

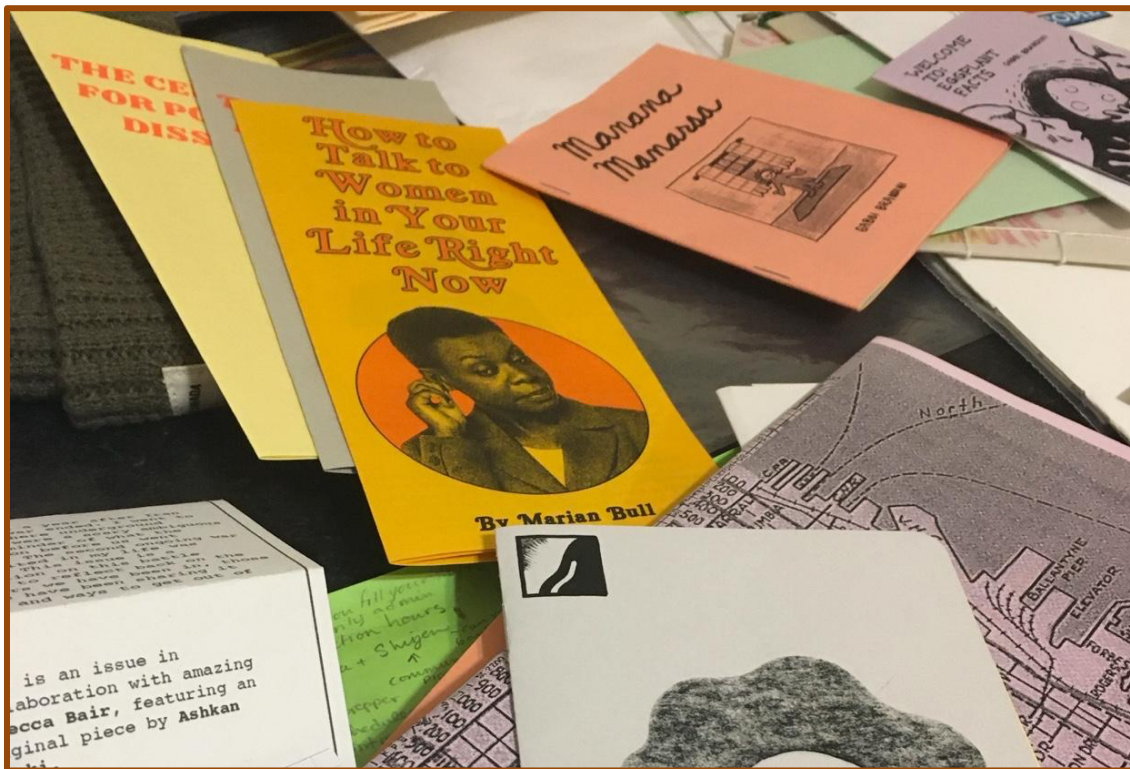
## Food for Thought: Zine Making Workshop using Collage

By Annie Canto for Artists for Kids & the Gordon Smith Gallery

### Overview

The stories of where we came from, what we like, and how we exist in different places can be told by the food that we eat. In this lesson, you'll design and produce a zine that tells a story with collage, writing, and illustrations.

