

The Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library

Collection Summary

Creator: The Nashville Public Library, Special Collections Division

Title: The Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library

Inclusive Dates: 2001- ongoing

Summary/Abstract:

The collection consists of primary and secondary sources documenting the modern civil rights movement, with material on events, participants, and social movements aimed at dismantling public and private acts of segregation.

Physical Description/Extent: 84 cu. ft.

Language: English

Stack Location: Special Collections Closed Stacks, Range 1 Section 7 & 8

Repository: Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library, 615 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37219

Chronology

- 2001** Nashville philanthropists Robin and Bill King funded the Civil Rights Collection, located in the Special Collections Division of the Nashville Public Library. The gift enabled the library to establish the Civil Rights Collection, The Civil Rights Room and to launch an oral history project as supporting collections to the division.
- 2002** Humanities Tennessee Consultants' Grant awarded to The Civil Rights Oral History Project of the Nashville Public Library, Special Collections Division.
- 2003** The Nashville Public Library opened its newly designed Civil Rights Room and Collection to the public. Local historians, librarians, photographers, archivists and community members helped to create and ensure accuracy of selected material in the collection. Tuck- Hinton Architects designed the space.
- 2004** In commemorating the 44th Anniversary of the Nashville Student Movement and Sit-Ins, The Civil Rights Collection and Civil Rights Room was formally dedicated on Sunday, February 15, 2004 with a program entitled "Lessons of Nonviolence: What We Learned from the Nashville Movement". The program included community workshops, a reunion of participants and panel discussion by civil rights activist Rev. James Bevel, Dr. Bernard Lafayette, Rev. James Lawson, Congressman John Lewis, Diane Nash, and Rev. C.T. Vivian. Congressman John Lewis led the Faith and Politics Civil Rights Pilgrimage, along with a group of legislators, to Nashville for this program.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

“Because of Nashville, the 60s Movement essentially became a movement rather than an isolated incident.” -Andrew Young, January 22, 1985 Keynote Address

One hundred years after the Civil War, blacks and whites still pursued the battle for equal rights in every area of American life. The post-war era marked a period of tumultuous years for African Americans. Resistance to racial segregation and discrimination with methods of nonviolent resistance, marches, protests, boycotts, freedom rides, rallies, and civil disobedience received national attention as the media began to document the struggle to end racial inequality.

In February, 1960, a group of students from Nashville's four historically black colleges—American Baptist, Fisk, Meharry, and Tennessee A&I— along with the community set out to confront segregation at lunch counters, movie theaters, and other places of public accommodation. Nashville was key in student activism and leadership. The city was the first “methodically theorized, practiced and tested” grounds for the nonviolent sit-in movement.

Trained in the principles of nonviolent protest by Vanderbilt divinity student James Lawson and led by Reverend Kelly Miller Smith of First Baptist Church Capitol Hill, the students organized marches, held sit-ins at establishments where they had been denied service, and carried out an effective boycott of downtown stores. Participants Diane Nash, J. Metz Rollins, C. T. Vivian, John Lewis, Bernard Lafayette, Kwame Leo Lillard, Rodney Powell, Angeline Butler, Peggi Alexander, M. Salynn McCullum, Gloria Johnson, Marion Barry, Matthew Walker Jr., Curtis Murphy, Catherine Brooks, Lester McKinnie, Freddie Leonard, James Bevel, Matt Jones, Cordell Reagon, Archie Allen, Ernest Rip Patton, Paul LaPrad, James Zwerg, Hank Thomas, and hundreds of others went on to national prominence in the civil rights movement. This was a time in history when the use of massive civil disobedience served as a strategy for social change.

The Civil Rights Collection provides researchers with a nostalgic reflection of the magnitude of Nashville's contribution to the modern civil rights movement. The items collected represent valuable threads in the broader fabric of a Southern saga: movements of equality, justice, and change.

Scope and Contents of the Collection

The items were collected with a strong interest in the development of the modern civil rights movement and its impact in American life. The focus of the collection on this period was especially appropriate considering the leadership and contributions the city of Nashville made to the national civil rights movement.

