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# **Finding aid for the Grand Rapids Public Library civil rights exhibit collection Collection 358**

## **Our Voices Our Liberty: Grand Rapids Area Civil Rights Leaders**

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on June 25, 2018.  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections  
Department

111 Library Street NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <http://www.grpl.org>

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## Summary Information

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**Repository:** Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

**Title:** Grand Rapids Public Library civil rights exhibit collection

**ID:** Collection 358

**Date:** 2006-

**Physical Description:** 4.7 Linear Feet Three boxes

**Language of the Material:** English

**Abstract:** The exhibit Our Voices Our Liberty: Grand Rapids Area Civil Rights Leaders was displayed at the Grand Rapids Public Library beginning in February 2006. It was researched and prepared by the staff of the Grand Rapids History & Special Collections department. The exhibit encompasses a broad definition of civil rights, including the rights of African Americans and other ethnic groups, women, the handicapped and gay/lesbian rights. Materials for the exhibit come from the archival collections, but many were also obtained from the Grand Rapids Press or area groups and individuals.

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## Scope and Contents

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Collection includes a total of 54 separate display boards/items used in the exhibit, some of which have more than one image.

As of 06/25/2018, boxes 2 & 3 are missing.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

111 Library Street NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <http://www.grpl.org>

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Various and unknown donors and accession numbers, including Grand Rapids Public Library.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

Coll. 281. Has booklet from the Civil Rights Federation, Detroit, Michigan.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Exhibitions -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Civil Rights -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I. Digital Files

Title/Description	Instances
Civil Rights Exhibit 3/06, Photos & Text. Digital version. Memorex DVD. 00.[5070].1	Box 1

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## Series II. Exhibit Documentation

Title/Description	Instances
Source List.	Box 1      Folder 1

### Description

#### Description

This list documents the source of the images in the exhibit at the time it was mounted. Some of the images obtained from individuals will be processed for individual collections, and have new permanent collection affiliations in the future.

## Ephemera

Title/Description	Instances
Booklist. "Civil Rights"	Box 1      Folder 2
<b>General</b>	
This list contains items from the general collection, not GRHSCC.	
Color printouts of web version of the exhibit.	Box 1      Folder 3

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## Series III. Exhibit Display Panels

### Display Panel 1

Title/Description	Instances
Board 1. Title Panel. "Our Voices Our Liberty" with image of Paul Phillips?	Drawer FF.XIII.C
Board 2. Credit/scope panel. "Grand Rapids Area Civil Rights Leaders." "Covering over 1000 years ...". "Funded by the Ryerson Foundation. Titcher Family Fund."	Drawer FF.XIII.C

### Display Panel 2

Title/Description	Instances
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Board 3. William Gaines article "Colored Men will demand their Rights" Grand Rapids Post, July 11, 1904.	Box 2
Board 4. Women's Suffrage board. <b>Includes</b>  <b>Includes</b> Suffragette Minnie R. Mickel (formerly misidentified as Grace Kelley Freehouse); Suffrage Campaign Headquarters, June 11, 1912; Grand Rapids Mich. Equal Franchise Club postcard; Emily Burton Ketcham portrait photo; National American Woman Suffrage Association. 31st Annual Convention program images.	Drawer FF.XIII.C
Board item 5. Suffragette postcard "Think it over. Parents have the training of their children's minds. ..." Copy of postcard	Box 1
Board item 6. "Think it over. ... Equal Suffrage." Copy of postcard.	Box 1
Board 7. Viva Flaherty portrait photo, with "History of the Grand Rapids Furniture Strike" publication image.	Box 2
Board 8. Roberta Griffith portrait photo.	Box 3

### Display Panel 3

Title/Description	Instances
Board 9. Emmet Bolden, Oliver Green, and Keith Theatre	Box 3
Board 10. League of Women Voters Office, Dorothy Leonard Judd, "Good Citizens Vote!" Sept. 1924	Drawer FF.XIII.C
Board 11. Walter Coe. Shows Coe standing on the street, with an unidentified white man.	Box 3
Board 12. Daniel Lampkins, Grand Rapids Press photo, Apr. 11, 1968, Grand Rapids Herald article, Aug. 28, 1919.	Box 3
Board 13. Mile Brown.	Box 3

### Display Panel 4

Title/Description	Instances
Board 14. Floyd Skinner, Portrait photo, Skinner at microphone in front of a band.	Box 3
Board 15. Jacob Walker Cobmoosa portrait photo.	Box 3

#### Description

##### Description

Image includes a calendar on the wall showing April 1956? and a Grand Rapids Chicks baseball game program playing the Racine Belles.

Existence and Location of Originals:**Existence and Location of Originals**

Robinson Studio Collection 125 125-H002352.

