

# Guide to the Las Vegas, Nevada LGBTQ Collection

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University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.

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## **Summary Information**

**Repository:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special

Collections and Archives.

**Creator:** McBride, Dennis

**Title:** Las Vegas, Nevada LGBTQ Collection

**ID:** MS-00251

**Date [inclusive]:** 1955-2016 **Date [bulk]:** 1980-2012

**Physical Description:** 11.78 Cubic Feet (14 boxes and 2 oversized boxes)

**Physical Description:** 11.42 Linear Feet

Language of the

**English** 

**Material:** 

**Abstract:** The Las Vegas, Nevada Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and

Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) Collection documents the social and political activities of Las Vegas, Nevada's LGBTQ community from 1955 to 2016. The collection includes hundreds of newspaper articles about LGBTQ issues, ranging from AIDS to Nevada legislation. The collection also documents the presence of the LGBTQ community in Las Vegas, including material from gay bars, nightclubs, social clubs, advocacy and political organizations, entertainers, and student groups. Previously known as the Las Vegas Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and

Transgender Collection.

#### **Preferred Citation**

Las Vegas, Nevada LGBTQ Collection, 1955-2016. MS-00251. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada.

#### **Historical Note**

In 1861, the Nevada Territory legislative assembly passed a law punishing "the infamous crime against nature," sodomy. The statute, not repealed until 1993, was broadly enforced across the state and created an atmosphere of fear and repression that prevented the development of an active LGBTQ community until the 1970s. Today, the Las Vegas Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community exists as an essential element of the Las Vegas, Nevada social, political, and economic environment, supporting and promoting the development and well-being of its members and

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allies. The community's entertainment and nightclub scene, active social and community organizations, and political advocacy groups inform, entertain, and work to protect and encourage LGBTQ individuals and groups often marginalized by larger society.

#### Source:

McBride, Dennis. *Out of the Neon Closet: Queer Community in the Silver State*. North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2016.

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## **Scope and Contents Note**

The Las Vegas, Nevada Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) Collection documents the LGBTQ community's social and political activities in Las Vegas, Nevada from 1955 to 2016. The collection includes newspaper articles on AIDS, homophobia, LGBTQ events and clubs, sexual assault, education, equal rights movements, prostitution, religious reactions and outreach, legislation, drag shows, pornography, transsexuality, and various LGBTQ bars and restaurants. The collection also includes fliers for LGBTQ entertainment, public health outreach, and political organizations.

In addition, the collection contains copies of several LGBTQ newspapers and newsletters, including *Bohemian Bugle* (1986-1990), *The Directory* (1984), *Nevada Gay Times* (1983-1984), and *Vegas Gay Times* (1978-1981). Also included are public health reports, conference programs, educational literature, official proclamations, and documents from several political advocacy groups including Nevadans for Human Rights, Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal, the Lesbian and Gay Academic Union, and Las Vegas Pride.

Previously known as the Las Vegas Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Collection.

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# Arrangement

These records are organized into two series:

Series I. Alphabetical subject files, 1955-1997;

Series II. Additional accessions, 1970s-2016.

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## **Administrative Information**

#### **Access Note**

Collection is open for research.

## **Publication Rights**

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See <u>Reproductions and Use</u> on the UNLV Special Collections and Archives website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

## **Acquisition Note**

Materials were donated in 1985, 2001, and 2017 by Dennis McBride; accession numbers 1985-121, 2001-23, and 2017-164. Multiple unnumbered donations between 1985 and 1997 have also been added to the collection.

## **Processing Note**

Materials were processed by Dennis McBride in 1985. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Lindsay Oden revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. Subsequently Lindsay Oden entered the data into ArchivesSpace. In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Melise Leech added additional material from later accessions and revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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### **Related Materials**

#### **Related Collections**

Dennis McBride Collection on LGBTQ Las Vegas, Nevada 1993-2017. MS-00802. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dennis McBride LGBTQ Poster and Sign Collection, 1984-2012. MS-00842. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Reno Gay Rodeo Collection, 1977-1988. MS-00503. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lee Plotkin Papers, 1955-2006. MS-00518. Special Collections and Archives, UNLV Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Rodney Sumpter Papers on *Doe v. Bryan*, 1985-1986. MS-00411. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Repeal of Nevada's Anti-Sodomy Law, 1899-1993. MS-00726. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Gay Business Directories Collection, 1992-2015. MS-00750. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Las Vegas Bugle Collection on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History, 1984-2002. MS-00476. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

