

BMRC

The Black Metropolis
Research Consortium

Institution: Shorefront Legacy Center

Collection Title: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Evanston Chapter Records

Date Span: 1903-2010, bulk dates 1984-2005

Extent: 20.5 linear feet

Processors: Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium “Color Curtain Processing Project.” By Angelique Schuler, November 12, 2013 and Dustin Witsman. June 18th, 2012.

Restrictions: Series VI. Complaint Records: names and addresses that have not been redacted from the records are currently restricted due to protect the privacy of the individuals.

Related Collections:

Edwin Jourdain Jr. Papers, Shorefront Legacy Center

Faith Rich Papers, Chicago Public Library Special Collections

Henry W. McGee Papers, Chicago History Museum

Second Baptist Church Records, Shorefront Legacy Center

Historical Note:

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1909, “to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.” After the establishment of the national organization, smaller chapters were formed to provide a sense of community and belonging to the larger entity.

Founded in 1928, the Evanston Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) upholds the mission, “to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of minority group citizens of the United States and eliminate race prejudice... to remove all barriers of racial discrimination through the democratic processes” on both the national and local levels. The records within this collection begin in 1903 and span through 2010. The organization is involved in leadership for the Evanston’s black community.

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Cited Sources:

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "NAACP: 100 Years of History."
Last modified 2012. <http://www.naacp.org/pages/naacp-history>

Scope and Content Note:

The majority of the records contained within this collection highlight the administrative responsibilities of the organization through meeting minutes, employment projects, community housing, youth involvement and programs, and discrimination issues facing the Evanston and North Shore community.

The collection is organized into ten series, "Administrative Records," "Election Records," "Freedom Fund Banquet Records," "Youth Records," "Collaborative Project Records," "Complaint Records," "Publications," "Newspaper Clippings," "Photographs," and "Memorabilia." These records include an "Addendum" which is located at the end of the collection.

Access Headings:

African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.

Chicago, Ill.

Civil rights--America.

Evanston, Ill.

Evanston (Ill.)--History.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Freedom Fund Program

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People--History--20th century.

Container List:

Series I. Administrative Records, 1965-2002, undated

Administrative Records are separated into three subseries; “Meeting Minutes and Annual Reports,” “NAACP Correspondence,” and “Personal Data Files.” All of these materials directly relate to the functioning of the NAACP Evanston Chapter.

Subseries 1. Meeting Minutes and Annual Reports, 1965-2002

This subseries contains meeting minutes for the NAACP Evanston Chapter meeting, for both local and the national meetings. Also included in this subseries are the annual reports for the Evanston Chapter. This subseries is arranged in chronological order.

Box	Title	Date
1-5	Meeting Minutes and Annual Reports	1965-2002

Subseries 2. Correspondence, 1970-2001

This subseries contains correspondence to and from the NAACP Evanston Chapter to member and letters from members to the Evanston Chapter. The correspondence is separated into two categories, mailed and email. Box 6 contains the mailed correspondence and box 7 contains e-mail correspondence. The majority of the correspondence relates to various chapter functions and events. This subseries is arranged in chronological order.

Box	Title	Date
6	Mailed Correspondence	1970-2001
7	Emailed Correspondence	1995-2001

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Subseries 3. Personal Data Records, undated

This subseries contains data files for various NAACP Evanston Chapter Administrative leaders. The records provide biographical information for these individuals. The files are maintained in the original order.

Box	Title	Date
8	Personal Data Records	undated

Series II. Election Records, 1984-2001

This series contains information related to the NAACP's efforts to encourage members to vote in local and national elections. Within this series are fliers, brochures, and printouts that highlight the importance of voting. Many of the materials provide information about the various candidates that ran for office in both local and national elections. In addition, this series contains materials related to the election of leadership to the Evanston chapter of the NAACP.

Box	Title	Date
9	Election Records	1984-2001

Series III. Freedom Fund Banquet Records, 1964-2004

The Freedom Fund Banquet is an annual fundraiser for the NAACP. The Evanston Chapter maintained records for these annual events. This series contains brochures, fliers, and handouts from the annual events. This subseries is arranged in chronological order.

Box	Title	Date
10	Freedom Fund Banquet Records	1964-2004

Series IV. Youth Records, 1985-2000

The Youth Records series contains materials pertaining to the Evanston Chapter involvement at Evanston Township High School, college information, and youth employment information. The Evanston Chapter made many efforts to be involved with community youth and to encourage education and employment. This series contains event fliers, scholarship information, and job postings.

Box	Title	Date
11-13	Youth Records	1985-2000

Series V. Collaborative Project Records, 1996-2001

Collaborative Project Records contain the records for various NAACP involvement in the Evanston community with other organizations. The records are separated into four subseries; “NAACP Evanston Projects,” “University of California at Irvine (UCI) Projects,” “United Block Club of Evanston (UBCE) Projects,” and “PATH Press Projects.” All of these materials relate to the involvement of the NAACP Evanston Chapter in the Evanston community.

