



Toronto Zine Library

Newsletter

Fall 2024

**BREAKING
NEWS**

**THE TORONTO ZINE
OFF IS BACK**



Thank you for reading the Fall 2024 issue. We hope you soaked up as much of Toronto's sunshine and stayed dry from the influx of rain as possible!

While summer is slowly ending we here at TZL are cooking up some great workshops and events ready to launch in the upcoming months. We also included reflections on a previous workshop and event with Fringe. Finally one of our own TZL volunteers shares with us her time living in Vancouver in search of zines.

We changed our zine review section from memorable zines to ones that were recently added. Since we're always adding new zines to the library, we thought giving them extra love in this newsletter would be great!

I want to thank all the contributors for this latest issue and as always thank you to our co-editor Meredith!

Happy reading and we hope to see you at our next TZL events!

- Amanda



NOTES FROM TZL



We launched our FAQ this summer! Check it out on our website here:
<https://www.torontozinelibrary.org/frequently-asked-questions/>

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a zine?

This is a tricky question because it can be many things! Technically it's an independently made publication "magazine" but the best thing is to go through our collection and learn what a zine is by looking at examples!

"A zine, short for fanzine or magazine, is a DIY subculture self-publication, usually made on paper and reproduced with a photocopier or printer. Zine creators are often motivated by a*



IN CASE YOU
MISSED IT...

Current library hours:

Tuesday evening from 6–8pm
Friday evening from 6–8pm

Can't make it to those hours? We also take visit requests! Email torontozinelibrary@gmail.com to book an appointment

NOTES FROM TZL

Written by Amanda



NEW
COLLECTION



TZL used to hold a photography sub-category. However, the zines were such a small collection that over time they eventually merged with the art section. This summer we decided to expand the Arts collection and we are happy to announce that the photography sub-category is back with its own dedicated section!

The photography zines will be categorized under arts, and as such will be next to the art zines at the library. Check it out!



NOTES FROM TZC

Written by Towey



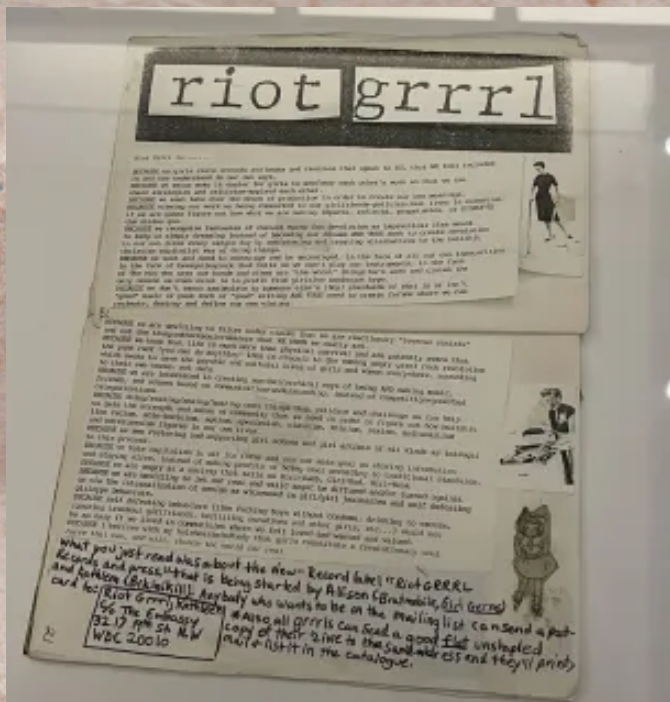
The zinester's Guide To Vancouver

Hello! This is Volunteer Twoey with a special dispatch on zine activities on the West Coast. I recently moved out here for a job, and here's what I've managed to discover about the zine community in Vancouver:

Copy Machine Manifestos: Exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG)

I attended the zine exhibit at the ever-so-wonderfully-abbreviated VAG, and was not disappointed! It was cool to see some of the original paste-ups of riot grrrl zines I fawned over in high school, and I adored the quilt made of zine envelopes. Several rooms were dedicated to contemporary zine culture, with the final destination of the exhibit acting as a reading room for local zines. I did struggle with the sparse interpretation of artifacts, and was confused by random Instagram-bait pieces that felt out of step with the exhibit (random unattributed quote in neon lights?).

