



# Toronto Zine Library

## Newsletter

June 2024

### SHOCKING STUDY FINDS:

TZL made their first newsletter



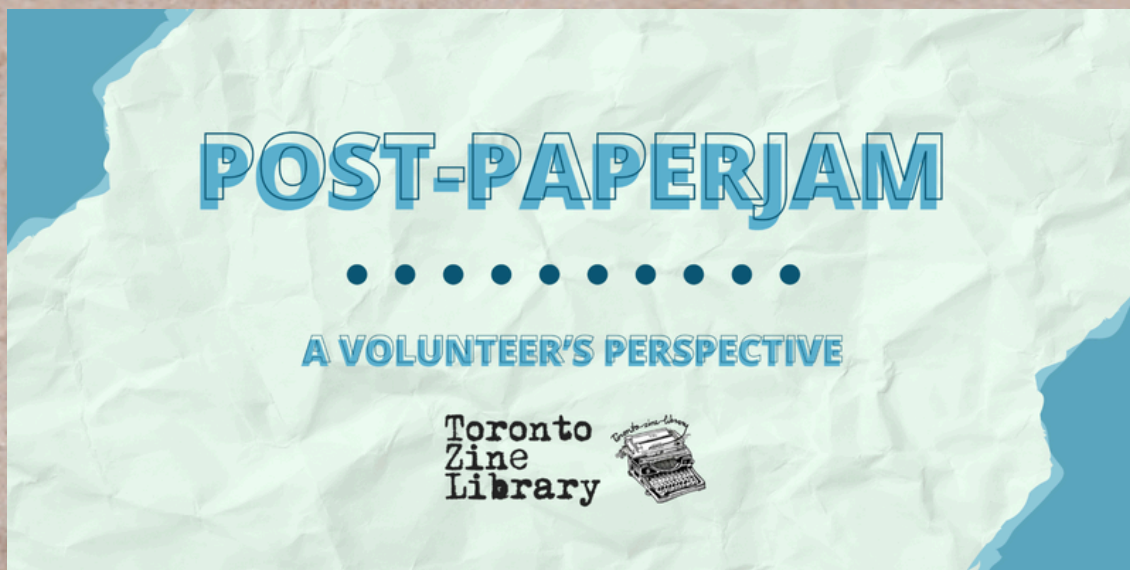
Welcome to the first Toronto Zine Library newsletter. It's been a long time coming and there's been many obstacles since we originally made the first sign-up last year. My hope for this newsletter is that it'll be both a platform to announce changes to the library itself and a quick reference guide to zine-related events happening throughout the Greater Toronto Area, and even across Canada. However, this issue was not the short and sweet newsletter I originally thought - we have a lot of things to share!

As the look and information of the newsletter will be evolving, and I invite you to please share your thoughts on what you as the reader would like to see in this newsletter.

