

Finding Aid to the Ari Kane papers

(#2002-26)

Repository: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society

Collection Title: Ari Kane papers

Collection Number: 2002-26

Physical Description: 6.25 linear feet (five cartons)

Creator: Ari Kane

Date (inclusive): 1975-1999

Language of Material: English

Abstract: Ari Kane, born in 1936, is a counselor, gerontologist, and sexologist known for founding the Outreach Institute of Gender Studies as well as Fantasia Fair, a yearly festival for the transgender and gender-nonconforming community. Kane is bi-gender and androgynous, identifying with both masculinity and femininity. This collection largely consists of materials from Fantasia Fair, as well as various gender conferences; there is also a box of Outreach Institute materials and a box of publications.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], Ari Kane papers (2002-26), The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights:

Copyright to material has been transferred to the GLBT Historical Society. All requests for reproductions and/or permission to publish or quote from material must be submitted in writing to the GLBT Historical Society Archivist.

Acquisition Information:

The collection was purchased by the GLBT Historical Society from Ari Kane in 2002.

Processing Information:

Finding Aid created by Isaac Fellman in 2019, based partly on notes and catalog entries from earlier archivists.

This finding aid uses terminology for LGBTQ people that was in current use at the time of its creation. Descriptive language for queer identities evolves quickly and some of these terms may now be dated or even offensive. Finding aids are themselves historical documents; they reflect the moment in which they were written and often reflect the terms that subjects used for themselves. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society Archivist with questions or comments.

Biographical/Organizational History Note: Ari Kane, born in 1936, is a counselor, gerontologist, and sexologist known for founding the Outreach Institute of Gender Studies as well as Fantasia Fair, a yearly festival for the transgender and gender-nonconforming community. Kane is bisexual, bi-gender, and androgynous, identifying with both masculinity and femininity; her pronouns are “he” and “she.” The Outreach Institute focuses on providing programs that broaden understanding about the diversity of gender experience, expression, and perception in daily life, and to facilitating research in all aspects of the phenomenon of human gender, particularly as it pertains to sexuality. Portions of Kane’s papers are also held at Harvard and the University of Victoria.

Kane explicitly does not identify as nonbinary, but rather with both binary genders. The indexing term “nonbinary people” is included to place this catalog record under the broad genderqueer/nonbinary umbrella, and to aid in findability for researchers searching for people under that umbrella.

Scope and Content: This collection largely consists of materials from Fantasia Fair, as well as various gender conferences; there is also a box of Outreach Institute materials and a box of publications.

Indexing Terms:

Transgender people

Nonbinary people

Bisexual people

Container Listing

Box 1, 1975-1997

Contains materials related to conferences and meetings concerned with transgender identity, predominantly the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex, but also including the North Central Sociological Association, Kane’s own Outreach Institute for Gender Studies, and the Tiffany Club. Materials include professional and personal correspondence, brochures, papers given by Kane, notes, publications, articles and clippings, and related materials.

Box 2, 1976-1999

Contains materials related to Fantasia Fair, including programs, guidebooks, clippings, publications, attendee surveys, organizational materials, and extensive VHS documentation of the 1991 fair. Also includes a folder of transgender journals and informational pamphlets.

Box 3, 1989-1998

Contains materials related to Fantasia Fair, including participant surveys, programs, guidebooks, correspondence, organizational materials, and registration files with basic information on many individual attendees of the 1989 Fair.

Box 4, 1980s-1990s

Contains materials related to the Outreach Institute for Gender Studies, including articles, journals, clippings, stationery, press releases, publication, catalogs, notes, administrative materials, and correspondence. There is also a small amount of material on Kane's related professional activities, such as administrative papers from her counseling practice, correspondence with conference administrators, and a folder of her authored articles. Lastly, there are a number of personal photographs.

Box 5, 1980s-1990s

Contains publications and clippings on transgender subjects, ranging from Harry Benjamin's *The Transsexual Phenomenon* to various erotica.