

**Pauline Williams papers**  
**6012012.PWP.DW**

**Finding aid prepared by Dustin Witsman**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Shorefront Legacy Center

6/1/2012

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## Summary Information

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**Repository** Shorefront Legacy Center

**Title** Pauline Williams Papers

**Date [bulk]** Bulk, 1988-1991

**Date [inclusive]** 1952-2004

**Extent** 1.75 Linear feet

**Language** English

**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 Note**

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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.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

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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.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Shorefront Legacy Center 6/1/2012

### **Processing Information note**

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project."  
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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials note**

Women's Auxiliary of Community Hospital records, Shorefront Legacy Center

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Personal Name(s)**

- Williams, Pauline, 1911-2005

### **Subject(s)**

- African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
- History--Societies, etc.
- Suburban African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
- Women--Societies and clubs.

## Series I. Evanston Historical Society,

**Collection Inventory****Series I. Evanston Historical Society, 1977-1991****Scope and Contents note**

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

|  | <b>Box</b> | <b>Folder</b> |
|--|------------|---------------|
| Correspondence, 1991                                   | 1          | 1             |
| Events, 1988-1990                                      | 1          | 2             |
| Newsletters, 1987-1990                                 | 1          | 3             |
| Oral History Project, 1977-1990                        | 1          | 4             |
| Organizational, 1988-1991                              | 1          | 5-6           |
| Women's Auxiliary of the Community Hospital, 1989-1991 | 1          | 7             |

**Series II. Research Files, 1952-2002****Scope and Contents note**

**Series III. Personal,**

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.

|   | <b>Box</b> | <b>Folder</b> |
|---|------------|---------------|
| African/African-American History, 1991                        | 1          |               |
| Associates of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, 1999-2002 | 1          | 9             |
| Chicagoland, 1966-1967  | 1          | 10            |
| Evanston, Illinois, 1952-1990                                 | 1          | 11-13         |
| Inventories, 1988   | 1          | 14            |
| News Clippings, 1955-2000                                     | 1          | 15            |
| Young Women's Christian Association, 1975                     | 1          | 16            |

**Series III. Personal, 1965-2004****Scope and Contents note**

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

|                 | <b>Box</b> | <b>Folder</b> |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| Biography, 1993 | 1          | 17            |

**Series IV. Scrapbook,**

|  |                 |               |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| Certificates and Awards, 1971-2002         | 1               | 18            |
| Dinners and Menus, 1965-1976               | 1               | 19            |
| Weddings, 1975-1995                        | 1               | 20            |
|  |                 | <b>Box</b>    |
| Oversized Certificates, 1993-2004          |                 | 2             |
|  | <b>Oversize</b> | <b>Folder</b> |
| Unidentified Oversized Photograph, undated | Oversize        | OS1           |

**Series IV. Scrapbook, 1951-1954****Scope and Contents note**

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

**Box**

|             |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|
| 1 Scrapbook |  | 2 |
|-------------|--|---|