Happy summer! Let's hope the TTC doesn't get in the way of summer plans 🙌

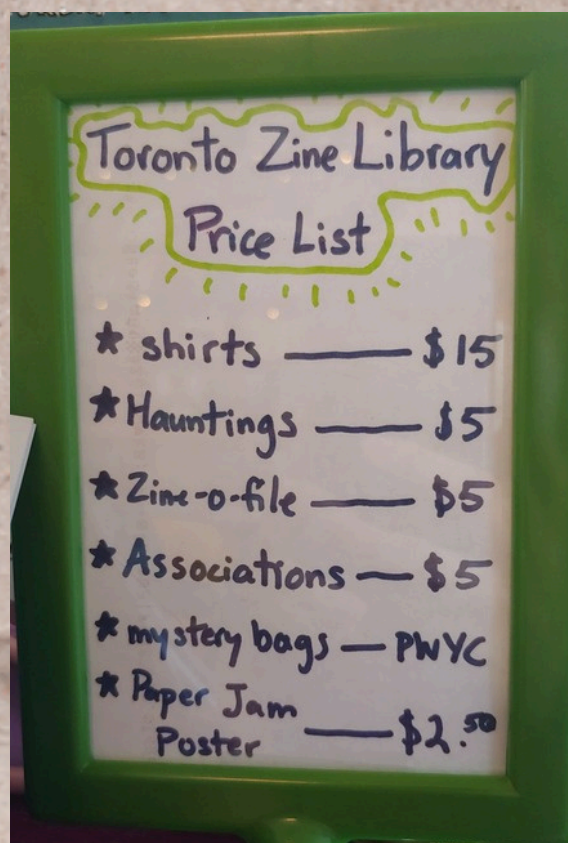
Amanda

Did you miss Toronto Zine Library's PaperJam this year? We compiled responses from both vendors and volunteers who were at PaperJam that day – read it at our website [here](#)



You can also take a little PaperJam home with you! We still have zines and TZL merch ready to find new homes. Visit us at the Toronto Zine Library to purchase one.

Please note: we only accept cash. Please bring exact cash as we may not have enough change.





Toronto-based artist Luis Jacob, whose work destabilizes viewing conventions and invites collisions of meaning, is launching a new zine project next month.

The zine is called "I AM FULL OF HOLES" -- a collaboration between Luis and Rio Jacob, Luis' 12-year old nephew.

"I AM FULL OF HOLES" describes [Luis'] arrival to Toronto from Lima, Peru as a 10-year old child. It progresses by narrating [his] experiences in various communities—queer activism in the 1980s, artist-run culture in the 1990s, the anarchist community in the early 2000s — leading to the present day.

Along the way, "I AM FULL OF HOLES" describes the ways in which community knowledge engenders a growing sense of collective ethics and artistic responsibility. It is designed to be accessible to a wide audience, and is co-created as a dialogue across generations. It is a labour of love.

The zine project takes the form of a graphic novel, published chapter by chapter once a month, starting in May 2024. Luis Jacob graciously donated copies to the Toronto Zine Library for fellow zinesters to take! - get yours while supplies last





A frequently asked question by visitors is how this library was established. Toronto Zine Library (TZL) has seen several volunteer changes since the start. To demonstrate we wanted to provide a visual of major changes and events to give us a better understanding (of the changes) and a chance to celebrate how far this library has gone! Our volunteer Peg began this history project to document the events that led up to how Toronto Zine Library runs today.

The goal of this project has been to get a better picture of TZL's historical timeline. To that end, emails were sent to the founders of the library to see if they could fill in certain gaps and clarify others. Thanks to their thorough insight, the early years are well accounted for! There is still some work to be done, especially for the years 2012 through 2018.

The other aspect of this project was an attempt to gather anything that mentions TZL. "I found articles, images, and other interesting tidbits. What we can do with those and what permissions are needed, remains to be seen. From there, with what little CSS knowledge I have, I pieced together the beginnings of a visual timeline. Hopefully we will soon have something that can be displayed on the website for folks to gather inspiration from!"

-Peg

If you would like to contribute to this project and have information or items to share, please reach out! Contact [torontozinelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:torontozinelibrary@gmail.com)



