Thematic Guides: Black women

This guide provides researchers interested in Black women a gateway to the primary archival resources held by the University of Ottawa Archives and Special Collections. This guide provides a list of material that researchers may want to consult. The list below is not comprehensive and is continually updated.

Although many of our holdings are described in our online searchable database AtoM, some collections and fonds are only available as a PDF. For access to these documents, please contact arcs@uottawa.ca.

List of terms

- Black women
- Black feminism
- Women of colour
- African / Afro-

Cross references to related thematic guides

- Racism
- Immigrant women
- Minority Groups
List of related holdings:

10-001-S1 Canadian Women’s Movement Archives Collection – Series 1: Organizations (non-exclusive list of women’s groups and events):

10-001-S1-F43 Afro-Caribbean Alternative Secondary School (Toronto, ON) (Box 1-43)
10-001-S1-F181 Black Women for Progress (Toronto, ON) (Box 3-80)
10-001-S1-F182 Black Women’s Collective (Toronto, ON) (Box 3-81)
10-001-S1-F599 Coalition of Immigrant Women and Women of Colour for Peace (Toronto, ON) (Box 18-11)
10-001-S1-F681 Congress of Black Women of Canada (CBWC) / Congrès des femmes noires du Canada (Box 19-31)
10-001-S1-F708 Da Juice (Toronto, ON) (Box 20-9)
10-001-S1-F968 Focus on Black Women / Plein feu sur les femmes noires (Ottawa, ON) (Box 27-13)
10-001-S1-F983 Friends of TAMWA (Tanzania Media Women’s Association, Ottawa, ON) (Box 27-28)
10-001-S1-F984 Friends of Winsom (Toronto, ON) (Box 27-29)
10-001-S1-F994 Gallery 940 (Box 27-39)
10-001-S1-F1055 Grass Roots Network (Gay and Lesbian people of colour) (Box 28-48)
10-001-S1-F681-I1 Impetus - The Black Woman: Proceedings of the Fourth National Congress of Black (Box 19-31)
10-001-S1-F2027 National Congress of Black Women (Box 61-31)
10-001-S1-F1172 Herland: a feminist film and video celebration (Box 34-20)
10-001-S1-F1240 International Women of Colour and Third World Women Film / Video Festival and Symposium (Vancouver, BC) (Box 36-32)
10-001-S1-F1241 International Women's Day - Calgary, Alberta (Box 36-33)
10-001-S1-F1541 Lesbians of Colour (LOC, Toronto, ON) (Box 44-24)
10-001-S1-F1715 Metro Coalition for Police Reform (Box 48-40)
10-001-S1-F1771 Nairobi Outreach Group (NS) (Box 50-10)
10-001-S1-F2297 Ontario Coalition of Black Trade Unionists – Women’s Issues Committee (Toronto, ON) (Box 70-20)
10-001-S1-F3043 Sepia Productions (Ebony Voices) (Box 89-13)
10-001-S1-F3110 Sister Vision Press (Box 90-35)
10-001-S1-F3174 Sweet Honey In The Rock (Toronto, ON) (Box 91-26)
10-001-S1-F3233 Toronto Black Women’s Collective (Toronto, ON) (Box 92-22)
10-001-S1-F3417 University of Toronto - Black Women at U of T and O.I.S.E. (BWAUTO) (Box 96-4)
10-001-S1-F3948 Women of Colour Collective (Box 106-22)
10-001-S1-F3949 Women of Colour Working Group (Box 106-23)

10-001-S2 Canadian Women’s Movement Archives Collection – Series 2: Individuals

10-001-S2-SS3-F40 Robinson, Patricia. "Poor Black Women"
10-001-S2-SS7-F1 Allen, Lillian. Publicity - launch of Lillian Allen's "Why me?" and "Nothing but a hero" (Box 123-24)
10-001-S2-SS98-F2 Oikawa, Mona “Physical and Verbal attack by Police officer a lone black woman in a car on an isolated section of Markham road” (Box 146-17)
10-001-S2-SS144-F2. Brown, Rosemary in Eve Zaremba. Article, Pamphlets. (Box 133-4)

10-001-S4 Canadian Women’s Movement Archives Collection – Series 4: Buttons

10-001-S4-i270 Women Unite to Fight racism sexism economic inequality. International Women’s Day 1988
10-001-S4-i206 International Women’s Day. March 8, 1986 Women Say No! To Racism. From Toronto to South Africa.
10-001-S4-i306 International Women’s Day 1989. Women Against Poverty
10-001-S4-i28 Rosemary Brown, NDP leader
10-001-S4-i334 Justice for Michael Wade Lawson

