

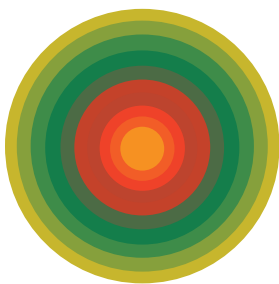
THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES PRESENTS

POWER TO THE PRINTERS:
THE ALTERNATIVE
PRESS IN IOWA CITY,
1965-1985

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES
MAIN LIBRARY GALLERY
MAY 15 - AUGUST 25, 2017

An exhibition featuring items from the UI Libraries' Iowa Women's Archives and University Archives.

GALLERY HOURS & COMPLETE EXHIBITION INFORMATION AT LIB.UIOWA.EDU/GALLERY



In today's era of instant communication, it's hard to imagine a time when people relied on printing presses, the US Postal Service, and newspapers hawked on street corners to distribute information and calls to action. Unlike 21st century organizers of political action, activists in the 1960s and '70s relied on technology such as mimeograph machines and press type. Their medium was the printed word.

Iowa City was a hotbed of protest—and a hotbed of printing. Radical groups and individuals wrote newsletters and manifestos, printed flyers to post around town, and published literary magazines. Many of their newspapers were circulated nationally, creating space for local activists to engage with national conversations challenging the status quo.

The publications in this exhibition document many strands of protest in Iowa City: the anti-war movement, Chicana and Chicano liberation, feminism, black power, gay and lesbian rights. Here you see just a sample of Iowa City's activism, drawn from extensive collections in the University Archives and the Iowa Women's Archives.

This guide reprints pages from several contemporary publications to provide context and a flavor of the era. For further information about the Sixties in Iowa City, see the website **UPTIGHT AND LAID-BACK: IOWA CITY IN THE 1960s**: dsps.lib.uiowa.edu/sixties

POWER TO THE PRINTERS is the first in a yearlong series of exhibitions and events celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Iowa Women's Archives.

www.lib.uiowa.edu/iwa/25-years

EXHIBITION CREDITS

POWER TO THE PRINTERS: THE ALTERNATIVE PRESS IN IOWA CITY, 1965-1985 is an exhibition drawn from the holdings of the Iowa Women's Archives and the University Archives in the University of Iowa Libraries and from the online exhibit **UPTIGHT AND LAID-BACK: IOWA CITY IN THE 1960s**, curated by David McCartney: dsps.lib.uiowa.edu/sixties

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Friends of the UI Libraries

By Kristelle Miller

Apathy is no longer the word with which to describe the average University of Iowa student. Many feel frustrated. They say they are unable to get government and University officials to listen to them. They say they do not see enough change on crucial issues such as the war in Indochina, and the role of the military on campus. They are concerned.

That concern was manifested here this spring. Most students protested peacefully — a few violently — the killing of four Kent State students by Ohio National Guardsmen May 4. They demonstrated — sometimes not as peacefully — against the presence of ROTC on campus. They demanded a halt to the war in Indochina.

Some students decided to strike classes. Others carried picket signs. Some decided they could best voice their convictions by continuing classes. Many later left the University under an option plan offered by President Willard Boyd.

The incidents here, one following closely on the footsteps of another, began Thursday, April 30. The unlikely catalyst was a water fight at one of the men's dorms. An attempted panty raid followed and a confrontation with police in front of the Iowa City Civic Center, which houses the Police Department, resulted.

One student commented: "We just started to have a little fun and got everybody out of the dorms, so we decided to storm the streets. It's as simple as that."

Simple as it may have seemed, not everybody had "a little fun." A United Press International photographer and an assistant professor of photo journalism were pelted with rocks by students who claimed the photographers were supplying identification to the University to be later used in disciplinary action.

City officials appealed to the 200-300 students to go home and they finally did. No arrests were made.