The collection documents Nashville's role in modern movement, including the Nashville student sit-in movement and the students from American Baptist College, Fisk University and Tennessee A & I State University along with other institutions and church affiliations involved in changing the laws and traditions of segregated Nashville. Materials in the collection include published audio and video imprints, ephemera and memorabilia, oral histories, periodicals, photographs, and records and manuscripts. Also included are

many hard to find, out-of-print books as well as copies of dissertations related to social movements; over 100 videos for in-house viewing, all related to U.S. civil rights history, and an extensive microfilm collection on African American history. The materials provide information about key events of U.S. history, including Brown v. Board of Education, desegregation, sit-ins and freedom rides, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the Southern Student Organizing Committee (SSOC), the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), the Highlander Folk School, voting rights, etc. It includes documentary sources about many aspects of Nashville's leadership role and participation, spanning the timeline of the modern civil rights movement and its continued legacy into the 21st century.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

The collection is comprised of six series:

- I. Civil Rights Audio and Video Collection
- II. Civil Rights Ephemera Collection
- III Civil Rights Oral History Collection
- IV. Civil Rights Periodicals Collection
- VI. Civil Rights Photograph Collection
- V. Civil Rights Records and Manuscripts Collection

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: In library use only. Access is available by appointment during the Special Collections Division's open hours, which can be found at http://www.library.nashville.org/locations/loc_all.asp. Please inquire in advance of visiting the Special Collections Division as items are in closed stacks.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction: This material may be protected by copyright (Title 17 U.S. Code).

Index Terms

Corporate Names/Organizations:

Congress of Racial Equality
Highlander Folk School
Nashville Christian Leadership Council
Southern Student Organizing Committee
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

Subjects:

African Americans – Civil rights – History – 20th Century
Busing for school integration – Tennessee – Nashville
Civil disobedience – Tennessee – Nashville
Civil rights – Tennessee – Nashville
Civil rights – United States – History – 20th Century
Civil rights demonstrations – Tennessee – Nashville

Civil rights demonstrations – United States – History – 20th Century
Civil rights movements – United States – History – 20th Century
Civil rights workers – United States
Demonstrations – Tennessee – Nashville
Discrimination – Tennessee – Nashville
Human rights workers – Tennessee – Nashville
Non-violent movement – Civil rights – History – 20th Century
Political activist – Tennessee – Nashville
Protest movements- Tennessee – Nashville
Protest movements – United States – History – 20th Century
Race relations – Tennessee – Nashville
School integration – Tennessee – Nashville
Student movements – Tennessee – Nashville
Student movements –Civil rights – History – 20th Century
United States – Race relations

Places:

Nashville (Tenn.) – History – 20th Century
Nashville (Tenn.) – Social conditions – 20th Century
Southern States – Politics and government – 20th Century
Southern States – Race relations
United States – Race relations
United States – Social conditions

Genre/Document Types:

Audiocassettes	Photographs
Clippings	Records
Correspondence	Reporting
Ephemera	Scrapbooks
Interviews	Sound
Memoirs	Speeches
Music	Video recordings
Newsletters	
Periodicals	

Administrative Information

Copyright: Nashville Public Library retains intellectual property rights to this collection. Some restrictions may apply.

Preferred Citation: The Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library, Special Collections Division.

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Numerous donors contributed to this collection.

Ownership and Custodial History: Intentionally collected and assembled by Special Collections Division staff, beginning 2001.

Processing Information: Initial collection processing began in 2005 by staff members Kathy Bennett, Andrea Blackman and Rachel Lawson. In August 2007, Andrea Blackman completed final processing of the collection and finding aid, with assistance by library volunteers Ward Dewitt, Carolyn James, Marty O'Reilly, and Harry Williams, along with intern Lee Bouille.

Accruals: Further accruals are expected.

Other Finding Aid

http://www.library.nashville.org/localhistory/findingaids/Special_Collections_Division_Finding_Aid_CROHP.doc

Electronic Location and Access

<http://www.library.nashville.org/civilrights/movement.htm>

References to Works by or about Collection Creator/Topic

- *The Beloved Community: How Faith Shapes Social Justice from the Civil Rights Movement to Today* by Charles Marsh
- *Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice* by Raymond Arsenault
- *The Children* by David Halberstam
- *The Civil Rights Room of the Nashville Public Library: In Celebration of the Opening, February 15, 2004* Compiled by Bill King
- *The Burden of Busing: The Politics of Desegregation in Nashville* by Richard Pride and J. David Woodard
- *Walking with the Wind: a Memoir of the Movement* by John Lewis
- *The Local Press and the Nashville Movement* by David E. Summer
- *Crossing Town: Brown's Legacy in Nashville* film by Ansley Erickson
- *Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement* by Ann Bausum
- *The Brown Decision, Jim Crow, and Southern Identity* by James Cobb
- *Children of the Movement* by John Blake

Detailed Description of Collection

Series I: The Civil Rights Audio and Video Collection

Series Abstract/Description: The items were collected with a strong interest in the history of communal singing and the musical repertoire rooted in the Modern Civil Rights Movement—from songs of resistance, courage, and pride to songs of determination and faith. The collection explores the role of music in this social movement. The items are listed in assigned order.

