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American Association of University Women- Washington Branch Records

An inventory of American Association of University Women- Washington Branch at DC Public Library

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

archives.dcpl@dc.gov

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Summary Information

Repository:	DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library
Creator:	American Association of University Women. Washington Branch
Title:	American Association of University Women-Washington Branch Records
ID:	059
Date [inclusive]:	1889-1970
Physical Description:	2 Linear feet
Physical Description:	4 Boxes
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	English

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Biographical / Historical

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) was incorporated in 1881 in Boston, Massachusetts as the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA). The Washington Branch of the Association was organized in 1882 and was the first branch of the Association. In 1920, the National Association opened its headquarters in Washington, D.C. at 1634 I Street NW, where they remained until 1960. The Washington Branch shared this facility with the National Association. In 1921 the ACA merged with the Southern Association of College Women to form the AAUW. In the 1940s, the National Association and the Washington Branch entered into a legal battle over the Branch's refusal to admit African-American members (in particular, Mary Church Terrell). The Washington Branch claimed that the National By-Laws allowed the local branches to dictate membership. At the same time, the National Association was asserting its right to terminate the Washington Branch. A federal court ruled that the Washington Branch indeed had the right to dictate its own membership, but that the National Association had the right to terminate the Washington Branch. With the federal ruling handed down, the National Association terminated the Washington Branch and then re-instituted those Washington members who were in support of the National Association as the official Washington Branch. The Washington Branch continued the mission of the National Branch, which was to "carr[y] out a program of education through study groups, panel discussion,...encourage high standards in education, undertake projects to extend

local cultural and educational facilities...[and] offer fellowships to aid gifted women..." The Washington Branch continues to work for women's issues to this day.

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Scope and Contents

The collection consists of correspondence, bulletins, yearbooks, clippings, legal documents and photographs that document the Washington Branch of the American Association of University Women. The collection is divided into the following three series: Administrative Files, Bulletins, and Yearbooks.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library

901 G Street NW
Washington, DC
archives.dcpl@dc.gov

Revision Description

Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2020-6-29

Custodial History

The collection was originally filed in the Library Vertical File Collection. Because of the unique nature of the materials and the amount of materials available, it was decided that a collection should be created out of the materials, which were then sorted by subject.

Processing Information

Standard archival processing procedures were applied to the collection at the time of processing.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Historical Society of Washington, D.C. American Association of University Women – D.C. Branch Records, 1884-1997. MS 540.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Associations, institutions, etc
- Women
- Education, higher
- Organizational Records
- Yearbooks
- Ephemera

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Administrative Files

Scope and Contents

This series consists of correspondence, clippings, photographs, meeting announcements, legal documents, and programs. Topics include: Latin American Fellowship, Desegregation of the Washington Branch, National Conventions, and Membership.

Title/Description	Instances	
AAUW v. AAUW-WB, 1946-1949	Box 1	Folder 1
By-Laws, 1934-1950	Box 1	Folder 2
Clippings, 1889-1939	Box 1	Folder 3
Clippings, 1940-1960	Box 1	Folder 4
Clippings - National Headquarters, 1920-1961	Box 1	Folder 5
Correspondence, 1939-1956	Box 1	Folder 6
Elections, 1938-1949	Box 1	Folder 7

History: 20th Anniversary of National Clubhouse, 1940	Box 1	Folder 8
Meetings, 1938-1953	Box 1	Folder 9
Membership, 1925-1950	Box 1	Folder 10
National Convention, 1945	Box 1	Folder 11
Outreach Programs, 1932-1969	Box 1	Folder 12
Photographs, Undated	Box 1	Folder 13
Publicity, 1950-1970	Box 1	Folder 14

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Series 2: Bulletins

Scope and Contents

This series consists of monthly bulletins from the Washington Branch of the AAUW. Although Bulletins were issued from October to May, an annual chronological arrangement was chosen.

Title/Description	Instances	
Bulletins, 1930	Box 2	Folder 1
Bulletins, 1931	Box 2	Folder 2
Bulletins, 1932	Box 2	Folder 3
Bulletins, 1933	Box 2	Folder 4
Bulletins (Supplements), 1933	Box 2	Folder 5
Bulletins, 1934	Box 2	Folder 6
Bulletins, 1935	Box 2	Folder 7
Bulletins, 1936	Box 2	Folder 8
Bulletins, 1937	Box 2	Folder 9
Bulletins (Supplements), 1937	Box 2	Folder 10
Bulletins, 1938	Box 2	Folder 11
Bulletins, 1939	Box 3	Folder 1
Bulletins, 1940	Box 3	Folder 2
Bulletins (Supplements), 1940	Box 3	Folder 3
Bulletins, 1941	Box 3	Folder 4
Bulletins, 1942	Box 3	Folder 5
Bulletins, 1943	Box 3	Folder 6
Bulletins, 1944	Box 3	Folder 7

Bulletins, 1945	Box 3	Folder 8
Bulletins, 1946	Box 3	Folder 9
Bulletins, 1947	Box 3	Folder 10
Bulletins, 1948	Box 3	Folder 11
Bulletins, 1949	Box 3	Folder 12

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Series 3: Yearbooks

Scope and Contents

This series consists of annual yearbooks published by the Washington Branch of the AAUW. These materials are arranged chronologically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Yearbooks, 1921-1922	Box 4	Folder 1
Yearbooks, 1927-1928	Box 4	Folder 2
Yearbooks, 1928-1929	Box 4	Folder 3
Yearbooks, 1929-1930	Box 4	Folder 4
Yearbooks, 1931	Box 4	Folder 5
Yearbooks, 1932	Box 4	Folder 6
Yearbooks, 1933	Box 4	Folder 7
Yearbooks, 1934	Box 4	Folder 8
Yearbooks, 1935	Box 4	Folder 9
Yearbooks, 1936	Box 4	Folder 10
Yearbooks, 1937	Box 4	Folder 11
Yearbooks, 1938	Box 4	Folder 12
Yearbooks, 1939	Box 4	Folder 13
Yearbooks, 1940	Box 4	Folder 14
Yearbooks, 1941	Box 4	Folder 15
Yearbooks, 1942	Box 4	Folder 16
Yearbooks, 1943	Box 4	Folder 17
Yearbooks, 1944-1946	Box 4	Folder 18
Yearbooks, 1946-1948	Box 4	Folder 19
Yearbooks, 1950-1951	Box 4	Folder 20

Yearbooks, 1952-1953	Box 4	Folder 21
Yearbooks, 1953-1954	Box 4	Folder 22
Yearbooks (2 Copies), 1954-1955	Box 4	Folder 23
Yearbooks (2 Copies), 1955-1956	Box 4	Folder 24
Yearbooks, 1956-1957	Box 4	Folder 25
Yearbooks, 1957-1958	Box 4	Folder 26
Yearbooks (Supplement), 1958-1959	Box 4	Folder 27
Yearbooks (2 Copies), 1959-1960	Box 4	Folder 28

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