The following afternoon, May 1, a confrontation between approximately 400 anti-ROTC protesters, campus security officers and University officials, forced the cancellation of a joint awards ceremony for Army and Air Force ROTC cadets. Demonstrators stormed into the new Recreation Building, where the ceremonies were to be held, sat on the floor, talked and sang.

Again, students left before arrests were made, this time declaring victory over ROTC.

The weekend was quiet. Then came the Kent State shootings. Late Monday evening students marched on the National Guard Armory and broke windows there. Marching back from the Armory, the group of approximately 400 persons split up and staged sit-ins at street intersections, and broke windows in several downtown Iowa City business establishments.

Early Tuesday morning Iowa Highway Patrolmen and Johnson County Sheriff officers, in full riot gear, marched into the streets and broke up the crowd. Several students were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. Most scattered to the curbs, although some were not so lucky and found themselves wedged between officers' nightsticks.

As those arrested were taken to the Civic Center the crowd swelled from about 25 to about 300 and at 2:30 a.m. moved toward the Civic Center. Not until 4 a.m. Tuesday (May 5), after sheriffs deputies and highway patrolmen from two counties had been called in, did students disperse.

Later that day the City Council passed an ordinance giving the mayor the power "in times of emergency" to invoke a curfew.

Tuesday night students again took to the streets as about 300 moved to block traffic at two points on Highway 218.

Student Body President Robert Beller and *Daily Iowan* Editor Lowell Forte called for a boycott of classes Wednesday, May 6. The boycott was to show disagreement with Nixon's ordering of troops

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kristelle Miller is a senior in the U of I School of Journalism who placed ninth nationally in the annual William Randolph Hearst competition for reporting. Her winning entry was a series she did for The Daily Iowan on the Iowa Security Medical Facility.

Kris was active in the May demonstrations not as a participant but as an observer — she served as a correspondent for the Des Moines Register. After the demonstrations were over the Review asked for her accounting of what happened here. The following story, written from the point of view of a student who is also a reporter, is the result.

into Cambodia and, according to Beller, was a way of demonstrating disapproval of Nixon's management of his presidency.

U of I President Boyd issued a statement saying: "Above all else, Wednesday must be a day of peace. I appeal to everyone to preserve this university community from disruption and violence which would completely negate any show of our concern for peace elsewhere in the world."

Boyd urged students to write to their Congressmen, saying that he was going to do the same, and recommend that no student be penalized for failing to attend classes because of his personal convictions.

Asampling of professors, graduate assistants and department offices resulted in an estimate that the strike was one-third effective.

Meanwhile, a temporary injunction was granted banning all types of disturbances. Persons were restrained from disrupting any scheduled University event and from obstructing traffic or damaging property. The injunction empowered the city to make arrests for violation of its terms.

Wednesday night about 400 persons massed in front of Old Capitol for a "sleep-in" accom-

ACTION STUDIES

Seven hundred students within this University are involved in classes meeting at unusual hours and dealing with such topics as "Rigorous Analysis of Radical Theories of Political Economies" or "Surrealism's Illegitimate Children."

The classes are part of the University's Action Studies program, in which students and faculty members dream up ideas which they want to teach; then the ideas become courses. It's really as simple as that. Students and faculty members bring their ideas for classes to the Action Studies office, directed by graduate assistant Dale McCormick. If the idea sounds feasible it becomes a class taught by the originator or someone else who feels qualified.

Many of the classes receive academic credit and some later become part of the University's regular schedule of courses. Faculty members' classes may be accredited under an independent study unit. Student-taught classes must either be approved by the University academic committee, or the student must find a faculty member who will support it as his own individual study class.

There are twenty courses on campus, and the courses, known collectively as the Action Studies Program, involve some 700 students. The most popular course is a new one: "Drugs — Their Nature, Ac-

tion and Use." Over 300 students registered for this course, and it had to be divided into sections to accommodate all those interested. This class introduces students to many concepts concerning drugs and their effects on individuals and society.

