



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Lavender Light Gospel Choir collection

1997-2003

Sc MG 799

Summary

Creator: Lavender Light (Musical group)

Title: Lavender Light Gospel Choir collection

Date: 1997-2003

Size: 0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift from unknown donor, ca. 2008.

Abstract: Founded in 1985, Lavender Light is a mixed chorus (women and men), consisting of members who have auditioned and run as a nonprofit organization. Although the group encompasses many ethnic and spiritual backgrounds, the choir provides a special ministry to Black lesbians and gays, who have historically been pressured by their communities to choose between their Blackness and their gayness. Their repertoire includes gospel (old and new), spirituals, and anthems. They produce two full concerts a year and frequently appear as guests at community functions, from church services to Gay Pride rallies. Past appearances have included Urban Bush Women's "Praise House"; the pilot episode of *In the Life*; the People of Color Joint Kwanzaa Ceremony; Mayor David N. Dinkins's Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at City Hall; and Empire State Pride Agenda's 1999 annual fundraiser with keynote speakers President Bill Clinton and Senator Chuck Schumer. This collection mostly consists of administrative files such as bylaws, membership information, Board of Directors materials, minutes, and fundraising documents. There is a limited amount of material on concerts and performances. Most of the material dates from 1997-2003.

Preferred citation: [Item], Lavender Light Gospel Choir collection, Sc MG 799, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Related Materials:

In the Life Archive (ITLA) miscellaneous collections, Sc MG 736, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Creator History

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Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

African American choirs
African American gays
African American gospel singers
African American lesbians
Gospel music

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Bylaws (administrative records)
Concerts (performances)
Membership lists

Names

Lavender Light (Musical group)

Container List

- Bylaws and membership information
- b. 1 f. 1 Bylaws revision voting form
- b. 1 f. 2 2001
- b. 1 f. 3 Bylaws and membership handbooks 1997
- b. 1 f. 4 Officers meeting of the Bylaws Committee
- b. 1 f. 5 Grants and Fundraising Committee
- b. 1 f. 6 Audition flyers
- b. 1 f. 7 Planning material
- b. 1 f. 8 Concert 2003
- b. 1 f. 9 Retreat minutes 2002
- b. 1 f. 10 Board development