

University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

Finding Aid - Niela Miller fonds (AR471)

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Niela Miller fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives
Title:	Niela Miller fonds
Reference code:	AR471
Date:	1983-2009 (date of creation)
Language:	English
Physical description:	13 cm, 98 photographs, 4 videocassettes
Note [generalNote]:	Part of the Transgender Archive.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Niela Miller, BA, MS Ed, LCSW, LMHC, is a now-retired humanistic counsellor. She was a social worker through the 1970s before focusing on gender-related issues in the 1980s. She first attended Fantasia Fair, a crossdressing and transsexual conference in Massachusetts, in 1982 and has hosted dozens of workshops at the Fair since that time. Miller founded and operated PeopleSystems Potential in Action, a private counselling, consulting, and training firm. Specializing in Gestalt therapy, Miller worked with many individuals, families, and organizations in offering support and addressing issues surrounding gender identity. By the 1990s, Miller had become known in the transgender community for her empowering workshops and seminars at gender conferences throughout the US. Miller's book, *Counseling in Genderland*, was published in 1996 and was cited as the first educational book focussed on gender identity for counsellors.

Scope and content

Fonds reflects Niela Miller's public involvement in transgender education and counseling of the trans* community and "gender identity explorers." Miller's work, focused primarily in the United States, is represented here in the records of her workshops, presentations, and publications. Fonds consists of correspondence, notes, photographs, publications and reviews, brochures, graphic materials, audiocassettes, and other materials.

Fonds has been arranged into four series: Workshops and presentations; publications and clippings; photographs; and audio-visual.

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated directly to UVic Archives by Niela Millar in 2012.

Finding aids

Detailed finding aid available (series level control), box list available (item level control).

Accruals

2012-022

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** niela-miller-fonds

Access points

- Fantasia Fair
- Miller, Niela (subject)
- PeopleSystems Potential in Action
- Multiple media (documentary form)
- correspondence (documentary form)
- presentations (communicative events) (documentary form)
- publications (documents) (documentary form)
- notes (documents) (documentary form)
- photographs (documentary form)
- reviews (documents) (documentary form)
- brochures (documentary form)
- audiocassettes (documentary form)
- workshops (seminars) (documentary form)
- postcards (documentary form)
- black-and-white photographs (documentary form)
- audiovisual materials (documentary form)
- VHS (documentary form)
- Health and social services (subject)
- Family and personal life (subject)
- Transgender people (subject)

- Congresses and conventions (subject)
 - Education (subject)
 - Counseling (subject)
 - Transgender people--Identity (subject)
 - Gender identity (subject)
 - Gender identity--Psychological aspects (subject)
 - United States (place)
 - Massachusetts--Provincetown (place)
-

Collection holdings

Series: AR471-01 - Workshops and Presentations

Title: Workshops and Presentations

Reference code: AR471-01

Date: 1983 - 2009 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of the records related to Miller's presentations on gender identity at conferences, seminars, and workshops and the related positions she held as a workshop leader and keynote speaker. Content includes descriptions and resources for workshops, report on past workshops, transition stories from group members and past clients, stories told during presentations, notes from presentations, and summaries of Miller's experience as a counselor for gender related topics.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: AR471-01-1.1 - Correspondence

Title: Correspondence

Reference code: AR471-01-1.1

Date: 1997-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of correspondence received by Miller during her involvement in the transgender community. Content consists of emails and letters from participants in Miller's workshops and presentations.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Item: "The Tall Ships"

Title: "The Tall Ships"

Date: 1990, 1998 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Description of Workshop for Counselors

Title: Description of Workshop for Counselors

Publication status:

Published

Item: Short Biography & Gender Resume for Niela Miller

Title: Short Biography & Gender Resume for Niela Miller

Date: 1982-1999 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Short Biography & Gender Resume for Niela Miller

Title: Short Biography & Gender Resume for Niela Miller

Date: 1983-2009 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Notes for Gender Talk ABHS, Acton, MA

Title: Notes for Gender Talk ABHS, Acton, MA

Date: 2006 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Notes for Talk at First Church Unitarian in Littleton, MA

Title: Notes for Talk at First Church Unitarian in Littleton, MA

Date: 2006 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Feminine Toolkit - updated

Title: Feminine Toolkit - updated

Publication status:

Published

Item: Emails to Niela Miller from Kathleen Kawa and April Lane Nicole

Title: Emails to Niela Miller from Kathleen Kawa and April Lane Nicole

Publication status:

Published

Item: A Woman's Heart: Workshop by Niela Miller – Fantasia Fair

Title: A Woman's Heart: Workshop by Niela Miller – Fantasia Fair

Date: 2004 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Niela Miller Lecture Schedule & Synopsis – Fantasia Fair

Title: Niela Miller Lecture Schedule & Synopsis – Fantasia Fair

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Notes for Feminine Toolkit Workshop - Fantasia Fair

Title: Notes for Feminine Toolkit Workshop - Fantasia Fair

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Notes for Feminine Toolkit & Woman's Heart Workshops

Title: Notes for Feminine Toolkit & Woman's Heart Workshops

Publication status:

Published

Item: Descriptions of Fantasia Fair Workshops

Title: Descriptions of Fantasia Fair Workshops

Publication status:

Published

Item: “Wives’ Workshop” Report – Fantasia Fair

Title: “Wives’ Workshop” Report – Fantasia Fair

Date: 1983 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Thank You Letter to Niela Miller from Veterans Administration (David Haskell)

Title: Thank You Letter to Niela Miller from Veterans Administration (David Haskell)

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Thank You Letter to Niela Miller from Veterans Administration (Rivkah Lindenfeld)