Arrangement: The items are listed in assigned order.

Box	Item
1	<i>The Nashville Sit-In Story.</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording coordinated by Guy Carawan, featuring songs and spoken parts by Rev. C.T. Vivian, James Bevel, Diane Nash, Marion Berry, John Lewis, Candi Anderson, Peggi Alexander, Paul LaPrad, John Nye, Lesley Green, Rodney Powell, Bernard Lafayette, Sam Collier, King Holland, and other student sit-in participants. Folkways Records, FH 5590, 1960.
1	<i>We Shall Overcome: Songs of the Freedom Riders and Sit-Ins.</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording of spirituals, gospels, and songs of the Freedom Riders and Sit-In Movement sung by the Montgomery Gospel Trio, The Nashville Quartet, and Guy Carawan. Folkways Records, FH 5591
1	<i>Highway of History: The Selma to Montgomery March.</i> Vee-Jay 33 1/3 RPM live recording of 5-day freedom march from Selma to Montgomery.
1	<i>Pioneers...A Civil Rights Documentary.</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording produced for the Richard Allen Foundation, a non-profit affiliate of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Excerpts include Dr. Martin Luther King's appearance at the 37 th General Conference in Cincinnati, May, 1964.
1	<i>The South.</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording by Bernice Reagon, recorded by Folkways Records, FA 2457.
1	<i>My Brother's Keeper.</i> 33 1/3 RPM of live concert of Dick Gregory, Gateway Recordings, Inc.
1	<i>Paving the Jericho Road.</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording by Dr. Ralph Abernathy, featuring Sallie Kate Brooks, LaFebre Sound Studio.
1	<i>Old Uncle Joe and The Big March.</i> 45RPM recordings performed by the Dixie Greys; published by Old Way Publishing Co., Record No. 139.
1	<i>Freedom In The Air.</i> 33 1/3 recording documentary on Albany, Georgia 1961-62; produced by Guy Carawan and Alan Lomax. The documentary features the people of Albany, Georgia singing and speaking their sentiments on the struggle to desegregate their community, along with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee's (SNCC) support and aid for the people in Albany.
1	<i>We Shall Overcome!</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording documentary of the March on Washington, recorded by Broadside Records, containing recordings by Joan Baez, President John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Marian Anderson, Odetta, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, Bob Dylan, Whitney M. Young, John Lewis, Roy Wilkins, Walter Reuther, Peter, Paul & Mary, Bayard Rustin, and A. Philip Randolph. Recorded by Broadside Records No. BR 592.
1	<i>We've Got a Job.</i> 33 1/3 RPM recording featuring Fred Shuttlesworth, Rev. Edward Gardner, Carlton Reese, Dr. Ralph Abernathy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Another interest to the researcher is a small series of video recordings with retrospective personal accounts from civil rights participants and leaders.

Sub-series I

The Greyhound Freedom Riders Tape Collection

The Freedom Riders of the early 1960s, organized by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), rode through the South seeking integration of bus, rail, and airport terminals. The Freedom Riders fought entrenched discrimination and injustice during one of the most violent periods of human history. They set out to defy Jim Crow laws and forced the federal government to take a stand in civil rights, despite federal ruling that it was unconstitutional to segregate interstate travel.

Once the bus bombing in Anniston occurred, the brutal attacks on the Riders, and of fear for their busses, the bus companies refused to carry any more Riders.

After several negotiations and pressure from the Kennedy administration, the *Greyhound Bus Company* agreed to carry the Riders to Birmingham.

This sub-series of videos consists of 40 hours of footage (interviews and recordings) taken during the May 10-12, 2001, Freedom Ride Anniversary and Reunion. Donated by Greyhound Lines, Inc. on August 24, 2004. *The items may be used for research only but not reproduced, in whole or in part, without permission of Greyhound Lines, Inc.