- Gay community
- Gay clubs -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- 20th century
- Gays -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Homophobia -- Nevada
- Sex -- History -- Nevada

# **Collection Inventory**

## Alphabetical subject files, 1955-1997

Physical Description: 4.22 Cubic Feet (4 boxes)

Physical Description: 3.67 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The alphabetical subject files (1955-1997) contains newspaper clippings articles, business information, conference materials, and community organizational materials related to the Las Vegas, Nevada Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community. Subjects include HIV, LGBTQ businesses, censorship, conferences, education, entertainment, human rights, publications, religion, rodeo, and social events.

Arrangement: Materials are arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Containers
AIDS	
Nevada newspaper clippings, 1983-1993	box 01
Physical Description: 10 Files	
Nevada Golden Rainbow, 1989-1991	box 01
Nevada Aid for AIDS, 1987-1992	box 01

Nevada AIDS Advisory Task Force report, 1989	box 01
Reach Out, 1992-1993	box 01
Anti-Gay materials, 1992	box 02
Arrests of gays in Nevada, 1979-1993	box 02
Bars, Las Vegas, Nevada	
Bars in general, 1986-1993	box 02
Backstreet, 1989	box 02
Buffalo, undated	box 02
Clown's Den, 1985	box 02
Fantasy, 1984	box 02
Gelo's, 1985	box 02
Gipsy II and Village Station, 1980-1990	box 02
Le Cafe, 1983	box 02
Maxie's or Maxine's, 1983	box 02
Red Barn, 1984	box 02
Toons Saloon, 1991	box 02
Baths: Camp David, 1985	box 02
Beaux Arts Ball, 1983, 1988	box 02
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Beebe, Lucius, 1986	box 02
Behavior modification and gay conversion, 1988	box 02
Bestiality, 1985	box 02
Bohemian Bugle, 1986-1990	box 02
Businesses	
Bright Pink Literature, undated	box 02
Las Vegas Adult, 1985-1991	box 02
R and R Assorted Sundries, 1984	box 02
Other businesses, 1983-1993	box 02
Censorship, 1983-1993	box 02
Centurion anti-gay group, 1985	box 02
Child molestation	
Campbell, Robert David, 1984	box 02

Clergy, 1983	box 02
General, 1985-1992	box 02
Heterosexual, 1985-1990	box 02
Heterosexual: Rodriguez brothers, 1985	box 02
Homosexual, 1985-1992	box 02
Homosexual: Ribaudo and Sands, 1979-1983	box 02
Julian, Gregory Eston, 1979	box 02
Legal aspects, 1985	box 02
Paradise Family, 1984-1986	box 02
Prevention, 1983-1985	box 02
Schools, 1984-1985	box 02
Schools: Papoose Palace Academy, Reno, 1983-1992	box 02
Schools: Reno Montessori, 1984-1985	box 02
Teachers, 1979-1991	box 02
Traver, Kenneth, 1985	box 02
Columnist: Maurice, Dick, 1989-1991	box 02
Community Action Committee, 1983	box 02
Community Center, 1993	box 02
Community Counseling Center, 1993	box 02
Desert and Mountain States Lesbian and Gay Conference, 1990 May 11-13	box 02
Drag	
Bailey, Jim, 1991	box 02
Boy-lesque, 1979-1993	box 02
Fantasy, undated	box 02
Flamboyant Follies, 1985	box 02
La Cage, 1986	box 02
Lavender Follies, 1983	box 02
Star Struck, 1986	box 02
Vive Les Boys, 1985	box 02
Drama: <i>Bent</i> , 1982	box 02
Drama: The Boys in the Band, 1983	box 02
Education: Nevada, 1979-1992	box 02

