### Zine Scene:

### Engaging Students in Power and Resistance Narratives Through Zines

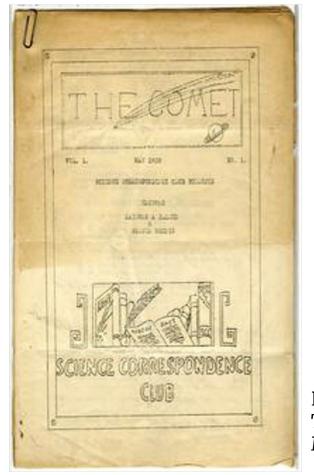
Stefanie Hilles Art and Humanities Librarian Wertz Art and Architecture Library Miami University hillessa@miamioh.edu

### What is a Zine?

### Traditionally, zines are...

- Noncommercial
- Non-professional
- Small circulation
- Self-published
- Not created for profit
- Associated with countercultures and underrepresented voices
- Handmade, often with a DIY or collage aesthetic
- Use both image and text either original or found/appropriated

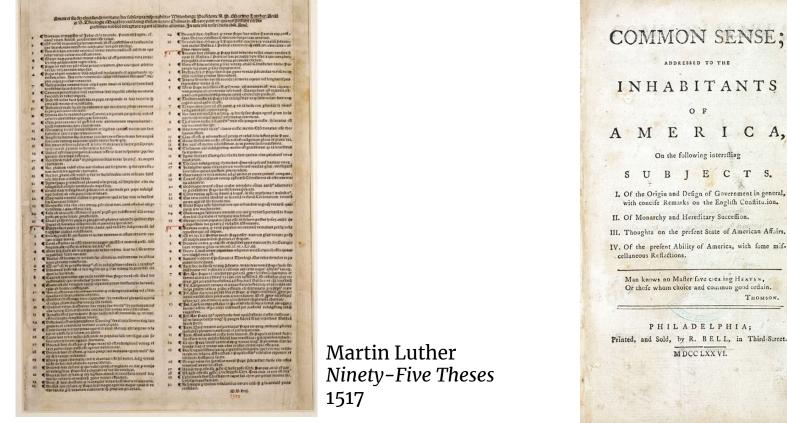




Palmer, Raymond. (1930). *The Comet, Issue 1*. Retrieved from: https://zinewiki.com/wiki/The\_Comet

Raymond Palmer The Comet May 1930

SLIDESMANIA.COM



Luther, Martin. (1517). *Ninety-Five Theses*. Retrieved from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ninety-five\_Theses

INHABITANTS A M E R I C A, SUBJECTS. I. Of the Origin and Defign of Government in general, with concife Remarks on the English Conflitu.ion. III. Thoughts on the prefent State of American Affairs. IV. Of the prefent Ability of America, with fome mif-Man knows no Matter fave creating HEAVEN, Or those whom choice and common good ordain. THOMSON. Printed, and Sold, by R. BELL, in Third-Screet. Thomas Paine **Common Sense** 1775-1776

Paine, Thomas. (1775-76). *Common Sense*. Retrieved from: https://www.britannica.com/topic/Common-Sense

SLIDESMANIA.COM



Raoul Hausmann Der Dada 3 April 1920

Hausmann, Raoul. (1920). *Der Dada 3*. Retrieved from: https://www.johnheartfield.com/John-Heartfield-Exhibition/about-john-heartfieldphotomontages/dada-political-art-history/heartfield-grosz-der-dada-1 THE POCKET POETS SERIES

# HOWL

AND OTHER POEMS ALLEN GINSBERG

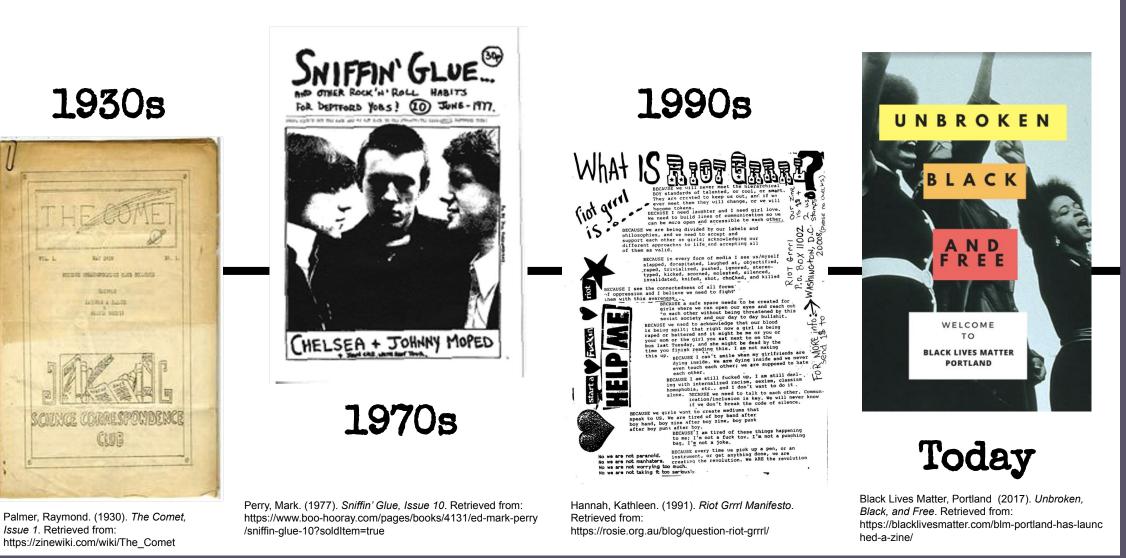
Introduction by

William Carlos Williams

NUMBER FOUR

Ginsberg, Allen. (1956). *Howl and Other Poems*. Retrieved from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howl\_and\_Other\_Poems

Allen Ginsberg Howl and Other Poems 1956





### Zines and Social Justice

#### Zines and Social Justice

Why zines and social justice?

