

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Records 1956-1994

Creator: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Extent: 0.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

Language: English

Repository: Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago. Please contact WLArchives@luc.edu regarding use.

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None

Usage Restrictions: Copyright is retained by the creator.

Preferred Citation: Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Women's International League of Peace and Freedom Records, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

Provenance: Rose Wheeler sent WILPF materials to the Women and Leadership Archives, date unknown (WLA2011.45).

Processor: Kristin Emery, July 2011

Processing Information: Finding aid updated December 2025.

Separations: Less than 0.15 feet of duplicates were removed.

Administrative History

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) was founded in 1915 by a group of women from 12 different countries who met at The Hague in The Netherlands during World War I and made a series of proposals for ending the war and for a just peace. Jane Addams was a leading figure in the founding of WILPF and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931 for her work in the League. WILPF worked for true global security and permanent peace through meeting human needs.

WILPF's world headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland. WILPF is divided into 37 sections (in 37 countries). Each section is divided into numbered regions and local branches. WILPF has promoted global cooperation and women's equality and empowerment since its founding. In the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s WILPF also focused on several prevailing political issues, including nuclear disarmament, Cold War and post-Cold War international relations, reduction of Defense spending and funding of domestic human-needs programs, peace in the Middle East, and racism. WILPF engineered letter-writing and calling campaigns, met with members of Congress and held local marches, lectures and other events to raise awareness and attain political change.

The Chicago branch that created the materials in this collection ceased operations in 1995.

Scope and Content

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Records consist of 0.5 linear feet of materials (2 boxes) and span the years 1968-1994.

Series 1: Administrative, 1968-1994, undated, Box 1

The administrative records belonged to Rose Wheeler, who was a board member of the Chicago branch of WILPF. Many of the documents are directly related to the Chicago branch, including newsletters, mailings from Ruth Shirman, the chairperson, board meeting minutes, board correspondence, ballots for organizational elections, newspaper clippings related to branch members and fliers for events held by the branch. The collection also includes some national WILPF material including newsletters, promotional materials, Principles and Policies and material related to the political agenda of the WILPF United States Section. The collection contains issues of WILPF's magazine, *Peace and Freedom* (sometimes referred to as *Pax et Libertas*) that span from 1975-1994. There are a number of newspaper clippings that Rose had collected that are related to women's activism as well as woman artists and women recognized for career excellence. There is also limited promotional materials from other women's organizations. This series is arranged alphabetically.

Series 2: Oversize, 1981, Box 2

Contains a companion publication for Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party* art installation. The booklet includes information about the conception, creation and intent of *The Dinner Party*, as well as descriptions of components of the installation and a map of the gallery.

Subjects:

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. U.S. Section
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Chicago Branch
Women and peace--Illinois--Chicago--History--20th century

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
		<i>Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Records, 1956-1994</i>	
		Series 1: Administrative, 1956-1994, undated	
1	1	Annual Reports	1988
1	2	Ballots	1975, 1991
1	3	Board Correspondence	1990, undated
1	4	Board Meeting Minutes	1989-1992
1	5	Conferences	undated
1	6	Member Correspondence: Chicago Branch	1984, 1990-1991
1	7	Member Correspondence: International Headquarters	1989-1992
1	8	Member Correspondence: United States Section	1989-1994

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1	9	Newsletters: Chicago Branch	1975-1994
1	10	Newspaper Clippings: Members	1988-1991
1	11	Newspaper Clippings: Related Topics	1975-1993
1	12	Political Activism: Arms Control/ Defense Budget	1988-1990
1	13	Political Activism: Middle East Crisis	1990, 1993
1	14	Political Activism: Nuclear Disarmament	1982-1991
1	15	Political Activism: Women's Peace and Justice Treaty of the Americas	1992
1	16	Political Activism: The Women's Budget	undated
1	17	Principles and Policies	1956-1958, 1973, 1985
1	18	Programs and Events: Chicago Branch	1990-1993
1	19	Promotional Materials	1979-1994
1	20	Promotional Materials: Related Groups	1968-1992
1	21	Publications: <i>Peace and Freedom Magazine</i>	1975-1978
1	21	Publications: <i>Peace and Freedom Magazine</i>	1981-1989
1	22	Publications: <i>Peace and Freedom Magazine</i>	1990-1994
1	23	WILPF Program	1988-1989
		Series 2: Oversize, 1981	
2	1	Judy Chicago: <i>The Dinner Party</i>	1981