Education: Sex, 1989-1992	box 02
Entertainers: Liberace, Willie Collins, 1982-1987	box 02
Entertainers: Liberace, 1984-1987	box 02
Entertainers: Siegfried and Roy, 1984-1991	box 02
Equal Right to Marry Project, 1996	box 02
Escort services, 1979-1991	box 02
First Desert States Gay and Lesbian Conference, 1985 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 02
Gay Switchboard, 1982	box 02
Gigolos, 1985	box 02
Incest, 1979-1985	box 02
Indians: Native American homosexuality, 1961-1985	box 02
International Gay Bowling Organization convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, 1986 May 23-25	box 02
Kelly, Kevin, 1982	box 02
Lambda Business Club, 1991	box 02
Lambda Literary Awards banquet, 1990 June 01	box 02
Lanyon, Robert: Culinary Union Local 226, 1981	box 02
Las Vegas Community Book Store, 1983	box 02
Las Vegas Gay Archives Holdings Catalog for Nevadans for Human Rights, 1983-1985	box 02
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Las Vegas Gay Archives: correspondence, 1983-1985	box 03
Las Vegas Gay Bowling League, 1985	box 03
Las Vegas Gay Community Center, 1982-1992	box 03
Las Vegas Lambda Pride Coalition, 1985	box 03
Las Vegas Professional Men's Club, 1984	box 03
Lesbian and Gay Academic Union (LGAU)	
Information and newspaper clippings, 1983-1985 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 03
Information and newspaper clippings, 1989-1990 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 03
Meeting minutes, 1982-1985	box 03

Scholarship, 1984-1986	box 03
Surveys, 1984	box 03
Lesbian and Gay Pride celebrations, 1984	box 03
Lesbian and Gay Pride Coalition meeting minutes, 1985	box 03
Lesbians: Nevada, 1979-1990	box 03
Lesbians: King and Martineau, 1987	box 03
Letters to the editor, 1979-1985	box 03
Library indices of LGBTQ-related materials, 1983	box 03
Lifestyles annual convention, 1989	box 03
Lifestyles in Las Vegas, Nevada, 1985-1989	box 03
Liquor and gaming regulations, Clark County, Nevada, 1973	box 03
Metropolitan Community Church information, newsletters, and worship service programs, 1979-1989	box 03
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Mormons: LGBTQ, 1979-1984	box 03
Moral legislation, 1975-1984	box 03
Music: Voices, 1985	box 03
National Coming Out Day fliers, 1991	box 03
Necrophilia, 1986	box 03
Nevada Families Eagle Forum, 1989-1993	box 03
Nevada Gay Times, 1983-1984	box 03
Nevada sexual deviation research, 1955	box 03
Nevadans for Human Rights	
Bylaws, 1982-1983	box 03
Minutes, 1979-1985	box 03
Newsletters, 1982-1985	box 03
Political action committee meeting minutes, 1983	box 03
Organizations, 1983-1985	box 03
Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), 1992	box 03
"Phantom Gambler," William Lee Bergstrom, 1985	box 03
Political information, 1983-1985	box 03
Pornography, 1983-1993	box 03
Pornography: child pornography, 1985-1987	box 03

Pornography: Leland Stevenson, Jr., 1985	box 03
Prisoners, 1985-1991	box 03
Prostitution	
General, 1985-1993	box 03
DeBoissiere, Helene, 1984	box 03
Rolfe, Dorothy English, 1986	box 03
Roxie's and Four Mile, 1988	box 03
Religion, 1985	box 03
Religion and conservative Christians, 1982	box 03
Religious outreach, 1981	box 03
Reno Gay Rodeo: newspaper clippings, 1979-1984	box 03
Reno Gay Rodeo: statements by Lt. Governor Myron Leavitt, 1978-1989	box 03
Reno Silver Dollar Court, 1979	box 03
Resorts: Polynesian Hotel, Pacifica Hotel, and Treasury Hotel, 1985	box 03
Restaurants and Cafes	
Gallery Cafe, 1986	box 03
The Lobby, 1985	box 03
Neon Cafe, 1989	box 03
Spotlight Cafe, 1992	box 03
Rights, civil, 1984-1992	box 03
Satyricons, 1983	box 03
Sex clubs: Red Rooster Raid, 1983	box 03
Sex scandals, 1984-1990	box 03
Social events, 1985	box 03
Stonewall Park, Reno, 1986	box 03
Teachers: arrests, 1978-1979	box 03
Teachers: ban on gay teachers, 1978-1979	box 03
Transsexuality, 1985-1990	box 03
Transvestism, 1980-1993	box 03
Uniform Penalties Act (Senate Bill 9), 1979	box 03
Various LGBTQ-related articles, 1985-1993	box 03
Women United of Nevada flier, 1989	box 03