But if you have the opportunity, I would recommend attending this exhibit on one of the VAG's Free Fridays. (Reserve your tickets in advance, or sneak in like I did).



NOTES FROM TZC



Zine Collection at the Vancouver Public Library

Toronto Reference Library, take note. Zines are available at many VPL branches, and are displayed front and centre near the entrance of their largest downtown branch. Although the zine selection is fewer in quantity than Toronto's reference collection, they are organized thematically and fitted with barcodes for borrowing. Impressive.

Zine Fairs / Libraries in Vancouver

To my knowledge, Vancouver Comic Arts Festival (VANCAF) and the Vancouver Art Book Fair are Vancouver's two primary zine events. I was disappointed to learn that there is currently no major *zines only* festival, but perhaps I am too Torontonian to get invited to this secret underground black market.

In addition to the Vancouver Public Library, I've heard whispers of zine collections at Emily Carr University and Douglas College.

If you find yourself out West, I encourage you to explore all this and more that the city has to offer. Hope to see you again soon, Toronto!

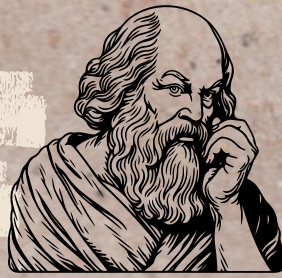


Find more pictures of this guide in our [website!](#)



TZL EVENT:

A Reflection



Written by Miles

**Fringe and TZL
Collaborative Workshop by
Miles**

On July 4th, 2024, the Toronto Zine Library had the pleasure of collaborating with the Toronto Fringe Festival for a zine-making workshop with Fringe creatives, audiences, and passersby —including at least one local celebrity!

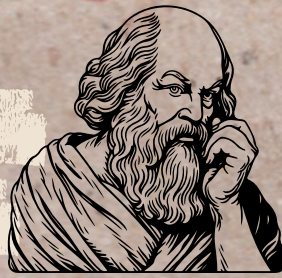
Taking advantage of the relatively dry weather, we divided the ~20 participants between our space and the festival's green room located in the Tranzac's parking lot. Volunteers, Sylvia and Miles, gave a tour of the zine library, shared some of our history, and gave a demo for making folded mini-zines. TZL and Fringe pooled our combined resources (e.g., markers, papers, and collage material from the Festival's archive) to make zines celebrating the festival, (or anything the participants felt inspired by)!

A humble brag from the TZL team: the event was very well received. Hopefully we'll have a chance to work with Fringe and other like-minded DIY institutions again soon.



TZL EVENT:

A Reflection



Written by Sumaya

Movie Night

Hosting a movie night at TZL has been in the works for a while, but I'm so glad we finally got a chance to materialize this on July 11th!

It was a cozy get-together where a small group of attendees and volunteers (Sylvia and I) were watching the documentary, \$100 and a T-shirt in the library space.

\$100 and a T-shirt is about the zine culture in the U.S. Northwest and really dives deep into the DIY aspect of zine-making, to the point where the documentary itself had a DIY vibe at times, (as did our viewing!). While it was reminiscent of a time twenty years ago, the documentary echoes similar viewpoints about zine-making today.

Some highlights of the movie night included:

- Sylvia commenting on all the zines within the documentary that are available in the library
- Moments of camaraderie where everyone was laughing in their enjoyment of the documentary
 - The goodie bags that were made for the event

Overall, I believe that the first movie night was a fun experience that I would like to do again. In fact, we are planning to host another movie night by the end of September 2024!, Please follow us on instagram or email us for further updates!



