The Waco Community Race Relations Coalition Records consist of correspondence, legal and financial documents, literary productions, photographs, and media documenting the coalition’s efforts to promote racial awareness in the community of Waco, Texas.

Subjects
Community Race Relations Coalition (Waco, Tex.). / Lynching -- Texas -- Waco. / Race relations -- Texas -- Waco. / History. / Southern States -- Race Relations. / Texas -- Race relations. / United States -- Race Relations. / Waco (Tex) -- History -- 20th Century. / Waco (Tex).

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Preferred Citation
Waco Community Race Relations Coalition Records, Accession #3788, Box #, Folder #, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

Processing Information

Abstract
This collection contains information on the lynching of Jesse Washington in Waco, Texas, during the early 1900s. There is no primary information, but the collected materials might help a researcher looking for resources on that topic.

Scope and Content
The Waco Community Race Relations Coalition Records were acquired by gift in two transactions from a donor representing the Community Race Relations Coalition. The first gift, given by Jonathan Lindsay for the Community Race Relations Coalition on 2011 March 2, consisted of 13 banker's boxes stuffed with records. The second gift, given by Jonathan Lindsay for the Community Race Relations Coalition on 2011 March 31, consisted of 1 binder containing 2009-2010 correspondence and minutes of the Coalition Board.

This collection begins in 1998 and ends in 2010, with some undated materials. Material types present in the collection include correspondence, legal and financial documents, literary productions, photographs, and media. The Internal Documents series is by far the largest in the collection. A large amount of minutes from the Coalition Board and the Executive Board give a complete history of the coalition for most of their history prior to 2010. The collection contains very few photographs for such a large and well-publicized group. Much of their activities were documented in articles and editorials by the Waco Tribune-Herald.

Administrative/Biographical History
The mission of the Community Race Relations Coalition is to promote racial and cultural awareness in the Waco, Texas, community. Founded in 1999, the organization continues to provide education and leadership on these topics today.

The Coalition began life from a series of grassroots dialogues in Waco about race. The first dialogue emphasized small group sharing of problems and solutions, while the second dialogue a year later offered workshops designed to provide further answers to problems brought up in the first dialogue. Various community leaders met informally as a steering committee to plan both dialogues, and over the next several years the committee gradually became a more formally organized group, with a constitution and bylaws, elected officers, committees, and annual member meetings. Records from the early years of the group, as well as important legal documents that the group produced, can be found in this collection.

With a large and diverse membership, the coalition has held workshops, small group study sessions, dinners, training sessions, movie screenings, award banquets, festivals, and book club meetings designed to promote better understanding of race. As local issues of interest arose the group discussed the issue and sometimes endorsed the idea, such as a proposal to place a large statue of a Texas Ranger close to the Texas Ranger Museum. For several years the group assisted the local chapter of the National Coalition Building Institute. The coalition has also held many popular events during Black History Month to help educate the public about race. Records detailing all these activities and more can be found in this collection.

The signature issue of the coalition became their effort to obtain an apology from the Waco community for the horrific lynching of Jesse Washington in 1916. The coalition focused on the McLennan County Commissioner's Court as the proper public group from which to receive an apology. After the public debated the issue for months, helped by written editorials and meetings held by the coalition, a compromise resolution was agreed upon offering a condemnation of
The Community Race Relations Coalition continues today to provide a public forum for leadership and education on racial awareness.

Related Resources
Related citations


Archival Arrangement

The [Waco] Community Race Relations Coalition Records were organized by type and activity to the folder level prior to this finding aid. However, related folders were not together but spread throughout the collection. Most folder titles were kept. This collection was organized primarily by Jane Derrick prior to deposit at The Texas Collection.

Currently, the [Waco] Community Race Relations Coalition Records are organized in fourteen series: I. Internal Documents, II. Dialogue on Race Relations, III. 2nd Dialogue on Race Relations, IV. 1st Anniversary Dialogue on Race Relations, V. 3rd Anniversary Dialogue on Race Relations, VI. General Meetings, VII. General Events, VIII. Documents, IX. Workforce Diversity Initiative, X. One Book One Waco, XI. Waco Cultural Arts Fest, XII. Black History Month, XIII. National Coalition Building Institute, XIV. Digital Media.

