

Guide to the **Women's Organizations Collection**

The History Center in Tompkins County
110 North Tioga Street, Suite 204A
Tompkins Center for History and Culture
Ithaca, NY 14850
607-273-8284
www.thehistorycenter.net
archives@thehistorycenter.net

Collection Number V-6-4-4

Updated 2022

See also:

Ithaca Business and Professional Women's Club V-64-2-8

Women's Community Building City Federation of Women's Organizations V-64-2-7

Zonta Club V-64-5-2

Club Essence Collection V-65-3-9

Ithaca Political Study Club Scrapbook Collection s-94-b,c,d

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

In the mid- to late-19th century, as ideas of women's rights circulated throughout the United States, women began to form their own clubs and organizations to meet their communities' needs. At the time, these groups—from political parties to career development networks—were dominated by men and excluded women. While some worked on opening up these existing organizations to women, many American women organized their own opportunities to participate in social and political activities, local examples of which we see in this collection.

The history of women's organizations in Tompkins County includes social, professional, educational, and political clubs offering a multitude of resources to local women. One women's social club is included in this collection: the Ladies Wednesday Club of Inlet Valley, organized in 1910, whose object, according to its constitution, was "mutual benefit and to elevate the character of the farm home." Several organizations existed to serve women in professional fields by offering career information and networking opportunities, such as the Women's Information Network and the Ithaca Business and Professional Women's Club, both active in the late 20th century. Also significant to the history of local women's organizations is the City Federation of Women's Organizations, formed in 1910 when three existing women's clubs joined together. Records of a CFWO member organization, the Women's Information Network, is included in this collection. This collection also contains materials that do not belong to a particular organization but shed light on women's political and community-minded activities in Tompkins County.

CONTAINER LIST

Contents

Folder number

Box 1

Ladies Wednesday Club of Inlet Valley

Minutes, 1910-1912	1
Receipts, 1917-1942	2
Programs, 1917-1943	3
Women's Resource Guide to Ithaca, 1976	4
Women's Information Network, 1986-2001	5
"Recognizing Tompkins County's Suffrage Pioneers" (2020)	6

Generous support for this finding aid update was provided by