### What is a Zine?

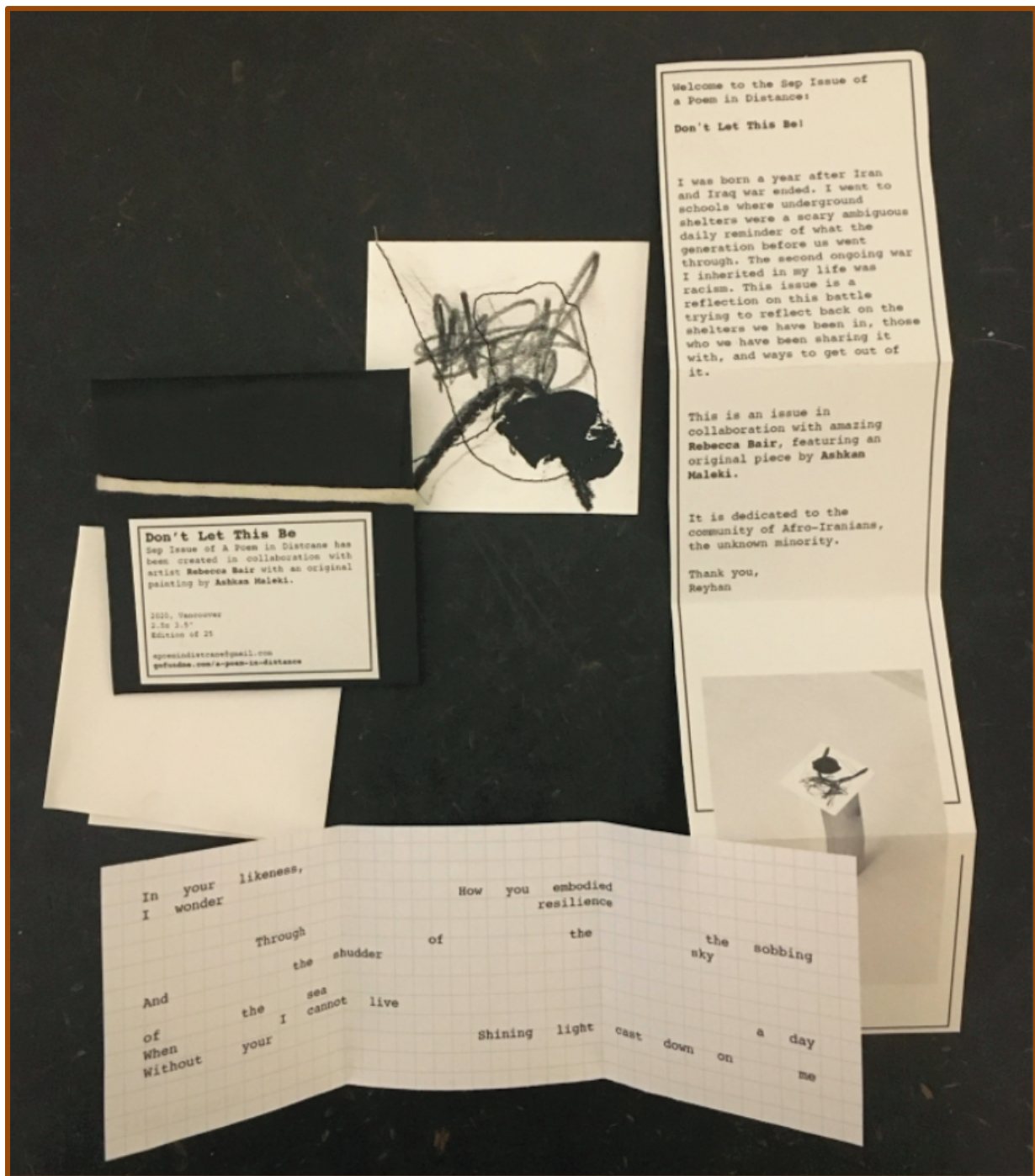


Zines are small books made with easy-to-find art processes like collage, handwriting, or mixed media drawing. They are then photocopied and distributed widely in a community. Zines have been used to spread important political information, to extend the stories of favourite characters in what are called fanzines, to create collaborative books with friends, to share stories around music scenes and albums, and many other reasons. The accessible materials and versatility make zines a perfect material for publishing ideas and images and sharing them with a select audience. Here are a couple examples of zines:



Gabbi Brandini is an illustrator who creates one page zines. Above, is a series of zines called "Vegetable Facts." She creates sci-fi stories by making up facts about common vegetables!





Reyhan Yazdani invites artists to make zines with her in a project she calls, "Poem in Distance." She asks artists to write poems and create small artworks that she then copies to fit into custom envelopes. The zines get mailed out to her community and to all the artists that participate.



Jesse Clyde publishes a collaborative comic under the guise of "The Rumble Lumb Club." In this issue called "Plants You Can Eat" featured artist, Annie Canto, created multi-media comics inspired by cooking with plants.



## Process

### Artmaking Prompts and Ideas to Consider

Students will create a 6-page zine that tells a story of food through collaged recipes.