1 box; 12 VHS tapes

Tape Identifiers and Footage Location

- o Camera 1, Tape 1 Washington Court Hotel, Washington DC
- o Camera 1, Tape 2 Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA
- o Camera 1, Tape 3 Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, GA
- o Camera 1, Tape 4 Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, GA
- o Camera 1, Tape 5 Birmingham Bus Station
- o Camera 1, Tape 6 1st Baptist Church, Montgomery, AL
- o Camera 2, Tape 1 Washington Court Hotel, Washington DC
- o Camera 2, Tape 2 Washington Court Hotel, Washington DC
- o Camera 2, Tape 3 Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA
- o Camera 2, Tape 4 Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA
- o Camera 2, Tape 5 Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, GA
- o Camera 2, Tape 6 Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, GA

Sub-series II

Civil Rights Mississippi Bus Tour

Facilitated by Dr. Bernard Lafayette, Jr., this series consists of recordings from the January 2001 Mississippi Civil Rights Bus Tour. Participants on the tour traveled from Nashville to Mississippi, as part of a traveling history dialogue led by Dr. Lafayette. Footage includes a panel discussion by local civil rights leaders (Main Library); and continues the trip to the site of the 1964 *Freedom Summer* murders and Parchman Penitentiary—where the Freedom Riders were jailed. Also included is footage of activist in Mississippi, community talks on Southern tradition and race relations in Mississippi.

Sub-series III

Civil Rights interview with John Lewis and Julius Scruggs

Video interview with John Lewis and Julius Scruggs; topics include American Baptist College, Rev. James Lawson, nonviolent methodology, the Nashville sit-ins, and Attorney Z. Alexander Looby's house bombing.

1 VHS tape

Detailed Description of Collection

Series II: The Civil Rights Ephemera Collection

Series Abstract/Description: The Civil Rights Ephemera Collection consists of rare and unique items that give historical sketches of race relations in the South, civil rights, school integration, segregation, race riots, economic discrepancy among Southern African Americans, and civil rights legislation. Materials in the collection were either donated or purchased through the Robin and Bill King Foundation and are part of the Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library Special Collections Division. The Civil Rights Ephemera collection contains small booklets, pamphlets, membership applications, flyers for advertising, buttons, stamps, and a board game. All deal with the history of Civil Rights in America. Future accruals are expected.

Arrangement: Items are arranged in alphabetical order

Box 1	Description
Folder 1	<i>A First Step Toward School Integration.</i> Ann Holden. Nashville CORE, May 1958.
Folder 2	<i>A Perspective on Nonviolence. A Practical Guide for Community Action in America.</i> A publication of Friends Peace Committee, 1957.
Folder 3	<i>Erasing the Color Line.</i> George M. Houser. New York: Fellowship Publications, February 1951.
Folder 4	<i>Highlander Folk School.</i> A publication of the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, TN.
Folder 5	<i>How to Practice Nonviolence.</i> The Fellowship of Reconciliation.
Folder 6	<i>Integrated School Books.</i> National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 1967.
Folder 7	<i>Lynching and Frame-Up in Tennessee.</i> Robert Minor. New York: New Century Publishers, October 1946.
Folder 8	<i>Settling a Sit-In.</i> A Report Prepared for the Nashville Community Relations Conference. Wallace Westfeldt. 1960.
Folder 9	<i>Small-Town America- Monteagle, Tennessee.</i> Alden Stevens. The Nation. June 29, 1946.
Folder 10	<i>Survey of School Desegregation in the Southern and Border States 1965-66.</i> A Report of the United States Commission on Civil Rights. February 1966.
Folder 11	<i>Tennessee White Citizens Council.</i> Membership Application.
Folder 12	<i>Tent City... "Home of the Brave.</i> Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO.

Folder 13	<i>Terror in Tennessee</i> . National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
Folder 14	<i>The Civil Rights Fight: a Look at Legislative Record</i> . Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO. Publication No. 35.
Folder 15	<i>The Civil Rights Movement in Tennessee 1865-1968</i> . A Planning Study-Funded by the National Endowment for Humanities, 1979.
Folder 16	<i>The Negro in America</i> . Maxwell S. Stewart. Public Affairs Committee, Pamphlet No. 95. February 1955.
Folder 17	<i>The Negro in Schoolroom Literature</i> . Minnie W. Koblitz. Center for Urban Education, 1968.
Folder 18	<i>The Truth about Columbia Tennessee Cases</i> . Southern Conference for Human Welfare.
Folder 19	<i>Understanding School Desegregation</i> . U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 1971.
Folder 20	<i>Unemployment – Social Madness. Full Employment – Now and Forever</i> . James Samuel Stemons. New York: William-Frederick Press, 1946.
Folder 21	<i>We Shall Overcome</i> . Sheet Music. Zilphia Horton, Frank Hamilton, Guy Carawan, and Pete Seeger, arr. Roy Wingwald. New York: Ludlow Music, Inc.
Folder 22	<i>White Racism: Communication and Confrontation</i> . Tennessee Council on Human Relations.
Folder 23	<i>Who's On First?</i> Jack Mabley. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 233. April 1956.
Folder 24	<i>Withdraw the Troops From Vietnam and Send Them to Mississippi</i> . Clifton DeBerry.
Box 2	Description
1 Board Game	<i>Blacks and Whites: The Role Identity and Neighborhood Action Game</i> . Psychology Today, 1970. Designed in 1970 for educational use, this game originated at the psychology department of the University of California at Davis. "Chairman Robert Sommer and Judy Tart wanted to give middle-class whites a taste of the helplessness that comes from living against implacable odds."
8 small stamps	<i>LBJ For The US</i>

