

Concordia University Library, Special Collections

Finding Aid - Ralph Whims collection (C012)

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Language of description: English

Concordia University Library, Special Collections

Vanier Library, VL 121

Concordia University

7141 Sherbrooke Street West

Montreal

Quebec

Canada

H4B 1R6

Telephone: 514-848-2424 x 7762

[Email: spec-coll@concordia.ca](mailto:spec-coll@concordia.ca)

<https://library.concordia.ca/find/special-collections/>

<http://concordia.accesstomemory.org/index.php/ralph-whims-collection>

Ralph Whims collection

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Summary information

Repository:	Concordia University Library, Special Collections
Title:	Ralph Whims collection
ID:	C012
Date:	[19--] ; 1928-2017 (date of creation)
Physical description:	17.5 cm of textual records 30 photographs 1 videocassette
Language:	English
Language:	French
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Ralph Whims a retired teacher living in Sainte-Julie, Quebec. Whims was one of the first Black teachers working in Montreal's English school system, and he spent his career at Lorne School in Pointe-Saint-Charles. Whims developed an interest in social work and teaching while involved with the Negro Community Centre. He attended the Negro Community Centre as a child and sat on the board of directors from 1994 to 1997. In the 1970s, Whims organized a weekly dance for high school kids. His experience as a chaperone at these dances was the subject of the documentary film *The Chaperone* (2013). This film chronicles the day that Whims took on a biker gang that showed up at a school dance taking place at Rosemont High School in the early 1970s. As a side business, Whims worked as a disc jockey in the 1960s and 1970s, and had what he describes as a "mobile discotheque." Whims' mother, Bernice Jordan Whims, inspired him to work in music, and as a child he started a band with two friends. Whims played the alto saxophone in a band with jazz drummer Norman Marshall Villeneuve. Whims had two daughters with his late wife Suzanne Trudel Whims. His grandfather was jazz pianist Lou Hooper Sr. His father was Lou Hooper Jr.

Scope and content

The Ralph Whims Collection contains documentation concerning Black History in Montreal; the Negro Community Centre; Union United Church, the Coloured Women's Club; The Red Feather and the Welfare Federation; Railway Porters; the Elks; the documentary film *Show Girls*; and *Jazz in Montreal*.

The collection is comprised of articles and clippings; photographs; posters, brochures, and programs; books and magazines; and a videocassette.

The Ralph Whims Collection is divided into 4 series:

C012/A Textual records

C012/B Photographs

C012/C Books

C012/D Moving images

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the content of the collection.

Immediate source of acquisition

Materials were donated to Concordia University Library, Special Collections by Ralph Whims on March 12, 2018.

Arrangement

Material are arranged in the order of receipt.

Restrictions on access

Access to the videocassette is restricted until it is digitized in order to protect the original.

Conditions governing use

In most cases, reproductions are allowed for the purpose of research and private study in most cases. Use of material in a publication may only be done with written consent of the copyright owner(s).

Finding aids

Box listing is available.

Accruals

Further accruals are not expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Draft
- **Conservation:** Documents were placed in acid-free file folders and archival quality boxes.

- **Rights:** Copyright belongs to the creator(s).

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Moving images (documentary form)
 - Graphic material (documentary form)
-

Series descriptions

Series C012/A: Textual records

Date: [19--] ; 1928-2017 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains textual records relating to Black History in Montreal; the Negro Community Centre; Union United Church; the Coloured Women's Club; The Red Feather and the Welfare Federation; Railway Porters; the Elks; the documentary film Show Girls; and Jazz in Montreal.

Physical description: 12 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Series C012/B: Photographs

Date: [19--] ; [195-] ; [1953-1994] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series mostly contains photocopies of photographs relating to the Negro Community Centre; Union United Church; the Coloured Vet's Canadian Legion Softball Banquet; and jazz in Montreal. Photographs concerning the activities of the Negro Community Centre showcase, among other things, basketball; tap dance; annual meetings; the NCC's move to the Iverly Community Centre building on Coursol Street in 1955; the task force for the revitalization of the NCC; and the teen program. Photographs of Ethel Bruneau, Bernice Jordan Whims, Olga Spencer Foderingham, Tina Baines Brereton, Meilan Lam, and Louis Stanley Hooper, among others, are found in this series.

Physical description: 30 photographs : b&w

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series C012/C: Books**Date: [198-?] ; 1966-1982 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series contains one book on Black history in Canada and three poetry books published between 1966 and 1982. This is my Song (1982) and Going Black Home ([198-?]) by Peter Bailey were self-published by the author and inscribed to Ralph Whims. Leo Bertley's Canada and its people of African Descent (1977) and Studies in Black and White (1966) by Dave Pinson can also be found in this series.

Physical description: 4 textual recordsAccess points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

File / item list**Series C012/D: Moving images**Date: 1994 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Series contains a videocassette titled Trip Down Memory Lane (1994).

Physical description: 1 videocassetteAccess points:

- Moving images (documentary form)

Restrictions on access:

Access to the videocassette is restricted until it is digitized.

Publication status:

Published
File / item list