Board 16. George T. Aitken and Charles H. Frantz; Area Child Amputee Center; Portrait photo Aitken; Portrait photo Frantz	Box 3
Board 17. Vargas / Vasques; Daniel Vargas with plaque; Daniel & Guadalupe Vargas; Migrant Children, Daniel Vasques, and Daniel & Consuelo Vasques with Gov. G. Mennen Williams	Box 3
Board 18. William Glen (Sic "Glenn"); Glenn as a bellhop at the Pantlind Hotel 1920; Glenn seated with unidentified women	Box 3
Board item 19. Michigan Unemployment Compensation Commission Small color laser mounted on black paper <u>Physical Description</u> : Small color laser mounted on black paper	Box 1
Board item 20. Hayes Local no. 801. March 26, 1945. Plant Committee Minutes.	Box 1

**Display Panel 5**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Board 21. Paul Phillips portrait photo.	Box 3
Board 22. Grand Rapids Urban League and Borough Community Center; GR Press "Seek 1,000 members for Urban League;" Paul Phillips and other Urban league members; "Now Scholarships for Any College"; Urban League Members ... Finney St. Clean-UP Week	Box 2
Board 23. American Civil Liberties Union description	Box 3
Board 24. ACLU West Michigan, Fountain Street Church; Duncan Littlefair portrait; Fountain Street Church; Rev. Samuel Graves; List of Civil Libertarian of the Year Awards. Western Michigan Branch.	Drawer FF.XIII.C

**Display Panel 6**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Board 25. Charter to the Members of the Greater Grand Rapids, MI; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Oct. 5, 2000	Box 3
Board 26. Hazel Lewis, color portrait photo. NAACP Grand Rapids Chapter President.	Box 1
Board 27. NAACP, Grand Rapids Chapter. ca. 1920.	Box 3
Board 28. Helen Claytor	Box 3

## Description

### Description

Claytor left, with two unidentified women, as President, National YWCA Board, 1967; Claytor, 1947, receiving award from woman and man representatives of National Urban League; Claytor, center with group in silent march for American Indians at Wounded Knee.

### Display panel 7

Title/Description	Instances
Board 29. Walter Bergman; GR Press photo; "Klan beating crippled prof., doctor testifies.	Box 2
Board 30. Sara Glover color photo; Sara Glover b/w photo; Hazel Grant color photo; Hazel grant sending precinct cards to registered voters used in the wall exhibit & labels.	Drawer FF.XIII.C
Board 31. Martin Morales; GR Press photo	Drawer FF.XIII.C
Board 32. Ella Sims. Color Portrait photo.	Box 3
Board 33. Joan Wolfe; Wolfe with Gerald Ford. WMU 1973 honorary degree; Earth Day Pioneer; Some Kind of Heroes	Box 3

### Display panel 8

Title/Description	Instances
Board 34. Lyman Parks; Parks with jack hammer; Parks portrait photo.	Box 3
Board 35. Pablo Martinez; Color photo of Martinez with dog and fire vehicles; David King	Box 3
Board 36. Virginia Moralez. Portrait photo.	Box 3
Board 37. Joe Castillo. Newspaper photo.	Box 3
Board 38. Network News; Network News Mary 1988; Bryan Ribbens Ordinance Committee / Commission; Meeting, Dec. 11, 1990.	Box 3
Board 39. Mary Banghart; Color GR Press photo.	Box 3

### Display Panel 9

Title/Description	Instances
Board item 40. Stonewall 20. 1969-1969, Lesbian & Gay Life Celebration poster.	Box 1
Board item 41. You are Not Alone. National Coming Out day, Oct.11. 2005 Ad used in the wall exhibit & labels.	Box 1



Board item 42. Saugatuck/Dougals Area Gay Guide 2005	Box 1
Board 43. Dennis Komac. Color GR Press photo.	Box 3
Board 44. Jeff Swanson. Color GR Press photo.	Box 3
Board 45. Gerry Crane. Color GR Press photo.	Box 3

## Concerned Clergy

Title/Description	Instances
Board 46. Concerned Clergy of West Michigan	Box 1
Board item 47. Pastoral Letter from Concerned Clergy in West Michigan	Box 1
Board item 48. Pastoral letter continued	Box 1
Board item 49. GR Press article "Ministers ask Christians to accept gays."	Box 1

## Display Panel 10

Title/Description	Instances
Board 50. Lee Larson; Color GR Press photo, Sept. 6, 2002.	Box 2
Board 51. Jim Lucas; Color GR Press photo	Box 2
Board 52. Carol Gilbert & Nuns; GR Press article Aug 13, 2005. "We're going to Speak the Truth Wherever it Takes Us;" AP Photo in the GR Press, March 18, ?. Dominican Nuns, Ardeth Platte, Carol Gilbert and Jackie Hudson outside Denver courthouse sentencing.	Box 2
Board 53. Debra Muller; Muller color portrait photo; Muller with artist Paul Collins and Dennis Banks of the American Indian Movement.	Box 2
Board 54. Karen Henry, Color GR Press photo.	Box 3

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## Series IV. Ancillary materials.

Title/Description	Instances
Affirmative Action Touring Exhibit flyer. 00.[5095].2	Box
<u>Existence and Location of Copies:</u>	Unknown
	Folder
	Unknown

## Existence and Location of Copies

"See Affirmative Action Touring Exhibit poster" in  
Collection 224, Box 20

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Affirmative Action Touring Exhibit poster. "The Affirmative Action Debate at the University of Michigan : cases about diversity. Aug. 1-Sept. 10, 2006." 00.[5095].1	Collection 224	Box 20
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## Biographical / Historical

Handed out at the library during the display of this traveling  
exhibit. The exhibit was set up on the second floor of  
Ryerson near the Friends Bookstore. Exterior view of  
students & others protesting, probably on campus.

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Mayoral Civil Rights Recognition Commission Report. 2005, pg. 8 relates to GRPL & KDL. 00.[5352].1	Box Unknown	Folder Unknown
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