



# OORA

VOL 2.1



## FAQ's

### What am I holding?

A zine. Often put together by a few individuals with limited materials, zines are small, short magazine-type print media that provide an alternative to advertising-laden magazines featuring unrealistic and damaging depictions of individuals and communities. Zines are not intended to be perfectly and sleekly designed. Instead, zines value *authenticity*. This year, since many of us are working or going to school online, we wanted to expand the types of submissions we can accept, including those in color and using multimedia art forms.

### Why did y'all print these?

Zines are spaces for people whose voices usually go unheard (in this zine, LGBTQ+ people and their families, friends, and allies across the community) to speak and express themselves through various types of art. Zines have been used as a method of consciousness-raising through the collection, capture, and archival of artistic and creative expressions of the lived experiences of individuals, or a community of individuals, as they know it, not as others perceive it by a number of different social movements. We started this tradition as part of LGBTQ History Month in 2019, and archived zines are available at the Okra Out Front website. We welcome your submission for the remaining zines in 2020!

### What should I do with it?

Read it and hand it to someone else after you are done. Hand it to a friend, neighbor, family member, or whomever. If you want to keep it, that is okay too. If, once you are done with it, you want to leave it somewhere else where someone may find it and enjoy reading it, please do.

### Some of this stuff is not what I was expecting, seems odd, or is not what I could call normal. What is that about?

The point of the zine is to capture the authentic experience of those people who are submitting, so we published the submissions we received that met our parameters. This is a community art project, and we want as many people involved as want to be.

### How do I get involved in the next issue?



We plan to print two more issues this semester. Scan the QR code to be taken directly to the submission form, which requires you to sign in with a Google account. You may also choose to submit your work anonymously or under a pseudonym, provided it meets the parameters of the original call for submissions. Physical submissions may be dropped off in the Division of Social Sciences and History Main Office, Kethley Suite G.

# SAY THEIR NAMES

DUSTIN PARKER SELENA REYES-HERNANDEZ

NEULISA LUCIANO RUIZ NINA POP YAMPI

MÉNDEZ AROCHO MONIKA DIAMOND

JOHANNA METZGER SERENA VÁZQUEZ

RAMOS JAYNE THOMPSON LAYLA PELAEZ

SÁNCHEZ PENÉLOPE DÍAZ RAMÍREZ HELLE JAE

O'REGAN TONY MCDADE BRIAN "EGYPT"

POWERS REM'MIE FELS MARILYN CAZARES

LEXI AJA R. RHONE-SPEARS RIAH MILTON

BRAYLA STONE MERCI MACK SHAKI PETERS

BREE BLACK SUMMER TAYLOR DIOR H. OVA

QUEASHA D. HARDY AERRION BURNETT

**AT LEAST 27 TRANSGENDER OR GENDER NON-CONFORMING PEOPLE  
HAVE BEEN FATALLY SHOT OR KILLED BY VIOLENCE IN 2020. THE  
MAJORITY WERE BLACK AND LATINX TRANSGENDER WOMEN.**



When I was in college in the 70s people were  
afraid anyone would find out they were gay. We  
watched our gay friends die of AIDS while preachers  
were saying that the right people were dying.



I'm

Scared to  
come out to my family  
even though I know  
they'll support me



Give

ME

Life



LOVE

CH

A simple line drawing of a flower with five petals and a sun with rays, both drawn in a dark ink. The flower is on the left and the sun is on the right. They are drawn on a piece of lined paper.

HAPP

Don't worry about  
What others may  
think.



love.

love conquers all

God Loves You.

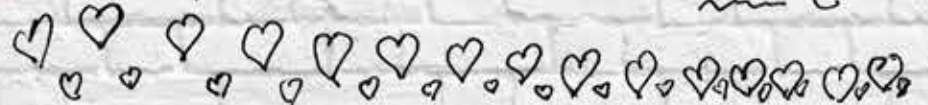
- A Christian who knows how you feel.

It's  
Blue  
But  
a  
Girl

Clarence Johnson

All are Welcome!

