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## Finding aid for the West Michigan Zines collection Collection 478

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Grand Rapids History Center

Grand Rapids Public Library

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

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URL: <https://www.grpl.org/history/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Grand Rapids History Center
<b>Title:</b>	West Michigan Zine collection
<b>ID:</b>	Collection 478
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1980-2022
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 Linear Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	This is a devised collection of zines from the Grand Rapids, Mich. area and West Michigan. The library began actively collecting zine material in 2014 and continues to add to the collection. Included in this collection are a number of classic 1980s punk rock fanzines as well as modern zines which tend to be more art or politics focused.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Zines, short for magazines, have a long and interesting history in Grand Rapids, Mich. The typically small-scale, homemade periodicals are popular in subcultures and counter-culture. Most definitions of zines include that they are typically small-circulation, self-published, and often inexpensive or free. Subject matter ranges from fanzines focused on a genre of music or pop culture to full story comic books and political tracts. After decades of existence, zines are no longer strictly counter-culture, but they originated as small-scale DIY efforts—many with an anti-authoritarian message.

The first zine is traced back to a 1930s title by the Science Correspondence Club in Chicago. It was called "The Comet," and it started a long-lasting trend of sci-fi related zines. Early zines were produced using mimeographs but the process was impractical for large-scale production. In the 1970s however Xerox and copy shops made producing zines easier and cheaper which led to an explosion of zine production, mostly in the punk music subculture.

In the 1990s, zines flourished again thanks to the punk music riot grrrl scene and home computers and printers. As an alternative to the male-driven punk world, riot grrrl encouraged girls and women to start their own band, make their own zine, and get their voices

heard. These zines were about much more than music but were also about feminism and empowerment.

Today, there are zines on nearly every topic one could imagine. The feminist zine is still alive and well in Grand Rapids, Mich. zine's like "The Bandit Zine" while other zines focus on relationships, poetry, art, and general musings about life. With modern printers and graphic art computer programs, zines have become more complex and appear more professional.

Arnold, Chloe. A Brief History of Zines. November 19, 2016. Accessed June 25, 2018. <http://mentalfloss.com/article/88911/brief-history-zines>.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection represents an example of grassroots artistic and political expression in Grand Rapids, Mich. and the larger Western Michigan area. Classic punk rock zines such as "Little Friend," "Slash and Burn," and "Placebo Effect" are typical zines of the 1980s and early 1990s. More art focused zines dealing with relationships, social movements, and political ideology from the mid-1990s through the 2000s are also included in this collection. Most of the zines originate from Grand Rapids Zine Fest, an event which is sporadically held in Grand Rapids Mich., and from the Vault of Midnight's curated local publications section. A large portion of this collection was donated by employee Drew Damron and the classic 1980s punk fanzines in this collection were donated by employee Tim Pendergast.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Artists -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
  - Art -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
  - Zines
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## Collection Inventory

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### Classic Zines

Title/Description	Instances	
"Slash and Burn: All Michigan" Various Artists , n.d.	Box 1	Folder 1
"Hex on You" Iss. 4 / Various Artist, 1982	Box 1	Folder 24
"Koine Orama" / Jim Jirous, 3 Issues, 1985	Box 1	Folder 25
"Little Friend" Iss. 1, 5, 6, 8, 9 / Various Artists, 1985-1986	Box 1	Folder 26
"Bone Dance" Iss. 1, 1988	Box 1	Folder 27
"Bone Dance" Iss. 2, 1988	Box 1	Folder 28
"Bone Dance" Iss. 3, 1988	Box 1	Folder 29
"Bone Dance" Iss. 4 , 1988-03	Box 1	Folder 30
"Bone Dance" Iss. 5, 1989-07	Box 1	Folder 31
"Placebo Effect Fanzine" Various Artist, 1990	Box 1	Folder 32
"Brain Pain" Various Artists, 1990	Box 1	Folder 33
"Gainsay" Various Artists, 1990	Box 1	Folder 34
"Big Fish" Various Artists, 1996	Box 1	Folder 35

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### 2000 Zines

Title/Description	Instances	
"These Things Happen" / S. Carbaugh, 2008-2013	Box 1	Folder 36

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## 2010 Zines

### Scope and Contents

Though many of the zines in this sub-series are marked as having no date they can be attributed to a 2014 accession of zines from Drew Damron and the Grand Rapids Zine Fest. Also taking into account the subject matter and quality of the zines, it is assumed that these zines are from the 2010s.

