

## ***Bookwomen of McHenry County Records 1989-2016***

**Creator:** Bookwomen of McHenry County

**Extent:** 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University. Please contact [WLArchives@luc.edu](mailto:WLArchives@luc.edu) regarding use.

### **Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright was transferred from Sherryl Engstrom to the Women and Leadership Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Bookwomen of McHenry County Records, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

**Provenance:** Sherryl Engstrom, founder of the Bookwomen of McHenry County, donated the records to the Women and Leadership Archives on December 12, 2012 (WLA2012.50).

**Processor:** Ellen Bushong, February 8, 2016.

**Processing Information:** Finding aid updated December 2025.

**Separations:** None

### **Administrative History**

The Bookwomen of McHenry County was founded in 1989 through a Community Education class at McHenry County College. Originally, the class of eight women met to discuss novels written by female authors bi-weekly from March through May of 1989. The class continued informally throughout that summer at participants' homes. By 1990, the enrollees of the class expressed an interest in formalizing a summer course for participants; however, McHenry County College was unable to grant this request. Subsequently, the women chose to meet independently of the college from that point on.

Sessions re-convened in the summer of 1990, meeting monthly in members' homes and local restaurants. In 1991, the group was renamed "Bookwomen" to mirror their division from the university. Starting in 1991, the Bookwomen decided to incorporate one male author into their reading list per year, causing disagreement among some members. The Bookwomen of McHenry County continue to meet regularly.

## **Scope and Content**

The Bookwomen on McHenry County Records consists of 0.25 linear feet of materials related to the history and activities of the group's meetings from 1989-2012. Records contain brief histories of the group's founding and history as well as bibliographies specifying the works assigned each month and where the meetings occurred.

### **Series 1: Organizational Materials, 1989-2016, Box 1**

Includes historical sketches and chronological bibliographies of assigned readings, who facilitated discussion each session, and when meetings occurred.

#### **Subjects:**

Bookwomen of McHenry County

Engstrom, Sheryl

Literature

McHenry County, IL

Reading groups

Universities and colleges—United States—English

Women—Education—United States

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
		<b><i>Bookwomen of McHenry County Records 1989-2016</i></b>	
		<b>Series 1: Organizational Materials, 1989-2012</b>	
1	1	Historical Sketches	1990, 2012
1	2	Bibliographies	1989-2016