Series 1. Internal Documents. 1998-2009, undated

Administrative/Biographical History
This series includes all documents generated for internal use by the Community Race Relations Coalition. This includes manuscripts such as correspondence, meeting minutes, legal documents, and production scripts generated by various committees and leaders. There is a substantial amount of minutes from both the Coalition Board and the Executive Committee, plus other committees. Magazine articles are also present, and the newsletter produced by the coalition for many years.

Inventory

Box 1. Folder 1. Internal: Correspondence: Coalition Board, 1998-1999
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Administrative/Biographical History

The Community Race Relations Coalition grew out of the Dialogue on Race Relations, held in 1999, but planned for since 1998. This series contains materials from that first "founding" dialogue, which emphasized the need for the people of Waco to talk about race. The series contains various reports, minutes, correspondence, and clippings from that first dialogue.

Inventory

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<tr>
<td>The 2nd Dialogue in 1999 was a follow-up to</td>
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<tr>
<td>the original dialogue about race relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>in Waco. This small series contains mostly</td>
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<td>planning documents for the program.</td>
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<td><strong>Inventory</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Administrative/Biographical History</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>This series contains information about the 1st Anniversary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dialogue, held in 2000 after the first two dialogues. These</td>
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<tr>
<td>dialogues continued to gather information about the state of</td>
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<td>race relations in Waco and what could be done to help heal</td>
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<td>long-standing prejudices.</td>
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<td><strong>Inventory</strong></td>
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<td>Box 21. Folder 15. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>Box 21. Folder 16. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>January 3-6</td>
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<td>Box 21. Folder 22. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>January 7-10</td>
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<td>Box 21. Folder 23. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>January 11-13</td>
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<td>Box 21. Folder 24. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>January 14-17</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 1. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>January 18-27</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 2. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>January 28-31</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 3. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>February 2-6</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 4. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>February 9-11</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 5. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>February 14-15</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 6. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>February 16-18</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 7. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>February 22-26</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 8. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: General, 2000</td>
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<td>March 15-20</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 11. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: Charles Oliver, 2000</td>
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<td>Box 22. Folder 12. 1st Anniversary: Correspondence: Majorie Bowens-Wheatley, 1999-2000</td>
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Series 5. 3rd Anniversary Dialogue on Race Relations. 2001-2004

**Administrative/Biographical History**

This series contains information about the 3rd Anniversary Dialogue. It is not known why the anniversary dialogue numbers jump from 1 to 3; perhaps the Texas Collection has not received any documents on the 2nd Anniversary Dialogue. The 3rd Dialogue, held in 2001, continued to explore race relations in Waco.

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Box 25. Folder 12. 3rd Anniversary: Literary: Clippings, 2001


**Administrative/Biographical History**

This series contains information about the various meetings the coalition held through their history. The first date in each folder is the date of the actual meeting, the second date describes the date range in the folder. As the coalition became more organized, they held four regular meetings every year, but there are also special meetings. These were called when the coalition was working on a specific issue, such as the 2006 public apology for the Waco lynching of Jesse Washington. These meetings are organized by date. The Literary: General folders in this series contain a wide variety of literary manuscripts, including broadsides announcing the meeting, programs, notes, minutes, and other related materials.

**Inventory**

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Box 26. Folder 34. Meetings: 2000 January
Box 26. Folder 35. Meetings: 2000 January
Series 7. General Events. 1990-2010

Administrative/Biographical History

This series contains materials about general events held by the Community Race Relations Coalition, separate from the regular meetings. These events include presentations to local groups such as the Waco Lion's Club, trainings such as "Race the Power of an Illusion," and events like the coalition's yearly "Red, White, and Blues" silent auction fundraiser.

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Box 28. Folder 5. Events: Race the Power of an Illusion: Correspondence, 2004
Box 28. Folder 6. Events: Race the Power of an Illusion: Correspondence, 2005 January
Box 28. Folder 7. Events: Race the Power of an Illusion: Correspondence, 2005 February-March

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Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains information about various issues the coalition worked on through the years, including the proposed Texas Ranger statue, immigration, and the early 1900s lynching of Jesse Washington. Several coalition officers also wrote editorials about these issues to the Waco newspaper that are included in this series.

