BMRC
The Black Metropolis Research Consortium

Institution: Shorefront Legacy Center
Collection Title: Pauline Williams papers
Date Span: 1951-1993, bulk dates 1988-1991
Extent: 1.75 Linear feet
Processors: Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project." By Dustin Witsman. June 1st, 2012.
Restrictions: None
Related Collections: Women's Auxiliary of Community Hospital records, Shorefront Legacy Center.

Abstract:
Pauline Williams (1911-2005) was an African-American community leader who lived most of her life in Evanston, Illinois. She was an active member in a number of social and civic clubs and organizations in Evanston throughout her life. The Pauline Williams papers contain material related to her work with these organizations and her interest in African-American history. The collection spans from 1951 to 1993, but the bulk of the material covers 1988-1991 and consists of meeting minutes, photographs, newspaper clippings, publications, and awards.

Biographical/Historical Note:
Pauline Williams (1911−2005) was born on the L & N Railroad in the whistle stop town of Trenton in Todd County, Kentucky but lived most of her life in Evanston, Illinois. She was an active member of a number of social and civic clubs and organizations in Evanston throughout her life. She was the first African American woman to serve on the Evanston Plan Commission and served for 10 years. She was involved in the Women's Auxiliary of the Community Hospital of Evanston and served two years as President. She served on the Board of Directors of Community Hospital of Evanston where she served as President for 6 years. Y.W.C.A of Evanston, where she was President for two years. While serving on the Evanston Historical Society she received an award by the State of Illinois for her work on the project "The Sick Can Wait". She was also a member of the Evanston Black Catholic Group, the Fleetwood-Jourdain Art Guild, and the Tech Sergeant William B. Snell Ladies Auxiliary of the 7186 V.F.W.

Scope and Content Note:
The Pauline Williams papers are arranged into four series: "Evanston Historical Society," "Research Files," "Personal," and "Scrapbook." The bulk of the material comprising the collection concerns Williams' involvement with the Evanston Historical Society and African Americans in Evanston, Illinois. The collection spans from 1951 to 1993, but the bulk of the material covers 1988-1991 and consists of meeting minutes, photographs, newspaper clippings, publications, and awards.

Access Headings:
African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
History--Societies, etc.
Suburban African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
Williams, Pauline, 1911-2005
Women--Societies and clubs.

Container List:

Series I: Evanston Historical Society, 1977-1991

This series is comprised of material relating to the Evanston Historical Society, its history, and Pauline Williams' involvement with the organization.

Box	Folder	Title	Date
	1	Correspondence	1991
	2	Events	1988-1990
	3	Newsletters	1987-1990
	4	Oral History Project	1977-1990
	5-6	Organizational	1988-1991
	7	Women's Auxiliary of the Community Hospital	1989-1991

Series II: Research Files, 1952-2002

This series contains Pauline Williams' research files relating to her professional interests in African and African-American history as well as information regarding organizations and clubs.

Box	Folder	Title	Date
	8	African/African-American History	1991
	9	Associates of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament	1999-2002
	10	Chicagoland	1966-1967
	11-13	Evanston, Illinois	1952-1990
	14	Inventories	1988
	15	News Clippings	1955-2000
	16	Young Women's Christian Association	1975

Series III: Personal, 1965-2004

The "Personal" series is comprised of biographical and family material along with awards received by Pauline Williams in both her personal and professional life.

Box	Folder	Title	Date
	17	Biography	1993
	18	Certificates and Awards	1971-2002
	19	Dinners and Menus	1965-1976
	20	Weddings	1975-1995
2	N/A	Oversized Certificates and Awards	1951-1954
N/A	OS1	Unidentified Photograph	n.d.

Series IV: Scrapbook, 1951-1954

This series is comprised of a scrapbook compiled by Pauline Williams containing personal and family photographs.

Box	Folder		Date
2	N/A	1 Scrapbook	1951-1954