Title: Thank You Letter to Niela Miller from Veterans Administration (Rivkah Lindenfeld)

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Transgender Presentation Notes (Counselor Educators in Second Life)

Title: Transgender Presentation Notes (Counselor Educators in Second Life)

Publication status:

Published

Item: “How Easily He Forgets” by Katherine Hawkins for “A Circle of Women”

Title: “How Easily He Forgets” by Katherine Hawkins for “A Circle of Women”

Date: 1993 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: “My Transsexual Father” by Stephen Vinay Gunther

Title: “My Transsexual Father” by Stephen Vinay Gunther

Date: 2006 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Questions for Resolution in Counseling

Title: Questions for Resolution in Counseling

Publication status:

Published

Item: Notes for Transgender Day of Remembrance Talk in Second Life

Title: Notes for Transgender Day of Remembrance Talk in Second Life

Date: 2009 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Series: AR471-02 - Publications and Clippings

Title: Publications and Clippings

Reference code: AR471-02

Date: 1990 - 2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of published material written by Miller, the majority of which is related to her first book in 1996 titled “Counseling in Genderland.” Series includes a copy of “Counseling in

Genderland” and brochures advertising the book, reviews of the publication, articles by Miller for Tapestry, and newspaper clippings concerning Miller’s work.

Physical description: 2 cm textual records and graphic material

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Graphic material (documentary form)
-

File: AR471-02-1.1 - Articles

Title: Articles

Reference code: AR471-02-1.1

Date: 1996-2001 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: “Counseling in Genderland” Review – AHP Perspectives

Title: “Counseling in Genderland” Review – AHP Perspectives

Date: 1996 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: Untitled

Title: Untitled

Date: 3002 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: “Counseling and the Married Crossdresser” – Tapestry

Title: “Counseling and the Married Crossdresser” – Tapestry

Date: 1996 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: “On Being a Woman” – Tapestry Journal – undated

Title: “On Being a Woman” – Tapestry Journal – undated

Publication status:

Published

Item: “I Dreamed There Was an Emperor, Antony...” – undated

Title: “I Dreamed There Was an Emperor, Antony...” – undated

Publication status:

Published

Item: “Abolishing Guilty Secrets” – Tapestry Journal – undated

Title: “Abolishing Guilty Secrets” – Tapestry Journal – undated

Publication status:

Published

Item: Untitled – AHP Perspectives – undated

Title: Untitled – AHP Perspectives – undated

Publication status:

Published

File: AR471-02-1.1 - Newspaper clippings

Title: Newspaper clippings

Reference code: AR471-02-1.1

Date: 1990 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: “Teaching About Gender Identity is on the Agenda for Niela Miller”

Title: “Teaching About Gender Identity is on the Agenda for Niela Miller”

Date: 1996 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

File: AR471-02-1.1 - Brochures

Title: Brochures

Reference code: AR471-02-1.1

Publication status:

Published

Item: “Counseling in Genderland” – undated

Title: “Counseling in Genderland” – undated

Physical description: 2 copies

Publication status:

Published

Item: AR471-02-1.2 - Counseling in Genderland: A Guide for You and Your Transgendered Client – by Niela Miller

Title: Counseling in Genderland: A Guide for You and Your Transgendered Client – by Niela Miller

Reference code: AR471-02-1.2

Date: 1996 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Series: AR471-03 - Photographs

Title: Photographs

Reference code: AR471-03

Date: 1990 - 2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of photographs related to Miller's involvement with the transgender and cross-dressing community. Records include colour and black and white photographs. Photographs include images of Fantasia Fair, cruises, and dinners with gender identity explorers.

Physical description: 98 photographs, 1 postcard

Publication status:

Published

Conservation:

Photographs comprising file 1.3.3 remain attached to photo album pages due to adhesion of the page to the back of the photographs.

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-

File: AR471-03-1.3 - Fantasia Fair

Title: Fantasia Fair

Reference code: AR471-03-1.3

Date: 1982-2002 (date of creation)

Physical description: 99 photographs

Publication status:

Published

Series: AR471-04 - Audio-visual

Title: Audio-visual

Reference code: AR471-04

Date: 1992 - 1995 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of audio-visual materials related to Miller's presentations, workshops, and involvement with the transgender community. Records include seminars and presentations by Miller as well as other presentations and events during various Fantasia Fairs.

Physical description: 4 VHS recordings

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Moving images (documentary form)
-

File: AR471-04-1.4 - Videos - VHS

Title: Videos - VHS

Reference code: AR471-04-1.4

Publication status:

Published

Item: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.1 - Gender Identity – Jane Thomas (Jenny S.) – undated

Title: Gender Identity – Jane Thomas (Jenny S.) – undated

Reference code: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.1

Publication status:

Published

Item: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.2 - Fantasia Fair – Kane-Miller Colloquium (1992) & Miller Luncheon Seminar (1995)

Title: Fantasia Fair – Kane-Miller Colloquium (1992) & Miller Luncheon Seminar (1995)

Reference code: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.2

Date: 1992; 1995 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.3 - antasia Fair – Kane-Miller Colloquium (1992) & Miller Seminar (1995) & The Power of the Mainstream (undated)

Title: antasia Fair – Kane-Miller Colloquium (1992) & Miller Seminar (1995) & The Power of the Mainstream (undated)

Reference code: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.3

Date: 1992; 1995 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Item: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.4 - Gender Service – First Parish in Bedford – Rev. John Gibbons & Niela Miller

Title: Gender Service – First Parish in Bedford – Rev. John Gibbons & Niela Miller

Reference code: AR471-04-1.4-1.4.4

Date: 1993 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published