Detailed Description of Collection

Series III: The Civil Rights Oral History Collection

Series Abstract/Description: The Civil Rights Oral History Collection contains a series of interviews done by library staff members and volunteers with people who were involved in the Nashville and national movement. Interviews cover general life experiences and include discussions about race relations, civil rights, education, economics, social life, family life, and other topics. Each interviewee has at minimum an interview summary; and in some cases, biographical information from clippings, newspapers, photographs or other printed sources. Complete transcribed interviews exist for many of the interviewees.

Digital excerpts of selected oral histories are also available in the library's digital collection.

<http://digital.library.nashville.org/portal/>

Arrangement: Arranged by assigned number. Numbers do not necessarily follow a pattern of interview date.

Container List	Item
Box 1	Tapes 1- 16
Box 2	Tapes 17 –33
Box 3	Tapes 34 – 50
Box 4	Tapes 51 – 67
Box 5	Tapes 68 – 84
Box 6	Tapes 85- 100
Box 7	Tapes 101 – 118
Box 8	Tapes 119 – 135
Box 9	Tapes 136 – 151
Box 10	Tapes 152- 168
Box 11	Tapes 169 – 184
Box 12	Tapes 185 -

NOTE: See separate finding aid for the Civil Rights Oral History Project that includes an alphabetical index of interviewees, with a brief subject note, date of interview, length of interview, restrictions and whether or not a transcript is available.

http://www.library.nashville.org/localhistory/findingaids/Special_Collections_Division_Finding_Aid_CROHP.pdf

Detailed Description of Collection

Series IV: The Civil Rights Periodicals Collection

Series Abstract/Description: The Civil Rights Periodicals Collection includes non-current news periodicals, newspapers, student publications, newsletters, journals and specialty periodicals published during the span of the modern civil rights era. The extent of each title may vary from single issue to complete volumes. The collection also consists of informational circulars, articles, and other periodicals published that cover race relations in the South. These items were either donated or purchased through the Robin and Bill King Foundation and are part of the Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library Special Collections Division. Future accruals are expected.

Arrangement: Arranged in chronological order within each box.

Voices of the Movement Newsletter

The Voice of the Movement “is an official expression of the Student Central Committee and of the Nashville Christian Leadership Council which together make up the Nashville Nonviolent Movement.”

-Co-Editors: Leo Lillard & Jim Zwerg

Periodicals Box 1	Item Description
1	Vol. 1, No. 2; March 29, 1961 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>International Peace Fellowship Conference</i> • <i>Highlander Workshop</i> • <i>Weekly Mass Meetings</i>
1	Vol. 1, No. 3; April 14, 1961 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New NCLC office opens</i> • <i>Diane Nash was hired as coordinating secretary</i> • <i>Students Explore the Movement</i>
1	Vol. 1, No. 3; April 14, 1961 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New NCLC office opens</i> • <i>Diane Nash was hired as coordinating secretary</i> • <i>Students Explore the Movement</i>
1	Vol. 1, No. 5; May 8, 1961 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Meet SNCC</i> • <i>Desegregated Eating Facilities</i> • <i>Workshops Resume</i> • <i>Freedom Ride</i>

Katallagete

Katallagete, meaning "to be reconciled" is a publication of *The Committee of Southern Churchmen*, Will D. Campbell, and James Y. Holloway.

During the first several years of *Katallagete's* publication, civil rights and race relations were at the heart of each issue. Violence and nonviolence were matters that the journal addressed in many ways throughout its publication. One issue of the journal was specifically devoted to this subject. Issues such as politics, justice, and social activism were also predominant themes of *Katallagete*. These journals were donated by Andy Lipscomb and Dallas A. Blanchard in 2003.