All Different But the SAME !!





My identity does not  
invalidate  
My humanity.  
My asexual, agender, autistic  
ass asks you to  
Stop acting as if I am  
Less than  
human  
Less than  
happy  
Less than  
you  
I am me - all of these things  
~~things~~ and more  
And I am beautiful, perfect  
amazing.  
I am me.



Straight but relate  
to reject hate  
of a mate  
or a date  
of dark fate

Straight but here  
to help remove fear  
A better path to steer  
for a world sincere

Straight but now  
a hand at the plow  
flout and now  
Allies take a bow

-J.W





I was disgusted. The thought  
 of who I was made me hate  
 my self; I resented the person I  
 saw looking back at me in my mirror.  
 Her thoughts were disgusting, and  
 so was she.

It took many years. Many years to  
 stop taking out my loathing on others.  
 I accept and love me. My friends  
 held my hands and guided me to accept  
 who I am.

I am bisexual,  
 I am non binary,  
 I am happy.  
 I am me.  
 And I am loved.  
 And I can love.



Kilogram Parsons  
 @KilogramParsons

If broadband speeds, in any way,  
 affected high school football, West  
 Virginia would have the national guard  
 and every state employee out digging  
 ditches and laying fiber optic lines.

me: I forgot my hw at home  
 my online professor:



me when a slight breeze rolls through



**YOU ARE  
 PERSONALLY  
 RESPONSIBLE  
 FOR BECOMING  
 MORE ETHICAL  
 THAN THE  
 SOCIETY YOU  
 GREW UP IN.**



rise n grind y'all let's get this bread  
 guess



The Mayans who miswrote "2012" for  
 "2021":









# Take Care



# of Garcelle

## **IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS HELP:**

The hotlines listed below provide services to callers across the country. If you are looking for a local support network, also contact one of PFLAG's more than 400 chapters in the United States.

### **IF YOU ARE IN CRISIS:**

The Trevor Project: (866) 488-7386

The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) young people ages 13-24.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: (800) 273-8255 (online chat available)

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Crisis Text Line: Text START to 741-741\*

Crisis Text Line is free, 24/7 support for those in crisis. Text from anywhere in the USA to text with a trained Crisis Counselor.

The GLBT National Youth Talkline

(Youth serving youth through age 25): (800) 246-7743\*

\*Both of the above provide telephone, online private one-to-one chat and email peer-support, as well as information and local resources for cities and towns across the US.

### DSU Counseling Center:

The Campus Counseling Center is open and FREE to students, faculty and staff, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Stress management, Counseling, and Alcohol/Drug use appointments made in person or by calling Kashanta Jackson.

### **YOUTH INFORMATION:**

The National Runaway Safeline: 800-RUNAWAY (800-786-2929)

Provides advice and assistance to runaways, including resources, shelter, transportation, assistance in finding counseling, and transitioning back to home life. NRS frontline staff will also act as advocates and mediators if/as needed.

The True Colors United: (212) 461-4401

The True Colors Fund is working to end homelessness among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth, creating a world in which all young people can be their true selves. True Colors United runs a database of service providers.

### **HIV/AIDS INFORMATION:**

National AIDS Hotline (800) 342-AIDS / (800) 344-7432 (Spanish) / (800) 243-7889 (TDD)

### **OTHER HOTLINES:**

U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233 (English and Spanish) (800) 787-3224 (TTY)

They also have an online chat feature available. Operating around the clock, seven days a week, confidential and free of cost, the National Domestic Violence Hotline provides lifesaving tools and immediate support to enable victims to find safety and live lives free of abuse. Highly trained, experienced advocates offer compassionate support, crisis intervention information and referral services in over 170 languages.

Pride Institute: (800) 547-7433 24/7

Chemical dependency/mental health referral and information hotline for the LGBTQ community.



**[HTTP://WWW.DELTASTATE.EDU/LIBRARY/OKRA-OUT/](http://www.deltastate.edu/library/okra-out/)**



*cover by double rooster designs*