



Archives and Records

Finding Aid

COLLECTION NUMBER: Coll. 33
TITLE: Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator(s): GLAD and The History Project
Title: Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders Collection
Extent: 1/2 Linear Foot
Repository: The History Project, Archives and Records Department

Finding aid prepared for The History Project, Archives and Records Department by Robert Johnston, student in the GSLIS Archives masters degree program at Simmons College, under the supervision of Andrew Elder, Spring 2010. Materials added and Finding Aid updated by William Holden, Board Member, February 2017.

SUBJECTS TERMS

Subject Names:

Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD)

Subject Topics:

Gay Liberation Movement—Massachusetts –Boston

Related Collections:

Coll. 21 - Bob Wheatly Collection
Coll. 23 - Know Thy Neighbor Collection
Coll. 27 - Religious Coalition for the Freedom to Marry
Coll. 141 - Boston / Boise Collection

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Terms of Use/Copyright: Unrestricted, though some items in the collection are copyrighted by individuals and/or organizations outside The History Project.

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HISTORICAL NOTE

Attorney John Ward founded the non-profit legal rights organization Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) in 1978. It grew out of the Boston/Boise Committee, a group organized in December of 1977 to defend the rights of gay men arrested in Boston, Massachusetts as part of an "anti-gay witchhunt." GLAD would file its first lawsuit in 1979 on behalf of a gay man arrested at the Boston Public Library in March of 1978.

GLAD is based in Boston and works to combat discrimination against the GLBT community throughout New England and nationwide. In 2003, GLAD was involved with a lawsuit that would lead to the recognition of same-sex marriage in Massachusetts beginning in May of 2004. GLAD has also supported adoption and foster rights for same-sex couples, legal protection for people with HIV and various transgender rights.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of newsletters, booklets, flyers, correspondence, pamphlets and other documents relating to GLAD. There are issues of *GLAD Briefs*, the organization's newsletter, dating back to 1978 and continuing to the present (with gaps in the 1980s and 1990s) as well as annual reports from the 1980s and early 1990s. Promotional material - stickers, magnets and flyers - can be found in the collection, as can correspondence, donation appeals and press releases.

There are also pamphlets and booklets published by GLAD focusing on its services and/or specific legal issues, flyers and brochures for GLAD benefits and events, and newspaper articles (including several from 1978). Research conducted for the 30th anniversary of GLAD and e-mail correspondence with The History Project can also be found in the collection.

Notes:

1. A transcript of the 10th Anniversary Forum held on June 29, 1988 is available. Please consult the archivist to see a copy.
2. Photographs relating to GLAD are part of the *Gay Community News* (GCN) collection.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

- Folder 1: G.L.A.D. Briefs Newsletter, 1979 - 1999
- Folder 2: G.L.A.D. Briefs Newsletters, 2000 - 2009
- Folder 3: G.L.A.D. Briefs Newsletters, 2010 - 2016
- Folder 4: AIDS Law Flash Newsletter, n.d
- Folder 5: Annual Reports, 1983-1996

- Folder 6: Annual Reports, 1998-2000
- Folder 7: Glad Informational Brochures, n.d.
- Folder 8: Tim Miller in My Queer Body, 1992
- Folder 9: Spirit of Justice Awards, 2007-2009
- Folder 10: Flyers and Brochures for Events
- Folder 11: Marriage Equality
- Folder 12: Benefit for GLAD Poster, 1987
- Folder 13: Tenth Anniversary Forum Flyer, 1988
- Folder 14: 30th Anniversary Planning Notes, 2008
- Folder 15: Donation Appeals and Press Releases, 1978-2008
- Folder 16: Court Briefing, GLAD Massachusetts Discrimination Case
- Folder 17: Newspaper Clippings, 1978-1990
- Folder 18: DOMA and Immigration Event Oversized Posters