

a zine for people
experiencing homelessness

WE ARE NOT OUR HOUSING STATUS





This zine is a project of the Durland Alternatives Library.

Our goal with this zine is to provide people who are experiencing homelessness with an outlet for creative self-expression that doubles as a public forum to share your experience. Because you are not your housing status! You are a unique individual and your voice matters.

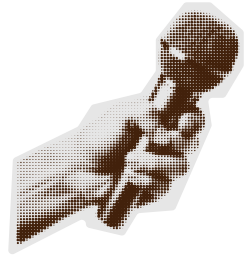
Founded in 1974, the Durland Alternatives Library promotes and advocates for sustainability, social justice, and the kind of curiosity that can change the world. We are the home of Prisoner Express, a program that fosters creative self-expression for people who are incarcerated throughout the U.S.

We know through our work with Prisoner Express - and as humans - that creative self-expression is life sustaining. By creating a public forum for sharing, together we can create unique opportunities for understanding, compassion, and mutual aid.

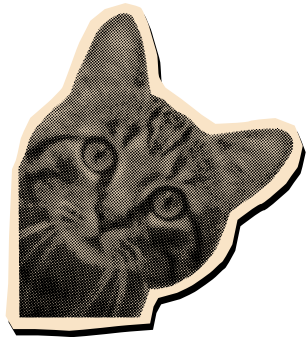
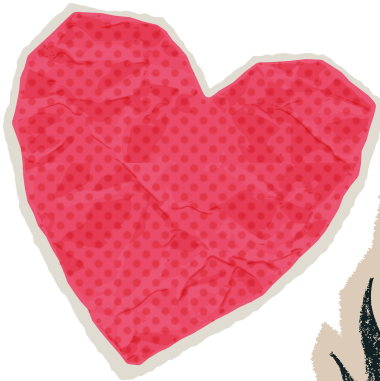
We hope you'll accept our invitation to share your words, your art, and your stories.

We invite you to join us.

SHARE A CREATIVE RESPONSE TO THIS PROMPT:



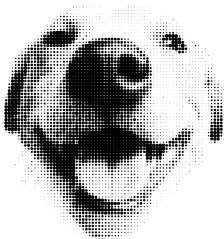
*What are you
passionate about?*



Is it a hobby, a person, a dream? A place, an animal, a hope? A principle, a theory, a way of being? Send us your response in whatever form strikes you. It could be a letter, a poem, an essay; a collage, a photograph, a drawing.

Your responses will be compiled for the debut issue of this zine and will be distributed for free.

We can't promise to include everyone's work but we'll do our best!



THINGS TO KNOW:

- **Submissions are open to anyone who is experiencing homelessness**, however you define it: living in temporary housing like a motel or shelter; encampments; living out of a vehicle; couch-surfing; etc.
- **By sharing your work with us, you agree that we can publish it.** *You retain all rights to your work.*
- **Please include your name, age, and general location** (so that we can get a sense of who is participating and better know where to focus our efforts) and ***let us know whether you would like to use your full name, first name only, a pseudonym, or to remain anonymous.***
- If you're sending in writing, **please aim for 800 words max.**
- **Please note:** We reserve the right not to publish material that is sexually explicit in nature and/or that promotes hate or violence.

NAME THIS ZINE!

This publication is for you and by you. What do you think it should be called?



We'll compile your suggestions and ask you to vote on them in the next issue.

WHAT SHOULD THE NEXT QUESTION OR PROMPT BE?



The question we started with in this issue was "What are you passionate about?" What should be the next question, topic, or prompt? *Share your suggestions when you send in your submission!*

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSE

Email: alternativeslibrary@gmail.com

Text: (607) 306-8613

In person drop-off:

- CORTLAND
 - **Cortland Free Library** - 32 Church St.
 - **The Grace Space** - 64 Pendleton St.
- ITHACA
 - **Durland Alternatives Library** - 130 Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell Campus
 - **Seed Bomb** - 111 E. State St., Ithaca Commons
- Or hand it to a Mutual Aid friend! *We are working to connect with people to distribute the zine & collect your work.*

Questions? Email alternativeslibrary@gmail.com
or text/call (607) 306-8613.

ART

**Art is not a mirror held up to
reality
but a hammer
with which to shape it.**

-Bertolt Brecht

