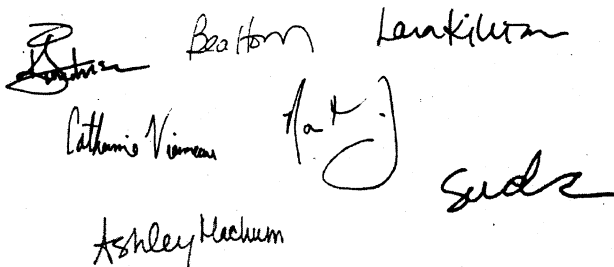


Editors' Note

This issue of the YA Hotline is all about making simple projects, altering stuff teens already have, working on projects collaboratively and building creative skills as well as social ones.

Making things and crafting involves a number of developmental assets that are considered key for teens to acquire and build on. These include external assets such as building relationships with adults, participating in community activities, and having responsible adult role models as well as positive peer influences. Spending time on a regular basis participating in creative activities is also an important developmental activity. Involvement in youth programs helps teens develop their skills and capabilities in a positive environment. Some of the projects can be worked on at home, while others encourage teens to spend time in a positive community space like the library. Both are great ways of bringing teens to a safe place and encouraging constructive use of their time.

In terms of internal assets that are important for teens to develop, crafting encourages learning new skills and planning ahead. Interpersonal competencies are also reinforced when teens are encouraged to work collaboratively. Crafting projects can involve learning about other cultures and techniques used in various societies, helping teens to broaden their world-view and encouraging empathy for people outside their community. Because the teens have control over their projects and will improve their self-esteem through successful project completion, crafting also helps teens develop positive self-identity. With all that being said, please enjoy this crafty issue of the *YA Hotline*!


 Patricia Beathorn
 Catherine Vienneau
 Ashley Machum
 [Other signatures]

Contributors



Nora Kennedy

Has been making her own jewellery for nearly ten years. She likes to try unique crafting projects like weaving and puppet making.



Lara Killian

Our resident crafting expert. Loves to crochet and knit; she even designs her own knitting patterns.



Catherine Vienneau

Has been knitting for more than 5 years. She is currently knitting her very first pair of socks.



Sarah Ziolkowska

Draws and writes. Self-publishes zines as a hobby.



Kimberly Johnson

Loves to get crafty in the kitchen. Once she knit her cat, Grendel, a scarf.



Ashley Machum

Can make anything out of anything; from puppets to sewing projects to knitted berets.



Bea Houston

Takes black & white photographs. She also alters her own clothes to fit just right.