



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

Guide to the

**WWRL newsletter collection**

1966-1975

Sc MG 916

## Summary

**Creator:** WWRL

**Title:** WWRL newsletter collection

**Date:** 1966-1975

**Size:** 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Gift of Jeanne Kolva, 2016 and 2022.

**Abstract:** Founded in 1926, WWRL originally had a multi-lingual format serving the various ethnic communities of New York City. The radio station took on a mostly Spanish identity in the 1950s. In the mid-1960s, under the direction of news director Dick London, the station oriented towards African Americans living in New York City. As the station became an advocate for legislative change, London invited community leaders to voice their concerns publicly on air. The music and news advocacy was an integral part of the Black American community. WWRL played rhythm and blues music from 1964 to 1982, before changing to urban contemporary gospel music and religious programming from 1982 to 1997. DJ's for WWRL in the 1960s included Frankie Crocker and Jocko Henderson. Today, WWRL is the New York City outlet of the Black Information Network (BIN). This collection consists of one-page WWRL weekly newsletters which listed the "Soul 16", or the top 16 soul songs in the United States. These newsletters were available for free at various record stores. The newsletters listed songs under various headings, such as "New Sounds", "Boss Blues", and "On the Move". Around 1969, the newsletter's title changed to "WWRL Soul 16 Survey" and in the early 1970s, it changed again to "The Big 16 WWRL". Additionally, new category names included "Hit Bound" and "Top of the Dome". The collection contains newsletters from 1966-1972, but some years are incomplete.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], WWRL newsletter collection, Sc MG 916, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Many of the newsletters are color or black and white reproductions.

## Creator History

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## **Scope and Content Note**

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**Arrangement:** Arranged chronologically.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

African American musicians  
African American radio broadcasters  
African American radio stations  
African Americans -- Music  
Rhythm and blues music  
Soul music

### **Names**

WWRL

## Container List

b. 1 f. 1	1966
b. 1 f. 2	1967
b. 1 f. 3	1968
b. 1 f. 4	1969
b. 1 f. 5	1970
b. 1 f. 6	1971
b. 1 f. 7	1972
b. 1 f. 8	1973-1975