Subseries 1. NAACP Evanston Projects, 1997-2000

This subseries contains various projects that the Evanston Chapter encouraged African American involvement within the Evanston community. These projects relate to social issues in Evanston and were programs organized by the NAACP. The documents reflect projects that focus on housing, job fairs information, and community development. This series is arranged in the original order.

Box	Title	Date
14-16	NAACP Projects	1997-2000

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Subseries 2. University of California at Irvine Projects, 1997-2000

This subseries contains specific projects that began at the University of California at Irvine (UCI) and influenced many of the national chapters, including Evanston Chapter. The Evanston chapter included many of these small projects related to education, employment, medical and political projects to create connections within the community.

Box	Title	Date
17	UCI Projects	1997-2000

Subseries 3. United Block Club of Evanston Projects, 1996-2001

The United Block Club of Evanston worked on several projects with the NAACP to promote educational and work programs in the community. Contents of this subseries contain the files that detail the work done between United Block Clubs of Evanston and the NAACP Evanston Chapter.

Box	Title	Date
17-18	United Block Club of Evanston Projects	1996-2001

Subseries 4. PATH Press Projects, 1996-2001 (Moved to the Bennett Johnson Collection)

This subseries contains invoices for printing projects and book orders for the NAACP Evanston Chapter from PATH Press. It shows the working relationship between the two entities. This series is maintained in original order.

Box	Title	Date
19	PATH Press Projects	1996-2001

Series VI. Complaint Records, 1950-2001 (RESTRICTED)

This series contains complaint records submitted to the NAACP Evanston Chapter. The series is broken down into three subseries; Union Complaints, Personal Complaints, and Legal Complaint Cases.

Subseries 1. Union Complaints, 1950-1965

This subseries contains union complaints against larger organizations or companies where Evanston NAACP members worked and experienced racial discrimination.

Box	Title	Date
20-21	Union Complaints	1950-1965

Subseries 2. Personal Complaints, 1950-2001

This subseries contains personal complaints from individuals in the Evanston community regarding discrimination. The grievances were sent to the NAACP Evanston Chapter asking for assistance on how to address issues of discrimination in a diplomatic manner. The documents contain work and community complaint records.

Box	Title	Date
22-23	Personal Complaints	1950-2001

Subseries 3. Legal Complaint Cases, 1963

This series contains a legal case that began as a discrimination complaint in the Evanston community. The contents are the legal transcripts from the cases proceedings.

Box	Title	Date
23-24	Legal Complaint Cases	1963

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Series VII. Publications, 1962-2002, undated

This series contains publications from the Evanston community that the NAACP. Within this series are local publications, bound brochures and pamphlets, community fliers and newsletters. This series is arranged in chronological order.

Box	Title	Date
25	Publications	1962-2002, undated

Series VIII. Newspaper Clippings, 1996-1997

This series contains newspaper clippings that mention or relate to the Evanston Chapter of the NAACP. The newspaper clippings are arranged in chronological order.

Box	Title	Date
26	Newspaper Clippings	1996-1997

Series IX. Photographs, undated

The photographs were created at various Evanston Chapter events and members. The photographs are arranged in the original order.

Box	Title	Date
27	Photographs	undated

Series X. Memorabilia, undated

This series contains memorabilia saved from NAACP Evanston Chapter events. The majority of the items are award plaques that honor various members for their work and dedication to the organization. Also within this series are posters and calendars from Evanston Chapter events.

Box	Title	Date
28-29	Memorabilia	undated

Addendum I. Additional Collection, 1903-2010

Addendum I was processed by Dustin Witsman in 2012. The materials were organized into two series, “Organizational” and “Publications.”

Series I. Organizational, 1903-2005

This series contains material relating to the organizational aspects of the Evanston/North Shore Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It includes meeting minutes, community involvement, events, and correspondence.

Box	Folder	Title	Date
1	1	Organizational	1999-2005
	2	Events	2003-2005
	3	Voting	2000-2003
	4	Speeches	undated
	5	News Clippings	1903-2003

Series II. Publications, 1984-2010

This series consists of published programs from the annual Freedom Fund Banquet held by the Evanston/North Shore Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Box	Folder	Title	Date
1	6	Labor and Industrial Monthly	2007
	7	Annual Freedom Fund Banquet	1984-1986
	8	Annual Freedom Fund Banquet	1990-1993
	9	Annual Freedom Fund Banquet	2000-2003
	10	Annual Freedom Fund Banquet	2004-2006
	11	Annual Freedom Fund Banquet	2007-2010