Periodicals Box 2	<i>Katallagete</i> issues included:
Box 2	December 1965
Box 2	Summer 1966
Box 2	Winter 1966-67
Box 2	Summer 1967
Box 2	Winter 1967-68
Box 2	Spring 1968
Box 2	Fall 1968
Box 2	Winter 1968-69
Box 2	Fall 1969 (two copies)
Box 2	Winter/Spring 1970 (two copies)
Box 2	Fall 1970
Box 2	Spring 1971
Box 2	Winter 1971 (two copies)
Box 2	Fall/Winter 1972
Box 2	Summer 1973 (two copies)
Box 2	Spring 1974
Box 2	Summer 1976
Box 2	Fall 1983

<p>Periodicals Box 3</p> <p><i>Life Magazine</i></p>	<p>Nov. 29, 1963 issue with photo of John F. Kennedy on the front covers and article, <i>Negroes in the North, Part II</i>.</p> <p>Dec. 13, 1963 issue containing article, <i>President Lyndon B. Johnson at his White House Desk</i>.</p> <p>Jan. 10, 1964 issue containing article, <i>Working Holiday at the LBJ Ranch</i>.</p> <p>July 3, 1964 issue with photo of Robert F. Kennedy and his and John F. Kennedy's children on the front cover and article, <i>Bob Kennedy's week of trial and decision</i>.</p> <p>July 10, 1964 issue containing article on Lee Harvey Oswald entitled <i>Oswald's Historic Diary</i>.</p> <p>July 6, 1965 issue with photo of John F. Kennedy on the front cover and containing article <i>Close portrait of John F. Kennedy</i>.</p> <p>Nov. 5, 1965 issue with photo of John F. Kennedy on the front cover and article, <i>The Kennedy Narrative</i>.</p>
<p>Periodicals Box 4</p> <p><i>Life Magazine</i></p>	<p>April 12, 1968 issue (2 copies) with Martin Luther King's photo on the front cover and an article, <i>Exclusive pictures of his murder in Memphis, TN</i>.</p> <p>April 19, 1968 issue (2 copies) with the photo of Coretta Scott King on the front cover and article entitled <i>In the Summer of Martin Luther King</i>.</p> <p>June 14, 1968 issue (2 copies) with photo of Robert F. Kennedy on the front cover and containing and article, <i>The death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy</i>.</p> <p>Nov. 1, 1968 issue with Jackie Kennedy's wedding to Ari Onassis.</p> <p>Jan. 10, 1969 issue entitled <i>Special Issue: The Incredible Year-1968</i>.</p>

<p>Periodicals Box 5</p> <p><i>Look Magazine</i></p>	<p>Dec. 31, 1963, <i>In Memory of John F. Kennedy</i>, with White House photo on cover, 1964 Memorial Book.</p> <p>Jan. 28, 1964 issue with photo of Jackie Kennedy on the front and an article entitled <i>Valiant is the word from Jacqueline</i>.</p> <p>Aug. 24, 1965 issue with article, <i>Kennedy, Part II</i>.</p> <p>Jan. 24, 1967 issue containing article entitled <i>The Death of a President</i>.</p> <p>Feb. 7, 1967 issue containing article entitled <i>The Day JFK Died</i>; also discloses the terrifying chaos that followed the shooting in Dallas, <i>Death of a President, Part II</i>.</p> <p>Feb. 21, 1967 issue with photo of Air Force One on the cover and containing article, <i>Flight From Dallas</i>; also <i>Death of a President, Part III</i>.</p> <p>March 7, 1967 issue with a photo of John F. Kennedy's grave on front cover and article entitled <i>The Tragic Conclusion of the Death of a President</i>.</p> <p>April 16, 1968 issue with photo of Robert F. Kennedy on front cover and containing article, <i>MLK's Showdown for Nonviolence</i>. Nov. 12, 1968 issue with article entitled <i>Exclusive Report on the James Earl Ray Conspiracy to kill Martin Luther King, Jr.</i></p> <p>April 15, 1969 issue with article, <i>He Lives! Martin Luther King one year after</i>.</p>
<p>Periodicals Box 6</p>	<p><i>Saturday Evening Post</i> Dec. 14, 1963 issue-containing article entitled <i>In Memoriam. A Senseless Tragedy- John F. Kennedy 1917-1963</i>.</p> <p><i>Ebony Magazine</i>, April 1969 & August 1975 issues. Article entitled <i>A Year of Homage to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> (photo of Muhammad Ali on front cover) and article, <i>The Bicentennial: 200 Years of Black Trials and Triumphs</i>.</p> <p><i>John F. Kennedy Memorial Album</i>, an 80-page magazine on the life, words, deeds, and last days of John F. Kennedy.</p> <p><i>A Memorial Book</i>, a collector's edition on the life and death of Martin Luther King, Jr.</p>

