The Women and Leadership Archives (WLA) welcomes History Fair students!

Located in Piper Hall, the WLA is on Loyola University Chicago’s Lake Shore Campus at 970 W. Sheridan Rd, Chicago, IL. The WLA is open by appointment only, Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm. We are sometimes able to offer special/weekend appointments with advance notice. Find more information at luc.edu/wla/contactinfodirectionshours/

About the WLA

The Women and Leadership Archives (WLA) collects, preserves, and makes available permanently valuable records of women and women’s organizations, which document women’s lives, roles, and contributions. The WLA grew out of the need to care for the records of Mundelein College and expanded to collect papers of women leaders and women’s organizations.

Collection strengths include:

- Art
- Activism
- Women’s issues
- Environmental issues
- Education
- Public service
- Social justice
- Athletics

See the reverse side for sample collections from the WLA that relate to this year’s theme!
Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas

Diane Ciral Papers 1898, 1967-2012, undated
Diane Ciral first became involved in activism as a young mother in the 1960s and was a founding member of Friends of the Parks, a citizens’ action group concerned about preserving the parks in Chicago. She also worked with the Chicago Sister Cities International Program and International Women Associates.

Patricia (Patty) Caron Crowley Papers, 1913-2006
Patty Crowley spent her life as a leader in Christian action groups, founding the international Christian Family Movement with her husband. In her 60s, Crowley began to focus on women experiencing poverty and homelessness, helping found the women’s shelter Deborah’s Place.

A crusader for “the full giftedness and personhood of women,” Donna Quinn founded Chicago Catholic Women in 1974 in an effort to fight injustice and inequality caused by gender discrimination in the Catholic Church and beyond. Also available: Chicago Catholic Women [1973-2000]

Anna Stonum combined art and activism to fight for rights and respect for people with disabilities in the 1980s. Her graphic design company created logos and designs used nationally by disability rights organizations.

Judith Roth Papers, 1945-2018
Artist Judith Roth founded the Ravenswood Artwalk to promote the many artists and small businesses in her community. Along with her successful art career, her advocacy and community service earned her many honors.

Carol Moseley Braun Papers 1980-2018
When she was elected in 1992, Carol Moseley Braun became the first African-American woman ever elected to the United States Senate and the first female Senator from Illinois. After breaking barriers in the Senate, she was U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand and started her own organic foods company.

Unable to find the books by and about women that they were interested in, Ann Christopherson and Linda Bubon founded Women and Children First in 1979. For over four decades, the independent bookstore has continued to provide the Chicago community with books and programming focused on the interests and needs of women and children.

Mundelein College Paper Records 1900-2016
Sr. Mary Therese Langerbeck was the only nun in the world with a Ph.D in astrophysics. As a professor and head of the Physics Department at Mundelein College 1936-1970, she led her students in unique scientific research and encouraged young women to pursue careers in science.

Contact the WLA to learn about the many other collections available!