Summary

Main entry: American Foundation for AIDS Research

Title: AIDS Poster Collection, 1986-1993

Size: 0.1 linear feet (1 oversized folder, 6 tubes)

Source: Donated by the American Foundation for AIDS Research, May 1999

Abstract: The American Foundation for AIDS Research is a nonprofit organization formed in September 1985 from the merger of two existing AIDS research organizations: the AIDS Medical Foundation, based in New York City, and the Los Angeles-based National AIDS Research Foundation. The AIDS Poster Collection donated by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) contains posters related to the fight against AIDS that date from 1986-1993. The posters in this collection concern AIDS awareness campaigns organized by amfAR; Art Against AIDS; Day Without Art, a project of Visual AIDS; and the World Health Organization.


Preferred citation: AIDS Poster Collection, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

Special formats Posters.

Related materials note


Historical note

The American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) is a nonprofit organization formed in September 1985 from the merger of two existing AIDS research organizations: the AIDS Medical Foundation, based in New York City, and the Los Angeles-based National AIDS Research Foundation. From those two organizations, respectively, Drs. Mathilde Krim and Michael Gottlieb became amfAR’s Founding Chairmen while Elizabeth Taylor became its Founding National Chairman. In 2005, amfAR changed its name to The Foundation for AIDS Research in order to portray its international reach. The foundation continues to raise awareness and funds for HIV/AIDS research in the United States and around the world.

Scope and content note

The AIDS Poster Collection donated by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) contains posters related to the fight against AIDS that date from 1986-1993. The posters are grouped into the following categories: amfAR, Art Against AIDS, Day Without Art, and World Health Organization. They are grouped according to the AIDS awareness campaign for which they were produced. Within each category the posters are arranged alphabetically by artist, photographer, or title. In most cases, titles have been taken from the text on the posters.

The majority of the posters in this collection relate to Art Against AIDS, a series of sales exhibitions which benefited amfAR. These sales exhibitions were held in New York City in 1987 and in Los Angeles in 1988-1989. The Art Against AIDS campaign continued this AIDS artwork with its public art component, Art Against AIDS: On the Road, in which artwork appeared on posters, billboards, bus panels and shelters, as well as print and electronic media. Art Against AIDS: On the Road began in San Francisco in 1989 and traveled to Chicago and Washington, D.C., in 1990.
Container list

American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)

Tube 1  
Liebowitz, Annie. For the Future of Our Children . . . Support the American Foundation for AIDS Research. We Do, 1986

Kenneth Cole Productions sponsored this public service advertisement depicting supermodels with children.

Yamagata, Hiro. Elizabeth Taylor, circa 1993

Art Against AIDS

Dan Friedman designed the original logo for Art Against AIDS.

Tube 2  
Art Against AIDS, 1987

Art Against AIDS: Now art can prolong life as well as imitate it, 1988

On the Road

Tube 3  
Crane, Margaret, and Jon Winet. Total Federal AIDS Budget $1 ¼ Billion. Total Federal Defense Budget $299 Billion, 1989 (Middle panel of image with text; adhesive-backed)

Map Case

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Dunning, Jeanne. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome Is a Disease Not a Crime, [1990?]

Farmer, Sharon. Support AIDS Nursing Homes in Your Neighborhood, undated

Group Material and John Lindell

Tube 4  
Art Against AIDS. On the Road, undated (Adhesive-backed)

Tube 5  
All People with AIDS Are Innocent, 1989

Adhesive-backed

This image is often attributed to Gran Fury and is reproduced as a flier in the NYPL Digital Gallery (1580860).

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K.O.L.D. On the Road, undated (In two parts)

Tube 2  
Mapplethorpe, Robert. Embrace, 1989

Embrace was created in 1982, but its use as an Art Against AIDS: On the Road poster was not until 1989.

Day Without Art

Day without Art is a day of action and mourning held annually on World AIDS Day, December 1st.

Tube 6  

A National Day of Action and Mourning in Response to the AIDS Crisis, 1990

World Health Organization: Global Programme on AIDS

SIDA. Un effort mondial le vaincra. Organisation Mondiale de la santé.

Programme Mondial de lutte contre le sida, undated

SIDA. Un esfuerzo mundial lo vencerá. Organizacion Mundial de la salud.

Programa Mundial sobre el sida, undated