California Data-Boy, 1985	box 04
Directory, The, 1984	box 04
Documents: <i>Alternatives in Contemporary Issues</i> , AIDS and Nevada, newspaper clippings, 1979-1997	box 04
Gay Life: Reno, 1984-1985	box 04
Las Vegas Bi-Line, 1981	box 04
Las Vegas Gay Guide, 1980-1983	box 04
Nevada Gay Times, 1983	box 04
Vegas Gay Times, 1978-1981	box 04
Physical Description: 4 Files	
Vegas Gay Times index, 1981	box 04
Shirts, buttons, and bumper stickers, 1984-1985	box 04
Physical Description: 26 Items	
T-shirts, Gay Pride, 1984-1985	box 04
Physical Description: 2 Items	

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## Additional accessions, 1970-2016

Physical Description: 7.53 Cubic Feet (10 boxes, 2 oversized boxes)

Physical Description: 7.75 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The additional accessions series (1970-2016) contains additional material related to the Las Vegas, Nevada Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community, including articles, newsletters, serial publications, conference materials, certificates, awards, and proclamations. Also included are artifacts related to LGBTQ social and political activities in Nevada.

Arrangement: Materials are arranged by type.

Title/Description	Containers
Artifacts	
Conference participant materials, First Annual Millennium Youth Conference, 2001 July 14-16	box 05
Conference participant materials, Second Annual Millennium Youth Conference, 2002 July 07	box 05
Festival packet, Gay Pride, 2001 May 12	box 05
Conference participant materials, National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) Seventh Annual Conference, 1998 October 01-04	box 05
Tote bag, National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) Seventh Annual Conference, 1998 October 01-04	box 05

Delegate materials, Millennium March on Washington, 2000 April 29-30	box 06
Trick towels, Le Cafe nightclub, 1970s	box 06
Physical Description: 2 Items	
Paper fans, Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN) Gay Pride celebration, 1999 May 08	box 06
Physical Description: 3 Items	
Promotional materials from nightclubs, gift shops, Gay Pride, newspapers, groups, 1990-1999	box 06
Physical Description: 14 Items	
Buttons: Gay Pride events, political campaigns, Stonewall, Equal Rights 2000+, outdoor groups, advocacy groups, 1984-2000	box 06
Physical Description: 15 Items	
Stuffed bear, Millennium March on Washington, 2000 April 29-30	box 06
Cup insulators, Gay Pride, 1999	box 06
Physical Description: 3 Items	
Tabletop menu, Freezone nightclub, 2000 October 17	box 06
Optical discs, Kenny Kerr and Gay from Las Vegas, 1997, 2002	box 06
Physical Description: 2 Optical Discs	
VHS tape, Frank Marino: Bold, Blonde, and Beautiful, undated	box 06
Cups, glasses, shot glasses, 1970s-2001	box 07
Physical Description: 17 Items	
T-shirts, 1974-2001	box 08
Physical Description: 26 Items	box 09
Jacket and t-shirts, 1980-2001	oversized
Physical Description: 7 Items	box 15
Newsletters and periodicals	
Affinity: National Affirmations GLBT Mormons, 1988-1991	box 10
Affirmations, Las Vegas, 1997 November	box 10
Apollo News, 1996 October-1997 June	box 10
B.A.R., Bay Area Reporter, 1971 April 15	oversized
	box 14
Bear Essentials, 1997	box 10
Bighorn Gazette, 1997 February-2000 October	box 10
Boy-lesque, 1997 November	box 10
Buddies Gazette, 1995 November-1996 July	box 10
Center, The, 1993 September	box 10