TZL EVENT

Written by Miles

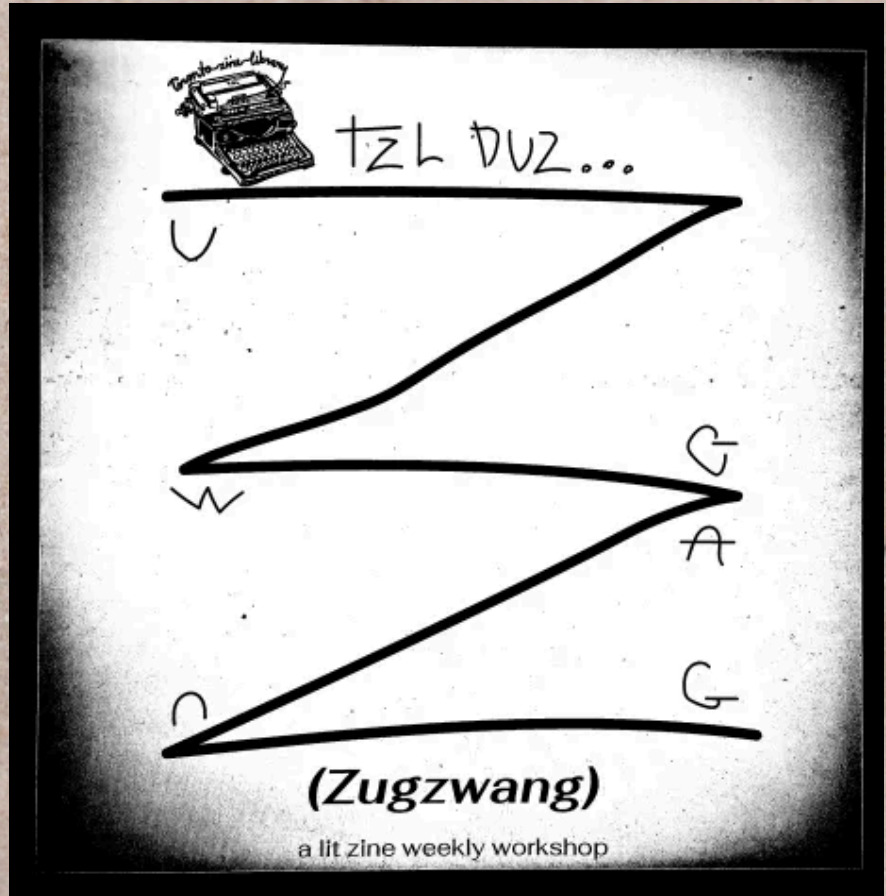
ZUGZWANG

Zugzwang is a lit zine weekly workshop that invites local writers to share their work (e.g., verse, prose, experiments) for constructive critique.

You polish your poetry, we print the residuum.

The anticipated launch date for the workshops is late October with the reading in December. The workshop will run for 90-minute sessions over 6-12 weeks. The first half of a session includes intensive critique for 1-3 participants, and the second half is free writing time prompted by workshopped pieces.

Interested? Email Miles (Mi.St.N.For.Rest@gmail.com). Use the Subject line "WORKSHOP" and include a short bio and statement of intent. Sample pieces are appreciated. Crit. placement are limited





TZL EVENT

Written by Hailey

The Toronto Zine Off

TZL invites you (yes YOU) to the Toronto Zine Off. Hoping to launch in November, the Toronto Zine Off is a big swap between zinesters and fellow zine-lovers. This is a pay-what-you-can event.

What's a Zine Off?

The Toronto Zine Off is a self-enforced deadline designed to push your creative side and a space to exchange your work. Originally run by zinester JP, the last Toronto Zine Off was held in 2018, before being handed off to TZL.

Participants will have a little over a month to create a zine (although most procrastinate until the night of the event!). There is no penalty for not making one, and the joy of the event comes from learning about all the awesome zinesters in the community!

