

LGBT-025 Shaashawn Dial Collection

LGBT Center of Central PA History Project
Archives and Special Collections
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COLLECTION REGISTER

Name:	Dial, Shaashawn	LGBT-025
Material:	Papers (2000 – 2014)	
Volume:	0.5 linear feet (1 document box, 3 oversized folders, 1 CD, 2 books)	
Donation:	Donated by Shaashawn Dial, 2017	
Usage:	Please contact the donor if any of the donated items are used in film, documentaries, or videos.	
Processor:	Sarah Wakefield, February 2021	
Support:	Funding to process this collection was provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.	

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Shaashawn Dial was born in Germany to Joyce and Cortez Dial. She has one younger brother and grew up as an “army brat” during her formative years. She received her B.A. in Philosophy, Law, and Rhetoric from Stephens College in Columbia, MI, and later relocated to central PA in 1998 to receive her M.A. in Public Administration from Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, PA.

Dial is as a poet, radio broadcaster, educator, and author. As a poet, she gained her nickname Shaashawn “The Voyce” Dial, and she later released her debut spoken word album, *Voycemail*, after that nickname. As a radio broadcaster, Dial became the program director of 1400 THE TOUCH in 2003, and then in 2006 became the creator/hostess of *The Shaashawn Dial Show: A Dial Movement*. As an educator, Dial worked as an adult basic education coordinator at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) and as an adjunct faculty member at Central Pennsylvania College. As an author, Dial wrote *Acquired Taste of Love: Spice Filled Poems to Please Your Palate* and *Estrogen in the Atmosphere*, both released in 2014 and both collections of poetry written by Dial.

Besides Dial’s involvement in poetry, broadcasting, and education, she is also a businesswoman. In 2007 she became the Co-Founder and Editor-in-Chief of *Studs Magazine* and the Public Relations Director for the Central PA Vipers, a women’s semi-professional full contact football team. She is also the founder of *Voycetress Media, LLC*, which she founded in 2015. *Voycetress Media* is a Lesbian Gay

Bisexual Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTBE) certified business that empowers individuals and organizations through workshops and training on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Dial has also been active within the LGBTQ+ community of Central PA. She was the Director of Equity and Affirmative Action and the Staff Liaison to the Harrisburg Relations Commission for the city of Harrisburg. She served as the inaugural co-chair of PA Governor Tom Wolf's Commission on the LGBTQ Affairs. She was also on the Board of Directors of the LGBT Center of Central PA for seven years, during which time she completed a term as president. Dial has received multiple awards. She has been a three-time winner of the PA Association of Broadcaster Award. In 2007 she received the YWCA's Tribute to Women of Excellence Award and Central Penn Business Journal's Forty under 40 Award.

In 2019, Dial became the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at her alma mater, Stephens College, and at that time was pursuing her PhD in Administration and Leadership Studies (ASL) from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Shaashawn Dial's collection is broken up into 10 series: Voycemail, The Touch, Court Street Poetry Jam, Awards, Events, Newspaper Clippings, Correspondence (General), Miscellaneous, Media, and Books.

The Voycemail series contains promotional materials and documentation about the 2010 release party for Dial's debut spoken word CD "Voycemail." The Touch series contains promotional materials, scripts and notes for show planning, and correspondence that praises and thank Dial for her work on The Touch. The Court Street Poetry Jam series contains event and planning materials regarding this poetry even that Dial created and hosted.

The Awards series includes materials regarding Dial's multiple community service awards, including The Touch radio station awards, the YWCA Tribute to Women of Excellence Award, and the Central Penn Business Journal's Forty under 40 award. The Event series houses information related to events that Dial attended or hosted, and the Newspaper Clipping series houses clippings that were written by Dial or were about her work. The Correspondence (General) series houses general correspondences to Dial, mostly thank yous and congratulations.

The Miscellaneous series houses business cards, flyers for her two published works, *Acquired Taste of Love: Spice Filled Poems to Please Your Palate* and *Estrogen in the Atmosphere*, and information about Sister Act, which was a collective of female artists of color. Finally, The Media series holds Dial's CD "Voycemail," and the books series houses two anthologies to which Dial contributed poems.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1 Voycemail

1.1 Promotions

- 1.1.01 Shaashawn Inc. News Release – Jan. 30, 2010
- 1.1.02 Intellectual Property Rights Form for “Voycemail” – Feb. 15, 2010
- 1.1.03 “Shaashawn Dial’s Voycemail” Brochure – 2010
Article about Voycemail Release – 2010
- 1.1.04 SL Communications PR for “Voycemail – 2010
- 1.1.05 “Reviews from Students at Central Pennsylvania College on the CD” – 2010
- 1.1.06 Above and Beyond PR Firm Note to Dial – undated

1.2 Release Party Information

- 1.2.01 Set for Release Party of “Voycemail” – Jan. 30, 2010
“Voycemail” Release Party Ticket Prices and Guest List – 2010
- 1.2.02 Release Party mini-flyers for “Voycemail” – 2010
Release Party Ticket – 2010
- 1.2.05 “Voycemail” CD case front and back (different from case provided), photocopy– 2010