Center News, 1997 June-July	box 10
Centerline, 1996 December-2001 December	box 10
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Center Voice, 2002 December-2003 October	box 10
Community Connections, 1995-1997	box 10
Community News Line, 1994 January-1995 October	box 10
Conservative Republican Las Vegas, 1998 September 18	box 10
David, Long Beach, California and Las Vegas, Nevada, 1995 January-February	box 10
Dove, The, 1996 June-October	box 10
Desert Gaze, 1983 November-1984 November	box 10
Gay, America's 1st Gay Weekly, 1970 May 04-September 14	oversized
Physical Description: 3 Items	box 14
Heart of the Community, 1996 April-1996 July	box 10
Lesbian Gay Academic Union (LGAU) newsletter, 1989 January-July	box 11
Lambda Business Directory, Greater Las Vegas, 1992-2001	box 11
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Lambda Impulse, 1984-1985	box 11
Lambda News, 1997-1999	box 11
Las Vegan, Metropolitan Community Church newsletter, Las Vegas, 1998-2000	box 11
Las Vegas Bugle Digest, 1996 November 27-1997 May 23	box 11
Las Vegas Community Yellow Pages, 1996-1998	box 11
Las Vegas Gay Alliance Visitor Information and Referrals, 1998 November- December	box 11
Las Vegas Gay Guide, 1999	box 11
Las Vegas Gay Pride Guide, 2001	box 11
Las Vegas Guide, 1992 September	box 11
Las Vegas Sunrunners newsletter, 1998 April-2006 July	box 11
Las Vegas Lambda Link, 1995 December-1996 May	box 11
Las Vegas Men's Club Newline, 1994 June-1997 October	box 12
Lesbian Visions of Southern Nevada, 1994 March-November	box 12
Map, The, Las Vegas guide for the alternative lifestyle, 1999-2002	box 12

## Physical Description: 4 Files

Map, The, Palm Springs, California, 1999 December	box 12
Meet the Candidates, Nevadans for Constitutional Equality, 1994	box 12
Nevada Outdoors, 1998 April-1999 June	box 12
Nevada Territory, 1989 August-October	box 12
Northern Nevada Gay Community Directory, 1991-1992	box 12
Oasis, Dignity, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1980 May-1981 January	box 12
Odyssey magazine, 1993 November-1995 May	box 12
Physical Description: 3 Files	box 13
Out and About, 1996 March	box 13
PFLAG newsletter, Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1993-2001	box 13
PFLAG Information Packet, 1994	box 13
Positively Personal, Nevada (PPN), 1995 March	box 13
Real Men, 1997 August-September	box 13
Shout, 1999 November-2000 Summber	box 13
Slam, 1994 February	box 13
Snowflake, Metropolitan Community Church of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1989 January-1990 October	box 13
Southern Nevada Gay & Lesbian Historical Society Quarterly Journal, 1998 July	box 13
Womyn's Voice, 2001 November	box 13
Women's Yellow Pages of Southern Nevada, 1994-1995	box 13
Lambda Literary Award 2nd annual book report, 1990 June-July	box 16
Prism Comics your LGBT guide to comics, 2004	box 16
Gay Comixs comic book, 1980-1996	box 16
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Gay Heart Throbs comic book, 1979, 1981	box 16
Tales of the Closet comic book, 1990 Winter	box 16
Certificates, awards, and proclamations	
Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 39, State of Nevada, 1999 March 24	oversized box 14

Presidential Proclamation, Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, 1999 June 11

	oversized box 14
Thank you letter, Senator Harry Reid to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2006 November 04	oversized box 14
Greetings from the Governor, Kenny C. Guinn to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2006 November 04	oversized box 14
Congratulations letter, Assemblyman David R. Parks to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2006 November 04	oversized box 14
Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 25, State of Nevada, 2009 April 22	oversized box 14
Presidential Proclamation, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month, 2010 May 28	oversized box 14
Proclamation, State of Nevada, Stand OUT for Equality, 2011 May 29	oversized box 14
Congressional Recognition from Congressman Joe Heck to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2013 April 05	oversized box 14
Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Congressman Steven Horsford to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2013 April 05	oversized box 14
Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Congresswoman Dina Titus to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2013 April 06	oversized box 14
Proclamation, State of Nevada, Kenny Kerr, 2013 September 07	oversized box 14
Proclamation, City of Las Vegas, Nevada, <i>Giving Tuesday Day</i> , 2013 December 05	oversized box 14
Proclamation, City of Las Vegas, Nevada, Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada Day, 2014 October 15	oversized box 14
Certificate of Commendation from Senator Harry Reid to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2016 April 21	oversized box 14
Senatorial Recognition from Senator Dean Heller to Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Nevada, 2016 April 24	oversized box 14
Proclamation, City of Las Vegas, Nevada, <i>Picnic by Design Day</i> , 2016 April 30	oversized box 14

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