

*Women and Leadership Archives  
Ann Ida Gannon, BVM, Center for Women and Leadership  
Loyola University Chicago*

**Women and Children First Records,  
1978-1997, n.d.**

**Creator:** Linda Bubon, Ann Christophersen, and Bob Mallinger.

**Extent:** 1.5 linear ft.

**Location:**

**Processor:** Teresa Yoder, March 13, 2001 and Aldona Salska, 2004. Updated by Elizabeth A. Myers, May 2007.

**Administration Information:**

**Access Restrictions:** None.

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright is retained by the original creators of the material. Copyright was not transferred to the WLA.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University, Chicago. Women & Leadership Archives. Chicago Women Ephemera Collection. Box #. Folder #.

**Provenance:** This collection was donated by Linda Bubon and Ann Christophersen of the Women & Children First Bookstore. Material pertaining to lesbian issues that is included in this collection was donated to the Women & Children First Bookstore by Bob Mallinger.

**Separations:** None.

**See Also:** The collection was formerly called the Women & Children First Bookstore Records.

**Administrative History**

The Women & Children First Bookstore, which donated the bulk of material included in this collection, focuses on women's literature and authors. The philosophy underlying the Women & Children First bookstore has two objectives: the first is to propagate women writers, the second is to create a community center where women could come and discuss topic that are relevant to them.

**Scope and Content**

The Chicago Women Ephemera collection, spanning 1978 to 1997, consists of publications and ephemeral material relating mostly to lesbian communities in Chicago. It is divided into three series arranged by subject and chronologically.

**Series**

**Series 1: Publications, 1978-1985, Box 1**

This series includes publications on women's issues, such as ERA, sexual harassment, rape, homophobia, feminism, abused children, lesbians, National Organization for Women, women in music; it also includes an activity calendar which special emphasize on the lesbian community. This series is arranged chronologically.

**Series 2: Ephemera, 1978-1985, n.d., Box 1**

Consists of such material as flyers, invitations, meeting schedules, news clippings and booklets. This material addresses such topics as music, health, sports, religion, poetry, conferences and events at Jane Addams Bookstore.

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**Series 3: Feminist Bookstore Catalogs, 1995-1997, Box 2**  
Contains *Feminist Bookstore News* arranged chronologically

**Subjects:**

Bookstores, specialty

Lesbians

Women Authors

Writers, Feminist

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Series 1: Publications, 1978-1985</b>			
1	1	<i>Women News for A Change</i>	1978
1	2	<i>Blazing Star</i>	1978-1979
1	3	<i>Catalyst: Chicago Womyn's Paper</i>	1980
1	4	<i>Journey Womyn: The Catalyst</i>	1980-1981
1	5	<i>Lunatic Fringe: A Newsletter for Separatist, Anarchist, and Radical Feminist Lesbians of Chicago</i>	1981
1	6	<i>Women Organizing: A Socialist Feminist Bulletin</i>	1981
1	7	<i>Sister Source</i>	1981-1982
1	8	<i>News Midwest</i>	1982
1	9	<i>Dyke Dates</i>	1983
1	10	<i>Women's Music News</i>	1984
1	11	<i>Forté: A Bold New Direction in Music</i>	1984
1	12	<i>KinHeart Womyn's News</i>	1985
<b>Series 2: Ephemera, 1978-1985, n.d.</b>			
1	13	Music	n.d.
1	14	Health	n.d.
1	15	Poetry	n.d.
1	16	Religious/Spiritual	n.d.
1	17	Wisconsin Womyn's Land Co-op	n.d.
1	18	Women & Children First Bookstore	n.d.
1	19	Women's Conferences	1979-1982
1	20	Sports	1979-1983
1	21	National Music Festival	1980, 1984
1	22	National Conference on Gay and Lesbian Issues	1981
1	23	Felsenthal, Carol. "How Feminists Failed," <i>Chicago Magazine</i> p. 139-143.	1982
1	24	Chimera, Inc. <i>Self Defense for Women</i>	1982
1	25	"Take Back the Night"	1982-1983
1	26	Jane Addams Bookstore	1982-1983
1	27	Lavender House Founding	1983
1	28	RollingStone magazine	1982
1	29	"The End of a Love Match", Chicago Sun Times Living Section	1982
<b>Series 3: Bookstore Catalogs, 1995-1997</b>			
2	1	<i>Feminist Bookstore News</i>	1995-1996
2	2	<i>Feminist Bookstore News</i>	1996
2	3	<i>Feminist Bookstore News</i>	1996-1997

**Women & Children First Bookstore  
Records, Addendum 1  
1979-2009, n.d.**

**Creator:** Linda Bubon and Ann Christopherson

**Extent:** 1 linear ft.

**Processor:** Stephanie Fong, May 2011

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None.

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright for all materials is retained by the creators, with the exception of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary interviews on videocassette. All copyright for these interviews was transferred to the Women & Leadership Archives upon the donation of the materials.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University Chicago. Women and Leadership Archives. Women & Children First Bookstore Records. Box #, Folder #.

