

Guide to the Dennis McBride LGBTQ Poster and Sign Collection

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Collector:	McBride, Dennis
Title:	Dennis McBride LGBTQ Poster and Sign Collection
ID:	MS-00842
Date [inclusive]:	1977 to 2018
Physical Description:	5.33 Cubic Feet (2 oversized boxes, 5 flat files, 5 rolls, 11 unboxed items)
Physical Description:	18.48 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Dennis McBride LGBTQ Poster and Sign Collection (1977-2018) contains posters and signs created by the Las Vegas, Nevada Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community, collected by historian Dennis McBride. These handmade and commercially printed signs cover events of particular interest to the Las Vegas, Nevada LGBTQ community, including social events, entertainment venues, political rallies, and Gay Pride events.

Preferred Citation

Dennis McBride LGBTQ Poster and Sign Collection, 1977-2018. MS-00842. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Dennis McBride grew up in Boulder City, Nevada, and received both his BA and MA in history from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). He authored several histories of Boulder City, Nevada and Hoover Dam. Beginning in the 1970s, McBride started chronicling the history of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community in Las Vegas, Nevada, with his work culminating in *Out of the Neon Closet: Queer Community in the Silver State* published in 2017. He served as a curator of historical collections at the Boulder City (Nevada)

Museum & Historical Society, UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives, and Director of the Nevada State Museum.

Source:

"Preservation Spotlight: Dennis McBride," Classic Las Vegas. May 20, 2014. <https://classiclasvegas.com/clv-history-blog/2014/5/20/preservation-spotlight-dennis-mcbride>.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Dennis McBride LGBTQ Poster and Sign Collection (1977-2018) consists of posters and signs created by the Las Vegas, Nevada Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community, collected by Dennis McBride. The material provides insight into LGBTQ political activism and community activities in Las Vegas, Nevada. Signs are both handmade and commercially printed, with the commercially printed signs and posters including advertisements for events held at LGBTQ nightclubs and bars as well as Gay Pride parades, movie screenings, theatrical performances, charity events, AIDS outreach, and political events. The handmade signs deal with topics relating to marriage equality and AIDS awareness for use at parades and protest events.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2011, 2014, 2017, and 2019 by Dennis McBride; accession numbers 2011-17, 2017-164, 2019-029, and 2022-006.

Processing Note

In 2017, a rough inventory of the accession was created by Maggie Bukowski. To prepare the inventory, the described materials were reviewed to create a contents list, estimate dates, identify material types, and a finding aid was created in ArchivesSpace. In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Melise Leech rehoused the materials and revised the collection description in ArchivesSpace to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. In 2019, Tammi Kim rehoused additional materials and updated the finding aid. In 2023, Tammi Kim rehoused additional materials and used an inventory created by the donor to update the finding aid.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

Dennis McBride Collection on LGBTQ Las Vegas, Nevada 1993-2018. MS-00802. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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

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

Rick L. May Papers, 1982-1997. MS-00446. Special Collections and Archives, UNLV Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ted Lenhart Collection on the LGBTQ Community, 1990-2001. MS-00484. Special Collections and Archives, UNLV Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Terry Wilsey Papers on the Las Vegas, Nevada LGBT Community, 1979-2002. MS-00472. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- AIDS (Disease)
- Gay pride celebrations -- Nevada
- Gays -- Social life and customs -- Nevada -- 20th century
- Gay rights -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- 21st century
- Gay business enterprises -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Gay clubs -- Nevada
- Gay rights
- Gay community
- Posters

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Posters: Las Vegas Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) film series, Men's Chorus, entertainment and nightclub events, theatrical productions and movie screenings, AIDS events, Pride events, <i>National Coming Out Day</i> , political events, charity events, Pahrump (Nevada) Pride, Las Vegas Gay and Lesbian Center events, 1984-2012, and undated	flat file 01 no container 00
Equal Rights Nevada, handmade protest signs on foamboard, undated Physical Description: 2 Items	no container 00
Equal Rights Nevada, handmade protest signs on posterboard, undated Physical Description: 2 Items	flat file 02
Posters: GLBT community events, Aid for AIDS of Nevada (AFAN), Nevada Gay Rodeo events, Men's Chorus, Pride events, lectures, fund-raisers, anti-gay propaganda from Focus on the Family, nightclub, and party events, Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire fund-raiser and election, HIV-AIDS information posters, political campaign posters, theatrical productions and musical productions, menus, calendars, 1988-2017	oversized box 03 flat file 04

