

# INCREASING ACCESS TO THE GRANT HALLER PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

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Project Sponsored by University of Washington Special Collections

## PROJECT

In 2018, University of Washington Special Collections received a photograph collection from the family of deceased Seattle-area photojournalist Grant Haller. The 102 cubic foot collection contained loosely organized boxes of varying image formats chronicling life in Seattle from the late 1960s to the early 2000s. The collection has high anticipated research value because it documents many instances of activism led by a variety of underrepresented groups-- including LGBTQ+, Indigenous, Refugee, Latinx, and Black communities in and around Seattle. However, very little was known about the condition, specific contents, and preservation needs of the material, and there was low institutional and public knowledge of the collection's existence.

## GOAL

Increase knowledge and future use of the photograph collection through a variety of archival competencies including processing, arranging, preserving, and outreach.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### PROCESSING

- Researching and describing images to increase knowledge of collection's contents for both patrons and Special Collections staff
- Creating EAD finding aid using XMetaL
- Reducing size of collection by identifying duplicates and repatriating material to donor's family

### ARRANGING

- creating browsable sub-series (general by-year, sports, and papers) organized by date to increase ease of use

### PRESERVING

- rehousing material in archival folders, mylar, and boxes
- identifying and documenting additional preservation concerns

### OUTREACH

- Increasing public and institutional knowledge of collection through online exhibit and student workshare event

Grant Haller Photograph Collection, PH2019-002, Port of Seattle demonstration

showing Larry Gossett holding picket sign, Seattle, April 29, 1975



## NEXT STEPS

- Once library workers are allowed back in Special Collections, iterative archival processing, arranging, and preserving of the collection's by-year sub-series will continue.
- The additional preservation and research needs that were noted during processing will be completed once UW Special Collections is able to acquire more funding or materials
- Public-facing finding aid will be updated with links to digitized photos in digital collections