Teens dream of zines

A zine programming guide

program description:

This program will run once a week for 6 weeks and allows teens to explore, innovate, create, and advocate through the zine medium. Utilizing community partnerships with the Anchor Zine Archive Library, the program will open with the conception of the idea or theme of each person's zine, asking the teens to think deeply and broadly for topics. From there, the teens will create the design of each page, either digitally (Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, or Canva) or analog. Teens will be instructed on the printing and binding of their own zines.

program objectives:

- To create a completed zine, from start to finish.
- Invite teens to express themselves in a traditionally socially progressive medium.
- Provide opportunities for teens to learn about analog content, including a brief history of the craft.
- To allow teens a space to write creatively with critical but positive feedback.

ationale:

There are multiple goals with this program. Zine making allows for teens to have a positive creative outlet for writing, painting, drawing, and innovating. Zines are a complex medium that requires a variety of skills, including research, planning and selecting an overarching theme, building a chapbook that disseminates information, and artistic design.

arget audience:

This program is directed at teens ages fourteen to eighteen. This age range is ideal for the creation of zines, as the medium allows for expression through writing, painting, drawing, and digital art.

staffing requirements:

There will be a need for a singular library worker to organize the event, reaching out to the community partners, and scheduling the space. As the program will only allow space for fifteen teens, the program will require two staff members to be present during the program itself. There may be a need for other staff to help in setting up and tearing down the event space.

preparing the program:

The program space will require enough table space for each teen (fifteen in total). The teens have the choice between digitally organizing their zine or physically creating the workbook, so chromebooks/ iPads must be made available. Analog zine tools, such as magazines (preferably from a recently weeded pile), construction paper, markers, pencils, scissors, etc., will all be needed each week. The selected program room should be close to a printer in case teens need to print pictures/art/pieces for their zine, including the final printing of each zine.

proposed schedule:

Week #	Task	Objective
Week One	Meet and greet to further understand the space and general task of zine making	Become comfortable with the space, group, and concept of zine
Week Two	Solidify zine theme and begin outline	Understand the necessities of creating and focusing on a specific theme
Week Three	Finish outline and begin creating spreads	Allow space for creativity, artistic expression through writing and drawing/painting/collage
Week Four	Continue making spreads and begin instruction on printing process	The completion of the zine is in sight; begin to develop an understanding of the printing process
Week Five	Finish spreads, begin printing, and begin instruction on binding	Develop formatting, printing, and binding skills
Week Six	Complete printing, bind zines, and share creative processes and zines with the group. Leave time for critical, positive feedback	Complete printing and binding; celebrate the successes of the zines and the possible issues that arose during the creation process through group conversation

:ommunity partnerships:

The following community organizations and institutions are relevant partnerships the library could further research. Each of these potential partners can be utilized in different ways to support the program and the teens who engage with the program.

- *The Anchor Archive Zine Library*
- *Radstorm*

physical spaces:

The program will require a large program room with adequate space for fifteen teenagers, one staff member, and possibly community partners. A room will need to be booked in advance for the duration of the program (6 weeks).

As this program is intended to allow for space for creativity, our budget will remain relatively low in order to show the teens they are able to create zines outside of the workshops. Utilizing magazines that were recently weeded or on the donation shelf will cut down the cost of printing pictures for collages. We will also be utilizing free software such as Canva for those who prefer creating their zine digitally. The community partners have experience with book binding and will provide some of our supplies. Thick, glossy printing paper suitable for zines will need to be purchased but can be printed on the library's printers to reduce direct programming costs.

proposed budget:

Paper (thick printing paper for zines)	$50.00
Printing (for collage/zine design)	$20.00
Printing (final product)	$50.00
Total:	$120.00

evaluation methods:

This program will be evaluated through informal conversations with the teens in attendance. Through conversations over the course of the 6 weeks, library staff will grow an understanding of the successes of the program and will note the failures or shortcomings. After the first round of this program is completed, we can evaluate through the number of participants who sign up for the second round. This will help the library develop an understanding of the general need for the second program.

See you at the Library!

for more inspiration on starting your own zine, check out the article *The (Most) Brief History of the Zine*