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Box 28. Folder 29. Events: Classie Ballou and Silent Auction: Correspondence, 2007 November
Box 28. Folder 30. Events: Classie Ballou and Silent Auction: Correspondence, 2010 July-August
Box 28. Folder 31. Events: Classie Ballou and Silent Auction: Correspondence, 2010 September-November, undated
Box 29. Folder 1. Events: Classie Ballou and Silent Auction: Literary: General, 2009-2010
Box 29. Folder 2. Events: Grassroots to Healing: Correspondence, 2009
Box 29. Folder 4. Events: Creating a Jubilee World: Literary: General, 1999
Box 29. Folder 7. Events: Embrace the World: Correspondence, 2004 March 19-April, undated
Box 29. Folder 8. Events: Embrace the World: Legal: General, 2004
Box 29. Folder 10. Events: Embrace the World: Literary: General, 2004

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains materials about various trainings the coalition facilitated at different workplaces around Waco. Correspondence from the coalition about planning for these trainings is also included.

Inventory
Box 30. 11. Workforce Diversity: Correspondence, 2004 March-July
Box 30. 12. Workforce Diversity: Correspondence, 2004 August-September
Box 30. 13. Workforce Diversity: Correspondence: (1 of 2), 2004 October-December
Box 30. 14. Workforce Diversity: Correspondence: (2 of 2), 2004 October-December
Box 30. 15. Workforce Diversity: Correspondence: (1 of 2), 2005 January-February
Box 30. 16. Workforce Diversity: Correspondence: (2 of 2), 2005 January-February
Box 30. 17. Workforce Diversity: Literary: General, 2003-2005
Box 30. 18. Workforce Diversity: Literary: Texas State Technical College: General, 2004 July
Box 30. 19. Workforce Diversity: Literary: Texas State Technical College: PowerPoint: (1 of 2), 2004 July
Box 30. 20. Workforce Diversity: Literary: Texas State Technical College: PowerPoint: (2 of 2), 2004 July
Box 30. 21. Workforce Diversity: Literary: Gratziano’s Italian Cafe, 2004
Box 30. 22. Workforce Diversity: Literary: Various Town Meetings, 2004-2005 January
Box 30. 23. Workforce Diversity: Literary: Baylor University Cashion Building, 2005

Series 10. One Book One Waco. 2002-2010

Administrative/Biographical History
This series includes manuscripts about the coalition’s work with One Book, One Waco, including correspondence, minutes, and literary productions.

Inventory
Box 30. Folder 24. One Book One Waco: Correspondence, 2002-2003
Box 30. Folder 25. One Book One Waco: Correspondence, 2007-2010
Box 30. Folder 27. One Book One Waco: Literary: General: (2 of 4), 2002-2008
Box 30. Folder 30. One Book One Waco: Literary: A Lesson Before Dying, 2002
Box 31. Folder 1. One Book One Waco: Literary: Minutes, 2007-2008 September
Box 31. Folder 2. One Book One Waco: Literary: Minutes, 2007 October
Box 31. Folder 3. One Book One Waco: Literary: Minutes, 2007 November-2010

Series 11. Waco Cultural Arts Fest. 2004-2010, undated

Administrative/Biographical History
The Coalition held a variety of events to celebrate Black History Month, which are represented in this series. Correspondence, literary, and financial information is included.

