Local Ties to National Topics

We love when History Day students choose entirely local topics, but we also love when students are able to tie their national topics to a local event or response. Below, we’ve compiled a list of resource collections full of primary sources that are available in the Research Library at the Cleveland History Center that would be of use to students working on national topics.

Vietnam War
- Response of Cleveland’s Jewish Community to the Vietnam War (records from local rabbis, temples, and Jewish community organizations)
- Response of local unions/labor organizations to the Vietnam War
- Conscientious Objectors performing service at University Hospitals (James K. Miller)
- Draft Counseling Association records
- Anti-War Movement at Case Institute of Technology/Western Reserve University (uncatalogued collection of posters)
- (pre-war) Dr. Alexander Miller’s participation in Project HOPE – a medical mission to Vietnam ca. 1962
- Ohio Senator Stephen M. Young’s complicated views on the Vietnam War
- ACLU of Cleveland’s involvement in defending Kent State protestors

African-American History
- The Glenville Shootout (1968)—Carl Stokes’ papers, Cleveland: NOW! Records
- Desegregation of Cleveland schools—Greater Cleveland Project records, WELCOME records, James L. Hardiman papers on Reed v. Rhodes
- Louis Stokes’ papers—document his participation on numerous Congressional committees from 1968–1999, including the House Select Committee on Assassinations
- Carl Stokes’ papers—document Cleveland’s history between 1967 and 1971
- Ardella Bradley Dixon’s papers—lifelong local activist and philanthropist, participated in the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom
- Henry Lee Moon Family Papers—document the founding of Cleveland’s NAACP chapter in 1912, Moon’s trip to the USSR to consult with the Soviet government about producing a documentary on black America, and both his and his wife’s government service
- Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Cleveland chapter records
- Karamu House records

Women’s History
- Frances Payne Bolton’s papers, plus oral histories about her—first congresswoman from Ohio, called for desegregating military nursing units during World War II, first female member of Congress to head an international delegation (to Africa)
- Beatrice Irene Keener’s papers—served in WAVES during World War II
- Helen Goldenberg’s papers—served in the Women’s Air Transport Command during World War II
- Planned Parenthood of Greater Cleveland records (1917–1988)
- Records from Cleveland chapters of organizations like the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, League of Women Voters, Women’s Rights Society, Jewish Women International, etc.
Women’s History, continued.
- Women’s Auxiliary records for topical organizations (i.e. United Spanish War Veterans and Women’s Auxiliary)

LGBT History
- Lesbian-Gay Community Service Center of Greater Cleveland (records from 1974-1991)
- AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland (records from 1983-1998)
- The papers of local individuals and activists involved in creating local organizations, creating local chapters of national organizations, or advocating for gay rights in Cleveland (Jane Daroff, Douglas Braun, Aubrey Wertheim)