One of the most unusual classes is one which involves the bringing together of history, politics, ecology, music, art and other fields into a general study of man. The class, known as "Centering," is accredited by the University.

Other Action Studies classes include black history, women's history and women's liberation. The latter is known as "The Destruction of the Feminine Myth." A science fiction course is taught by a member of the English department staff, and courses in "Changes Through Alternative Institutions" and "Radical Readings in Poetry" are also available.

The Action Studies program "offers timely contemporary courses that the University doesn't incorporate into regular classes," according to McCormick. "Since it is easy to teach the classes, a lot of new ideas get talked about." Many of the programs later move into the curriculum, such as last year's Black Literature, so that the program works as a proving ground for new types of classes.

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A PIECE, SUBSCRIPTIONS \$1 FOR THE REST OF THE
YEAR. ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE SENT
TO BOX 1821 ICITY 62240.

THIS ISSUE WAS DONE BY TOM LEVERETT
WITH HELP FROM KAYE PUMARANC AND MEGHAN
GIBSON, AND OF COURSE, ROBERT CRUMB. FROM
NOW ON, THE OLD BEATNIK PRESS WILL PAY
\$2 PER ILLUSTRATION AND \$1 PER ARTICLE--
STANDARDS HOWEVER ARE HIGH AND NO BAD
NEWS IS ACCEPTED. THE NEXT MEETING IS
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT STONE SOUP (700)
EVERYONE INVITED.

A free mushroom omelette to the designer of the new logo for Old Beatnik



THE FREE LIBRARY

IS NOW AT THE CO-OP

A LIST OF ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATIONS

- 1) OLD BEATNIK, available anywhere.
- 2) COOP NEWS, at the Store and at Stone Soup.
- 3) FREE VOICES, an open forum done by a small collective, at Wesley House.
- 4) FREE ENVIRONMENT, published once a year and distributed at the Activities Center of the I.M.U.
- 5) IOVET NEWS and the US-CHINA PEOPLES FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER, also at the Union;
- 6) HOMEGROWN, put out by high school students and in danger of losing funding;
- 7) WRAC NEWSLETTER, put out at 3 Market St. A collection of Women's Press is there also.
- 8) CREATIVE READING SERIES NEWSLETTER, available at the public library;
- 9) PEOPLE WATCHER, hand-done by Lauren Gehringer, 1319 Pine St. ICity;
- 10) LINK DIRECTORY, Action Studies, & BEANBURGER manual, at 1ST

Stone Soup.

THE PURPOSE OF OLD BEATNIK IS TO MAKE
COMMUNICATIONS A COOPERATIVE VENTURE.
ANY CONTRIBUTIONS OR SUPPORT ARE
GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Introduction (in case you've just tuned in);

Better Homes & Dykes is a local publication that finds its way into the hands of community women on some irregular schedule. It gets printed when some woman or women feel the need to put it out and do the work of writing, typing or gathering information. Ginny, Mary, and I did the last issue and this one. We plan to do one more and then it will be up to someone else to take over. (We know of one woman so far who is interested.) Our general policy is something like this; we want to include opinion, information and humor that is of interest to Lesbians. We'll print our own opinions and those of other women who want to take the time to write something up and give it to us. We don't want to print poetry or fiction. That's not to say that the next editors won't either, but we don't want to. We also like to keep articles relatively short, but will not edit or change a single word (including misspellings) without the writer's consent. A woman may sign an article any way she likes: unsigned material, including suspicious looking filler items and comments at the tops of the pages may be assumed to be the work of the editors. For this issue and the next one, we'll be printing directly from the materials given to us, so please provide "camera ready" copy. That means it should be on 8½ x 11 white paper, single-spaced and typed with narrow margins. Don't put on your own page numbers or any notes or comments you don't want printed. There are typewriters available at the WRAC. If typing your own stuff would be dreadfully oppressive, find someone to help you. As a last resort, you can call on us to help. Read on Ladies...

