



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

Guide to the

**Kevin McGruder papers**

1988-2005

Sc MG 368

## Summary

**Creator:** McGruder, Kevin, 1957-

**Title:** Kevin McGruder papers

**Date:** 1988-2005

**Size:** 1.42 linear feet (2 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of Kevin McGruder, April 2007.

**Abstract:** Born in Toledo, Ohio, activist, entrepreneur, and writer Kevin McGruder attended Harvard University (BA in Economics) and Columbia University (M.B.A. in Real Estate Finance). In 2007, he began his doctoral studies in History at the Graduate Center of the City University New York. In 1990, McGruder opened Home to Harlem, one of the first souvenir shops in Harlem, and currently co-owns Harlemade, a souvenir shop also located in Harlem. He was a board member of Other Countries, a black gay writers collective, and the executive director of Gay Men of African Descent (1997-2001). McGruder's essay, "Colleagues", appears in Other Countries' second journal, Sojourner: Black Gay Voices in the Age of AIDS; his essay, "I Hate Basketball", appears in Fighting Words: Personal Essays by Black Gay Men, edited by Charles Michael Smith, and his essay, "To Be Heard in Print: Black Gay Writers in the 1980s", appears in Obsidian III: Literature in the African Diaspora. The collection contains biographical and genealogical information for McGruder and his family; his writings; correspondence, business and financial records, promotional materials, and news clippings for Home to Harlem; minutes from board meetings, strategic plans, journals, membership information, newsletters, flyers, and news clippings related to McGruder's involvement with Other Countries and Gay Men of African Descent.

## Conditions Governing Access:

Some material in the Other Countries section is restricted.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Kevin McGruder papers, Sc MG 368, 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:** Accessioned by Steven G. Fullwood, May 2007.

**Separated Materials:**

Transferred to the Moving Image and Recorded Sound Division: audio materials. For more information, please contact the division at [schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org](mailto:schomburgaudiovisual@nypl.org) or 212-491-2270.

**Related Materials:**

Gay Men of African Descent records, Sc MG 688, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Other Countries records, Sc MG 627, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

## **Creator History**

Born in Toledo, Ohio, activist, entrepreneur, and writer Kevin McGruder attended Harvard University (BA in Economics) and Columbia University (M.B.A. in Real Estate Finance). In 2007, he began his doctoral studies in History at the Graduate Center of the City University New York. In 1990, McGruder opened Home to Harlem, one of the first souvenir shops in Harlem, and currently co-owns Harlemade, a souvenir shop also located in Harlem. He was a board member of Other Countries, a black gay writers collective, and the executive director of Gay Men of African Descent (1997-2001). McGruder's essay, "Colleagues", appears in Other Countries' second journal, *Sojourner: Black Gay Voices in the Age of AIDS*; his essay, "I Hate Basketball", appears in *Fighting Words: Personal Essays by Black Gay Men*, edited by Charles Michael Smith, and his essay, "To Be Heard in Print: Black Gay Writers in the 1980s", appears in *Obsidian III: Literature in the African Diaspora*.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The collection contains biographical and genealogical information for McGruder and his family; his writings; correspondence, business and financial records, promotional materials, and news clippings for Home to Harlem; minutes from board meetings, strategic plans, journals, membership information, newsletters, flyers, and news clippings related to McGruder's involvement with Other Countries and Gay Men of African Descent.

## **Key Terms**

**Subjects**

African American gay men -- New York (State) -- New York  
Authors, Black  
Business enterprises, Black  
Gay activists

**Occupations**

Entrepreneurs.

**Names**

McGruder, Kevin, 1957-  
Gay Men of African Descent, Inc.  
Other countries (Series)

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Biographical information and family history
- b. 1 f. 2 Writing
  - Includes bibliography; "Black Economic Development: Harlem 1996"; "Black Men Marching: You Don't Have to Be Loud to be Strong"; "Colleagues"; "Harlem Glory"; "I Hate Basketball"; and "Jane Ryder Fisher".
- b. 1 f. 3-5 Home to Harlem
- b. 1 f. 6 Gay Men of African Descent
  - Other Countries
  - The membership and general files are restricted.
- b. 1 f. 7 10th Anniversary
- b. 1 f. 8 Board of Directors
- b. 1 f. 9 Conference 1997
- b. 2 f. 1 Events
- b. 2 f. 2 Incorporation files
- b. 2 f. 3 Journal
- b. 2 f. 4 Membership
  - Restricted.
- b. 2 f. 5 Newsletter
- b. 2 f. 6 *Sojourner book orders*
- b. 2 f. 7 General
  - Restricted.