



ArchivesSpace

## Ma'yan records

---

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on September 27, 2022.  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Brandeis University

415 South St.  
Waltham, MA

URL: <https://findingaids.brandeis.edu/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information .....	3
Biographical / Historical .....	3
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement Note .....	4
Administrative Information .....	4
Controlled Access Headings .....	5

---

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository:</b>	Brandeis University
<b>Creator:</b>	Ma'yan (Program : New York, N.Y.)
<b>Title:</b>	Ma'yan records
<b>ID:</b>	11.MWaLB02717
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1993 - 2012, undated
<b>Physical Description:</b>	11.5 Linear Feet 11 record center boxes, 1 manuscript box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation

Ma'yan records, 1993-2012, undated, Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Biographical / Historical

---

Ma'yan: The Jewish Women's Project was established in 1993 at the Jewish Community Center in New York City. Founded by Barbara Dobkin and Eve Landau, the organization's work initially focused on creating life cycle and holiday rituals from a feminist perspective. From 1994 to 2005, Ma'yan held feminist Passover Seders in New York City, which had about 20,000 participants over the years. They also published "The Journey Continues," a Haggadah text to accompany the seders, which sold over 40,000 copies. Other Ma'yan programs included the Jewish Feminist Research Group, a monthly forum exploring the intersection of Jewish studies and feminist scholarship, educational events for adult women ranging from financial literacy to Torah study, and a Rosh Chodesh group. In 2005, they released "Listen to Her Voice," a report from a nationwide study on gender and the Jewish Community.

Around 2005, Ma'yan shifted its focus towards advocating for Jewish girls and young women by providing social justice and leadership training for adolescent girls and educators. Their central program is the Research Training Internship, a fifteen month program in which teen girls learn about systems of oppression, power and privilege.

References: Nussbaum Cohen, D. (2005, April 16). "Feminist Seders Reach the Promised Land." New York Times.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Scope and Contents

---

The collection is comprised of eleven linear feet of material documenting Ma'yan, a Jewish feminist organization based in New York. The records include reports, strategic plans, meeting agendas, class and workshop material, program and exhibit files, photographs and more dating from 1993 to 2012. Of particular note are files and photographs of Ma'yan's seders; Ma'yan seder press files; papers from its Jewish Feminist Research Group; and Bat Mitzvah workshop files. The collection is unprocessed. A preliminary inventory is available in the department.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement Note

---

The collection is not arranged according to any arrangement or scheme. Materials are primarily in the folders and order in which they were received.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

Brandeis University

415 South St.

Waltham, MA

URL: <https://findingaids.brandeis.edu/>

### Acquisition Note

Donated by Ma'yan, September 2015.

## **Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection is in accordance with the policies of the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University. Please contact the department for form information.

Box 1 and Box 5 contain confidential survey materials and are restricted until the collection is processed.

Some advanced notice is needed for access to these materials because the collection is stored offsite. Please contact the department for more details.

## **Conditions Governing Use**

Requests to reproduce or publish material from the collection should be directed to the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University.

## **Processing Note**

The collection is unprocessed. Please contact the department for more information.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Controlled Access Headings**

---

- Feminism -- Religious aspects -- Judaism
- Jewish women -- Religious life
- Photographs
- Haggadah -- Feminist criticism