

## **Black History Ephemera Subject Files 1972-2009**

### **Collection Summary**

**Creator:** Intentionally assembled by Special Collections Division staff, beginning at an unknown date, probably in the late 1960s, and collected on an ongoing basis.

**Title:** Black History Ephemera Subject Files

**Inclusive Dates:** 1972-2009

**Summary/Abstract:** Includes a variety of material relating to various aspects of African-American history in Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

**Physical Description/Extent:** .1 cu. ft.

**Language:** In English.

**Stack Location:** Closed stacks workroom

**Repository:** Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St., Nashville, TN 37219

### **Scope and Contents of the Collection**

Includes programs, brochures, essays, flyers, and other documents relating to various aspects of African-American history in Nashville and Middle Tennessee, dated from 1972 to 2009. Quantity of materials typically is one or two items for each subject. Some items are photocopies.

The most abundant material documents the annual Afro-American Culture and History Conference from 1981 to 2009, and includes programs for the conference and biographical sketches of prominent and noteworthy African-Americans and Afro-American institutions in Nashville.

In the civil rights and activism category, a newspaper, *The Community Bridge and Liberation Message* from April 1972 provides a glimpse into community conditions for African-Americans in the early 1970s. It includes information about poverty, discrimination, housing; the death of attorney Z. Alexander Looby; development of the city of Nashville, in which blacks feel left behind, with emphasis and comparisons between conditions in North Nashville, black neighborhoods near downtown, and road repair and improvements taking place near Music Row; and brief mention of infighting within the black community.

A Gospel Arts Day program from 1988 includes information about the Fairfield Four.

Other materials or subjects in the collection as a whole include: art; churches; civil rights and activism; cultural observances (such as Black History Month); folklore and folklife; medicine and the medical profession; music; Nashville black history; organizations; and Tennessee black history. In general, the Black History Ephemera Subject Files contain materials that are produced by, for, or about the black community in Nashville, emphasizing African-American heritage or point of view. Other materials relating to black history may be found elsewhere in the Ephemera Subjects Files under

any number of broader headings, such as Biography, Churches, or Schools, to name only a few.

### **Organization/Arrangement of Materials**

Arrangement: Alphabetical by topic.

### **Restrictions**

**Restrictions on Access:** In library use only. Available by appointment.

**Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:** Some items may be restricted by copyright law or donor restriction.

### **Index Terms**

#### **Personal names:**

Looby, Z. Alexander (Zephaniah Alexander), 1899-

#### **Corporate Names/Organizations:**

100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee, Inc.

Fairfield Four

#### **Conference Names:**

Afro-American Culture and History Conference -- (Nashville, Tenn.)

#### **Subjects:**

African American churches -- Tennessee -- Nashville

African American History Month

African American musicians -- Tennessee -- Nashville

African American physicians -- Tennessee -- Nashville

African Americans -- Biography -- Tennessee -- Nashville

African Americans -- Civil rights -- Tennessee -- Nashville -- History

African Americans -- History -- 20th century

African Americans -- History -- Congresses

African Americans -- Music -- 20<sup>th</sup> century

African Americans -- Tennessee -- Nashville

#### **Places:**

Nashville (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources

Tennessee -- History -- Sources

#### **Genre/Document Types:**

Bibliographies

Biographies

Booklets  
Brochures  
Essays  
Fliers (printed matter)  
Manuscripts (document genres)  
Newspapers  
Programs (documents)

**Occupations:**

Physicians

**Added Author (Corporate Heading):**

100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee, Inc.

**Added Author (Conference Names):**

Afro-American Culture and History Conference -- (Nashville, Tenn.)

**Added Title:**

Community Bridge and Liberation Message

**Separated Material**

Some items may have been separated for storage to an oversize box, drawer, or the Nashville Room Photographs Collection. Separation notices have been used to indicate such removals.

**Associated and Related Material**

**Related Material:** Items relating to African-American history may also be found in various other ephemera subject files categories, such as Biography; Churches; Schools and others.

**Administrative Information**

**Copyright:** This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code)

**Preferred Citation:** [folder title or item description], Black History Ephemera Subject Files, Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library.

**Processing Information:** Weeded by staff members Linda Barnickel and Carol Kaplan, 2003. Rehoused and reprocessed by staff member Linda Barnickel, 2005; additions 2012. All actions part of overall ephemera subject files reprocessing project.

**Accruals:** Additional accruals are expected.

**Detailed Description of the Collection**

Afro-American Culture & History Conference

Folder 1: Flyers, bibliographies, and programs, 1981-2009

Folder 2: Leaders of Afro-American Nashville (biographies)

Art – Folder 3:

Annual Local African-American Artist Exhibition, 1994

Churches – Folder 4:

McCougald Afro-American Church collection at TSU, 1989

“Celebrating Our Legacy..” – First Baptist, Capitol Hill, 2004

Civil Rights and Activism – Folder 5:

“Witness to the Light,” 1993

Busing and Desegregation in Nashville & Davidson Co. bibliography,  
1990

*The Community Bridge and Liberation Message* newspaper (Apr. 1972)

Cultural Observances – Folder 6:

Black History Month program (FBI), 2008

Soul Food Feast program, 2008

Folklore & Folklife – Folder 7:

“Quilts and Quilting in Black America,” booklet, n.d.

Medicine/Medical Profession – Folder 8:

“Afro-American Healers: A Historical Perspective,” 1987

“Formation of a Black Medical Profession in Tennessee, 1880-1920” by  
James Summerville, *Journal of the Tennessee Medical Association*,  
1983

Music – Folder 9:

Gospel Arts Day program, 1988

Night Train to Nashville brochure, 2004

Nashville – Folder 10:

African American Historic Sites, brochure, 1991

“Historical Black Sites and Buildings in Nashville, 1924-1925,” 1981

“Freedom’s Sisters – Honoring the Legacy of African American Women,”  
2010

Organizations – Folder 11:

100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee, annual report, 1997

Tennessee – Folder 12:

“Striving to Teach the Children: African American Education in Haywood  
County, Tennessee, 1870-1970”

“The Roots of Tennessee: An African-American Guide,” 1993