A Finding Aid to the

Celebrate 350 Records

Manuscript Collection No. 757
Collection Summary

Title: Celebrate 350 Records
Dates: 1998-2006
Collection Number: MS-757
Repository: The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator: Celebrate 350 Jewish life in America 1654-2004
Extent: 5.6 linear feet (14 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material: English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch
Celebrate 350: Jewish Life in America, 1654-2004 was established in 2002 as an ad hoc, not-for-profit, limited term entity to encourage and facilitate activities by Jews and Jewish institutions across the country to commemorate the 350th anniversary of Jewish communal life in America. The organization’s mission was to, “stimulate, to convene, to promote and to facilitate the appropriate observance of the 350th anniversary.”

Celebrate 350 served as the national umbrella organization which coordinated and informed the community about the year-long series of commemorative and celebratory activities across the United States in 2004. Celebrate 350 provided resources and a focus to the efforts of the organizations and individuals who were commemorating the history of the Jewish community in America through a website containing a national calendar of events, primary documents, program resources, and links to sponsoring and participating organizations. The organization was also a clearinghouse for information on events, available resources, and other relevant information through the Celebrate 350 e-newsletter. The “virtual” nature of Celebrate 350 allowed for the empowerment and encouragement of Jewish communities, organizations, individuals and institutions across the country to plan their own celebrations, rather than attempting to control the celebration from one central locale.

Along with the website and e-newsletter, Celebrate 350’s major programming included National Planning conferences, the commissioning of a commemorative medal and album, the creation of a traveling speakers bureau, and the co-hosting of a national dinner with the Commission for Commemorating 350 Years of American Jewish History (the Commission was a partnership among the Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, the American Jewish Historical Society and the American Jewish Archives) on September 14, 2005 as the concluding event of the celebration. It also funded three forward-looking projects: the endowment of an annual prize by the Jewish Book Council for outstanding published work in the field of American Jewish Studies; the endowment of a lecture series on Jewish life in America at the New York Public Library, and the provision of funds to the Yale University Press to assist in the publication of a forthcoming atlas of American Jewish history.

The staff of Celebrate 350 consisted of the Executive Director, first Lawrence Rubin and then Alice Herman, and Operations Manager Rachael (Diment) Dorr, along with a broad group of consultants and advisory committees. Robert S. Rifkind was the Chairman of Celebrate 350. The organization, always envisioned as a temporary entity, ended its operations in 2006.

Scope and Content
The Celebrate 350 records consist mostly of records documenting the group’s contact with organizations, groups, and individuals across the United States and its activities during the 2004 celebration of 350 years of Jewish life in America. The collection includes correspondence, information packets, press releases, and audiovisual materials such as photographs, compact discs, and DVDs, as well as a paper copy of the Celebrate 350 website.

Arrangement
Collection is arranged in three (3) series: A. Office Files; B. Audio Visual Materials; C. Ephemera and Oversize Materials.

Terms of Access
The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Preferred Citation
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Celebrate 350 Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-757. Celebrate 350 Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Series A. Office Files, 1998-2006

Extent 4.4 linear feet (11 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement


Extent 2.4 linear feet (6 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Contains subject files on organizations involved in the 350th anniversary and is comprised of correspondence and informational materials, some of which are audiovisual.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. 92nd Street Y, 2004-2005
Box 1. Folder 2. Adult Institute of Jewish Studies, 2004
Box 1. Folder 3. American Jewish Press Association, 2004-2005
Box 1. Folder 4-5. American Jewish Archives, 2004-2005
Box 1. Folder 6. American Jewish Committee, 2002-2004
Box 2. Folder 1. American Jewish Legacy, 2003-2004
Box 2. Folder 2. American University, 2003
Box 2. Folder 5. Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education, 2004
Box 2. Folder 6. Avi Chai, 2003
Box 2. Folder 8. Behrman House, 2004
Box 2. Folder 9. Berkshire Hills - Emanuel Camps, circa 2004
Box 2. Folder 10. Beth Ahabah Museum and Archives, 2005
Box 2. Folder 13. Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE), 2004
Box 2. Folder 14. Center for Jewish History, 2001-2005
Box 2. Folder 15. Charleston Strolls, 2004
Box 2. Folder 16. Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJ), 2003
Box 2. Folder 17. Conference of Presidents, 2003
Box 2. Folder 18. Congregation Beth El (South Orange, N.J.), 2004-2005
Box 2. Folder 19. Congregation Mikveh Israel (Philadelphia, Pa.), 2005
Box 2. Folder 20. Congregation Ner Tamid of South Bay (Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.), 2005
Box 2. Folder 21. Congregation Or Zarua (New York, N.Y.), circa 2004
Box 2. Folder 22. Congregation Rodeph Sholom, 2005
Box 3. Folder 1. Eldridge Street Project, 2004
Box 3. Folder 2. Feinstein Center for American Jewish History at Temple University, 2004
Box 3. Folder 3. Fairview Press, 2002
Box 3. Folder 4. Federations (Jewish), 2004
Box 3. Folder 5. First Heritage, 2003
Box 3. Folder 8. Hillel, 2003
Box 3. Folder 9. Historicana, 2004
Box 3. Folder 10. Hope Horn Gallery, University of Scranton, 2004
Box 3. Folder 12. Jewish Heritage Foundation of North Carolina, 2005
Box 3. Folder 16. Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South, 2004
Box 3. Folder 19. Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina and Southern Jewish
Historical Society, 2004
Box 4. Folder 2. Jewish Temple, Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (Alexandria,
La.), 2005
Relations Council, 2003-2005
Box 4. Folder 4. Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 2005
Box 4. Folder 5. Jewish Children's Learning Lab, circa 2004
Box 4. Folder 7. Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, 2004
Program, 2004
Box 4. Folder 10. The Jewish Museum, 2004
Box 4. Folder 12. Jewish Labor Committee, 2004
Box 4. Folder 13. Janice Charach Epstein Gallery, 2005
Box 4. Folder 14. JewishHistory.com, undated
Box 4. Folder 15. Jewish Theological Seminary, 2003-2005
Box 4. Folder 16. Jewish Virtual Library, 2004
Box 4. Folder 17. Jewish War Veterans, 2004
Box 4. Folder 21. Lehigh Valley Celebrates 350, 2005
Box 4. Folder 24. Lilith, 2004
Box 5. Folder 1. McKissick Museum - University of South Carolina, undated
Box 5. Folder 2. Milken Archive [VHS], 2003
Box 5. Folder 4. Murray Street, 2003
Box 5. Folder 5. Museum of the City of New York, 2004-2005
Box 5. Folder 7. Museum of New Mexico, 2004
Box 5. Folder 8. National Council of Jewish Women, 2004
Box 5. Folder 9. National Endowment for the Humanities, undated
Subseries 2. Artist/Performer Files, 1998-2005

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Contains subject files on individuals involved in the 350th anniversary and is
comprised of correspondence and informational materials, some of which are audiovisual.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 7. Folder 4. Awake and Sing, 2004  
Box 7. Folder 5. Emily Bingham, 2003  
Box 7. Folder 7. Eli N. Evans, 2002-2005  
Box 7. Folder 8. Film/TV Scripts, 2003  
Box 7. Folder 10. Joseph Heckelman, 2004  
Box 7. Folder 12. Hip Hop Hoodios, 2002-2004  
Box 7. Folder 13. The Immigrant, 2005  
Box 7. Folder 17. Joep de Koning, 2004  
Box 7. Folder 18. Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, 2005  
Box 8. Folder 1. Metropolitan Klezmer, 2001-2004  
Box 8. Folder 2. Millie and the Mentshn, 2004  
Box 8. Folder 4. Henry Stolzman, 2004  
Box 8. Folder 5. A Stoop on Orchard Street, 2003-2004  

**Subseries 3. Public Relations and Press Files, 2003-2006**

**Extent** 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Includes a printed copy of the entire Celebrate 350 website, including the calendar, timeline, resources, and e-newsletter, as well as press clippings from 2003 through 2005 and samples of Celebrate 350 stationery.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 8. Folder 7. Website - Home, 2005  
Box 8. Folder 8. Website - About Us, 2005  
Box 8. Folder 9. Website - Calendar (empty).  
Box 8. Folder 10. Website - Speaker's Bureau, 2005  
Box 8. Folder 11. Website - Timeline, 2005