Inventory
Box 31. Folder 22. Black History Month: Literary Minutes
Box 31. Folder 23. Black History Month: 2004 Celebration: Correspondence, 2004
Box 31. Folder 25. Black History Month: 2005 Celebration: General, 2005
Box 31. Folder 27. Black History Month: 2006 Celebration: Correspondence, 2006 March
Box 31. Folder 28. Black History Month: 2006 Celebration: Correspondence, 2006 May-August
Box 32. Folder 1. Black History Month: Correspondence: (1 of 3), 2006 September
Box 32. Folder 2. Black History Month: 2006 Celebration: Correspondence: (2 of 3), 2006 September
Box 32. Folder 3. Black History Month: 2006 Celebration: Correspondence: (3 of 3), 2006 September
Box 32. Folder 8. Black History Month: 2007 Celebration: Correspondence, 2007 January 17-30
Box 32. Folder 9. Black History Month: 2007 Celebration: Correspondence, 2007 February 4-6
Box 32. Folder 10. Black History Month: 2007 Celebration: Correspondence, 2007 February 6-8
Box 32. Folder 11. Black History Month: 2007 Celebration: Correspondence, 2007 February 9-
Box 32. Folder 15. Black History Month: 2008 Celebration: Correspondence, 2008 January

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains materials about the coalition's work with the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI). Some members of the coalition were trained by the institute, and several workshops were held in Waco, but there does not seem to be any long-term partnership between the two separate groups.

Inventory
Box 32. Folder 19. NCBI: Correspondence, 2001-2002 March
Box 32. Folder 20. NCBI: Correspondence: (1 of 2), 2002 January-April
Box 32. Folder 21. NCBI: Correspondence: (2 of 2), 2002 January-April
Box 32. Folder 22. NCBI: Correspondence, 2002 March-December
Box 32. Folder 23. NCBI: Correspondence: (1 of 5), 2005 May-June
Box 32. Folder 24. NCBI: Correspondence: (2 of 5), 2005 May-June
Box 32. Folder 25. NCBI: Correspondence: (3 of 5), 2005 May-June
Box 33. Folder 1. NCBI: Correspondence: (4 of 5), 2005 May-June
Box 33. Folder 2. NCBI: Correspondence: (5 of 5), 2005 May-June
Box 33. Folder 3. NCBI: Correspondence: (1 of 3), 2005 July
Box 33. Folder 4. NCBI: Correspondence: (2 of 3), 2005 July
Box 33. Folder 5. NCBI: Correspondence: (3 of 3), 2005 July
Box 33. Folder 6. NCBI: Correspondence, 2005 August-October
Box 33. Folder 7. NCBI: Correspondence: (1 of 2), 2005 November-2006 March
Box 33. Folder 8. NCBI: Correspondence: (2 of 2), 2005 November-2006 March
Box 33. Folder 9. NCBI: Correspondence, 2006 May-September
Box 33. Folder 10. NCBI: Correspondence, 2006 October-2007 June
Box 33. Folder 11. NCBI: Correspondence, 2007 July-2009
Box 33. Folder 12. NCBI: Literary, General, 2005
Box 33. Folder 13. NCBI: Literary, "Cultural Competency for Leaders": (1 of 2), 2002
Box 33. Folder 14. NCBI: Literary, "Cultural Competency for Leaders": (2 of 2), 2002
Box 33. Folder 15. NCBI: Literary, "Train the Trainer Workshop": (1 of 2), 2005
Box 33. Folder 16. NCBI: Literary, "Train the Trainer Workshop": (2 of 2), 2005
Box 33. Folder 17. NCBI: Literary, Prejudice Awareness Workshop, 2005
Box 33. Folder 18. NCBI: Literary, Prejudice Reduction Workshop, 2006
Box 33. Folder 20. NCBI: Literary, Prejudice Reduction Workshop: Membership Lists, 2005
Box 33. Folder 21. NCBI: Literary, Notes, 2005-2006
Box 33. Folder 22. NCBI: Literary, Notes: (1 of 2), undated
Box 33. Folder 23. NCBI: Literary, Notes: (2 of 2), undated


Media
Compact disk (CD); Floppy disk (3.5"

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains digital files of PowerPoint presentations, photographs of coalition events and workshops, and other digital files. The PowerPoint presentations from this series are available within this Cuadra Star record, as well as on the compact disk within this collection. Some compact disks in this series are unreadable as of this finding aid.

Inventory
Box 33. 25. Digital Media: Compact Disks: General, undated
Box 33. 27. Media: Compact Disks: Photographs, 2003-2006
Box 33. 28. Media: Compact Disks: Photographs, undated
Box 33. 29. Media: Compact Disks: Movies, 2005, undated