Toronto  
Zine  
Library

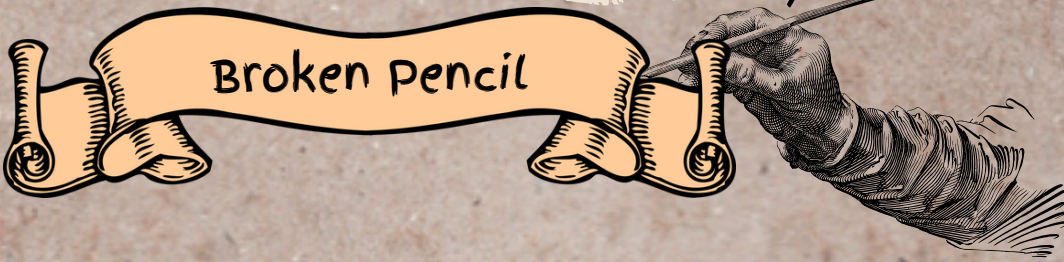
## 2005

*"The initial idea of setting of up a zine library in Toronto - independent from the zine collection housed in the Toronto Reference Library - was conceived just over a year ago in late 2005. Over the course of the year that followed several collective members came in and out of our group, helping us to centre our vision on what exactly we wanted to do. Our goal was, and is, to create an accessible, organized and relevant collection of zines, as well as to put on workshops, like this one, to teach others how and why we make zines in the first place."*

*Suzanne Sutherland, in an email written in January of 2007.*



# NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY



The zine-dedicated magazine, Broken Pencil, just released their new classifieds section. Individuals and small collectives can advertise their zines, upcoming events, non-zine sales/trades, and even personals — a la Desperately Seeking Susan. They're offering a completely free listing for the first issue (premiering in the upcoming summer issue) when you use the code **FRIENDSANDFAMILY1995** in the comments section of this form: <https://forms.gle/WKgAvY58HgBcK2b5A>

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

**EVENTS**

**OPENSIC NIGHT**  
University Film Club  
October 16th 7:00 pm, email for address  
[uofmarty@studclub.com](mailto:uofmarty@studclub.com)

**TRUCKER BASH:**  
Full access to trucks with mandatory 40 drops.  
Social/online  
**THIS IS A TRUE TRUCKER BASH**

**DO NOT** under any circumstances, reply to these characters.

We are doing the BASH, folks.

For options and background check, email [fred@fou.com](mailto:fred@fou.com)

**SMALL BUSINESS MOVEMENTS**  
① The local University Student Centre

Come support local businesses, without dealing with those pesky Canadian shipping fees! Free snacks, pop, and plenty of sitting room.

111 Duke St, Multicultural St, Canada

**BUY, SELL & TRADE**

Desperately seeking a **WIBT** CD-ROM copy of "Love JT" by Michael DeForge. Willing to trade on site, maybe ship.

Call to book, [desperately@studclub.com](mailto:desperately@studclub.com)

**PERSONAL**

I saw you at Conline 1994, you had green hair and cool clothes.

Your T-shirt was ironic, your other was ironic. Genies, palookadoodle! You looked like real girl.

Hopefully you're not allergic to hypochondria!

[love@studclub.com](mailto:love@studclub.com)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY BASH!** I LOVE YOU SO MUCH I'M LAME AND I CAN'T WAIT TO CELEBRATE OUR FRIENDSHIP TOGETHER!!  
-LAURA

**BBQ - A BASH:**  
THE TRUCKER BASH, TURNING OVER IN MY HAND MY FRIENDS AND I GREET  
-D&L

**CALLS FOR SUBS**

Looking for places to fill a limited clothing catalogue. **EM** (fashion/retail) items: show with class, well lit photos of clothing, nice white background, include your selling price on it adding more. I cannot guarantee that we will work.

Setting your **WIBT** first date alarm. Send a **WIBT** summary to [friendshandfamily@studclub.com](mailto:friendshandfamily@studclub.com) and we'll reach out if we need the bibliography.

Send me a photo of your match as you exist with the current time displayed for a year. We going together.  
-WIBT 1994  
[wib@fou.com](mailto:wib@fou.com)

**RELEASES**

**CAUTION:**  
A queer residential/industrial resistance anthology. Due to contributors' names, addresses, contacts, party, phone, education, parent, interview, articles, and more!

**FEATURED CONTRIBUTORS:**

- SEMIFINAL, etc
- Ann Marie Williams
- Jane Miller

Put up over 100 copies of perfect "Sound" by Cabot 1994 on our website:  
[gap.speccol.org](http://gap.speccol.org)

**LEGENDARY MIRROR:**  
**EMERSON GARDNER'S** body and spirit are gone.  
"The One in One's Clothing" is now available everywhere that fine books are sold.

