

Creative storytelling for change:

Learn how to make a zine with Victory Nwabu-Ekeoma (Share-Net Netherlands)

Wednesday August 10th, 2022

Ideating: What should your zine be about?

Whatever you want!

Some ideas include:

- A poetry zine
- A photography zine
- A comic

1

- A short story
- A collection of essays
- A little cookbook full of your own recipes
- An informational zine about your favourite subject
- An illustrated glossary of terms
- A zine about your home country or heritage
- A collection of your favourite quotes
- An instruction manual on how to make something

A zine is a selfpublished small circulation booklet. It's similar to a magazine but it has a DIY ethos and rebellious nature.

Creating: My tried and tested steps

) Brainstorm ideas, visuals and concepts



Get inspiration for what you want by reading other zines and magazines, going through online platforms like Instagram, going to zine fairs or zine libraries.

Decide if you want to collaborate with someone

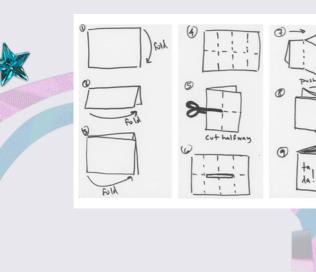
- Getting people involved can bring different voices, perspectives, talents and resources to your zinemaking project
- You can get people to submit their creative work like poems, illustrations, photography, essays etc
 - Getting submissions can be as easy as asking your friends, announcing it on social media, sharing it with networks and communities you already know



$\widehat{}_{3}$ Decide the format of the zine

- Stitch bound zine?
- Staple bound zine?
- Folding zine?
- A5 booklet?
- Professionally printed?
- DIY?

8-page mini zine











Tips for printing

- Use resources you have access to already!
- Apply for funding!
 - Professional printing can be very pricey, see if there are any creative grants available to help you print your zines.
- Make sure you format your pages correctly!
- You can make a zine either digitally (Canva, Photoshop, InDesign) or physically (handwritten, collages, drawing) or a mixture of both!
- Zines with a large page number count might need to be professionally printed. Look around for and support your local printing press if you take this route!
 - You can also use online printers like Mixam which is a good one or Blurb if your US based
- Zine printing decision-making guide:

Is my zine personal, short, and physically made (i.e. collages, written etc)? \rightarrow I would recommend DIY printing, hand binding as opposed to professional printing Is my zine collaborative, longer than 60 pages, and digitally made? \rightarrow I would recommend professionally printed or digitally accessible zines. It's hard to stitch or staple larger zines and they'll need to be "perfect bound" which is a process of connecting the spine with a special glue.

Sharing: How to get your zine out there

- Give copies to your contributors and collaborators!
- Share it at zine fairs.
- Find independent book stores willing to stock your zine.
- Share it on social media.
- Join your local creative communities and share your work!
- Throw a party to launch and promote it!
- Publish a digital version online
- Swap your zines with other zine-makers around the world!
- Look up zine hashtags on social media and get talking to other zine-makers!

Stay Connected!

Victory Nwabu-Ekeoma: vcnekeoma@gmail.com Bia! Zine: hellobiazine@gmail.com | @bia_zine