A Finding Aid to the
B'nai B'rith Youth Organization - Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio Region Records

Manuscript Collection No. 97
Collection Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio Region) Records</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>MS-97</td>
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<td>Repository</td>
<td>The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives</td>
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<td>Creator</td>
<td>B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio Region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>13.2 linear feet (33 Hollinger boxes)</td>
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<td>Language of the Material</td>
<td>English</td>
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Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

The B'nai B'rith Youth Organization was created in May, 1944, having as its goal the creation of an informed, self-assured and socially responsible Jewish youth. In 1923, an attorney from Omaha, Nebraska named Sam Beber began a boys club for Jewish youth in Omaha, hoping to help strengthen their loyalty and respect for both their Jewish heritage and their American citizenship. The club was named Aleph Zadek Aleph, or AZA.

The club in Omaha was a success so Beber and some of his friends began organizing similar clubs in cities throughout the midwest. Beber envisioned a large network of chapters that would be a part of the international organization of B'nai B'rith. B'nai B'rith sponsorship would provide necessary funding and organization for the movement to grow. With this in mind, Beber sought and gained endorsement from B'nai B'rith District Number Six for his efforts and he also obtained the District's promise to present his idea of B'nai B'rith Incorporation of AZA in to the organization's Supreme Lodge.

The Supreme Lodge accepted the idea at its 1925 convention and AZA became a part of B'nai B'rith. The authority to create and run the chapters programs was given to the young members but a Supreme Advisory Council was created to oversee the operation.

With the growth of AZA a number of girls groups began to form. The first group was formed in California in 1927. Local women's chapters of B'nai B'rith began providing funding for the clubs and by 1940 the Women's Supreme Council made these groups part of B'nai B'rith, naming Mrs. Louis Perlman of Chicago national chairman of B'nai B'rith Young Women's and Young Men's groups.

It was not long until many of the older members of AZA and BBG desired their own groups, separate from the younger members. This led to the formation of B'nai B'rith Young Women's and Young Men's groups.

With four independent youth groups it became difficult for B'nai B'rith to maintain effective control, so in May, 1944 the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, having jurisdiction over all four groups, was created.

Since 1944 BBYO has had over 600,000 members. BBYO local chapters have raised money for charities, have given volunteer service to community projects and have provided a social environment of participation and interaction to many young people that they might not have had otherwise.

A statement of principles, issued shortly after the BBYO's founding, stated the goals and purpose of the new organization:

The B'nai B'rith Youth Organization should strive to create in young people a synthesis of the best in the Jewish and the American heritage....Such objectives may be best achieved through a program of cultural, religious, interfaith and social welfare activities, planned and executed by the young people themselves, under the guidance of trained counselors who are equally at home in Jewish and American experience.

Scope and Content

Contains correspondence, reports, membership records, newsletters and printed materials.

Arrangement


Access Restrictions

Restricted access to the Director of the American Jewish Archives.
Terms of Reproduction and Use

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Preferred Citation

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio Region) Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-97. B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio Region) Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance

Received from Kerry M. Olitzky, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1978-1981.

Processing Information

Processed by Kevin Proffitt, May 1982.

Index Terms

**Subjects**  
Jewish youth / Jews -- Indiana / Jews -- Kentucky / Jews -- Ohio

**Corporate Names**  
B’nai B’rith International / B’nai B’rith Youth Organization. Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio Region

**Media**  
Newsletters

**Series A. Conventions and Meetings, 1959-1980**

**Extent**  
5.8 linear feet (14.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note**
Consists of materials pertaining to International, District and Regional conventions as well as to a number of other meetings and conferences.

**Arrangement**
The International, District and Regional convention materials are arranged first in this series followed by Spring and Fall Executive Meetings and Fall Institute materials. A number of smaller conferences and meetings are then arranged alphabetically by title at the end of the series.

**Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 2. Folder 1-7. District Convention, 1968-1972
- Box 3. Folder 1-6. District Convention, 1972-1974
- Box 4. Folder 1-6. District Convention, 1975-1977
- Box 5. Folder 1-3. District Convention, 1978-1979
- Box 5. Folder 4-6. Regional Convention, 1965
- Box 6. Folder 1-6. Regional Convention, 1966-1974
- Box 7. Folder 1-7. Regional Convention, 1975-1978
- Box 8. Folder 1-6. Regional Convention, 1978-1979
- Box 9. Folder 4-7. Spring and Fall Executive meetings, 1965-1967
- Box 12. Folder 1-7. Spring and Fall Executive meetings, 1977-1980, undated
Series B. Correspondence, 1958-1981

Extent 3.2 linear feet (8 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement
The series is divided into two (2) subseries: 1. Executive Correspondence; 2. Regional Executive Board.