Follow Gabe from his unimpressive infancy as he expands into an exclusive club of show-biz at just 8 years of age, to his ultimate goal of a worldwide connection: total visibility of the tender age of 14.

Get the inside scoop on just how this would've all turned out had he not spent time not only at the University of Toronto, but the whole world of things.

Remember the better!  
**STAYMOT BLOWN!**



# PAPERJAM 2024

6

PaperJam grew out of fellow Toronto Zine Library volunteer, Sylvia, and I attending craft and zine fairs throughout the years and then picking out our favourite parts. Our main goal was to bring zinesters together! We are a beautiful community and to put it simply, we wanted to make a successful event for makers, an enjoyable experience for the readers, and an accessible space for those just dipping their toes in the zine community.

At a glance, having two people organise an event could be seen as quite the task! But, we were just so excited and passionate to create an event that we would want to attend that we swiftly (and with rather short notice) made it happen in the spring of 2023. PaperJam was the first zine fair organised by the Toronto Zine Library, and it was a shocking success!

For PaperJam 2024, we took all the feedback from last year's vendors, visitors, and volunteers, and thought let's make it even better! Let's do even more!

A major factor we wanted to address from last year's PaperJam was Toronto Zine Library's financial situation. Although the first PaperJam was a success in many ways, the event resulted in the library running a deficit and two drained organisers. We needed to ask for more support, and for more people to help - physically and financially.

I was really nervous to make these requests. What if people didn't respond, or worse got upset with us? But we asked anyway and the community showed up!

We changed PaperJam from free to PWYW (Pay what you want), and to our pleasant surprise people very much wanted! We also changed our table pricing to a sliding scale to make things more accessible to vendors and also allow for the Toronto Zine Library to cover our costs. And I was shocked by the generosity.

Our call out for one-day volunteers increased significantly this year, so assembling and disassembling the setup took less time than expected.



People wanted to help and contribute to making the event happen, and they were waiting for us to ask.

This year's PaperJam felt even more like a community event in so many ways since it was the community that made it happen. On the day of, I was genuinely relaxed. Everything was taken care of. Everyone showed up and wanted to support the event. I was, and still am, so grateful and in awe of such a wonderful community that comes together and supports one another like this.

I can't wait to see what PaperJam looks like in 2025 :)

-Hailey

# PAPERJAM 2024

## The Paperjam to Permanent Volunteer Pipeline by Eunice Ryu

It was a rainy day in April 2023 when I stepped into the Toronto Zine Library for the first time; I had signed up to be a one-time volunteer at the library's first ever Paperjam, a zine festival run by the library itself, and I was utterly unaware of the factors at hand that had made this event a small miracle:

1. This was the TZL's first in-person event since the pandemic
2. The TZL is entirely volunteer-run — no third-party funding had been given to aid and organize the event
3. It was raining and cold the day of, which threatened to dissuade potential festival-goers from attending an event that heretofore had no precedent

I would later learn all this information through volunteer meetings and speaking with Sylvia and Hailey (volunteers with TZL). At the time, I had no idea that the TZL was plagued with such concerns; to me, the event seemed to be running smoothly, and I was surprised, but not astonished to see the strong turnout despite the heavy spring rain.

I remember walking up to the Zine Library for the first time, a cozy room tucked away in the corner of the Tranzac Club, twinkling lights and smelling faintly of old paper. I remember my ripped leggings and my damp hair and meeting Gabi, a permanent volunteer. I was curious, what did a permanent zine library volunteer do? Gabi explained the tasks of cataloging, organizing, and being present for open hours. They let me know that the responsibilities were lax and many volunteers had come and gone over the years.



I walked around the room, picked up zines, and read some. Some about music and feminism and body politics. Some about vampires and loneliness and downtown Seattle. To be a volunteer was to be a custodian of all these stories. How precious would it be to be a part of that line of custodians? I spent the entire event helping no one and reading the crinkled pages of old zines instead. When my shift ended, I stood up, thanked Gabi, and asked Sylvia how I could get more involved.

