

GLBT Historical Society
Dr. John P. De Cecco Archives and Special Collections
Holdings Related to Native American LGBTQ/Two-Spirit People

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This research guide is intended to help users locate holdings related to Native American people and collections that document the Native American experience at the GLBT Historical Society. It highlights holdings in the following areas:

- Organizational records and personal papers
- Periodicals
- Ephemera
- Digitized collections

While this guide was carefully curated, it should not be taken as comprehensive. Other collections may contain materials and/or discuss issues related to the Native American experience or, more broadly, race and racial justice. Please note that many large collections of photographs, papers, and audiovisual materials will contain relevant materials – even if their focus is not specifically on Native American people. Researchers are encouraged to conduct their own searches of the catalog and finding aids. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society Archives (reference@glbthistory.org) with any questions or comments and for more information on how to access digitized audiovisual holdings, which are not covered extensively here.

Organizational records and personal papers (listed alphabetically):

Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits records (2019-81). This collection consists of bylaws, administrative and financial records, meeting minutes, grant applications, materials relating to events, newsletters, fliers, early website printouts, and related material concerning this advocacy and art organization.

Gay American Indians collection (1997-34). This collection primarily contains secondary materials about the history of Two-Spirit people, assembled by Gay American Indians (GAI) co-founder Randy Burns. The bulk of the collection consists of correspondence, agendas, papers, and critiques from conferences.

Joshua Aidan Dunn collection of LGBTQ youth and American Indian Two-Spirit papers (2016-22). Joshua Aidan Dunn is an Osage Two-Spirit activist, known for his work as executive director of Youth Gender Project/Youth TIES and a member of Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits (BAAITS). The collection consists of subject files – most of them pertaining to advocacy for trans, intersex, and queer youth – as well as a small amount of material related to Youth Gender Project.

Morningstar Vancil papers (2000-50). Morningstar Vancil is a local activist, artist, and co-founder of Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits (BAAITS). This collection contains artifacts, art, and papers from the Two-Spirit exhibit case that Morningstar Vancil curated for the Making a Case for Community History display in 2000 at the GLBT Historical Society. Some of the artwork is her own.

Randy Burns papers (1999-54). This collection contains material relating to LGBTQ Native Americans, Two-Spirit people, and Native American history collected by activist Randy Burns, co-founder (with Barbara Cameron) of Gay American Indians (GAI). The collection includes materials related to Burns, GAI, and other queer Native American organizations across the United States and Canada, including a typescript of “Living the Spirit: A Gay American Indian Anthology” by the GAI History Project.

Will Roscoe papers (1987-04). This collection contains papers from scholar and activist Will Roscoe and records from Gay American Indians (GAI), the first gay Native American liberation organization, founded in July 1975. Roscoe was project coordinator of the GAI History Project, and his research on Two-Spirit people has been widely published.

Periodicals:

Title: B.A.A.I.T-S.

Type: Newsletter

Subtitle: Newsletter of the Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits

Organization: Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits (BAAIT-S)

Holdings: vol. 1 #1 (May 2000)

Title: Buffalo Hide

Organization: WeWah & BarCheeAmpe Native Two Spirits

Holdings: V2 #4 (SP '93)

Title: The No-Name News

Type: Newsletter

Alternate Title: Atlanta Gender Explorations Newsletter|Two-Spirit News

Organization: Atlanta Gender Explorations (AGE)

Holdings: vol. 2 #1 (Feb 1995)

Title: Seasons

Type: Newsletter

Subtitle: The National Native American AIDS Prevention Center Quarterly

Organization: The National Native American AIDS Prevention Center

Holdings: 1989: Fall; 1990: Summer, Fall; 1991: Summer, Winter

Ephemera

The GLBT Historical Society has a large collection of ephemera arranged by subject.

Relevant topics include:

Groups Ephemera:
American Indian AIDS Institute
Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits
Gay American Indians
Native American AIDS project

Biographical Ephemera:
Barbara Cameron

Digitized collections:

These two resources are available online and are fully keyword searchable.

Bay Area Reporter Archive: <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=c1&c1=CL2.1995.09&sp=BAR&e=-----en--20--1--txt-txIN-----1>

Bay Area Reporter Obituary Database: <http://obit.glbthistory.org/olo/index.jsp>

Our general digital collections can be found here:
<https://www.glbthistory.org/online-collections>

Many of the online photograph collections have Native American content – try searching under various keywords.

Digitized audio collections:

These three resources are available online and are fully keyword searchable.

Randy Alfred, *The Gay Life* radio series, 1973-1984
Kevin Burke, *Fruit Punch* recordings, 1975-1979
<https://www.glbthistory.org/audio-search>

Chana Wilson audiotapes (1973-1982)
This collection contains recordings of Native American women's meetings, including at least one recorded by Peggy Berryhill:
<https://archive.org/search.php?query=glbt%20historical%20society%20chana>

See also the finding aid to the Randy Alfred Subject Files and Sound Recordings:
<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt0w10244m/>

As well as the finding aid to the Chana Wilson tapes:
<http://pdf.oac.cdlib.org/pdf/glhs/c8sf3349.pdf>