Title/Description	Instances	
"616" Various Artists, 2011-11	Box 1	Folder 2
"Dangerous, Hair-Raising, Radical Tones" by Scaredsilly, 2012-03	Box 1	Folder 23
"A Collective Response to Well House" / Various Artists, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 3
"Apple Scruff" Vol. 1 Iss. 3 & 4 , n.d.	Box 1	Folder 4
"Constellation" Iss. 17 by Ben Hollister, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 6
"New Pink Nudibranch" / Jen Tynes, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 7
"Muskegon: The Future Does Not Belong to the Developers" , n.d.	Box 1	Folder 8
"Ghoul Rapids" Iss. 1 by Rayne Klar & Rob Bruce, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 9
"Two Odd Birds: Just the Good Times", n.d.	Box 1	Folder 10
"Meander" / Avde Shattuck, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 11
"Food Roots" Iss. 1 / Drew Damron, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 12
"This Story is Based on Lies" / Rachel Foss, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 13
"Clear Obstacles" / Mira Humbert , n.d.	Box 1	Folder 14
"Mix Tapers Do It Better" Iss. 2 & 4 / Karen H., n.d.	Box 1	Folder 15
"Haunted Ground" by Karen H., n.d.	Box 1	Folder 16
"Jesse Owens" Iss. 1, 3, 5 / Karen H, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 17
"Santa Pants" / Karen H, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 18
"Good Zines" , n.d.	Box 1	Folder 19
"Putting Words into the Hands and Heart of a Well-meaning Mayor.", n.d.	Box 1	Folder 20
"The Cuil" various artist, 2 issues, n.d.	Box 1	Folder 21
"Openings: Anarchist Reflections on Occupy Grand Rapids", n.d.	Box 1	Folder 22
"Mindful Eating" / Drew Damron, 2010	Box 2	Folder 2

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"Comics for Something" / Drew Damron, 2011-06	Box 2	Folder 3
"Spoon: Heartside Writings" Iss. 50, 52, 53, 55, 56 / Various Artists, 2012-2013	Box 2	Folder 5
The Bandit Zine Issues 1-5, 2012-2013	Box 2	Folder 6
"Rape Culture 101: Creating a Culture of Belief" / Sara Chittenden, 2013-12	Box 2	Folder 7
"Thought Frame" Iss. 1, 2013	Box 2	Folder 8
"Angry Confetti" Iss. 1-4 / Sara Chittenden , 2013-2014	Box 2	Folder 9
"Being an Adult" / Drew Damron, 2014-08	Box 2	Folder 10
"Bitter and Trying: Collected Analysis on Rape Culture" / Sara Chittenden, 2015	Box 2	Folder 11
"GRpg: Chapter 1" / Drew Damron, 2015	Box 2	Folder 12
"New Game +" / Drew Damron, 2016	Box 2	Folder 13
"Mob Work: Anarchists in Grand Rapids", 2014	Box 2	Folder 14
"Spread 'Em: This is What a Feminist Looks Like" Iss. 1, 2013-09	Box 2	Folder 15
"Empty Bed" / Rachell Foss, 2013	Box 2	Folder 16
"Sacred Prism" / Ines Estrada, 2014	Box 2	Folder 17
"Comics: Investigate the History and Technology of American Cartooning with 25 Projects" / S. Carbaugh, 2014	Box 2	Folder 18
"Night Hag" / Rayne Klar, 2018	Box 2	Folder 19
The Bandit Zine - Various Artists, 2017-2018	Box 2	Folder 20
"Serenity Now - A Collection of Illustration" / Adam X Vass, 2017	Box 3	Folder 2
"O, Death" / Adam X Vass, 2017	Box 3	Folder 3
"Great Work - Coloring Book" / Adam X , 2017	Box 3	Folder 4
"Butcher Bob and the Quest for the Origami Salami, Parts 1-3 by Simon Scheer, 2018	Box 3	Folder 31
"Serene Meloncholy" by Nyen Nguyen	Box 3	Folder 32
"I Read Comic Books" August, 2018	Box 3	Folder 33
"Lighting Up Grand Rapids, Issue 1 - Fire by Lamont Arrington	Box 3	Folder 34
"A Money Spell" by Rayne Klar, 2018	Box 3	Folder 35
"The Luminous Firefly" by Terrell Smith and Koko Amboro, 2013	Box 3	Folder 36