A year later, Hailey mentioned in a meeting that the TZL would once again be gearing up for Paperjam. Last year they had hired an artist, but did anyone think they could make a poster for this year? I raised my hand tentatively.

"I can doodle," I said.

# ZINE RESOURCES

Hello my name is ...  
OCAD University  
Zine Library



**Website:**  
**<https://ocadu.libguides.com/friendly.php?s=zinelibrary>**

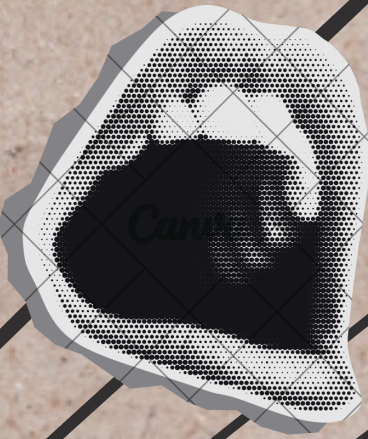
The OCADU Zine Library is located at the library space, "The Learning Zone" located at 113 McCaul Street on level 1. Although The Learning Zone requires OCAD ID to access the space, the public may knock on the door and indicate to staff that they would like to view the zine collection to gain access.

The collection was launch on November 14th, 2007 by artist Alicia Nauta, while she was a student of OCAD U's Printmaking program.

She started the collection in hopes to create more personal connections between zine makers at OCAD U and within the library.

\*Information taken from OCADU Zine Library website

# CALLS FOR SUBMISSION



## **Zine Submission**

QuArtz Cluster

Deadline: June 20th 2024

Contact: [@quartz.cluster](#) (On Instagram)

Honorarium: All participants will receive a minimum of \$50 for their submission

Requirement: Prioritising young artists based in Tkaronto/Toronto

## **Zine Submission**

Still Zine: Year Two

Deadline: every 4 weeks

- June 2nd
- June 30th
- July 28th
- August 25th
- September 22nd

Contact: [@endlessfret](#) (on Instagram)

Requirement:

- 5.5 x 8.5"
- Black & White
- 1 diary page (diary can be interpreted as prose, comic, poetry, etc)

## **Zine submission**

Zine Shine

Deadline: June 14th

Contact: email

[hello@issuesmagshop.com](mailto:hello@issuesmagshop.com)

Note: Accepting one submission per artist

## **Zine Submission**

Slice Mango Collective (SMC)

Deadline: June 14th at 11.59pm PST

Contact: zine coordinator, Helena, at [slicedmangocollective@gmail.com](mailto:slicedmangocollective@gmail.com)

Honorarium: \$10 per contributor (if selected) and a physical copy of the zine

Note: Calling for zines from Filipinx-Canadian youth (ages 16-25) based anywhere in so-called Canada

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** the team at Sliced Mango Collective understand that there are many ways of being Filipino/a/x and that there is diversity within our community. We welcome you to discuss your Fil-Can identity in conjunction with any intersecting identities (i.e. Black, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, disabled, mixed, etc...)

\*For detailed guidelines in their submission form, [click this link](#)