<p>Oversize Periodicals <i>Items are in fragile condition.</i></p>	<p><i>Kansas City Star</i>, Vol. 120, No. 218. September 11, 1957, containing articles on John Kasper and school desegregation.</p> <p><i>New York Post</i>, September 10, 1957, entitled “<i>Nashville School Blown Up</i>”.</p> <p><i>Jackson Daily News</i>, August 28, 1957, entitled “<i>Southerners Begin Last Gasp on Civil Rights Bill</i>”.</p> <p><i>Daily News</i>, Vol. 46, No. 1. New York’s picture newspaper dated June 26, 1964, with front-page photo of U.S. Navy’s sailors searching for civil rights workers in Philadelphia, MS.</p> <p><i>NY Times</i>, special commentaries section, dated July 3, 1964, entitled “<i>The Struggle for Civil Rights</i>” 1954-1968.</p> <p><i>NY Times</i>, May 13, 1963, entitled “<i>U.S. Troops into Alabama after Riots Sweep Birmingham</i>”.</p> <p><i>NY Times</i>, August 15, 1965, entitled “<i>President Condemns Violence</i>”.</p> <p><i>New York Age Defender</i>, September 8, 1956, entitled “<i>Dixie Schools Open: Students Riot; South Seethes</i>”.</p>
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Detailed Description of Collection

Series V: The Civil Rights Photograph Collection

Series Abstract/Description: The important moments of the modern civil rights movement spanned over twenty years. These small compilations of photographs highlight some of the pivotal events in the Nashville civil rights movement. These items were donated to the Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library Special Collections Division. Future accruals are expected.

Arrangement: Arranged by assigned number.

Folder number	TITLE OF PHOTOGRAPH	DESCRIPTION
Folder 1	<i>Trial of Highlander Folk School.</i>	Pictured left to right: George Barrett, Cecil Branstetter. Both were attorneys for Highlander Folk School. Photograph donated by George Barrett; Photographer, Jimmy Ellis of the <i>Tennessean</i> .
Folder 2	<i>Alfred Z. Kelley</i>	A.Z. Kelley filed lawsuit to challenge school desegregation in Nashville, 1955. Pictured left to right: Kelly Miller Smith, Thurgood Marshall, Z. Alexander Looby, and A. Z. Kelley. Photographs 2-6 are copies donated by Robert Kelley, son of Alfred Z. Kelley. John Streater, Jr. was the photographer.
Folder 3	<i>Alfred. Z. Kelley</i>	The Black Business and Professional Women's Organization support lawsuit filed by A.Z. Kelley.
Folder 4	<i>Banquet at Tennessee A & I University.</i>	NAACP Award was given to Z. Alexander Looby at banquet held at Tennessee A & I University.
Folder 5	<i>Banquet attendees at Tennessee A & I University.</i>	Pictured are banquet attendees.
Folder 6	<i>Mass meeting held at Fisk University.</i>	Meeting to address bombing of the home of Z. Alexander Looby, April 1960. Pictured left to right: Diane Nash, John Lewis, Alfred Z. Kelly (standing), Thurgood Marshall, Maynard Ferguson (Pres. of Citizens Bank), Dr. C.J. Walker (Meharry), and Dr. Steven Wright (Fisk president).

Detailed Description of Collection

Series VI: The Civil Rights Records and Manuscript Collection

Series Abstract/Description:

The involvement in the twentieth-century civil rights movement is documented by the holdings in this series, comprised of personal papers, correspondence, writings, biographical materials, diaries and the records of organizations. The materials were donated to the Civil Rights Collection of the Nashville Public Library Special Collections Division. Future accruals are expected.

Arrangement: Arranged by assigned number.