"Going Overboard!" No. 1 by Kaitlyne Heyworth and Aubrie Warner	Box 3	Folder 37
"Barnstormers" by Kenny Porter and Renny Castellani, 2017	Box 3	Folder 38
"Tidal Waves" by Jeremy Daniels , 2018	Box 3	Folder 39
Fliers for Jafax, June 7-9, 2019 and the Illustration Road Show, Feb 23 , 2019	Box 3	Folder 40

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## 2019 Zines

Title/Description	Instances	
2019 Zine Fest Information, Participants	Box 4	Folder 1
"High Maintenance Machine" vols. 1-2	Box 4	Folder 2
"El Malcriado de Cosecha": New Year 2019 #3; May 1, 2019 #4; Fall 2019 #5	Box 4	Folder 3
"Party Table"; "Creepy Creeches" zines	Box 4	Folder 4
"Mom #1"; "Mom #2", by Kim Nguyen	Box 4	Folder 5
"Smallfry" by Stolenchapstick	Box 4	Folder 6
Four (4) zines by Sydney Kocsis	Box 4	Folder 7
"This Travesty" by Sarah Jean Anderson	Box 4	Folder 8
"I won't forget any of you" vols. 1-2, by Ty Dykema	Box 4	Folder 9
"Spider"; "Mosquito" by Caroline Elsner	Box 4	Folder 10
"The Stronger One"; "Homeless" by Amy Phillips	Box 4	Folder 11
"The Jade Plant Project" vols. 2-4	Box 4	Folder 12

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## 2022 Zines

### General

Materials in this series were purchased at Zine Fest 2022 through the generosity of the Stuart Fund

Title/Description	Instances	
"Regular Magic" Vol. 1-2 and "A Letter to My Body" by Rikki Paepke	Box 5	Folder 1
"Mom (Me), Zine 1," "Mom (Me), Zine 2," and "Why Am I an Artist?" by Kim Nguyen	Box 5	Folder 2



"Cat-o-scopes," Vol 1-2 and "Little Book of Dolls" by Shannon McCurdy	Box 5	Folder 3
"in-between," "pink depression," and Strawberry Bear Vol. 2 by Frankie Yoshi	Box 5	Folder 4
"Triangle Dude Adventures: The Groove part 1" and "Triangle Dude Adventures: The Groove part 2" by Paloma Deer	Box 5	Folder 5
"Stellium," "Is This Us? A reflection about Vietnamese American Conservatism and the RVN," and "A God in the Woods" by Tuyetnhi Pham	Box 5	Folder 6
"Lutheran School Made Me an Atheist" and "Uprising 2020" by Brooke Harris	Box 5	Folder 7
"Artist: an overly melodramatic..." by Chyna Jones; "Equilibriums" by Laura Citino; and "Michigan Cryptids" by Shi Briggs	Box 5	Folder 8

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## Ephemera

Title/Description	Instances	
Grand Rapids Zine Fest Promotional Material , 2013-2015	Box 2	Folder 21
Grand Rapids Zine Fest 2018 Promo Poster, 2018	Box 3	Folder 22
Grand Rapids Zine Fest 2022: Business cards and other promotional materials, 2022-08-29	Box 5	Folder 9

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