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists of the National Planning Conference proceedings, as well as research materials from the Tercentenary celebration.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 10. Folder 6. Tercentenary research files, 2002

Subseries 5. National Dinner, 2005

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists of information on the 350 Fund expenditures on the event, sample invitations and programs, as well as returned RSVP cards, and photographs taken at the National Dinner.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 11. Folder 1. Contracts and payment information, 2005
Box 11. Folder 2. 350 Fund - General, 2005
Box 11. Folder 3. 350 Fund - Initial Loans, 2005
Box 11. Folder 4. 350 Fund - Commemorative Album payments, 2005
Box 11. Folder 5. 350 Fund - Foremost Caterers, 2005
Box 11. Folder 6. 350 Fund - Gala Events, Inc, 2005
Box 11. Folder 7. 350 Fund - invitation, envelope, RSVP and program samples, 2005
Box 11. Folder 8-19. Photographs [in packages], 2005
Box 12. Folder 1. RSVP cards received as of 19 September 2005, 2005

Extent 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Documents the events and programming of the 350th anniversary in photographs, audio, and moving images on data compact discs, audio compact discs, videocassettes, and DVDs. Other audio visual materials can be found within specific organizational, artist, and event files in Series A.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 12. Folder 2. Celebrate 350 logos [CD], 2003-2004
Box 12. Folder 3. Celebrate 350 stationery [CD], 2003-2005
Box 12. Folder 4. The Eternal Light: "Rendezvous with Liberty" - Broadcast September 1954, Courtesy of Jewish Theological Seminary [CD], 2005
Box 12. Folder 5. Celebrate 350 General Presentation (PowerPoint) [CD], 2004 May
Box 12. Folder 6. "There'll Come a Day," song by Paul and Elaine Suchow [CD], undated
Box 12. Folder 7. Celebrate 350: Memo and PR Templates (TIFF Files and Microsoft Word templates) [CD], 2003
Box 12. Folder 7. Celebrate 350: Community Action Guide (PDF) [CD], 2004
Box 12. Folder 8. "Civilization and the Jews" - Celebrate 350 and Channel 13 (video) [CD], 2005 March 15
Box 12. Folder 9. Salute To Israel Parade Images [CD], 2005 June 5
Box 12. Folder 10-15. National dinner images (3 discs in each envelope; duplicates) [CD], 2005
Box 12. Folder 16-17. Launch of 350 Years of Jewish Life in America - Photos by Simona Aru [CD], 2003
Box 12. Folder 18. 350th Anniversary of American Jewish Life National Jewish Life Dinner [DVD], 2005
Box 13. Folder 1. Celebrate 350 Interviews [VHS], 2003 September 9
Box 13. Folder 2. Celebrate 350 Presentation [VHS], 2003 September 9
Box 13. Folder 3-4. Celebrate 350 Launch [VHS], 2003 September 9
Box 13. Folder 5. Celebrate 350 Fox News Magazine [VHS], 2004 September 19

Series C. Ephemera and Oversize Materials, 2003-2005

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists of commemorative items given to Celebrate 350 from other organizations, such as a t-shirt, Kiddush Cup, and calendar, as well as those produced by Celebrate 350, such as the commemorative medal and documentary book.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 13. Folder 6. 350th medal and label, 2004
Box 14. Folder 1. Articles and special journals on 350th, 2004-2005


Box 14. Folder 3. The Jewish Calendar 2005, Celebrating 350 Years of Jewish Life in America, 2004 September - 2005 December

Box 14. Folder 4. Proclaim Liberty Kiddush cup, 2004

Box 14. Folder 5. Three Hundred Fifty Years - An Album of American Jewish Memory, 2004

Box 14. Folder 6. In the Port of Pernambuco, the Gateway to New York - Exhibit Catalog for the Jewish History Archive of Pernambuco, circa 2004

Box 14. Folder 7. T-shirt - "Pernambuco, Brazil, a Portal to New York, circa 2004