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Guide to the Daniel Pinello Papers

GEN MSS 2159



by Janet Lopes

July 2025

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

P.O. Box 208330

New Haven, CT 06520-8330

(203) 432-2977

beinecke.library@yale.edu http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 2159

CREATOR: Rudolph, Frederick, author

TITLE: Daniel Pinello papers

DATES: 1973-2009

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: This collection contains thirty letters to Daniel Pinello from his former honors

thesis advisor, Williams College professor Frederick Rudolph.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: https://

hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pinello

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pinello.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Daniel R. Pinello, 2025.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Daniel Pinello papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Daniel Pinello papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Biographical / Historical

Daniel Pinello is a writer, lawyer, and professor of political science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. In October 1971, he penned an essay entitled "The Homosexual at Williams: Coming Out," which made the front page of the student newspaper at Williams College. This essay, along with his subsequent thesis on the lead-up and experiences following the public outing, garnered a Henry Rutgers Conger Memorial Literary Prize in 1972 for best piece of student journalism in an undergraduate publication. Since publication of the original essay, Pinello has written several books on same-sex rights including "America's War on Same-Sex Couples and Their Families - And How the Courts Rescued Them" in 2017. The working title of Pinello's autobiography is *Equal: A Memoir of Gay Rights*.

Professor Frederick Rudolph of the College's History Department supervised Pinello's honors thesis, which explored Pinello's experiences coming out in 1971. Rudolph and Pinello corresponded for several years afterwards. Pinello includes a chapter in his autobiography about those conversations.

Rudolph died in 2013 at the age of 93.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains thirty letters to Daniel Pinello from his former honors thesis advisor, Williams College professor Frederick Rudolph.

Collection Contents

Correspondence from Frederick Rudolph 0.50 linear feet (2 boxes)

1973-2009

This series contains correspondence from Williams College professor Frederick Rudolph sent to Daniel Pinello, some of which is referenced or reproduced in Pinello's autobiography.

Correspondence is divided into three groupings: photostatic copies, letters referenced in Pinello's autobiography, and letters not referenced in Pinello's autobiography.

Within these groupings, correspondence is arranged chronologically by date.

b. 1, f. 1	Photostatic copy of letters	1973 November- December
	Correspondence referenced in Pinello autobiography .25 linear feet (1 box)	1974-1989
b. 1, f. 2	1974 February 24	1974 February 24
b. 1, f. 3	1975 January 11	1975 January 11
b. 1, f. 4	1975 June 23	1975 June 23
b. 1, f. 5	1976 November 12	1976 November 12
b. 1, f. 6	1976 November 27	1976 November 27
b. 1, f. 7	1977 January 25	1977 January 25
b. 1, f. 8	1979 February 11	1979 February 11
b. 1, f. 9	1979 August 13	1979 August 13
b. 1, f. 10	1979 December 27	1979 December 27
b. 1, f. 11	1980 January 20	1980 January 20
b. 1, f. 12	1980 February 25	1980 February 25
b. 1, f. 13	1980 March 29	1980 March 29
b. 1, f. 14	1980 December 28	1980 December 28
b. 1, f. 15	1983 September 16	1983 September 16
b. 1, f. 16	1986 December 23	1986 December 23
b. 1, f. 17	1989 October 29	1989 October 29

	Correspondence not referenced in Pinello autobiography 0.25 linear feet (1 box)	1976-2009
b. 2, f. 1	1976 April 18	1976 April 18
b. 2, f. 2	1976 December 16 This is a cover letter for Rudolph's book chapter on Pinello.	1976 December 16
b. 2, f. 3	1980 July 25	1980 July 25
b. 2, f. 4	1981 January 1	1981 January 1
b. 2, f. 5	1981 April 3	1981 April 3
b. 2, f. 6	1981 November 26	1981 November 26
b. 2, f. 7	1982 January 21	1982 January 21
b. 2, f. 8	1985 March 13	1985 March 13
b. 2, f. 9	1985 September 6	1985 September 6
b. 2, f. 10	1987 January 25	1987 January 25
b. 2, f. 11	2009 May 9	2009 May 9

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Authors, American -- 20th Century --Correspondence Gay rights -- United States

Names

Pinello, Daniel R., correspondent