1992
Folder 3.24 Newspaper clippings- 50th anniversary, 2004
Folder 3.25 Study group programs, 1972-1991
Folder 3.26 DVD- luncheon officer installation, 2007

PHOTOGRAPHS
Folder 3.27 Luncheons, 2000
Folder 3.28 Luncheons, 2004
Folder 3.29 Membership tea at Homestead CC, August 25, 2004
Folder 3.31 National conference, June 1990
Folder 3.32 Salem trip, 1994

BOX 004 (KA1857)
Folder 4.1 Awards/certificates, 1978-1992
Folder 4.2 Book sale, 1991-2002
Folder 4.3 Book sale, 2000-2004
Folder 4.4 Book sale, 2001
Folder 4.5  Book sale, 2004
Folder 4.6  Book sale, 2005
Folder 4.7  Book sale- account ledger, 2001-2004 (1 of 2)
Folder 4.8  Book sale- account ledger, 2001-2004 (2 of 2)
Folder 4.9  Book sale- briefs
Folder 4.10 Book sale- customer list, 2005
Folder 4.11 Book sale- final reports, 1999-2004
Folder 4.12 Book sale- final reports, 2005
Folder 4.14 Book sale- past material, 2003
Folder 4.15 Book sale publicity, 1992-2000
Folder 4.16 *Boston Globe* publicity, 2004-2005
Folder 4.17 Brandeis brochures, 1990s
Folder 4.18 Brandeis celebrates 50 years, 1998
Folder 4.19 Dealers, 2003-2004
Folder 4.20 Donations- books, 1999-2005
Folder 4.21 Expenses, 1991-2005
Folder 4.22 History/directories, 1984-2005
Folder 4.23 Lease with J.C. Nichols, 1982-1985
Folder 4.24 Newspaper clippings/publicity, 2002-2005
Folder 4.25 Press release packets, 2000
Folder 4.26 Rare book catalog, 1999-2000
Folder 4.27 Estelle Robinson, 2001-2002

*PHOTOGRAPHS*
Folder 4.28 Book sale, 1998
Folder 4.29 Book sale, 2004
Folder 4.30 Miscellaneous, 1995-2002

**FLAT BOX 001**

Item 1  Poster: The Diary of Ann Frank, A Play performed by the “Seem-To-Be Players” (A professional Theatrical Troupe from Lawrence, Kansas), Monday March 6, 2006, University Academy, Kansas City, Missouri (KA2029)
BOX 001X1

Scrapbook, 1986-1987

Folder  Jews in American Life publicity, 1997