

∞ The Ward M. Canaday Center ∞  
for Special Collections  
The University of Toledo

Finding Aid

➤ **Black Women's Democratic Caucus Records, 1987-1988, 1997-1999** ◀

MSS-168

**Size:** .25 linear feet

**Provenance:** Received from Barbie Harrison, 2001

**Access:** Open

**Collection Summary:** Collection contains correspondence, newspaper articles, and assorted printed materials documenting the activities of the organization.

**Subject(s):** [African-Americans](#), [Politics and Government](#), [Women](#)

**Related Collections:**

**Processing Note:**

**Copyright:** The literary rights to this collection are assumed to rest with the person(s) responsible for the production of the particular items within the collection, or with their heirs or assigns. Researchers bear full legal responsibility for the acquisition to publish from any part of said collection per *Title 17, United States Code*. The **Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections** may reserve the right to intervene as intermediary at its own discretion.

**Completed by:** Tamara Jones, May 2013; last updated: July 2014

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**Historical Sketch**

The Black Women's Democratic Caucus was founded in 1985 by 21 black women, who realized that despite their numerous contributions to both the Lucas County Democratic Party and various Democratic candidates, women of color were still not adequately included in the decision making process at the local level. In October of 1987, the original 21 members adopted the founding resolution. The objectives of the organization, according to its chair, Elizabeth Flournoy, are "to educate Black women in the organizational processes and mechanics of the Democratic Party" and to "identify, educate, and prepare Black women for future elected and appointed Democratic Party leadership positions." In addition, the organization "provide[s] moral and financial support for women seeking elected positions who share the goals of the caucus and the Democratic Party."

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**Scope and Content Note**

The Black Women's Democratic Caucus records are divided into four small series.

Series 1, **Administrative Files**, consists of a copy of the organization's founding resolution with the signatures of the original 21 members.

Series 2, **Correspondence**, is divided into two categories: general correspondence concerning local issues, and correspondence between the Caucus and local politicians in higher office, including Ohio State Senator Linda Furney and U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur. This series also contains correspondence regarding the visit of U.S. Representative Maxine Waters to Toledo in 1998.

Series 3, **Newspaper Articles and Printed Material**, consists of three folders: articles covering the visit of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton; articles covering the visit of Maxine Waters, along with flyers and invitations related to her visit; and articles covering various local issues.

Series 4: **Miscellaneous**, consists of a photographs of Maxine Waters, material from the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and a VHS tape of a tribute to Fannie Lou Hamer Award recipient Mary Louise Hollis.

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**Folder List**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Item</b>
		<b>SERIES 1: ADMINISTRATIVE FILES</b>
1	1	Founding Resolution, 1987 and Fact Sheet, n.d.
		<b>SERIES 2: CORRESPONDENCE</b>
1	2	General, 1997-99
1	3	Maxine Waters Visit, 1998
		<b>SERIES 3: NEWSPAPER ARTICLES AND PRINTED MATERIAL</b>
1	4	Eleanor Holmes Norton Visit, 2000
1	5	Maxine Waters Visit, 1998
1	6	Miscellaneous Newspaper Articles, 1988, 1997-99, n.d.
		<b>SERIES 4: MISCELLANEOUS</b>
1	7	Mary Louise Hollis Celebration, Oct. 30, 2000 (VHS)
1	8	Maxine Waters Photograph, n.d.
1	9	National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, 1997, 2000