Before you start making your zine, think about a “food story” that you would like to tell. It could be real or completely made up. How might you tell this story through collage, writing, and illustrations?

Some ideas to consider:

- What is your favourite family recipe? When and where does your family make and eat this food? What’s its significance?
- What’s something simple you eat really often? List the steps of how you prepare it and where you eat it.
- What’s an ingredient you use or eat in many dishes? Where does it come from and how does it show up in different forms?

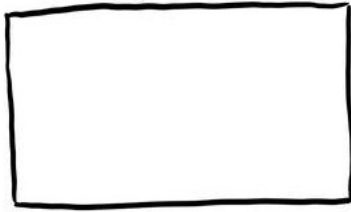
Tip: your mini collages don't need to perfectly illustrate what you've written. Interesting things can happen when your text interacts with your image in indirect ways.

### Supplies

- Blank Zine Template or 8.5” x 11” white printer paper
- Scissors
- Collage materials such as: magazines, scrap paper, newspaper clippings, stickers, etc.
- Glue sticks or white glue
- Markers and/or pencil crayons

### Phase 1: Zine folding and cutting

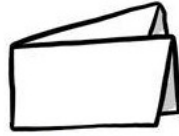
- Using copies of the attached blank zine template, students will fold their single sheet of paper into eight sections, unfold, fold in half, then make a single cut and refold (see diagram, below). Here is a [video](#) of how it’s done, minute .49 is when the folding starts.



ONCE YOU GOT YOUR ZINE  
TEMPLATE PRINTED OUT, HERE'S  
WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO DO :



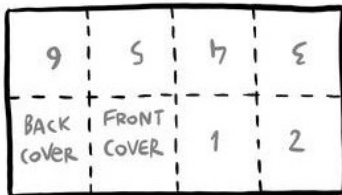
① FOLD



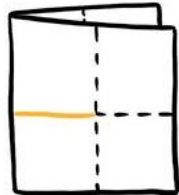
② FOLD



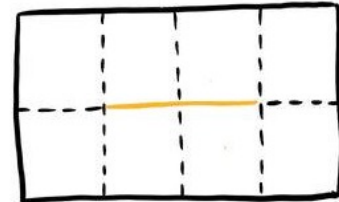
③ ... FOLD



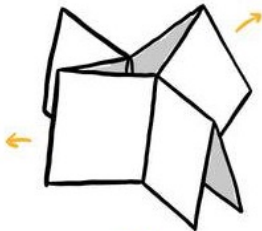
④ OPEN



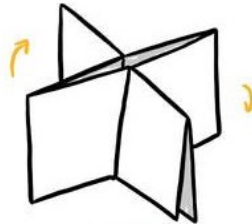
⑤ CUT ON  
THIS LINE



⑥ ... SO WHEN YOU  
OPEN IT LOOKS  
LIKE THIS



⑦ FOLD



⑧



⑨ TA-DAA!

NOTE: Step 5, the single cut, is really important! Make sure to cut from the center fold to the middle and no further or your zine will get cut in half. AND Steps 7 and 8, in this diagram are the tricky ones. Once one student figures it out, they will need to help their neighbours.



## Phase 2: Filling the pages

- Students can unfold their zines or keep them folded to start doing collage work keeping in mind the page numbers printed on the template.
- **Creating Collage Recipes**
  - Choose images, colours, textures and shapes from your collage supplies and make arrangements to glue down on your zine's pages. React to the different images and shapes you cut from the scraps in order to make interesting compositions. Use text not only as a narrative tool, but as a visual element to add to your page designs.
  - After gluing your compositions down, fill each page with a step in a recipe. For example:



- Your recipe can be real or completely made up based on your mini-collages. Fill your pages with different kinds of lettering and work with markers, pen, and pencil. Get inspired with the examples of collaged zines featured below!

- **Creating a Front Cover and Back Cover**
  - Create a title for the zine based on its content and write this on the front cover. On the back cover, students can write their first name and grade.

### **Phase 3: Copies Copies Copies**

- Zines are short form publications that are easy to make and distribute! In keeping with this material, original one page zines can be photocopied with a xerox machine. The copies can then be folded and cut into their final form.



## Zine Samples for Inspiration

