Artemis Singers Collection, 1980 – 1987

Accession Number: 1994-2
Fonds/Provenance: Susan Schleef

Series Number: -
Title: Artemis Singers Collection
Date Range: 1980 – 1987
Extent: 1.5 linear feet (2 boxes)
Location: D1D (Row D, Bay 1, Shelf D)

Collection History:
Artemis Singers is a lesbian feminist chorus committed to singing music written and/or arranged by women, thereby hoping to give recognition to the many women composers forgotten by history and to contemporary songwriters who are often thought of only as singers. The chorus was founded in June 1980 and soon became affiliated with Toddlin’ Town Performing Arts, the Chicago LGBT performing arts umbrella group that also included Windy City Gay Chorus (WCGC) and Chicago Gay Pride Band (CGPB). Artemis Singers have performed regularly around Chicago and the country. They have participated in Sister Singers Network, a national feminist chorus, singers and musicians cooperative.

Custodial History:
The collection was donated by Susan Schleef on March 12, 1994. It was accessioned on September 5, 1996 by Diane Asseln. The collection was then described as being in good condition.

Scope and Content:
The collection contains meeting minutes, financial records, audio recordings, concert preparation papers, news clippings, puzzles, and posters of Artemis Singers and Toddlin’ Town Performing Arts.

Arrangement:
The collection is arranged by organization, document type, or subject matter and then further divided chronologically when necessary.

Series:
1 Concert and Rehearsal Fliers and Programs, 1980 – 1987
2 Artemis Singers – History, Structure, Goals, and Miscellaneous Documents, 1982 – 1983
4 Committee Meeting Minutes and Documents, 1981 – 1986
5 Workshops and Retreats, 1983 – 1986
6 Membership Evaluation Survey, 1984
7 Membership Evaluation and Miscellaneous Surveys, 1983 – 1985
8 Correspondence, 1981 – 1986
9 Financial Documents and Budgets, 1982 – 1986
10 Fundraising and Benefit Fliers and Planning, 1983
12 Rehearsals and Concert Planning – Calendars, Notes, Song Lists, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1986
13 Sister Singers Network – Correspondence and Network Directory, 1980 – 1985
14 Annual National Women’s Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, 1985 – 1986
15 “Come Out and Sing Together!” National Gay Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, Evaluations, and Miscellaneous, 1983
16 Toddlin’ Town Performing Arts, 1980 – 1986
17 Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) – Correspondence, Press Releases, Festival Testimonials, Etc., 1982 – 1987
18 Chicago Gay/Lesbian Community Band – Fliers, Correspondence, Newsletter, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1983
20 Artemis Singers 2 1/4” Diameter Pin-Back Button
21 Other Choruses Performances and Miscellaneous, Audio Cassette Tapes, 1972 – 1985

Container List:
0. Finding Aid
1. Concert and Rehearsal Fliers and Programs, 1980 – 1987
   2. General, 1985 – 1987
      1. 1981 – 1983
      2. 1984 – 1985
      3. 1986
   2. Task Force Committee and Process and Structure Committee (PASC), 1982 – 1985
5. Workshops and Retreats, 1983 – 1986
   1. Internal Correspondence and Notes, 1981 – 1986
   2. Correspondence on Repertoire and Music Selection, 1981 – 1986
10. Fundraising and Benefit Fliers and Planning, 1983
   1. 1981 – 1982
   2. 1983 – 1984
   3. 1985
   4. 1986
   1. 1981 – 1982
   2. 1983 – 1984
   3. 1985
   4. 1986
15. “Come Out and Sing Together!” National Gay Choral Festival – Fliers, Brochures, Correspondence, Evaluations, and Miscellaneous, 1983
   3. Correspondence, 1980 – 1983
   4. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
      2. January – June 1982
18. Chicago Gay/Lesbian Community Band – Fliers, Correspondence, Newsletter, and Miscellaneous, 1981 – 1983

BOX 2

20. Artemis Singers 2 1/4” Diameter Pin-Back Button
   1. Gertrude Stein Reads from Her Works, 1972
   5. Twin Cities Men’s Chorus, Holiday Concert, November 27, 1983
   6. Twin Cities Men’s Chorus, Holiday Concert, December 8, 1984
   7. The Montrose Symphonic Band, Christmas Concert, December 11, 1981
13. The Denver Women’s Chorus, “Bach, Brahms, Broadway… And a Little Jazz”, April 26, 1986
16. Turtle Creek Chorale, Spring Concert, March 17, 1981

Separations:
The Band Booster, Newsletter of the Chicago Gay/Lesbian Community Band
  Volume 1, Number 3, July 1982
  Volume 1, Number 4, August 1982
  Volume 1, Number 5, September 1982

Performance Posters for Other Choruses, 1985 – 1986
“We’re Singing Your Song”, Windy City Gay Chorus, March 22, 1986
“Don We Now VII”, Windy City Gay Chorus, December 7, 1985
“The Inaugural Concert of Gay Games II Cultural Week”, The Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco and the Society of Gay & Lesbian Composers, August 1 and August 5, 1986
  The San Francisco and Portland Gay Men’s Choruses, July 1, 1986

“Gay Pride!” Jigsaw Puzzle in Original Sealed Box

In 2000, the following 22 vinyl 33 rpm records were separated out and added to Special Collections:
  [Recorded in German], Die Bonner Blaustrumpft singen Protest-und Spottlieder
  [Recorded in German], Hexensabat
  [Recorded in German], Schneewittchen
  [Recorded in German], Flying Lesbian
  [No Artist Listed], Nights of Love in Lesbos: A Frankly Intimate Description of a Sensous Young Girl’s Lesbian Desires
  Ginni Clemens, I’m Lookin’ For Some Long-Time Friends, 2 copies
Carole Etzler, Womanriver Flowing On
Barbara Dane, I Hate the Capitalist System
Sue Fink, Big Promise
Kathy Fire, Songs of Fire, Songs of a Lesbian Anarchist
Kay Gardner, Emerging
Kay Gardner, Mooncircles
Isis, Ain’t No Backin’ Up Now
Karen T. Kane & Jeff Bradley, Walls to Roses, Songs of Changing Men
Anita Kerr, Rod McKuen, & The Sebastian Strings, For Lovers
Kristin Lems, Oh Mama!, Autographed by Artist
Jean Ritchie, British Traditional Ballads in the Southern Mountains
Sally Rogers, The Unclaimed Pint
Willie Tyson, Debutante
Various Artists, Gay and Straight Together, Volume 1
Jane Voss, An Album of Songs

Restrictions:
Materials may be published for donation.

Related Fonds/Series:
Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus

Subject Headings:
Gay choirs
Gay community
Women’s choirs

Preferred Citation:
[Identification of Item], Artemis Singers Collection, Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, Chicago, Illinois

Language:
English

Repository:
Gerber/Hart Library and Archives

Processed by:
Amanda Kesek, Volunteer, 09/14/2019