Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives
Title: Esther Brenner "1939" Club Collection
Creator: Brenner, Esther, 1931-2015
Identifier/Call Number: URB.EBC
Extent: 2.23 linear feet
Date (inclusive): 1952-1996
Date (bulk): 1988-1995
Abstract: Esther Brenner was a dedicated community advocate active in many civic and Jewish organizations in Los Angeles, including The "1939" Club—a fraternal organization of Holocaust survivors founded in 1952. During the late twentieth century Brenner served as a member of the Yearbook Editorial Committee on the club's Board of Directors. The Esther Brenner "1939" Club Collection documents aspects of Brenner's involvement within the organization, especially the planning of the 42nd Anniversary Celebration in 1994 and the club's annual yearbook.

Language of Material: English, Hebrew
Biographical Information:
Esther Lerner Brenner was born in Washington, D.C. on July 27, 1931. She was the second child of Jewish immigrants from Palestine and Lithuania.

In the early 1950s, Brenner moved to Los Angeles where she worked as a teacher and speech therapist while raising her three sons. She was a graduate of George Washington University and after completing her Master of Business Administration at the University of Judaism, she served as the West Coast Regional Director for the United States Holocaust Museum and as Director of Development at Aviva Family and Children's Services.

Brenner was a dedicated community advocate active in many civic and Jewish organizations in the Los Angeles area including the Beverly-Angeles Homeowners' Association, the Los Angeles Hebrew High School, and The "1939" Club -- a fraternal organization of Holocaust survivors founded in Los Angeles in 1952. Throughout its history, The "1939" Club has coordinated numerous social, educational, and charitable initiatives to support Holocaust remembrance. In the 1990s, Brenner served on the club's Board of Directors as a member of the Yearbook Editorial Committee.

On August 7, 2015 Esther Lerner Brenner died at her home in Beverly Hills, California at the age of 84.

Scope and Contents

Series I, Club Activity Files, contains materials related to the planning and promotion of club events and publications, particularly the 42nd Anniversary Celebration in 1994 and the club's annual yearbook. Materials include correspondence, meeting agendas and notes, fliers and programs, and yearbook mock-ups with photographic prints. A manuscript draft of the club's history is also included as well as reproductions of the club's earliest meeting notes from 1952-1953. Materials are arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within.

Series II, Press Clippings and Collected Publications, contains newspaper clippings of various topics related to the Holocaust and Jewish communities which were likely used in the construction of membership publications for The "1939" Club. The series also contains collected personal narratives and publications from affiliated organizations, such as newsletters, fliers, and posters. Posters include Hotel Terminus: The Life and Times of Klaus Barbie by Marcel Ophüls, One Family by the Israel Emergency Solidarity Fund, Martyrs Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust, A Hard Lesson by New York Times Magazine, Night of Pogroms by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial, and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Writing Contest. Materials are arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within.

Arrangement of Materials:
Series I: Club Activity Files, 1952-1996

Related Material
Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles, Community Relations Committee Collection, Part 1, 1921-1937
Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles, Community Relations Committee Collection, Part 2, 1920-1950
Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles, Community Relations Committee Collection, Part 3, 1938-1950
**Conditions Governing Access:**
The collection is open for research use.

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**Accruals:**
2013

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**
Esther Brenner. 02/2011, 2013

**Preferred Citation:**
For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the Citing Archival Materials guide.

**Processing Information:**
Christine Hertzel and Inderdeep Kaur, 2015

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Documents
Photographs

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**Series I: Club Activity Files, 1952-1996**

- Box 1, Folder 1: 42nd Anniversary Celebration Planning Materials, 1993-1994
- Box 1, Folder 2: Club History Manuscript Draft, 1991-1992
- Box 1, Folder 3: Correspondence, 1989-1993
- Box 1, Folder 4: Correspondence, 1994
- Box 1, Folder 5: Correspondence, 1995
- Box 1, Folder 6: Correspondence to Members, 1989-1992
- Box 1, Folder 7: Event Fliers, Invitations, and Programs, 1989-1994
- Box 1, Folder 8: Meeting Agendas and Minutes, 1952-1953, 1989-1990, 1992
- Box 1, Folder 9: Newsletter Materials, 1989-1990, 1992
- Box 1, Folder 10: Receipts, 1995-1996
- Box 1, Folder 11: Various Planning Materials, Notes, and Drafts, 1988-1990, 1995
- Box 1, Folder 12: Yearbook Mock-up, 1994
- Box 2, Folder 1: Yearbook Mock-up, 1993
- Box 2, Folder 2: Yearbook Mock-up, 1994
- Box 2, Folder 3: Yearbook Mock-up, 1994-1995


- Box 1, Folder 13: Anti-Defamation League, 1989-1992
- Box 1, Folder 14: Babi Yar, 1991
- Box 1, Folder 15: B’nai B’rith Messenger, 1992 March 13
- Box 1, Folder 16: Child Survivors’ Group Newsletter Number 12, 1989 March
- Box 1, Folder 17: Concentration Camps, 1992-1994
- Box 1, Folder 18: Holocaust Denial and Anti-Semitism, 1992, 1995
- Box 1, Folder 19: Holocaust Oral History Project, 1990
- Box 1, Folder 20: Holocaust Survivors, 1986-1995
- Box 1, Folder 21: Israeli History, Politics, and Culture, 1989-1992
- Box 1, Folder 22: Jerusalem Post International Edition, 1992 May 09
- Box 1, Folder 23: Los Angeles Holocaust Monument, 1992
- Box 1, Folder 24: Martyrs Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust, 1988-1992
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