The exact date has yet to be determined, but follow us on instagram or send an email to tortontozinelibrary@gmail.com for more information and date announcements



The Toronto Zine Library presents



ZINE RESOURCES

Written by Amanda

COMPOSITION BOOK

Seneca Polytechnic Library

Wide Ruled • 100 Sheets
9.75 In x 7.25 In



Website:

**[https://library.seneca
polytechnic.ca/Zines](https://library.senecapolytechnic.ca/Zines)**

Seneca Polytechnic has a zine collection located at its Seneca@York campus at York University. The library itself is located at 70 The Pond Road in Toronto, in room S1115. Items in the zine collection cannot leave the library, but access to the library is open to the public and anybody can browse the collection. Access to the collection is available on Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

The collection was launched on January 22nd 2016 as a "joint effort between Seneca's School of Creative Arts and Animation, the Illustration program and Seneca Libraries." (Seneca Libraries, 2024)

Reference: *Seneca Libraries. (2024, July 23). *Zine Collection at Seneca Libraries*. <https://library.senecapolytechnic.ca/Zines>

CALLS FOR SUBMISSION

Zine Submission

Name: FeelsZine Issue 23: Disability

Deadline: September 15, 2024

Contact: submittofeels@gmail.com

Honorarium: \$25 for each accepted submission

Requirement:

- Accepting all forms of written and visual artistic expression, as long as it can be printed
- Work should explore "feelings and experiences from a disability lens"
- Send all submissions with a short bio and description of your work
- See link for detailed submission guidelines: <https://feelszine.com/pages/submissions>

Zine submission

Name: FeelsZine Issue 24: Pride

Deadline: January 31st 2025

Contact: submittofeels@gmail.com

Note: Please contact the publisher at submittofeels@gmail.com for more information

Zine Submission

Name: Bed Zine Issue Four

Deadline: October 1st 2024

Contact: bedthezine@gmail.com

Honorarium: \$25 for each accepted submission. Includes free physical and digital copies of the issue.

Requirement:

- Accepting submissions from anyone who self-identifies as disabled, chronically ill, or neurodivergent
- If texts are in another language, they must be accompanied by an english translation
- Maximum six images for image submissions
- Maximum 1000 words for written submissions
- All submissions must be in PDF and sent to bedthezine@gmail.com