Series 2 The Touch

2.1 Promotion Materials

- 2.1.01 Email *answering Patriot News* Profile Questions – Feb. 12, 2007
“Shaashawn Dial” *The Patriot-News* (copy) – 2007
- 2.1.02 “A Touch of Q&A with Shaashawn,” 1440 The Touch – Mar. 3, 2004
“A Touch of Q&A with Shaashawn,” 1440 The Touch – Sep. 11, 2004
“A Touch of Q&A with Shaashawn,” 1440 The Touch – May 31, 2005
“A Touch of Q&A with Shaashawn,” 1440 The Touch – 2006
- 2.1.03 The Touch Promotion Flyer for Black History Month – undated
- 2.1.04 Promos for The Touch – undated
- 2.1.05 The Touch Promotional Flyer (2 versions) – undated
- 2.1.06 The Touch Stickers (2 versions) – undated

2.2 Show Planning

- 2.2.01 HIV/AIDS Campaign Scripts – Nov. 2004
“We’ve Been Called...”
“When is the last time...”
“In the last year...”
“LABELS”
“Body Body Body”

LGBT-025 Shaashawn Dial (cont.)

2.3 Show Planning (cont.)

- 2.2.02 Scripts for Saturn Commercial on The Touch (2) – Jun. 14, 2004
- 2.2.03 Jokes and handwritten speech on back of page – May 10, 2006
- 2.2.04 Notes – undated

2.3 Correspondence

- 2.3.01 Praise for “The Touch” Email: Nadeen to Shaashawn Dial – Nov. 17, 2003
- 2.3.02 Email: Ronald J. Giovanniello, Cumulus Media Harrisburg, to Staff – Apr. 2, 2004
- 2.3.03 Thank-you Letter: Dorothy Heckstall, Antioch Food Pantry, to Shaashawn Dial – Dec. 3, 2004
- 2.3.04 Thank-you Letter: James R. Washington, Jr. to Shaashawn – Mar. 29, 2005
- 2.3.05 Thank-you Letter: Jamie Zurat to Sheryl Ezbiensky – Aug. 26, 2005
- 2.3.06 Email: Shaashawn Dial to Stan E. Boston – Feb. 26 and Feb. 27, 2006
- 2.3.07 Thank-you Letter: SrA Bernard Ellison II to Shaashawn Dial – Mar. 10, 2007
- 2.3.08 Thank-you Letter: Jaci Lehman to Shandra (Shaashawn Dial) – undated
- 2.3.09 Thank-you Letter: Students from Keystone Math and Science Academy – undated
(see oversize OX)

Series 3 Court Street Poetry Jam

3.1 Event Material

- 3.1.01 Court Street Poetry Jam Promotional Speech – Jan. 29, 2004
- 3.1.02 Court Street Poetry Jam Flyer – 2004
- 3.1.03 Court Street Poetry Jam Programs (2 versions) – 2004

3.2 Planning Material

- 3.2.01 Court Street Poetry Jam Contact Sheet – Dec. 17, 2003
- 3.2.02 Court Street Poetry Jam Rehearsal Draft – Dec. 2003-Jan. 2004
- 3.2.03 Court Street Poetry Jam Instructions for Booking Cast/Crew Comps – 2003
- 3.2.04 Court Street Poetry Jam Tentative Line-Up and Possible Themes – Jan. 2004
- 3.2.05 Court Street Poetry Jam Rehearsal/Performance Schedule – Jan.-Feb. 2004
- 3.2.06 Intro Scripts (2 versions) – 2004

Series 4 Awards

- 4.01 “The Touch” Awards
 - “The Touch Award Winning Public Service” Award – 2004
 - “Accolades: Harrisburg,” *True Blue Newsletter* – Fall 2004
 - PA Association of Broadcasters Award for Excellence in Broadcasting Letter – Mar. 30, 2005

LGBT-025 Shaashawn Dial (cont.)

Series 4 Awards (cont.)

- 4.01 "The Touch Awards (cont.)
"The AD Council Presents Silver Bell Awards to WWPR-FM (New York) and WTCY-AM (Harrisburg)," *The Ad Council: News Release* – May 1, 2005
"Accolades and Honors: WTCY-AM 1400 The Touch," *True Blue Newsletter* – Spring 2005
"Accolades and Honors: WTCY-AM 1400 The Touch," *True Blue Newsletter* – Winter 2005
"Honors and Accolades: Harrisburg," *True Blue Newsletter* – Spring 2007
- 4.02 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Hope Award
Award Presentation Letter – Feb. 1, 2006
- 4.03 YWCA of Greater Harrisburg Tribute to Women of Excellence Award
Award Presentation Letter – Dec. 22, 2006
Email Correspondence Chain Dinner Questionnaire – Jan. 16, 2007
Women of Excellence Nominee List – 2007
Invitation – Mar. 6, 2007
Dinner Program – Mar. 6, 2007
"Women of Excellence Class of 2007" *Harrisburg Magazine* – Mar. 2007
- 4.04 Portraits of Leadership: Central Penn Business Journal's Forty under 40 Award
Award Presentation Letter – Jul. 31, 2007
"Join us in congratulating the 2007 Forty Under 40 Winners," *Central Penn Business Journal* (Harrisburg, PA) – Oct. 12, 2007 (see oversized OBS)
Program – Oct. 22, 2007
- 4.05 Harrisburg Coalition of Black Trade Unionist (CBTU) Community Service Award
Award Presentation Letter – Oct. 11, 2007
Dinner Invitation – Nov. 2, 2007
- 4.06 "You Make a Difference Award" – Dec. 8, 2007
- 4.07 Amiricale4sure Award
Award Presentation Letter – Jun. 20, 2014

