

**CRAWFORD, WILLIAM.**  
**Bill Crawford and New World Book Fair**  
**collection, 1853-1992 [bulk 1932-1992]**

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### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Crawford, William.  
**Title:** Bill Crawford and New World Book Fair collection, 1853-1992 [bulk 1932-1992]  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 1403  
**Extent:** 2 linear feet (2 boxes), 3 oversized papers boxes and 3 oversized papers folders (OP), 1 extra-oversized folder (XOP), and 1 bound volume (BV)  
**Abstract:** Collection of Bill Crawford, including material related to his personal life and political activities, as well as material that had formed the inventory of New World Book Fair, the leftist bookstore that he owned and operated in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### **Administrative Information**

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Unrestricted access.

#### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### **Source**

Purchased from Bill Crawford.

#### **Custodial History**

Bill Crawford, proprietor of New World Book Fair, transferred some of the stock remaining in his possession after the bookstore's closing, along with some material he created or collected as part of his business dealings and political work, to the Rose Library.

### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Bill Crawford and New World Book Fair collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

### **Appraisal Note**

Curator for African American Collections, Randall Burkett, acquired the collection as part of the Rose Library's holdings in African American history and culture.

### **Processing**

Arranged and described at the file level by Carrie Hintz and Sarah Quigley, 2018.

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## **Collection Description**

### **Biographical Note**

William H. (Bill) Crawford was born in 1911 in upstate New York. He moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1948 to work on Henry Wallace's presidential campaign. In 1949 he married Miriam Crawford. The couple was very involved in leftist politics and movements, including various labor, civil rights, black power, and anti-war causes. Crawford was a long-time member of the Communist Party of the USA (CPUSA), joining the party in 1934. He was a district organizer for the Party in the 1950s, and ran a CPUSA-affiliated bookstore in Philadelphia called New World Book Fair. Bill ran for Philadelphia city controller on the Communist Party ticket in 1971. Bill and Miriam had two children, Douglass and Fanny. William Crawford died of complications from Alzheimer's disease in 2002.

New World Book Fair was located at 113 S. 40th street in West Philadelphia. It operated from 1961-1974 and specialized in Marxist and African American books. It became a gathering place for activists and those united around progressive causes. After the shuttering of New World Book Fair, Crawford helped to run the DuBois Book Store in North Philadelphia, which also specialized in African American and leftist works.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of the papers of Bill Crawford, as well as material that had formed the inventory of the New World Book Fair. Material primarily includes printed material such as posters, advertisements, pamphlets, and programs, concerning leftist political movements and African American culture from 1932-1992.

### **Arrangement Note**

Arranged alphabetically by topic

## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
OP1	1	Advertisements, undated [1]
OP6	-	Advertisements, undated [2]
OP1	4	Africa and Pan-Africanism, 1959
1	1	Africa and Pan-Africanism, undated [1]
OP4	-	Africa and Pan-Africanism, undated [2]
OP6	-	Africa and Pan-Africanism, undated [3]
1	2	Anti-war material, 1958-1996
1	3	Art, 1964-1991
OP3	2	Art prints and posters, undated
1	4	Bibliographies, undated
1	5	Black Arts Movement, 1965-1977 and undated
OP1	12	Black Arts Movement, undated [1]
OP3	12	Black Arts Movement, undated [2]
OP3	6	Black beauty product and hair care advertisements
1	6	Black Panthers, undated [1]
OP3	1	Black Panthers, undated [2]
OP4	-	Black Panthers, undated [3]
1	7	Black businesses and professional organizations, 1965-1978
1	8	The Black Ghetto newsletter, 1968-1972
OP1	5	Black History Week, undated
1	9	Black History Week/Month, 1954-1978
1	10	Black History Week/Month, 1954-1978
1	11	Black history flash cards, undated
1	12	Black-Jewish relations, undated
1	13	Black radicalism, undated
OP1	3	Blues music, undated
1	14	Book and literary advertisements, undated [1]
OP3	4	Book and literary advertisements, undated [2]
OP4	-	Book and literary advertisements, undated [3]
1	15	Book newsletters, 1963-1970
1	16	Churches and religious organizations, undated [1]
1	17	Churches and religious organizations, undated [2]
1	18	Civil rights, 1952-1975
OP1	6	Civil rights, undated [1]
OP3	5	Civil rights, undated [2]
OP1	13	Civil rights, scrapbook pages, undated

1	19	Civil organizations, 1932-1970
1	20	Committee on Racial Equality, 1963
1	21	Communism and Communist Party of the USA, 1939-1987 [1]
1	22	Communism and Communist Party of the USA, 1939-1987 [2]
XOP1	-	Communism and Communist Party of the USA, 1939-1987 [3]
OP6	-	Communism and Communist Party of the USA, 1939-1987 [4]
2	1	Crawford, Bill [material about him and correspondence to/from him], undated
2	2	Davis, Angela, 1971-1974 and undated
OP3	13	Davis, Angela, undated
2	3	Education, 1922-1978
2	3	Education, 1934-1972
2	4	Fraternal and sororal organizations, 1940-1973
OP1	8	Fraternal and sororal organizations, undated
2	5	Funeral programs, undated
OP3	9	Gospel music, undated
2	6	Gregory, Dick, 1968
2	7	Historical manuscripts, 1858-1954
OP1	2	Historical manuscripts, undated [1]
OP5	-	Historical manuscripts, undated [2]
2	8	Labor and labor unions, 1939-1973
2	9	Leftist politics, undated [1]
OP4	-	Leftist politics, undated [2]
2	10	Mercy-Douglas Hospital, 1949-1972
2	11	Minstrel shows, undated [1]
OP1	11	Minstrel shows, undated [2]
2	12	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 1933-1992
OP1	9	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, undated
2	13	Performing arts, 1925-1990
2	14	Philadelphia Social Science Forum, undated
2	15	Photographs, undated
2	16	Policing and prison, undated
OP3	8	Political actions and marches, undated
2	17	Politics, electoral, undated [1]
2	18	Politics, electoral, undated [2]
OP3	11	Politics, electoral, undated [3]
2	19	Race and racism, undated [1]
2	20	Race and racism, undated [2]
2	21	Race and racism, undated [3]
OP4	-	Religion, undated

2	22	Robeson, Paul, 1958-1998
OP4	-	San Francisco Mime Troupe, undated
OP2	1	Scrapbook, undated
2	23	Socialist Party, 1931-1972
OP3	10	Solidarity movements, undated
2	24	Temple University, 1969-1972
OP1	10	Theater, 1936-1945
OP4	-	Theater, undated
2	25	Thomas Nabried Center, 1965-1975
OP1	7	Thomas Nabried Center, 1979
OP3	3	Uncle Tom's Cabin, 1853, 1879
BV1	-	Virginia State College scrapbook, undated
2	26	Women's rights, undated [1]
OP3	7	Women's rights, undated [2]

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