Subseries 1. Executive Correspondence, 1958-1981, undated

Extent 1.8 linear feet (4.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of correspondence of national, district and regional officers.

Arrangement The files in this series are arranged by office. The materials within each file are arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 16. Folder 6-7. District Director [Stanley W. Harris], 1958-1973
Box 17. Folder 1-6. District Director [Stanley W. Harris], 1974-1977
Box 18. Folder 1-2. District Director [Stanley W. Harris], 1978-1981, undated
Box 18. Folder 3. Regional Director [Arnold Oskin], 1972-1973
Box 18. Folder 4-7. Regional Director [Laurence Fagin], 1973-1976, undated
Box 18. Folder 8-9. Regional Director [Jeffrey R. Hoffman], 1976-1978
Subseries 2. Regional Executive Board, 1965-1980, undated

Extent 1.4 linear feet (3.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of correspondence of the Regional Executive Board, a council composed of members of the KIO local chapters.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged chronologically and the materials within each folder are also arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 20. Folder 1-7. Regional Executive Board, 1971-1973
Box 21. Folder 1-8. Regional Executive Board, 1974-1977
Box 22. Folder 1-7. Regional Executive Board, 1978-1980
Box 23. Folder 1. Regional Executive Board, undated

Series C. KIO Local Chapters, 1963-1980

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement The series is arranged in three (3) subseries: 1. Indiana; 2. Kentucky; 3. Ohio.

Subseries 1. Indiana, 1963-1980, undated

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists of materials for BBYO chapters in Bloomington, East Chicago, Elkhart, Ft. Wayne and Gary.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by city, then by chapter name. The materials within each folder are arranged chronologically. In some instances materials pertaining to a city's overall BBYO program are filed before the local chapters of that city.
Box and Folder Listing

Box 24. Folder 1. Indianapolis-Shoshana BBG, 1964-1970


Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists of materials for BBYO chapters in Louisville.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by city, then by chapter name. The materials within each folder are arranged chronologically. In some instances materials pertaining to a city's overall BBYO program are filed before the local chapters of that city.

Box and Folder Listing


Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of materials pertaining to the BBYO Greater Ohio Council and local chapters in Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton and Zanesville.
The subseries is arranged alphabetically by city, then by chapter name. The materials within each folder are arranged chronologically. In some instances materials pertaining to a city's overall BBYO program are filed before the local chapters of that city.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 26. Folder 3. Cincinnati-Rebecca BBG, 1966
Box 27. Folder 2. Columbus-Chaverim BBG, 1968-1974
Box 27. Folder 3. Columbus-Disraeli AZA, 1970-1973
Box 27. Folder 4. Columbus-Pops Dworkin AZA, 1965-1970
Box 27. Folder 5. Columbus-Heart of Ohio AZA, 1963-1974, undated
Box 27. Folder 6. Columbus-Emma Lazarus BBG, 1964-1971
Box 27. Folder 7. Columbus-Taurus AZA, 1969
Box 27. Folder 8. Columbus-Ziv BBG, 1964-1971
Box 28. Folder 1. Dayton-Chai BBG, 1968-1974

**Series D. Printed Materials and Miscellaneous, 1962-1980**

**Extent** 2.2 linear feet (5.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Arrangement** The series arranged alphabetically.
Box and Folder Listing

Box 29. Folder 1. Advisor material, undated
Box 29. Folder 2. Application forms.
Box 29. Folder 3. Expenses, 1974-1978
Box 29. Folder 5. Israel [1967 War], 1967
Box 30. Folder 4-6. National Staff Association, 1969-1975
Box 31. Folder 1. Policies and regulations, undated
Box 31. Folder 2-5. Programming.
Box 31. Folder 7. Rosters.
Box 31. Folder 8. Shofar, 1974-1975
Box 32. Folder 1-5. Summer Leadership Program, 1969-1973
Box 33. Folder 1-2. Summer Leadership Program, 1974-1976, undated
Box 33. Folder 3-6. Miscellaneous.