Extent

41 folders, approximately 1330 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to Oprah Winfrey. It includes birthday cards to Ms. Winfrey from President Clinton; requests for the Clintons and White House staff to appear on the “Oprah Winfrey Show;” congratulations sent to Ms. Winfrey after being awarded by charitable organizations for her work on behalf of children and literacy; recommendations from the public for President Clinton to award or appoint Ms. Winfrey to various positions; and schedules, arrangements, and background materials concerning First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton’s appearance on the “Oprah Winfrey Show” in May of 1995.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2007-1287-F are a selective, not necessarily all-inclusive, body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. FOIA request 2007-1287-F contains records concerning Oprah Winfrey. This collections consists of birthday cards to Ms. Winfrey from President Clinton; requests for the Clintons and White House staff to appear on the Oprah Winfrey Show; congratulations sent to Ms. Winfrey for being awarded by charitable organizations for her work on behalf of children and literacy; recommendations from the public for President Clinton to award or appoint Ms. Winfrey to various positions; and schedules, arrangements, and background materials concerning First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton’s appearance on the Oprah Winfrey Show in May of 1995. Oprah Winfrey was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi in 1954. She moved to live with her father in Tennessee at the age of 14, where she excelled in school and became an honor student. At 17 she was offered an on-air job at WVOL, a radio station serving the African American community in Nashville, TN. At the same time she was awarded a full scholarship to Tennessee State University.

She majored in Speech Communications and Performing Arts. After graduating she worked as both a television news anchor and talk show host. In 1984 she moved to Chicago to host the show AM Chicago, which a year later was renamed the Oprah Winfrey Show, which quickly became the highest rated talk show on national television. Her show has won numerous awards, is one of the most viewed and highest rated programs of all time. Ms. Winfrey is also the president of Harpo Productions which oversees not only her show, but many other programs, movies, and theater productions. She is also on the board of the Oxygen television network. Ms. Winfrey is generous philanthropist and children's advocate. She testified before a U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee on behalf of a National Child Protection Act, which President Clinton signed into law in 1993. She announced in 2010 while being interviewed by Larry King that 2011 would be the last year of the Oprah Winfrey Show. Ms. Winfrey has been noted as the highest-paid performer on television, the richest self-made woman in America, and the richest African American of the 20th century. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Subject file contains correspondence between President Clinton and Ms. Winfrey; schedules, talking points and background information for events where Ms. Winfrey was in attendance; request for White House staff and the Clintons to appear on Ms. Winfrey's television show; and testimony, comments, and correspondence concerning Ms. Winfrey's work on H.R. 1237, "The National Child Protection Act of 1993." The White House Staff and Office Files contain mostly First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton's schedules, background materials, and talking points for her appearance on the Oprah Winfrey Show in May 1995. Mrs. Clinton's visit on the show was to discuss children's protection and advocacy.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas - Clinton Presidential Records: Records Management – ALPHA PROJECT; Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject File; Clinton Presidential Records: Records Management (OP); Clinton Presidential Records: Correspondence; and Clinton

Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. The WHORM Subject file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designated by a letter/number combination. In addition, there are WHORM (OP) and WHORM (Alpha Project) series. Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. WHORM files are processed at the document level; whereas, Staff and Office files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 2201) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 USC, 101) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2010. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2012-08-07

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2007-1287-F:
BOX 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Alpha Project
Category Case Number
AF Folder #6 [Winfrey, Oprah] 424237
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files
Category Case Number
BE003-04 113450
ED 233422
GI001 [Winfrey, Oprah] 203915
FG001-07 417076
417083
417139
FG006-03 078245
ME001 258404
ME001-02 096649
148199
201926
249980
291288
410138
BOX 2
ME002 193885

PE002 Folder #10 115742
PP 232822SS
PP [Winfrey, Oprah] 258933SS
PP005-01 246768
PR001 003724
PR005-01 056428
TR237 223964
UT001-03 169752
WE001 034506
046788
048219SS
WE001 [Winfrey, Oprah] 224030
Clinton Presidential Records: Records Management (OP)
Category Case Number
AF [Reeder, Eugene] 268179
AF [Committee for Education Funding] 235764
AF Folder #2 [Winfrey, Oprah] 220098
Clinton Presidential Records: Correspondence
Category Case Number
AF 440213
BOX 3
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Domestic Policy Council
Rasco, Carol
Meetings, Trips, Events
Jeffrey Jacobs – lunch (Oprah Show) Feb 5, 1996 12:00 [OA/ID 102702]
Phone Call to Jeff Jacobs, Oprah Winfrey Show Jan 25, 1996 [OA/ID 102700]
BOX 3
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (continued)
First Lady’s Office
First Lady’s Press Office
Berry, Marsha
Oprah 95 [OA/ID 20089]
Caputo, Lisa
Oprah, Family Circle Luncheon Chicago (May 16 ’95) [OA/ID 10230]
HRC Briefing Book Oprah (May 16, 95) [1] [OA/ID 10244]
HRC Briefing Book Oprah (May 16, 95) [2] [OA/ID 10244]

Nanau, Daniela
HRC Daily Briefing Books – 6/94-5/95
[HRC Daily Briefing Books: The Oprah Winfrey Show – May 16th, 1995] [1] [OA/ID 20452]
[HRC Daily Briefing Books: The Oprah Winfrey Show – May 16th, 1995] [2] [OA/ID 20452]
Press Secretary
[FLOTUS on Oprah] 18 [OA/ID 8176]