



Fan Culture Preservation Project

Do you have zines, fannish flyers, paper memorabilia, or con programs that you can't keep anymore, but can't bear to throw out? The OTW (a fan run non-profit group) can help!

Overview

The Fan Culture Preservation Project is a partnership between the OTW and the Special Collections department at the University of Iowa Libraries dedicated to preserving fan artifacts such as letterzines, fanzines, and other non-digital fan works and memorabilia.

The OTW has helped many fans to establish collections under their own names, but fans who wish not to be named can donate to the OTW's general collection.

Contact the **Open Doors** committee for more information about donating zines or other artifacts of fan culture. Contact page:

<http://opendoors.transformativeworks.org/contact/>

More info about the project:

<http://opendoors.transformativeworks.org/collections/fan-culture-preservation>

(Other OTW projects can help you preserve digital fanworks like **vids** or artifacts.)

Why is Fan Culture Preservation important?

As Greg Prickman, Assistant Head of Special Collections at the University of Iowa, notes, "*fan culture pre-dates and anticipates our modern remix mash-up internet culture.*" The Special Collections department has a strong interest in preserving zines and fan culture: Iowa is already home to a huge (250,000) collection of science fiction and fantasy zines and APA zines, as well as a collection of Riot Grrrl and Underground Music Zines.

Letterzines and fanzines are the tangible artifacts (and evidence of the existence) of the longstanding nature of our fan communities, many of which were historically underground. As our works are lost and people gaffiate or pass away, that history vanishes.

I have boxes [shelves/rooms/houses] full of zines! I can't afford to mail them to Iowa! Heck, I can't even get them to the post office!

We can help! The Fan Culture Preservation Project can arrange not only for postage but for pick up of donations. Don't let cost or bulk stop you from donating.

Will archives be made available in digital form? OTW and Iowa will be exploring ways to digitize some of these materials, so that fans who want to see them will have access, even if they can't get to Iowa. We hope to reach many of the authors of these stories to get their permission to share their work online.

What about fan privacy? Many fans published stories under their legal names. Respecting fans' rights and privacy is the first priority for both the University of Iowa and the OTW. Typical public listings will only include the zine title and fandom (i.e. Blake's Seven: The Other Side 1, 3 [1986-1987]), the same way a magazine is listed in a library catalog. However, we do hope to get permission from individuals to share their content online.

Can I borrow these materials through inter-library loan programs? The items in the collection will remain resident at the University of Iowa. However, Special Collections is willing to photocopy and send up to 100 photocopies to scholars or other interested parties at a price of about \$.25 cents a page, according to their standard procedure. Fans outside the U.S. may be charged additional postage.

Does the FCPP have any criteria about donations based on language or country of origin? No: both the FCPP and the University of Iowa are interested in collecting materials from fans around the world, including materials that are not in English or do not come from an English-speaking countries. However, as with U.S. donations, our ability to help with shipping will be dependent on available resources.

Can I leave my fannish collection to this project in my will? Yes. We can help you with appropriate wording for a bequest.