- Focus on counter cultural ideas
- Exist outside mainstream publishing
- Question and challenge authority
- DIY spirit
- Call to action for social change



Nancy: A Queer Zine 1

2011

Black Lives Matter (BLM) Portland Unbroken Black and Free 2017

Black Lives Matter, Portland. (2017). *Unbroken, Black, and Free*. Retrieved from: https://blacklivesmatter.com/blm-portland-haslaunched-a-zine/



Creep, Alex. (2011). *Nancy: A Queer Zine*. Retrieved from: https://salfordzinelibrary.co.uk/library/nan cy-a-queer-zine-1/

### Wertz Art and Architecture Library Zine Archive



# Zines and Social Justice Outside the Classroom

## Writing for Social Action:

A collaboration with the Howe Center for Writing Excellence

#### Writing for Social Action

- 3 hour event
  - 1: Student organization panel discussion
  - 2: Zines and Social Activism/Writing Effective Letters to the Editor
  - 3: Zine making and letter writing
- Goal: To bring together Miami students, student-based organizations, and writing and rhetoric professionals to share and practice strategies for reaching their local social action goals
- Participating student organizations National Black Law Students Association, Spectrum, Zero Waste Oxford, and the Graduate Student Pride Association





#### Writing for Social Action

- What is a zine?
  - Think/Pair/Share with zine archive
    - Students "speed date" with zines at their tables
    - Discuss the qualities they saw with their table
    - Class-wide discussion
- History of Zines
  - Short lecture
  - Highlight social activism
- Students make their own zines



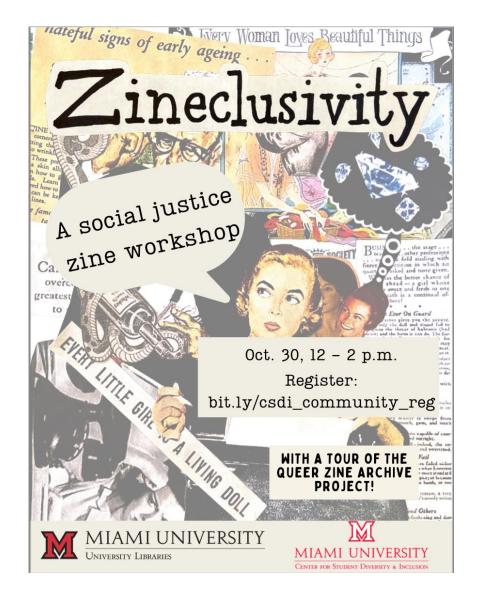


## Zineclusivity

A collaboration with the Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion and QZAP

### Zineclusivity

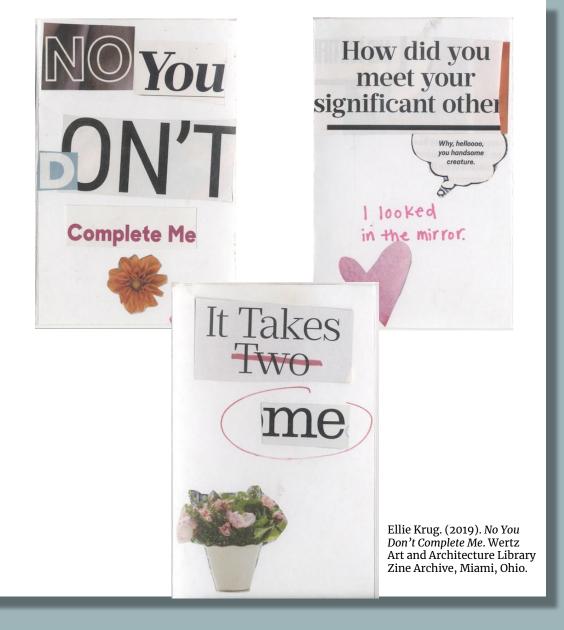
- Held online during COVID-19
- Began with a tour of the QZAP Archives
- Intended to make a collaborative zine answering the question, "What can Miami do to be more inclusive?"
- Unfortunately, not well attended
- Plans for a future in-person workshop to engage more participants



# Zines and Social Justice in the Classroom

#### Feminist Remix

- Women and Gender Studies class
- Each student received an old Vogue magazine (from 1940-70s) weeded from the collection and was given some time to look through them for patriarchal and heteronormative messages
- Students then challenged these messages by making a collage-based zine from their Vogue that deconstructs its power narratives



## Takeaways and Best Practices

#### Takeaways and Best Practices

- Partner with student, and other university organizations, focused on social justice issues
- Attend social justice events on campus
- Market workshops to classes that deal with social justice issues
- Tailor your workshops to support course objectives and content
- One workshop leads to another
- Need zines dedicated to social justice? There are many available online
  - QZAP
  - POC Zine Project
  - Sprout Distro (you can print these ones too)

### THANK YOU

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