10-001-S5 Canadian Women’s Movement Archives Collection – Series 5: Posters

10-001-S5i44 International Day To Eliminate Racism
10-001-S5-i80 International Women’s Day 1986. Women Say No! To Racism
10-001-S5-i74 International Women’s Day 1989
10-001-S5-i97 International Women’s Day. Fighting racism and sexism together!
10-001-S5-i298 Unity wears many colours, racism wears sheets
10-001-S5-i1298 Lillian Allen: Revolutionary Tea Party
10-001-S5-i431 International Women’s Day
10-001-S5-i531 Colour Positive: An International Anti-Racism Film Festival
10-001-S5-i751 Black cultural centre for Nova Scotia first anniversary celebrations Black past black presence
10-001-S5-i754 Born in Flames
10-001-S5-i1074 Institutional Racism: Prejudice and discrimination combined with a power structure (eg. University) to form a practice which subordinates, and/or excludes a person or group based on their colour, race or ethnic origin.
10-001-S5-i1124 Spring Free from Racism
10-001-S5-i1128 Racism. If you don’t stop it, who will?
10-001-S5-i1246 Student Declaration Against Racism

10-001-S8-SS10 Canadian Women’s Movement Archives Collection – Series 8, Subseries 4: Textiles

10-001-S8-SS2-I5 Sistren Theatre Collective (Textile Box 2-12)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-i8 Women March Against Poverty. Caps (Textile Box 3)
10-001-S8-SS14-I1 Women say no to racism from Toronto to South Africa (Textile Box 4-16)
10-001-S8-SS14-I2 Fighting Racism and Sexism Together (Textile Box 4-17)
10-001-S8-SS14-I3 Making the Link: Antiracism and Feminism (Textile Box 4-18)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-i8 Women’s March Against Poverty (Textile Box 7-6)
10-001-S8-SS4-I6 Congress of Black Women (Textile Box 10-4)
10-001-S8-SS4-i4 Un Decade for Women Conference. July 1985, Nairobi / Kenya - Banner (Textile Box 2-23)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-i11 Women’s March Against Poverty - Purple banner (Textile Box 12-1)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-i12 Women’s March Against Poverty - White banner (Textile Box 12-2)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-i13 Bannière de la Marche des femmes contre la pauvreté (Textile Box 12-3)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-i14 Women’s March Against Poverty - Banner with a cloth pin (Textile Box 12-4)
10-001-S8-SS9-F2-I15 "Hands across the border" (Textile Box 12-5)

10-001-S8-SS9-F2-I16 Women's March Against Poverty - Pink banner (Box 12)

10-001-S8-SS9-F2-I17 Most Politicians Still think women should be seen and not heard (National March Against Poverty) (Box 12)

10-001-S8-SS9-F2-I18 Every Child is our Child (National March Against Poverty) (Box 12)

10-001-S11-SS1 Canadian Women’s Movement Archives Collection – Series 11, Subseries 1: Various Resources, Women’s Issues by Subject

10-001-S11-SS1-F4 Black Women (Box 146-4)

10-006 Helen Levine fonds

10-006-S3-SS5-F280 Robinson, Christine R. - "Black Women: A Tradition of Self-Reliant Strength" (Box 13-50)

10-006-S2-SS5-F47 Brown, Rosemary - Articles (Box 10-10)

10-006-S3-SS5-F169 Hobbs, Lisa - "Why is Rosemary Running?" (Box 12-23)

10-008 Toronto Wages for Housework Committee fonds

10-008-S4-F1 Black Women Wages for Housework (New York): leaflets, reports and articles (Box 1-14)

10-008-S4-F2 Black Women Wages for Housework, (Canada): pamphlets, transcriptions of talks (Box 1-15)

10-012 Women’s Press

10-012 (en traitement) Allen, Lillian - Women do this Every Day (Box 95 & 96)

10-014 Nellie Langford Rowell Library collection

10-014-S2-F232 Congress of Black Women of Canada (Box 6-18)

10-014-S2-F578 Pergamon Press, Inc. (Box 9-20)

10-014-S2-F631 Sage: scholarly journal on black women (Box 9-74)
10-014-S2-F409 Lesbian & Bisexual Women of Colour (Box 7-62)

10-014-S2-F604 Real Eyes: the Vision (Box 9-47)

10-014-S2-F972 York University - York University Student Centre ("the Women of Colour: lets meet") (Box 13-30)

10-019 Fonds Bold Prints

10-019 – Rosemary Brown (Box 2-57)

10-022 World Inter-Action Mondiale Fonds

10-022-S2-SS1 Sistren Theatre Collective (Box 1 - 11 & 12 / Box 2 - 1 to 10)

10-024 Fonds National Action Committee on the Status of Women

10-024 1980 AGM: Speakers and speeches (Box 2-31)

10-038 Fonds Branching Out

10-038 Rosemary Brown, NDP (Box 9-12)

10. 10-047 Fireweed Fonds

10-047-S2-F4 Issue 16: guest collective

10-048 Women Working with Immigrant Women fonds

10-058-S8-SS5-F43 Women of Colour Working in Women's and Community Services (Box 14-14)

10-112 Nancy Ruth Fonds

10-112-S30-I42 Women Unite (button)
List of periodicals:

FC 106 .B6 O87 Our Lives: Canada’s First Black Women’s newspaper (Periodicals Box 3)

HQ 1907 .C735 Congress news: newsletter of the Congress of black women in Canada = le bulletin du Congrès des femmes noires du Canada (Periodicals Box 77)

NB: Remember, this list is not comprehensive.