**Provenance:** The collection was received October 30, 2009 from Ann Christophersen and Linda Bubon (WLA2009.43). Additional materials were added by Mary Ann Johnson on December 4, 2009 (WLA2009.44).

**Separations:** Less than .15 linear feet of duplicate material was removed.

**See Also:** None.

**Administrative History**

In 1979, Ann Christophersen and Linda Bubon founded Women & Children First, an independent bookstore specializing in works written by women for women and children, with the vision of “a store that would define ‘feminist’ inclusively, as encompassing the interests and lifestyles of women whether they were heterosexual or lesbian, partnered or single, family-centered, career-centered, or both; and no matter what ethnic, racial, or spiritual background they came from.” Originally located in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Chicago, the store moved to a larger site in 1984, and again in 1990 to a 3,500 sq. ft. space in Andersonville. Beyond stocking new and hard-to-find feminist titles, Women & Children First was also a resource center for the local and greater community and offered a variety of different programs each week, from author’s visits to children’s story time to book discussions. As of May 2011, Women & Children First continues to provide its patrons with these services.

**Scope and Content**

The records from Women & Children First Bookstore span the years 1979 to 2009 and document the history and activity of the organization. The collection has been divided into 3 series and consists of organizational materials, newspaper and magazine articles, professional correspondence, drafts and scripts, event programs, posters, photographs, cassettes, and digital content. The collection is arranged alphabetically and the records

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within folders arranged chronologically where applicable. Access to digital content material available upon request to the director.

**Series 1: Organizational Material, 1980-2009, n.d., Box 1**

Includes newspaper and magazine articles about Women & Children First, drafts, scripts, and articles written by Bubon for *Feminist Bookstore News* and WFMT, and bookstore promotional material. Other materials include professional correspondence, documents relating to bookstore-sponsored events including Hillary Clinton's visit in 1996 and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2004, newspaper articles about publishing and independent bookselling, awards ceremony brochures and programs, materials from other independent bookstores and of affiliate organizations.

**Series 2: Audio-Visual Material, 1979-2009, n.d., Box 1**

Consists of photographs and negatives, contact sheets and reproductions of digital content, an oral history interview with Bubon on audiocassette, three videocassettes from the organization's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary oral history project in 2009, and digital files of images, television interviews, and videos of WCF events.

**Series 3: Oversized Material, 1985-2007, n.d., Box 2**

Contains newspaper and magazine articles, posters, a draft and proof copy of promotional material, and an autographed program.

**Subjects:**

Women entrepreneurs

Andersonville (Chicago, Ill.)

Independent bookstores--United States

Books for women by women

Booksellers and bookselling--Illinois--Chicago--History--20th century.

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<b>Box</b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>	
<b>Series 1: Organizational material, 1980-2009, n.d.</b>				
1	1	Articles – Publishing and bookselling	1995-1997, n.d.	
	2	Articles – WCF	1986-1994, n.d.	
	3	Articles – WCF	1995-2009	
	4	Bubon, Linda	1985-2005, n.d.	
	5	Bubon, Linda – “Kids’ Lit” column	1996-1997, n.d.	
	6	Bubon, Linda – “Kids’ Lit” column	1997-1999	
	7		2001-2002, n.d.	
		<b><i>Bubon, Linda – WFMT articles</i></b>		
	8	Bubon, Linda – WFMT scripts	2001, n.d.	
	9	Christophersen, Ann	1995	
	10	Events – 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	2004	
	11	Events – Hillary Clinton	1995-1996, n.d.	
	12		1980	
		<b><i>Events – Women’s Art panel discussion</i></b>		
	13		1991, n.d.	
		<b><i>Events – Women’s Literature in Performance</i></b>		
	14	Independent Booksellers of the Chicago Area (IBCA)	1996-1998, n.d.	
	15	Invoices	1997, n.d.	
	16	Material from other independent bookstores	n.d.	
	17	Programs from award ceremonies	1999-2000	
	18	WCF materials – About WCF	n.d.	
	19	WCF materials – Book Group selections	1994-2002, n.d.	
	20	WCF materials – Book recommendations	2001, n.d.	
21	WCF materials – Bookmarks	n.d.		
22	WCF materials – Event flyers	1984-2009, n.d.		
23	WCF materials – Programs	1989-1999, n.d.		
<b>Series 2: Audio-Visual material, 1979-2009, n.d.</b>				
Photographs				
1	24	Photos – Promotional	n.d.	
	25	Photos – <i>The Great Alaska Hustle</i>	n.d.	
	26	Photos – WCF interior	2009	
	27	Articles	2000-2006	
	28	Photos	1979-2005, n.d.	

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Audiocassette

29 Bubon interview for Loyola oral history project n.d.

Videocassettes

30 WCF 30 Years oral history project 2009

Digital Content (Network Location)

Duplicates	1985-2005, n.d.
Events	1998-2005
Scanned content	1979-2006, n.d.
TV spots	1993-1999, n.d.

**Series 3: Oversized material, 1985-2007, n.d.**

2	Women's Literature in Performance materials	1991
	Autographed program	1994
	Full Circle	1993
	30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary poster	2009
	Articles	1985-2007