Sub-series title	Description
<i>The Avon N. Williams, Jr. Diary and Memoir (1921-1994)</i>	This manuscript consists of a typescript copy of a 220 page memoir entitled <i>The Diary and Memoir of Avon N. Williams, Jr.</i>
1 box	Avon N. Williams, Jr. was one of the leading African American lawyers in Tennessee. Born in 1921 in Knoxville, he received his primary education in the public schools in Knoxville. Williams matriculated to Johnson C. Smith University and later Boston University, earning both master's degree and law degree. Williams married Joan Marie Bontemps, the daughter of renowned poet and author Arna Bontemps. They were parents of two children, Avon N. III and Wendy Janette. After practicing law in Knoxville, he became law partners with prominent Nashville attorney, Z. Alexander Looby. His role as attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund sparked a long history of involvement with the civil rights movement. In 1955 he filed the Nashville school desegregation case, <i>Kelly v. Board of Education</i> , and continued to assist in every school desegregation case throughout the state of Tennessee (with the exception of Shelby County). His role with <i>Geier v. Blanton</i> helped to bring about merger of University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University. The former Nashville campus of UT Nashville was later named the Avon Williams Jr. Campus of Tennessee State University. Williams helped to create the Davidson County Independent Political Council and later the Tennessee Voters Council, leading to decades of service as a state senator. He also cosponsored the law requiring public schools to teach African American history. The item was donated November 27, 1996, by Avon N. Williams III; 200+ pages; transcribed in 1980.
<i>The Archie E. Allen Collection</i>	Another noteworthy item includes a small compilation of personal papers, correspondence, records, and clippings collected by Archie E. Allen. This sub-series includes a chronology of clippings arranged from January 1960-December 1963. Also included: itinerary of the 1961 CORE Freedom Rides; material on John Lewis, NCLC, student coordinating committee, SNCC, NAACP newsletter, and <i>Voices of Movement</i> student newsletter.
1 box, folders 1 – 21	

The Highlander Folk School Collection

1 box, folders 1 – 23

An interesting discovery in the collection is a small group of publications, correspondence and papers related to Highlander Folk School circa 1940s. These materials not only cover history of Highlander Folk School, but also reveal its significance in the modern civil rights movement. This sub-series includes six original publications of the Highlander Fling. All of which were published by the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee.

The Everett Tilson Collection

1 box, folders 1 – 5

Researchers may also be interested in the Everett Tilson collection which contains a copy of a personal, handwritten note addressed to Reverend Tilson from Dr. Martin Luther King, dated July 14, 1963. Also part of this series is a copy of Rev. James Lawson's account of Vanderbilt's dismissal of him, dated Spring 2003; a copy of "Evaluation of the 1957 Conference on Faith & Human Relations", compiled by Howard Kester, former Executive Secretary of The Fellowship of Southern Churchmen; two copies of a Western Union telegram, sent to Rev. Tilson from Dwight D. Eisenhower, dated April 20, 1957; and a Conference of Christian Faith and Human Relations booklet, circa 1957.

The Angeline Butler Diary and Scrapbook

1 box

Another interesting item in the collection is the personal biographical scrapbook of civil rights leader, Angeline Butler.

Angeline Butler was born in Columbia, S.C. to Vivian Ayers. When only a few days old, Rev. and Mrs. I.B. Butler adopted Butler. At age 15, Butler won Miss South Carolina Shrine and Miss National Shrine, but lost the national title due to being too young. Butler attended Fisk University, where she began refining her musical talents Butler got involved in the Student Movement while at Fisk, going to talks at the International Student Center, getting involved with the Fusons, and going to Highlander with others, including James Bevel, John Lewis, and Bernard Lafayette. Butler was arrested several times for her involvement in the movement, and she was a student advisor for the 1963 March on Washington. During the movement Butler became acquainted with Jackie Robinson and Septima Clark, about whom she wrote the play "Voices of a Sit-In." Butler moved to New York and was awarded a scholarship to attend Julliard. Butler's television career began in 1962 with her appearance on the NBC Bell Telephone Hour. From 1964 to 1965, she appeared on CBS Camera Three. In 1966, composer Elmer Bernstein took Butler on Joe Franklin's Memory Lane to sing the theme of his new film "Hawaii" and "A Wishing Doll." During the same year, Butler made her first appearance on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show and was invited by Carson to tour with "Johnny Carson in Concert" in 1967. Also in 1967, Butler was invited by Count Basie to be a special guest at the Tropicana Blue Room with the Count Basie Orchestra. In 1968, Butler made 10 appearances on the Dick Cavett Show. During her career, Butler also appeared on the Joey Bishop Show, the Steve Allen Show, Allen Ludden's Gallery, the Donald O'Connor Show, and many other talk and variety shows. Butler worked with Duke Ellington in the Sacred Music Concerts during the early 1970s. In 1970 she recorded an album, Impressions, on the CoBurt label. She attended graduate school at Columbia University from 1972 to 1974, and received a Masters in Ethnomusicology, with a minor in Asian studies. She has also been involved in the theater, appearing in performances of "House of Flowers" with Josephine Premice, "King Lear" with James Earl Jones, "Time is for White Folks," and, in 2001, "The Missing Face." Butler was one of the founders of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Museum at the Crenshaw High School in LA.

Ms. Butler donated this addition to the Civil Rights Collection in 2006.