Series 5 Events

- 5.01 "Ladies of the Spoken Word" flyer – Aug. 5, 2000
5.02 "A Celebration of Survivors" flyer – Oct. 27, 2000
5.03 "Fourthoughts: 3 Poets & A Musician" flyer – circa 2000
5.04 "Jazz Under the Stars" flyer – Jul. 17, 2004
5.05 A Musical Evening with Olin Harris and Friends program – Oct. 10, 2004
5.06 "2006 Black History Month Celebration" program – Feb. 21, 2006

LGBT-025 Shaashawn Dial (cont.)

Series 5 Events (cont.)

- 5.07 The Central PA Chapter of Noble 17th Annual Awards and Scholarship Banquet Program – Oct. 27, 2007
- 5.08 Tri-County OIC Adult Learning Center Graduation Exercise Program – Oct. 27, 2007
Thank-you Letter for OIC participation – Oct. 30, 2007
- 5.09 A Candlelight Celebration of Life, Holiday Remembrance Service Invitation – Dec. 8, 2007
A Candlelight Celebration of Life, Holiday Remembrance Service Program – Dec. 8, 2007
- 5.10 “Almost Uptown Poetry Cartel Feature” Track List – Mar. 25, 2010
- 5.11 “A Drag King Thing” flyer – 2015

Series 6 Newspaper Clippings

- 6.01 “Consul General Ed Bethel Hosted in Pennsylvania’s State Capital,” *The Nassau Guardian* (copy) – Jan. 8, 2004
“WTCY tunes to Dial for local, daily show” *Sunday Patriot-News* (copy) – Jul. 30, 2006
- 6.02 (see oversize OBL)
“Jazz Under the Stars” promotion, *The Urban Connection of the Capital Region* – Jul. 14, 2004
“Today! Ahora! Now!” *The Urban Connection of the Capital Region* – Mar./Apr. 2005
“Greetings Queens and Kings!” *The Urban Connection of the Capital Region* – Jan./Feb. 2007
“Greetings Queens and Kings!” *The Urban Connection of the Capital Region* – Mar./Apr. 2007
“Imus went over line, area radio hosts say,” *The Patriot-News* (Harrisburg, PA) – Apr. 11, 2007
Poetry Slam Competition Article – Mar. 5, 2009
“Shaashawn Dial: Bringing You The Best!” *The Urban Connection of the Capital Region* – undated

Series 7 Correspondence (General)

- 7.01 Thank-you Letter: Shelia E. Ciotti to Ms. Shaashawn Dial – Mar. 28, 2005
- 7.02 Congratulations Letter: Karen Buck to Shaashawn Dial – Sep. 21, 2007
- 7.03 Thank-you Letter: B Manthe, Colonel USMC to Ms. Dial – Dec. 21, 2007
- 7.04 Thank-you Letter: Mrs. Jacq-e Pinn to Ms. Shaashawn Dial – undated

Series 8 Miscellaneous

- 8.01 SisterArt February Meeting flyer – Feb. 18, 2001
SisterArt Directory – 2002
“Harrisburg Area Community College Hosts Poetry Slam” *South Central PDC Newsletter* – March 5, 2009

LGBT-025 Shaashawn Dial (cont.)

Series 8 Miscellaneous (cont.)

- 8.02 “Heavyword Slam Winners,” *The Art Network of Harrisburg Forum* – July 21, 2008
- 8.03 *Estrogen in the Atmosphere* flyer with description on it – 2014
- 8.04 LGBT Center of Central PA Membership Card – expires Mar. 31, 2015
LGBT Center of Central PA Membership Card – expires May 31, 2016
- 8.05 *Acquainted Taste of Love* info flyer – undated
- 8.06 Shaashawn Dial Business cards – undated
 - Cycle Breakers, Inc
 - Studs Magazine
 - Golden Autonomy Creations, Inc.
 - Central PA Vipers, LLC

Series 9 Media

LGBT-025-D01 Shaashawn - Voyce Mail CD w/ Download Card

Series 10 Books

Her Voice presented by Lesbian Memories. Atlanta: LM Inc, 2009. [SC-LGBT 811.6 H531]

Below the Belt: Unapologetically Hard Hitting Erotic Poetry by “Try” Sexual Women. Edited by Carla Christopher. York, PA: PoemSugar Press, 2013. [SC-LGBT 306.7082 G562b]