
Finding aid of the Jorge Cortiñas Papers

Collection number: 1998-42

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society
San Francisco, California

Processed by:

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Date Completed:

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Jorge Cortiñas Papers

Dates: 1989-1994

Collection number: 1998-42

Creator: Cortiñas, Jorge

Collection Size: 2 manuscript boxes1 linear foot

Repository: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society
San Francisco, California 94105

Abstract: Papers of ACTUP activists Jorge Cortiñas covering a variety of topics including materials relating to HIV status and immigration, and HIV and people of color

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright to unpublished manuscript materials has been transferred to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Jorge Cortiñas Papers, 1998-42, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

Acquisition Information

Donated to the Library by Jorge Cortiñas

Biography

Between 1989 and 1991 activists in San Francisco spearheaded a campaign to lift all HIV-related restrictions on immigration into the United States. Jorge Cortiñas was a leader in this movement through his involvement in both ACT-UP San Francisco/Golden Gate's Immigration Working Group and in the Coalition for Immigration and Refugee Rights and Services (CIRRES) HIV Task Force. Cortiñas and other activists from these organizations participated in a number of "zap" actions and protests designed to raise awareness of HIV-related immigration policy. In 1991, ACT-UP and CIRRES helped organize a campaign that criticized the choice of location for the 8th International Conference on AIDS, scheduled for Boston in 1992. Activists demanded that the conference be relocated unless United States' discriminator policy on immigration was altered.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection consists of material covering political actions and organizing carried out by ACT-UP and CIRRES, along with a number of materials covering the struggle over immigration and the international AIDS conferences. The collection begins with a short series of files with general ACT-UP materials, including clippings, flyers, and stickers. This is followed by over a dozen files covering actions and press conferences related to the immigration issue. These files include flyers, press releases, notes for speeches, and press accounts. The next group of files covers the immigration issue, with materials which appear to come from both ACT-UP and CIRRES. These files include letters and position papers produced by ACT-UP and CIRRES, as well as materials from many other organizations. Finally there are clippings files relating to immigration, as well as correspondence files. While the substance of the collection extends only to 1991, there are some newspaper clippings from 1992 and 1993 which appear to have been collected by ACT-UP.

The collection is organized into 6 series: ACT-UP Subject Files, Actions, Immigration Subject Files, Miscellaneous Clippings, and Correspondence.

The series ACT-UP Subject Files (1989-1990) consists of various ACT-UP materials, including clippings, flyers, and stickers. Also found in this series is an untitled script for a play regarding immigration and AIDS. There are also two folders of materials from the Los Angeles and New York chapters of ACTUP.

The series Actions (1989-1991) consists of materials covering actions and press conferences, many concerning to HIV and immigration. The materials in this series are made up of flyers, press releases, notes for speeches, press accounts, and clippings.

The series Immigration Subject Files (1989-1994) contains materials from ACT-UP and CIRRES mostly on the topic of HIV and immigration. These files include letters and position papers, correspondence, and clippings as well as materials from several other organizations.

The series International AIDS Conferences (1990-1991) contains materials related to Cortiñas activities in response to the 6th, 7th, and 8th International AIDS conferences.

The series Miscellaneous Clippings (1989-1993) includes AIDS related newspaper clippings collected by Cortiñas, with particular focus on AIDS related activism.

The series Correspondence (1990-1991) includes correspondence arranged in chronological order

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

AIDS

San Francisco (Calif.)

AIDS Activists

Immigration

People Of Color

Related Material

Queer Nation Records

GLBT Historical Society ACT-UP Collection

Tomas Fabregas Papers

AIDS Legal Referral Panel Records

Series 1. ACT-UP Subject Files 1989-1990

Physical Description: 8 folders

Series Description

This series consists of various ACT-UP materials, including clippings, flyers, and stickers. Also found in this series is an untitled script for a play regarding immigration and AIDS. There are also two folders of materials from the Los Angeles and New York chapters of ACTUP.

Box: Folder 1: 1
Box: Folder 1: 2 **1989**
Box: Folder 1: 3
Box: Folder 1: 4
Box: Folder 1: 5 **1990**
Box: Folder 1: 6 **1990**
Box: Folder 1: 7 **1991**
Box: Folder 1: 8 **1989**

Series 2. Actions 1989-1991

Physical Description: 18 folders

Series Description

This series consists of materials covering actions and press conferences, many concerning to HIV and immigration. The materials in this series are made up of flyers, press releases, notes for speeches, press accounts, and clippings.

Box: Folder 1: 9 **September 1989**
Box: Folder 1: 10 **October 1989**
Box: Folder 1: 11 **1990**
Box: Folder 1: 12 **February 27, 1990**
Box: Folder 1: 13 **March 1990**
Box: Folder 1: 14 **June 17, 1990**
Box: Folder 1: 15 **June 18, 1990**
Box: Folder 1: 16 **June 19, 1990**
Box: Folder 1: 17 **October –December, 1990**
Box: Folder 1: 18 **May, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 19 **May, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 20 **May 30, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 21 **May 31, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 22 **June 17, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 23 **June 26, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 24 **July 7, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 25 **July 20, 1991**
Box: Folder 1: 26 **October, 1991**

Series 3. Immigration Subject Files 1989-1994

Physical Description: 5 folders

Series Description

This series contains materials from ACT-UP and CIRRES mostly on the topic of HIV and immigration. These files include letters and position papers, correspondence, and clippings as well as materials from several other organizations.

Box: Folder 1: 27 **1989-1990**
Box: Folder 1: 28 **1989-1991**
Box: Folder 1: 29 **1991**
Box: Folder 1: 30 **1989-1991**
Box: Folder 1: 31 **1990-1994**

Series 4. International AIDS Conferences 1990-1991

Physical Description: 14 folders

Series Description

This series contains materials related to Cortiñas activities in response to the 6th, 7th, and 8th International AIDS conferences.

Box: Folder 1: 32 **1990**
Box: Folder 1: 33 **1991**
Box: Folder 2: 1-6 **1990-1991**

Series 5. Miscellaneous Clippings 1989-1993

Physical Description: 2 folders

Series Description

This series includes AIDS related newspaper clippings collected by Cortiñas, with particular focus on AIDS related activism.

Box: Folder 2: 7 **1989-1991**

Box: Folder 2: 8 **1992-1993**

Series 6. Correspondence 1990-1991

Physical Description: 2 folders

Series Description

This series includes correspondence arranged chronologically.

Box: Folder 2: 9 **1990-1991**

Box: Folder 2: 10 **1990-1991**