UPCOMING ZINE EVENTS/WORKSHOPS



Event: Zineography

Date: September 14th 12-4pm

Location: Central Library

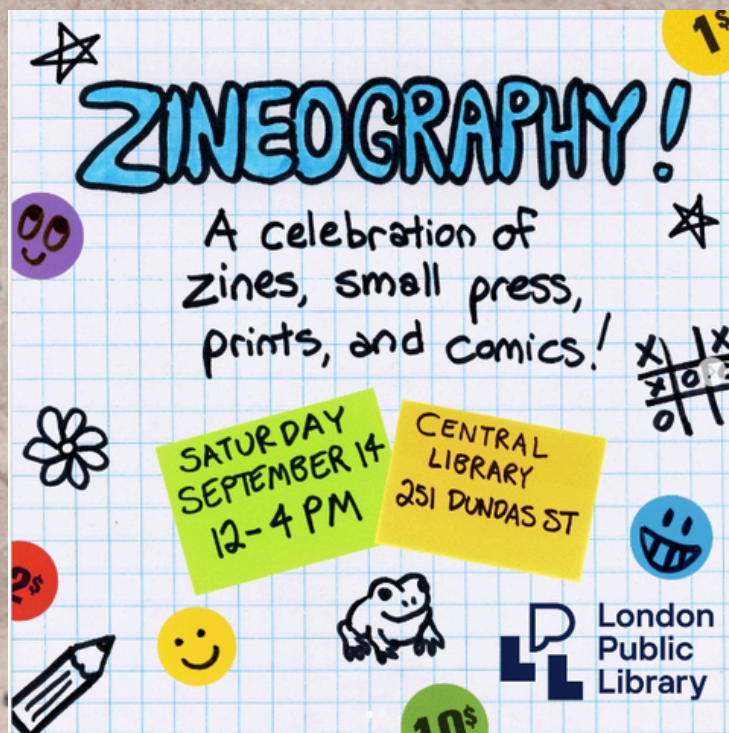
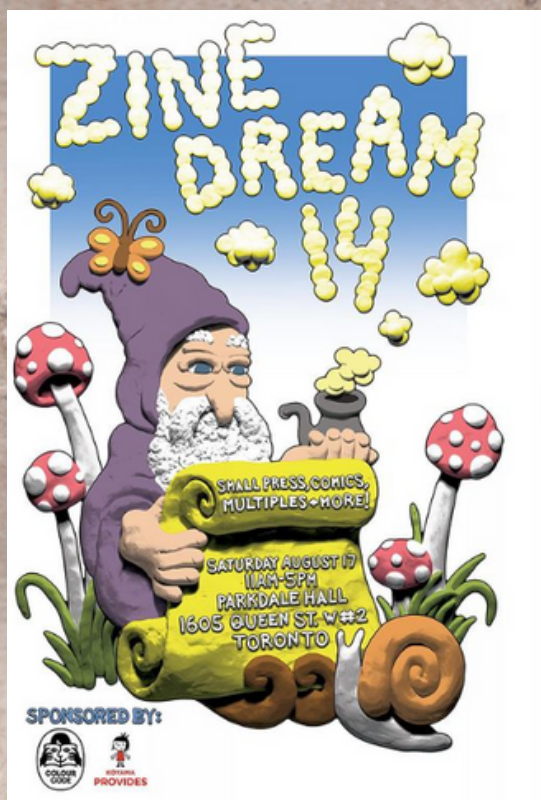
251 Dundas St, London ON N6A 6H9

Event: Zine Dream

Date: August 17th 11am-5pm

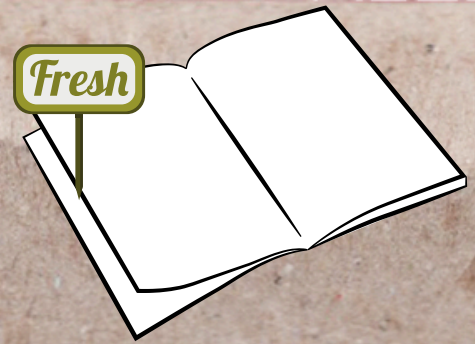
Location: Parkdale Hall

**Unit 2-1605 Queen Street West, Toronto
ON**



FRESHLY CATALOGUED

Written by Sylvia



The library is overflowing with zines, and we're receiving new zines constantly – so sometimes new additions get lost in the piles. We're hoping to showcase some of the amazing works we receive, with features in our newsletter!

Back in April, we received a DM on Instagram asking if we take donations from overseas. Of course we do! We love zines from all over the world. Funny enough, the zines were coming from Scarborough... England! I live in Scarborough, though obviously the Scarborough that's part of Toronto now – but with the TTC, it does sometimes feel like I'm coming from overseas. The zines from Scarborough, England arrived at TZL at the end of April. Joel Hague is a queer letterpress practitioner, researcher, curator, and zinester. The zines we received from Joel include:

- *In The Concrete Garden Above The Betting Shop: Menthol Cigarette Edition,*
- *The Awe*
- *Breathing, Existing & Living.*

These zines combine found and created visual imagery in various collage-based print designs. Joel uses bold typography styles, layering graphics, and photographs to produce works that are exciting to look at. But, as with most print materials, these zines are even more exciting to physically handle and flip through.

The zines can be found in the Art section of TZL, so come by and take a look! And give Joel a follow on Instagram: [_cheshur_](https://www.instagram.com/_cheshur_)



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 and we'll post it in our next newsletter
- Look out for our Winter newsletter, coming in October 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!!



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torontozinelibrary.org



[Toronto Zine Library](#)



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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