Physical Description: 128 Items

Las Vegas Pride posters, 2011 Physical Description: 3 Items	no container 00
Consolidated Association of Pride, Inc. (CAPI) Pride Convention poster, 2012 Physical Description: 5 Items	no container 00
Froot Loop poster, National Coming Out Day poster, approximately 2010-2011 Physical Description: 2 Items	roll 05
Las Vegas Pride banner, Froot Loop Halloween banner, 2011, undated Physical Description: 2 Items	roll 06
Las Vegas Pride poster, 2010-2011 Physical Description: 2 Items	roll 07
Southern Nevada Association of Pride, Incorporated (SNAPI), Gay and Lesbian Community Center, Viva Las Vegas, 2000, 2003, 2010 Physical Description: 3 Items	roll 08
Posters: Men's Chorus, GLBT community events, Nevada Gay Rodeo events, Pride events, holiday parties, <i>Maxine's</i> calendar, 1977-2013	flat file 09
Posters: Gay kickball, 20th Annual Bighorn Rodeo, hotel pool parties, Las Vegas Men's Chorus, Las Vegas Pride, 2016-2018	oversized box 10
"Date Nite: A Charity Auction to Benefit the Center", 2014	oversized box 10
"The Center's Youth Prom" , 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas TransPride Fundraiser", 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas Men's Chorus Presents Hooray for Hollywood", 2014	oversized box 10
27th Annual Black & White Party, 2013	oversized box 10
"AIDS Walk Las Vegas", 2014	oversized box 10
Car wash to benefit the LGBTQ Community Center of Southern Nevada and the Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire, 2014	oversized box 10
28th Annual Black & White Party, 2014	oversized box 10
"National Coming Out Day", 2014	oversized box 10
"VicedMAN Model Search/Men of Badlands Saloon", 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas Men's Chorus Proudly Presents Jingle All the Way!", 2014	

	oversized box 10
"Gay Life Expo", 2014	oversized box 10
"Pride's Alive Gay Life & Wedding Expo", 2014	oversized box 10
"Do You Have What It Takes to Be Mr. Nude Las Vegas 2015?", 2014	oversized box 10
Maxine's Cocktail Lounge 1976 calendar with a photograph of female impersonator Joshelyn Summers, 2014	oversized box 10
"Same Sex Dynamics Among Nineteenth Century Americans: A Mormon Example" program at the Clark County Library, 2013	oversized box 10
"Donna Michelle Porter" laminated rate sheet for Porter's photography services from the 1980s to the 1990s, 2014	oversized box 10
"Keep 'Em Guessing: When Life Becomes a DRAG ..." benefit event for Golden Rainbow, 2001	oversized box 10
"Human Rights Seminar" presented by UNLV's Gay Academic Union, 1983	oversized box 10
Wanted poster for Andrew Phillip Cunanan, who murdered fashion designer Gianni Versace in 1997 and who had a significant Las Vegas connection through the Apollo Spa and Health Club in Commercial Center, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1997	oversized box 10
Desert and Mountain States Lesbian and Gay Conference program and advertising poster, 1990	oversized box 10
"Obama Pride/LGBT/for Obama", 2008	oversized box 10
"Too Much of a Good Thing is Wonderful: Liberace and the Art of Costume" fundraising event and exhibit, 2013 to 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo: Sugar Plum Fairies", 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas Pride Presents Steam Punk Bingo", 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo: Mad Hatter Tea Party", 2014	oversized box 10
"Las Vegas Trans Pride Week", 2014	oversized box 10
Pahurmp PRIDE event posters, LGBTQ+ event fliers, and handmade AIDS awareness posters, approximately 1980 to 2010	oversized box 11
AID for AIDS Nevada thrift store banner, undated	roll 12