



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Program Records, 1976-1999

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Program Records
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Administrative Information

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Descriptive Entry

This accession consists of the records of the Program in African American Culture (PAAC), with earlier records dating from when PAAC was known as the Program in African American History and the Program in Black American Culture, respectively. The records primarily document planning for conferences and symposiums, such as "Will the Circle be Unbroken? Historical Perspectives on the African Diaspora;" "Contemporary Black American Congregational Song and Worship Traditions;" "Black American Popular Song: A Rhythm and Blues Symposium;" "We'll Understand It Better By and By: A National Conference on African American Gospel Music Scholarship in Tribute to Pearl Williams-Jones;" "Currents of the Spirit in the African Diaspora: Survivals, Innovations, and New Expressions;" "In Search of Blueprints: The Making of an African American Literary Critic . . . Stephen E. Henderson;" "Black Migration and the American City: Forging the African American Urban Community;" "Mind on Freedom: Celebrating the History and Culture of America's Black Colleges and Universities;" "Voices of the Civil Rights Movement;" "Disturbing the Peace: The Impact of Malcolm X on the Politics and Culture of the 1960s;" and "Rock in a Weary Land: African American Religious Traditions."

Materials include the correspondence, memoranda, and notes of Bernice Johnson Reagon, Director, 1983-1988; Gwendolyn Robinson, Director, 1989-1992; Niani Kilkenny, Acting Director, 1988-1989, and Director, 1992-2004; and Alonzo Nelson Smith, Research Historian. Also included are proposals; reports; contracts and agreements; budget summaries; program schedules; publications; press releases; meeting agendas and minutes; concerts and special events information; and photographs.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

African Americans -- History
African Americans -- Social life and customs
African diaspora
Concerts
Conference proceedings
Contracts
Special events

Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographs
Brochures
Clippings
Color negatives
Color photographs
Floppy disks
Manuscripts
Transcripts

Names:

Black American Popular Song: A Rhythm and Blues Symposium (Symposium) (1986: Washington, D.C.)
Black Migration and the American City: Forging the African American Urban Community (Conference) (1988: Washington, D.C.)
Contemporary Black American Congregational Song and Worship Traditions (Conference) (1989: Washington, D.C.)
Currents of the Spirit in the African Diaspora: Survivals, Innovations, and New Expressions (Conference) (1994: Washington, D.C.)
Disturbing the Peace: The Impact of Malcolm X on the Politics and Culture of the 1960s (Symposium) (1992: Washington, D.C.)
In Search of Blueprints: The Making of an African American Literary Critic . . . Stephen E. Henderson (Symposium) (1993: Washington, D.C.)
Kilkenny, Niani
Mind on Freedom: Celebrating the History and Culture of America's Black Colleges and Universities (Conference) (1996: Washington, D.C.)
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Program in African American History
Reagon, Bernice Johnson, 1942-
Rock in a Weary Land: African American Religious Traditions (Conference) (1994: Washington, D.C.)
Simmons, Gwendolyn Zoharah
Smith, Alonzo Nelson
Smithsonian Institution. Program in Black American Culture
Voices of the Civil Rights Movement (Symposium) (1983: Washington, D.C.)
We'll Understand It Better By and By: A National Conference on African American Gospel Music
Scholarship in Tribute to Pearl Williams-Jones (Conference) (1993: Washington, D.C.)
Will the Circle be Unbroken? Historical Perspectives on the African Diaspora (Conference) (1992: Washington, D.C.)

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