Finding Aid to the Judy Sisneros ACT UP/Los Angeles Records, 1985-1995
Coll2016-008

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Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
Title: Judy Sisneros ACT UP/Los Angeles Records
creator: Sisneros, Judy, 1942-
Identifier/Call Number: Coll2016-008
Physical Description: 3.7 Linear Feet2 records boxes, 1 flat box.
Date (inclusive): 1987-1995
Abstract: ACT UP/Los Angeles administrative records, promotional materials, ephemera, and subject files, 1985-1995, of ACT UP/Los Angeles member Judy Sisneros. Includes documentation of Sisneros' committee work and activities in the ACT UP network. Sisneros is a writer and activist based in Los Angeles.
Arrangement
This collection is arranged alphabetically.
Biographical / Historical
Judy Sisneros is a writer and activist based in Los Angeles. She was a member of ACT UP/Los Angeles and was active on the Women's Committee, Prisoners with AIDS Committee, and Agitating/Legal Committee, among other work. Active from 1987 to 1995, ACT UP/Los Angeles defined itself as "a grass-roots, democratic, militant, direct-action organization dedicated to creating positive changes around AIDS in federal and local government, the media, and medical industries through non-violent public protests." ACT UP worked to broaden the Center for Disease Control definition of AIDS to include opportunistic infections specific to HIV-positive women, to bring women into clinical drug trials, and to draw visibility to the increasing numbers of women with HIV/AIDS.
Sisneros later became a member of Queer Nation in Los Angeles and was involved in AB101 protests and the Hollywood Homophobia Committee. Sisneros was even arrested at a Queer Nation protest at the 1992 Academy Awards, protesting the negative representation and invisibility of LGBT people in films.
Sisneros was part of a national network of ACT UP women's caucus members that organized the National Dyke March at the 1993 March on Washington. In 1994, she co-founded the Los Angeles Dyke March and continued participating in the organizing committee until 1997. In 2005, she became a member of Tongues, the latina lesbian arts organization, and participated with the group in the 2006 Marcha Lesbica in Mexico City.
Sources:
Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.
Conditions Governing Use
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the ONE Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives at USC Libraries as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Deed of gift, Judy Sisneros, March 2016.
Preferred Citation
[Box/folder #, or item name] Judy Sisneros ACT UP/Los Angeles Records, Coll2016-008, ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California.
Processing Information
Collection processed by Claire Forsyth, 2016.
Scope and Contents
ACT UP/Los Angeles administrative records, promotional materials, ephemera, and subject files, 1985-1995, of Judy Sisneros. The records documents Sisneros' involvement with the Women's Committee, Prisoners with AIDS Committee, Agitating/Legal Committee, and ACT UP Network, as well as with ACT UP/Los Angeles fundraisers, campaigns, meetings, communications, direct actions, and "zaps," among other activities.
Separated Materials
Separated to the ONE Archives T-shirt collection:
"WE'RE ACT UP. FUCK YOU!" Grey T-shirt with black stenciled text on front.

"1994 AIDS ACTIVIST CONFERENCE PHILADELPHIA" Black T-shirt with white text, grey circle in the background with a microscope or similar medical instrument in the foreground.

"WOMEN ACT UP! LOS ANGELES" Black T-shirt with grey text. Women symbol with pink triangle inset in the circle.

White T-shirt with black text. "LIFE" (over image of "Lamentation" by Giotto in yellow). Text below: "150000 U.S. AIDS deaths: one every seven minutes worldwide. "LIBERTY" (over image of "The Rape of the Sabine Women" by Giambologna in turquoise) Text below: "A woman is raped in the U.S. every eight minutes." "HAPPINESS" (over image of the Three Graces in Sandro Botticelli's "Primavera" in pink) Text below: "42 lesbians and gays are bashed each hour. ACT UP LOS ANGELES" (logo).


Separated to the ONE Archives periodical collection (labels of topics listed in parentheses)


ACTUP San Francisco: December/January, volume 2, number 5 (women and AIDS cover story).


The Lesbian News: volume 15, number 12, July 1990 (women and AIDS activism); volume 16, number 4, November 1990 (prisons and AIDS).

Update: August 29, 1990 (Miller beer boycott); January 15, 1992 (expanding AIDS definition).

Vanguard: May 18, 1990 (women topics); August 24, 1990 (women topics); October 5, 1990 (AIDS Walk, et al.); December 14, 1990 (expanding AIDS definition); March 8, 1991 (women topics); April 19, 1991 (March for LAPD reform, et al.); May 17, 1991 (prisons and AIDS); August 7, 1992 (women topics).

**Related Materials**

ACT UP/Los Angeles Records, Coll2011-010, ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

AIDS (Disease) -- Law and legislation -- California

AIDS activists

International Conference on AIDS

Safe sex in AIDS prevention

AIDS activists -- California -- Los Angeles

AIDS (Disease) -- Patients -- Medical care

Women political activists

Lesbian activists

Sisneros, Judy, 1942-

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Box 1, Folder 3  **Action to expand AIDS definition 1990-1992**
Box 1, Folder 4  **Administrative records and history 1988-1992**
Box 1, Folder 5  **Agendas and notes 1988-1994**
Box 1, Folder 6  **Agitating/Legal Committee 1991-1993**
Box 1, Folder 7  **AIDS articles and glossaries 1987-1992**
Box 1, Folder 8  **AIDS Cure Project 1994**
Box 1, Folder 9  **AIDSphobia in Hollywood action 1990-1993**
Box 1, Folder 10  **American Airlines boycott 1993**
Box 1, Folder 11  **Anti Art Censorship Coalition 1990**
Box 1, Folder 12  **Art Committee**
Box 1, Folder 13  ASOs and CBOs 1990-1994
Box 1, Folder 14  Center for Disease Control definition campaign 1990
Box 1, Folder 15  Chants circa 1990
Box 1, Folder 16  Clean Needles Now 1987-1994
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Box 1, Folder 19  Finances and fundraising 1991-1992
Box 1, Folder 20  Fliers and other promotional materials circa 1990-1994
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Box 1, Folder 22  Harm reduction 1992
Box 1, Folder 23  HIV and Youth Working Group circa 1990
Box 1, Folder 24  In memoriam members 1990-1994
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