# UPCOMING ZINE EVENTS/WORKSHOPS<sup>10</sup>



**Event: The ArQuives Zine Workshops**

**Date: June 8th 12pm–3pm or June 9th 12pm–3pm**

**Location: the ArQuives 34 Isabella Street Toronto,  
Ontario**

**Note: 18+ due to the nature of discussions and material. Masks required, masks can be provided.**

**Registration required.**

**The ArQuives will supply some materials, but bringing your own is encouraged.**

**Event: Zine Shine**

**Date: July 9th–21st**

**Two-week zine extravaganza**

**Location: Issues Magazine Shop**

**1489 Dundas Street West**

**Toronto, Ontario**

**Event: Zine Dream #14**

**Date: August 17th 2024 from 11am–5pm**

**Location: The Parkdale Hall**

**1605 Queen Street West #2**

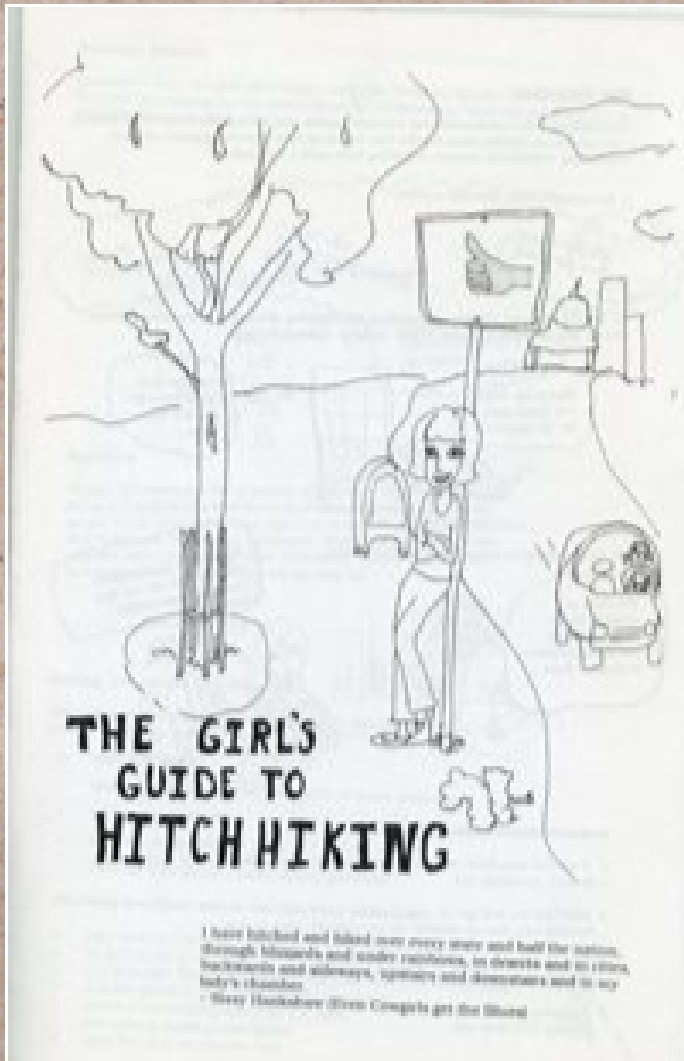
**Toronto, Ontario**

# SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

Some of our TZL volunteer went to the annual TCAF held at the Toronto Reference Library this year! Here are a few photos from the event



# ZINE SPOTLIGHT



click on the title to find out where in the library you can find this!

**“The Girl’s Guide to Hitchhiking” by Petra Kelsey is an invitation for urban adventurers to talk to strangers and explore their city. The author includes illustrated advice from her experiences thumbing rides on cars, boats, and even helicopters! This inspiring collection was written in the mid-2010s, meaning the proposed methods might still work in present day Toronto.**

# WHAT'S NEXT?



- Have something zine-related (e.g., workshop, call for submission, event) that you would like to promote? Reach out to us through email at [torontozinelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:torontozinelibrary@gmail.com) and we'll post it up on our next newsletter
- Look out for our next newsletter, coming in September 2024!
- Reach out to us! Email us to tell us what you like about our newsletter, things that you think we should include, and things you think we can do better

See our full zine resources on [linktree](#):

Connect with us!!



[@torontozinelibrary](#)



[torontozinelibrary.org](http://torontozinelibrary.org)



[Toronto Zine Library](#)



[@torontozinelib](#)



*Toronto Zine Library is grateful for the space provided by TRANZAC since 2006. Please consider donating to their GoFundMe so that we can continue creating zine spaces for all*