

4-2023

LG MS 160 Dale McCormick Gay Side Story Interview

Jil Piekut Roy

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/lgbt_finding_aids



Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), [Cultural History Commons](#), [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons](#), [Other Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer+ Collection at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Search the Manuscript Collection (Finding Aids) by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.



ArchivesSpaceTM
Powered by  ATLAS SYSTEMS

Dale McCormick Gay Side Story Interview LG-MS0160

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on April 19, 2023.
Description is written in: English.
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Special Collections

314 Forest Ave
PO Box 9301
Portland, ME 04104-9301
Business Number: 207-780-4269
susie.bock@maine.edu
URL: <https://usm.maine.edu/library/specialcollections>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Special Collections
Creator - iver:	McCormick, Dale
Creator - ivr:	MacGregor, Megan A., 1984-
Title:	Dale McCormick Gay Side Story Interview
ID:	LG-MS0160
Date:	2023-03-23
Physical Description:	958 Megabytes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Dale McCormick is an AIDS and LGBTQ+ activist of Maine. Collection includes two copies of an oral history interview (one edited) and an automatically-generated transcript. In the edited version of the interview, Dale McCormick recalls her role as producer of "Gay Side Story," an adaptation of the musical West Side Story, with Diane Elze, Miles J. Rightmire, Cheryl Ring, and others. The play was performed for two nights in Luther Bonney Hall at University of Southern Maine during the 10th Maine Lesbian & Gaymen's Symposium in May 1983. McCormick discusses her work on the writing team, the set design, and the positive reception of the production during a time when, in McCormick's words, "we were a feared and hated minority."

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Dale McCormick is an AIDS and LGBTQ+ activist and politician of Maine. In 1982 and 1983, McCormick worked with a team of activists and artists to produce Gay Side Story. McCormick is best known for her work to support women in the trades and as the first openly gay Maine legislator.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Megan MacGregor is the Instruction and Outreach Librarian at University of Southern Maine and a member of the LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee of the Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Collection includes two copies of an oral history interview (one edited) and an automatically-generated transcript.

In the edited version of the interview, Dale McCormick recalls her role as producer of "Gay Side Story," an adaptation of the musical West Side Story, with Diane Elze, Miles J. Rightmire, Cheryl Ring, and others. The play was performed for two nights in Luther Bonney Hall at University of Southern Maine during the 10th Maine Lesbian & Gaymen's Symposium in May 1983. McCormick discusses her work on the writing team, the set design, and the positive reception of the production during a time when, in McCormick's words, "we were a feared and hated minority."

Megan MacGregor, instruction and outreach librarian at University of Southern Maine, in Portland, Maine, conducted an oral history interview with Dale McCormick, in Augusta, Maine, on March 23, 2023, using Zoom to preserve her memories of the creation and performance of Gay Side Story at the 1983 Maine Lesbian & Gaymen's Symposium held on the Portland campus of the University of Southern Maine. The interview was prompted by a program hosted by the LGBTQ+ Collection and funded by an grant from the University's Intercultural and Diversity Advisory Council (IDAC) to play the film of the 1983 musical for University students and staff in Robie-Andrews Hall on the same date.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Special Collections

314 Forest Ave

PO Box 9301

Portland, ME 04104-9301

Business Number: 207-780-4269

susie.bock@maine.edu

URL: <https://usm.maine.edu/library/specialcollections>

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Materials in this collection are the physical property of the University of Southern Maine Libraries. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the creator, or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult Special Collections staff.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Megan MacGregor, Gift, 2023

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

LG-MS0031 Dale McCormick Papers

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- West Side story (Motion picture : 1961) -- Adaptations
- Musical theater
- Theaters -- Stage-setting and scenery
- Homophobia
- McCormick, Dale
- Rightmire, Myles J.
- Ring, Cheryl
- Elze, Diane -- Gay Side Story -- Oral History
- Maine Gay Symposium (10th : 1983: Portland, Me.)
- University of Southern Maine -- History

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Dale McCormick and Gay side Story uncut Video.mp4, 2023-03-23	
Dale McCormick and Gay Side Story(no subtitles-one in Kaltura).mp4, 2023-03-23	
Transcript to uncut version automatically generated.txt, 2023	