

**Finding Aid for the
David P. Gonzales Collection
Los Angeles Public Library Special Collections**

OVERVIEW

Identifier/Call No.: LA MSS 0005

Creators: David P. Gonzales

Title: David P. Gonzales Collection

Dates: 1980-87

Language: Materials in English and Spanish

Scope and Content:

The collection contains materials that document the 1981 founding and early years of Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos (GLLU), the first major Queer Latinx organization in the Los Angeles area. There are issues of the GLLU newsletter, UNIDAD, from 1982-83, which are printed in English and Spanish. The collection documents meetings, events, and other activities, as well as the mission and organizational structure. It includes photographs of members taken by Gonzales as well as Louis Jacinto. The materials were donated by David P. Gonzales, who co-founded Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos (GLLU) in 1981 and served as its first President, in addition to starting the UNIDAD newsletter. Materials date from 1980-87.

Quantity: .32 cubic feet (materials fill a quarter of a Hollinger document storage box)

Location: Rare Books, South Stacks. Los Angeles Public Library, Central Library, 630 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles, California 90071.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

David P. Gonzales (he/him) was born and raised in the Los Angeles area and graduated from UCLA with a BA in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. It is during this time that he identified as a proud gay Chicano. Gonzales volunteered for the Peace Corps and served as an agricultural volunteer and community organizer in rural El Salvador in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He was forced to leave due to the raging civil war.

In 1981, he co-founded Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos (GLLU), secured its non-profit status, founded and edited the UNIDAD newsletter, and was the group's first President. In 1986, he attended California State University Northridge and received a science teaching credential in the Life and Physical Sciences, leading him to teach high school biology, chemistry, and physics at John Marshall High School in Silver Lake for over 25 years. Gonzales retired from Los Angeles Unified School District in 2019.

Louis Jacinto (he/him) began photographing in Los Angeles in 1975 and is noted for his iconic images of the Punk Rock music scene in Los Angeles. Both Jacinto and the East Los Angeles art collective ASCO crossed artistic paths throughout the 1970's and 80's, most notably in his series of photographs documenting an art exhibit and Punk Rock music show, "GRONKPATSSIPARTY", curated by ASCO artists Patssi Valdez and Gronk in 1978. Three images from that limited edition series were featured in the ASCO Retrospective which opened in 2011 as part of the regional Pacific Standard Time: Art In Los Angeles 1945 – 1980.

In 1981 and 1982 Jacinto was the official photographer for the Sunset Junction Street Fair in Los Angeles, and it was during this time that he encountered Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos (GLLU) and became actively involved in this social and political organizing organization for the next decade. He has exhibited throughout the greater Los Angeles area as well as in dozens of cities in the U.S. and abroad. His work was included in the museum exhibition Axis Mundo: Queer Connections in Chicano L.A., which traveled to eight museums from 2017-2022. Louis was named a 2020 Cultural Trailblazer by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. That same year he opened onodream Gallery, a virtual exhibition venue highlighting under recognized artists. He has been a community organizer and has worked at several community-based organizations to improve the lives of children and families.

The biographies of Gonzales and Jacinto were taken from glluarchive.com and viewed on December 14, 2023.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Use Restrictions

Any reproduction, redistribution, publication, or other use, by any means, without prior written permission is prohibited.

Photocopies, copy prints and digital images can be provided. With the proper fees and permissions, many images can be used in commercial and non-profit applications.

For personal and commercial uses of the Library's images, the Library will send to the user a Commercial Use Agreement which states access rights to images and copyright restrictions. This agreement must be returned to the library before the order will be processed. It will also state proper credit to be used for the product whenever photographs are used in commercial or non-profit situations. Further information regarding Use and Reproduction may be found on the Library's website: <https://tessa.lapl.org/special-collections-ordering>.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research by appointment only in the Rare Books reading room. Information about setting appointments can be found on the Library's website at lapl.org/branches/rarebooks. Appointments can also be arranged by sending an email inquiry to [rarebook \[at\] lapl.org](mailto:rarebook@lapl.org).

Provenance/ Source of Acquisition

Donated by David P. Gonzales in August 2023. The donation was facilitated by Lydia R. Otero.

Preferred Citation

[Item], Archive. Los Angeles Public Library Special Collections.

Related Materials

Lydia R. Otero Archive. Los Angeles Public Library Special Collections.

Irene Martinez and Laura Duran Archive. Los Angeles Public Library Special Collections.

[Louis Jacinto Collection, 1976–2008](#). Photo Collection, Los Angeles Public Library.

PROCESSING INFORMATION

Archival processing was completed at the Los Angeles Public Library by Rosemarie Knopka, Librarian Archivist, in December 2023. Juan Avalos, an Administrative Clerk in the Digitization and Special Collections Department, assisted in processing the archive.

ARRANGEMENT

Materials are arranged chronologically within folders by date of creation.

The materials are organized in the following series:

Series 1: Photographs

Series 2: GLLU

INDEXING TERMS

The Los Angeles Public Library used both Library of Congress Subject Headings and the Library of Congress Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (TGM) as sources for subject headings for cataloging. In addition, TGM was used for genre and format terms.

Topics:

Activism, LGBTQIA+

Activism, Queer.

Activism--United States.

Chicano archives.

Chicano movement.

Civil rights--California--Los Angeles.

GLLU

Gay and lesbian rights.

Gay and lesbian movement.

Gay and lesbian studies.

Latinos (United States).

Persons:

Gonzalez, David P.

Jacinto, Louis

GENRE / FORMAT

Correspondence

Documents

Ephemera

Photographs

CONTAINER LIST

Hollinger Standard Record Storage Cartons (materials fill one quarter of 1 box; SRSCDL)

Series 1: Photographs

Box : Folder Description

2 : 1 Photographs - Gonzales, David and Louis Jacinto, 1982-83 (160 slides)

File contains photographs by David Gonzalez and Louis Jacinto. Many of the photographs were used in the documentary "UNIDAD," the 2022 short film directed by Gregorio Davila.

2 : 2 Photographs - Gonzales, David and Louis Jacinto, 1982-86 (204 slides)

File contains photographs by David Gonzalez and Louis Jacinto. Many of the photographs were used in the documentary "UNIDAD."

Series 2: GLLU

Box : Folder Description

2 : 3 GLLU - Early Documents, 1981-84

File contains a brochure for the organization Asian/Pacific Lesbians & Gays; Gay Latinos Unidos meeting agenda, general assembly minutes, documents on events and committee activities, update on a memorial scholarship, and correspondence.

2 : 4 GLLU - Early Documents, 1981-87

File contains meeting agendas, letterhead, event flyers, press releases, mission statements, committee documents, conference reports, correspondence, board of directors and general assembly meeting minutes, invitations, and project updates. Materials are in English and Spanish.

2 : 5 GLLU - Financials, 1983-85

File contains invoices, lists of vendors, and a membership form.

2 : 6 GLLU - Organizational Structure, 1980-83

File contains a document titled Reglamento de Gays Latinos Unidos, organizational information for GLLU, and the bylaws of the Business and Professional Association of Los Angeles (BAPA). Materials are in English and Spanish.

2 : 7 GLLU - UNIDAD Newsletter, 1981-85

File contains a political awareness survey, correspondence, advertising rates, budgets, financial summaries, and a list of gay Latinx groups in the United States. Issues of the UNIDAD newsletter include January 1982; February 1982; April 1982; May/June 1982; August/September 1982; October/November 1982; and October/November 1983. Materials are in English and Spanish.