Flora

The following is not suspicious looking filler material, it is legitimate:

One or two roommates wanted: Large, beautiful house in the country; five and one half miles north of Iowa City; Rent \$112.50 plus utilities. Available NOW--if interested contact Julia, Bonnie, Dawn (all wonderful women) at 351-4975 evenings.

*****FLASH*****

SOFTBALL BULLETIN

MARCH 4 8 A.M. OPENING DAY FOR SOFTBALL TEAM REGISTRATION. \$25.00 deposit is required from the rec. center. Games start sometime in May and go through July (seems like forever)-The Iowa City league had women's slow pitch, major and minor leagues last summer that played most games at Happy Hollow (Brown Street) and some at Mercer Park (near SouthEast Jr. High), and some at Napoleon Park (South on Gilbert Street). If you want to play this summer start asking around and let other women know you're interested. It's a great way to make new friends.



Anti-Racism Workshop for Women

Sunday, April 8, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Harvard Room/I.M.U.,

Potluck Lunch, Entertainment

*** Please note that this is a different date than was previously announced ***

Through presentation and small group discussion, women will be encouraged to explore and understand racism in our lives: how it affects us - either as women of color or as white women, how we participate in it if we are white women, and ways we can begin to work against it - both personally and institutionally. The small group will allow women of color and white women to meet separately so that each can focus on those issues which directly affect them.

The following definitions will be used to begin our work (taken from: Definitions of Racism, New York: Racism/Sexism Resource Center for Educators, 1978):

POWER + PREJUDICE = RACISM

PREJUDICE: Unfavorable opinion or feeling formed beforehand without knowledge, thought or reason.

RACISM: Any attitude, action or institutional structure which subordinates a person or group because of their skin color...Racism is not just a matter of attitudes: actions and institutional structures can also be a form of racism.

Racism is different from racial prejudice, hatred or discrimination. Racism involves having the power to carry out systematic discriminatory practices through the major institutions of our society.

WHO IS RACIST? All white individuals in our society are racists. Even if a white person is totally free from all conscious racial prejudices, she remains a racist, for she receives benefits distributed by a white racist society through its institutions. Our institutional and cultural processes are so arranged as to automatically benefit whites, just because they are white. It is essential for white people to recognize that they receive most of these racist benefits automatically, unconsciously, and unintentionally.

Each woman will be asked to bring a potluck dish from her cultural roots to share for lunch. Entertainment will be provided during the lunch hour. Please call the WRAC (353-6265) for more information and to pre-register. Pre-registration is important; the planners of the workshop need to know how many women to expect. There will be no charge, and child care can be arranged with advance notice.

WOMEN AND POLITICS

Wednesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., International Center, 204 Jefferson Building

WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST: A PALISTINIAN POINT OF VIEW, with Sahar Kalifeh, a Palestinian novelist. Sahar first came to Iowa in 1978 as part of the U of I International Writing Program, and she is currently working on her PhD in American Studies, with an emphasis in Women's Studies. Her novels have been translated into five languages, and two have been produced as movies. She is the mother of two daughters, one is studying in Leningrad and one in Germany. The program will include a showing and discussion of the film "Women Under Siege."

Thursday, March 15, 12:10-1:00 p.m.

Film: "WOMEN UNDER SIEGE." The film focuses on the lives of six women who lived in the town of Rashadiyah, in Southern Lebanon. Once a peaceful agricultural village, in 1964 it became the setting for a camp housing 14,000 Palestinian refugees. The film shows us the crucial role women play in the Palestinian community.

