



## **JAMES WHITE REVIEW ASSOCIATION RECORDS**

**Coll2006-004**

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### Processed by

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### Date Completed

November 10, 2006



## Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary . . . . .	p. 2
Administrative Information . . . . .	p. 3
History . . . . .	p. 5
Scope and Content Note and Container List . . . . .	p. 7



## Descriptive Summary

### Title

James White Review Association Records

### Creator

Philip H. Willkie

### Extent

Number of containers: 2

Linear feet: 0.7

### Dates

1980-1999

### Repository

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

### Abstract

Correspondence, manuscripts, illustrations, photographs, press releases, newspaper clippings, event posters, and financial records documenting the activities of James White Review Association from 1983 to 1999.



## Administrative Information

### Access

The collection is open to researchers when ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives is open, and at other times by appointment. Access to the Lists and addresses file is restricted, but may be granted at the discretion of archives staff.

### Publication Rights

Researchers wishing to publish material must obtain permission in writing from ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives as the physical owner of the material and Philip H. Willkie as the owner of the copyright.

### Preferred Citation

Box #, folder #, James White Review Association Records, Coll2006-004, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.

### Indexing Terms

This collection is indexed under the following terms:

James White Review Association

#### Persons:

Holmes, Jim (James S.), 1924-1986  
Lowland, Jim (pseudonym for Jim Holmes)  
White, James L., 1936-1981  
Willkie, Phil, 1952-

#### Subjects:

Gays in literature  
Gays' writings  
Poetry--Collections  
Poetry--Publishing  
Poets, American--20th century  
Queries (Authorship)



## James White Review Association Records, Coll2006-004

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### Acquisitions Information

Gift, together with the James L. White Papers, David M. Lindahl Papers, and Tom Young Papers, of Philip H. Willkie, March 21, 2004,

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Michael C. Oliveira, November 10, 2006

## History

In March 1983, a group of gay male writers began meeting weekly at the Minneapolis writing center, the Loft, for the purpose of improving their skills and publishing their work. In October 1983, the first issue of *The James White Review (TJWR)* was published by James White Review Association, under the editorship of Phil Willkie, Greg Baysans, and Paul Edmond. Willkie was instrumental in the choice of name for the publication, which commemorated his friend, the local poet James White, and was also intended to obtain regional name recognition for the publication. The name had the desired effect and gained *TJWR* recognition from the local literary establishment. Six thousand copies of the first issue were distributed nationally, free of charge, to gay bookstores, newspapers, and writers. Although the first issue contained only regional materials, *TJWR*'s wide distribution attracted over 170 submissions from throughout the U.S. and Canada.

*TJWR*'s reputation grew throughout the 1980's, and it became recognized as one of the leading examples of the second wave of gay journals, following publications such as *Fag Rag*, *Gay Sunshine*, and *Mouth of the Dragon*. By 1985, *TJWR* was receiving submissions of 200 to 250 poems and 25 to 40 prose pieces for each issue, and was publishing an average of 25 poems and seven prose pieces. The issues were distributed to over 270 subscribers and were available at more than 70 retail locations. During the summer of 1986, *TJWR* conducted workshops on writing for gay men in northwestern Wisconsin. By January 1987, the subscription base had more than doubled to 600, including 25 foreign subscribers.

As AIDS impacted the Gay community, *TJWR* provided an outlet for literary expression. In 1990, the Lambda Literary Awards recognized Willkie and Baysans with the Publisher's Service Award for *TJWR*'s contribution to the community. In 1991, Willkie and Baysans edited and published *The Gay Nineties: An Anthology of Contemporary Gay Fiction*.

By 1998, its 15th year of publication, *TJWR* had published the works of an estimated 500 writers and artists, and had a subscription list of 1,700. On July 1, 1998, Willkie transferred publication rights for *TJWR* to the Lambda Literary Foundation, Washington, D.C., which suspended publication in 2004.

### Sources:

Beard, William Randall. "Gay Literary Journal Celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary." *Equal Time*, March 17-24, 1994, Q-2.

Bittmann, Joe. "Gambling for a 'New Generation.'" *The Washington Blade*, January 30, 1987, 2, 13.

Hutera, Donald J. "Changing Perceptions of Gender: Gentlemen's Quarterly." *Minnesota Daily* October 14, 1985, 14-15.



## James White Review Association Records, Coll2006-004

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\_\_\_\_\_. "Anything From Anyone:" *The James White Review* Aims to be a Comprehensive Gay Men's Quarterly." *New York Native*, January 19, 1987, 27-28.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Leading Gay Lit Mag Moves to Washington." *Pulse*, June 17, 1998, 6.

Kasel, Mark. "The *James White Review* Discovers New Directions." *Equal Time*, February 20, 1985, 6,10.

"Lambda Literary Foundation: LL Awards Recipients: 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991." Lambda Literary Foundation, 2006. Available from [http://www.lambdaliterary.org/awards/previous\\_winners/paw\\_1988\\_1991.html](http://www.lambdaliterary.org/awards/previous_winners/paw_1988_1991.html) (accessed October 12, 2006.)

Peck, Claude. "Inventing New Forms: A Gay Literary Quarterly Named for Poet James White Reflects a Range of Styles and Substances." *City Pages*, 1983, 21.

## Scope and Content

The collection comprises correspondence, manuscripts, illustrations, photographs, press releases, newspaper clippings, event posters, and financial records documenting the activities of *The James White Review* from 1983 to 1999. The bulk of the materials consists of correspondence, documenting the relationship between authors and editors, as well as sponsored events and fundraising projects; these materials are arranged chronologically. The collection also includes a small number of submissions, some with accompanying correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent. The newspaper clippings, event posters, and press releases, arranged chronologically, relate to the activities of *TJWR* staff, from fundraisers to readings across the country. Records for two writers' programs sponsored by *TJWR* survive: those for the Jim Holmes aka Jacob Lowland writers' program and those for the Jim White School Summer Writers' Program. The address lists include lists of subscribers, authors, and of invitees to special events and readings. The remaining materials consist largely of fragmentary financial and legal records.

## Container List

### Box Folder

1	1	Event posters, 1983-1996
1	2	Newspaper Clippings, 1981-1998
1	3	Press Releases, 1985-1986, 1992
1	4	Correspondence, 1980-1984
1	5	Correspondence, 1985
2	1	Correspondence, 1986
2	2	Correspondence, 1987-1991
2	3	Correspondence, 1992-1998
2	4	Correspondence, undated
2	5	Jim Holmes a.k.a. Jacob Lowland, 1985-1986
2	6	Jim White School, 1985
2	7	Submissions, 1981, circa 1990
2	8	Financial, 1985-1999
2	9	<i>AIDS Annotated Bibliography</i> , 1982-1991
2	10	Lists and Addresses, 1985-2000 [Restricted]
2	11	Photographs - published, 1986-1989
2	12	Photographs - Willkie, 1998