



## **Ben Singer papers, 1989-2007 : Ms.Coll.51**

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Finding aid prepared by Toby Makowski on November 10, 2017

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Singer, Ben
<b>Title:</b>	Ben Singer papers
<b>ID:</b>	Ms.Coll.51
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1989-2007
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.2 Linear feet (4 boxes)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	Ben Singer was an active voice in the Philadelphia transgender community from the 1990s to 2000s and beyond. The Singer papers collection spans 1989 to 2007 and is comprised of organizational paperwork dealing with the trans-focused public health initiatives he helped found (the Trans-health Information project) and the local politics surrounding community outreach and activism. Included are files about community events, news articles relating to the trans community (including ones Singer wrote), and social groups.

### Preferred Citation

Ben Singer papers, 1989-2007, Ms. Coll. 51, John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center, Philadelphia, PA.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Ben Singer is an out transgender advocate, community leader, teacher and scholar who did a significant amount of work in Philadelphia. He earned a Ph.D with Rutgers University, writing an interdisciplinary dissertation titled "Towards a Transgender Sublime: The Politics of Excess in Trans-specific Cultural Production", while enriching his studies with a parallel career in public health consulting. With Prevention Point Philadelphia, the Gay and Lesbian Latino AIDS Education Initiative and funding from the U.S. Center for Disease Control, Singer helped found the Trans-health Information Project (TIP) to address the unsafe injection of silicone and hormones by trans and GNC individuals.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection is divided into four series: Trans Health; Philadelphia City Hall; Events; and Other Materials. The Trans Health files are dated from 1996 to 2005 and include documentation from the Trans-health Information Project (TIP) and the Trans Health Action Coalition. The TIP documentation is comprised of copies of outreach session agendas and materials; administrative reports, and comprehensive medical guides written by Singer himself.

The Philadelphia City Hall series contains items dated from 1996 to 2004, which primarily deal with organizations that the Trans-health Information Project worked with on a wider scale. Documentation about the mayoral LGBT Advisory Board's Transgender work group, along with a local transgender needs assessment, are in this section. Administrative items from Prevention Point are included within this section.

The Events series of this collection has items dated from 1997 to 2007, which are about notable events: conferences, such as handouts from the first through sixth Philadelphia Trans Health Conference; film festival reviews and petitions; and a folder of photos from a gathering for the Transgender Day of Remembrance.

The final series, Other materials, collects those items that did not fully fit underneath the other three schemas. The items within are dated from 1994 to 2005 and encompass a wide spectrum. Within this group are files from casual social events like the Gay Games or HIV/AIDS support groups, or then-contemporary news articles such as Leslie Nelson's 1955 trial. In addition are Singer's copies of more personal correspondence with the all-female Sadism/Masochism community Female Trouble regarding his membership status as a transgender man, and several issues of S/M magazines.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center

1315 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
[archives@waygay.org](mailto:archives@waygay.org)

## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research with the exception of two folders, which are restricted: Prevention Point job applications, 2003 (Box 3, Folder 2) and Trans--Prison, 1997-1999 (Box 4, Folder 9).

## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright restrictions may exist. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives of the William Way LGBT Community Center.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Ben Singer, 2014

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

William Way LGBT Community Center ephemera files on the "Philadelphia Trans Health Conference."

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Conference materials
- Health education -- Risk reduction grant program -- U.S.
- HIV infections -- Prevention
- Minority Health
- Transgender people -- Medical care -- U.S.
- Public health education -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia
- Public Health Planning
- Records

## Collection Inventory

<b>Trans-Health Information Project (TIP)</b>		
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Safety series sessions I, II, III, 2005	Box 1	Folder 1
Safety series II: Self defense, 2004	Box 1	Folder 2
Safety series session II & III: Legal issues & antiviolence, 2004	Box 1	Folder 3
Safety series session III: Safer sex (FTM & MTF), undated	Box 1	Folder 4
Trans-health Information Project: FTM I, 2002, undated	Box 1	Folder 5
Trans-health Information project; FTM II, 2004, undated	Box 1	Folder 6
Trans-health Information Project: FTM III, undated	Box 1	Folder 7
FTM hormone use & safer injection techniques, undated	Box 1	Folder 8
Trans-health Information Project: :MTF I, 2002, 2004, undated	Box 1	Folder 9
Trans-health Information Project: MTF II, undated	Box 1	Folder 10
Trans-health Information Project: MTF III, 2003, undated	Box 1	Folder 11
MTF hormone use & safer injection techniques, undated	Box 1	Folder 12
Trans-health Information Project: Outreach pack menu, undated	Box 1	Folder 13
Trans-health Information Project: Outreach protocols, 2004, undated	Box 2	Folder 1
Trans-health Information Project: Outreach materials, 2004, undated	Box 2	Folder 2
Trans-health Information Project: Staff meeting agendas, 2003-2004	Box 2	Folder 3
Intro to hormone use & safer injection techniques, undated	Box 2	Folder 4
Frameworks for Trans Health, 2001-2002	Box 2	Folder 5
Trans Health Action Coalition, 1996-1998, undated	Box 2	Folder 6
Trans Health Action Coalition: Clinic project, 1996-1997	Box 2	Folder 7
Trans Health Action Coalition training manual, 1998	Box 2	Folder 8
Trans-health Information Project materials, undated	Box 2	Folder 9
Transgender Health Action Committee final report, 1997	Box 2	Folder 10

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## Philadelphia City Hall

Title/Description	Instances	
Bridges to Coalition, 1996	Box 2	Folder 11
LGBT Advisory Board: Transgender Work Group, 2001	Box 2	Folder 12
LGBT Health Awareness Week, 2003-2004	Box 2	Folder 13
Philadelphia Metropolitan Area HIV/ Transgender/Transsexual Caucus, 2001	Box 3	Folder 1
Prevention Point job applications [RESTRICTED], 2003	Box 3	Folder 2
Prevention Point syringe exchange, 1999-2004	Box 2	Folder 3
Prevention provider grant documentation, 2003-2004	Box 2	Folder 4
Transgender needs assessment, 1997	Box 2	Folder 5

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## Events

Title/Description	Instances	
1st Annual Philadelphia Trans Health Conference, 2002	Box 3	Folder 6
2nd Annual Philadelphia Trans Health Conference, 2003	Box 3	Folder 7
3rd Annual Philadelphia Trans Health Conference, 2004	Box 3	Folder 8
4th, 5th, 6th Philadelphia Trans Health Conference, 2005-2007	Box 3	Folder 9
Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, 1997-2000	Box 3	Folder 10
Trans Day of Remembrance photos, undated	Box 3	Folder 11
Transworld 3: Conference for transsexual, transgender two-spirit people of color, 2001	Box 3	Folder 12

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## Other materials

Title/Description	Instances	
Articles about Leslie Nelson's trial, 2003	Box 4	Folder 1
Au Courant: Trans articles, 1997-1999	Box 4	Folder 2
Female Trouble, 1994-1995	Box 4	Folder 3
Gay Games, 1998-1999	Box 4	Folder 4
HIV/AIDS support group flyers, 1993, 1994, undated		

	Box 4	Folder 5
Philly Ball Community, 1998, 2000	Box 4	Folder 6
Philly Gay News: "Trans Life" Series, 2005	Box 4	Folder 7
Sadism/Masochism publications, 1989-1997	Box 4	Folder 8
Trans--Prison [RESTRICTED], 1997-1999	Box 4	Folder 9
We X-Ist, 1995, 1997, 2000	Box 4	Folder 10

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