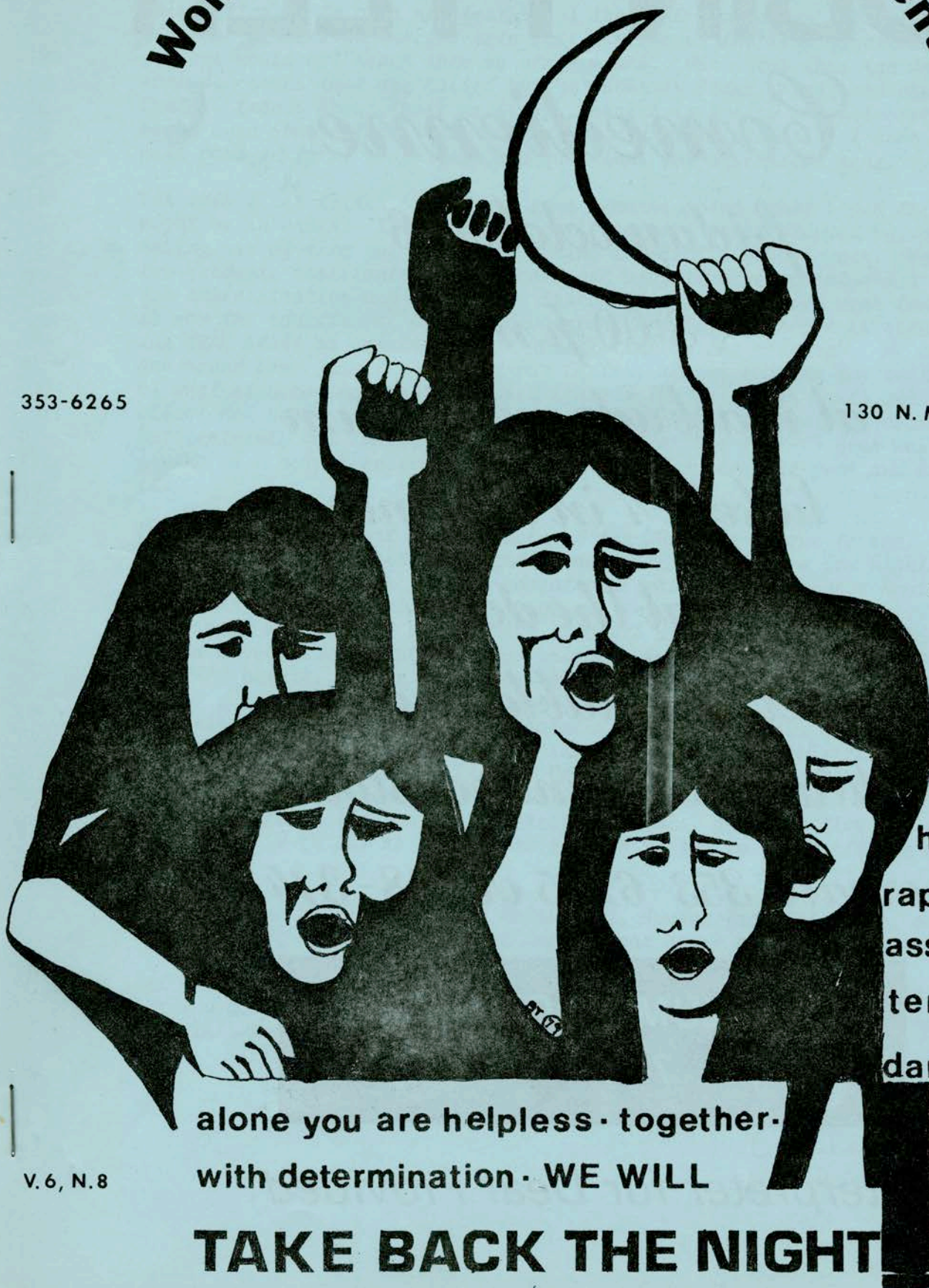
Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN IN NICARAGUA. Edna Jonas, recently returned from a trip to Nicaragua as part of a health care team, will talk about life in Nicaragua under Sandinista governmental rule.

Women's Resource and Action Center Newsletter

353-6265

130 N. MADISON ST.



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rape·terror·
assault·
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darkness·

alone you are helpless· together·
with determination· WE WILL

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V.6, N.8

OCT. 1979