#OwnVoices and Small Press Comics

*Reader’s Advisory*
Hello!

Presenters:
Amanda Hua, Children’s Librarian, The Seattle Public Library
Nathalie Gelms, Youth Services Librarian, Sno-Isle Libraries
Aydin Kwan, Assistant Manager, Outsider Comics and Geek Boutique
Let’s Meet Your Neighbors!

**Exquisite Corpse**

- Teams of four, please.
- Every team should have a clipboard, paper, and pencils.
- We will draw a body in teams without seeing what the other person drew.

**The Rules:**

- Fold the paper in half twice to make four long rectangles.
- First person draw a head and neck.
- Second person draw a torso.
- Third person draw legs.
- Fourth person draw feet and ground.
Up next:

- #OwnVoices Definition and History
- Comic Book Publishing
- Resources for finding #OwnVoices and Small Press comics
- Our favorite comics
- Your favorite comics!
“This is saying our generation will never matter. But we have to matter. If we don’t, there is no future worth saving.” – Ms. Marvel #10, Civil War Vol. 2
#OwnVoices: A History

Author Corinne Duyvis created the # on twitter “to recommend kidlit about diverse characters written by authors from that same diverse group,” (Duyvis, 2015).

http://www.corinneduyvis.net/ownvoices/
Comic Book Publishing

- Major publishers and our big vendors often determine selection for libraries.
- To make sure our collections are representative of all of our patrons, however, we need to explore other options.
What is small press?

It's worth noting there's no solid agreed-upon division between small and mid-sized presses. But based on stuff I apply to/places I show at, the casual cut-off seems to be "12 books a year/a new title every month, and you're not small anymore."

8:51 AM - 23 Aug 2018

—Spike Trotman, Iron Circus Comics
#OwnVoices Publishers at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Press</th>
<th>Small-ish Press</th>
<th>Mid-Size Press</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Ascend Comics</td>
<td>• Avery Hill Publishing</td>
<td>• BOOM! Studios</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Beyond Press</td>
<td>• Black Mask Studios</td>
<td>• First Second</td>
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<td>• Iron Circus Comics</td>
<td>• Lion Forge</td>
<td>• Oni Press</td>
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<td>• Native Realities</td>
<td>• Retrofit Comics</td>
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<td>• Northwest Press</td>
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<td>• Power &amp; Magic Press</td>
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<td>• Silver Sprocket</td>
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<td>• YouNeek Studios</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Youth in Decline</td>
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Even Smaller Press – Zines!
Select Resources

Booklists, publishers, conventions, and more!
Online Booklists

**Mychal’s #OwnVoices Book List**
From his blog post on the Seattle Public Library’s ‘Shelf Talk’ blog.

**Aydin’s Selection List**
From her directed fieldwork on representation in library graphic novel collections for her MLIS at the University of Washington.
Aydin’s “Queer Comics Database”
PNW Comic and Fan Conventions

- Emerald City Comic Con
- Rose City Comic Con
- GeekGirlCon
- PAX
- Short Run
- Atomic Comic Con (Tacoma Public Library)
- Sakura Con
- NorWes Con
- ACE Comic Con
- KuroNekoCon
- SpoCon
- Lilac City Comicon
- Central City Comic Con
- GeekGirlCon
- PAX
- Short Run
- Atomic Comic Con (Tacoma Public Library)
- Sakura Con
- NorWes Con
- ACE Comic Con
- KuroNekoCon
- SpoCon
- Lilac City Comicon
- Central City Comic Con
## You local comic book or Indie bookstore!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seattle/Tacoma</th>
<th>Yakima Area</th>
<th>Spokane</th>
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<tr>
<td>Outsider Comics and Geek Boutique</td>
<td>Central City Comics and Collectibles</td>
<td>Auntie’s Bookstore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoenix Comics and Collectibles</td>
<td>Inklings</td>
<td>The Comic Book Shop</td>
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<td>Atomic Comics</td>
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<td>Merlyn's Comics and Games</td>
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<td>Stargazer Comics</td>
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[www.comicshoplocator.com](http://www.comicshoplocator.com)
Emerald Comics Distro

info@emeraldcomicsdistro.com
#OwnVoices and Small Press Comics

Our Favorites!
Nathalie’s Faves
Aydin’s Faves

- **POWER & MAGIC**
  - The Queer Witch Goddess Anthology

- **TRANSPOSES**
  - By Dylan Edwards

- **HEROES OF HOMEROOMIC**
  - Aristocrats Comics presents
Amanda’s Faves

- Your Black Friend
- As the Crow Flies (by Melanie Gillman)
- See You Next Tuesday
Now it’s your turn!
Thank you to Jill and Margrith at Outsider Comics & Geek Boutique in Seattle for your time and knowledge!
Thank you to my SPL co-worker, Mychal Ludwig, for the Shelf Talk blog post and Bibliocommons list.
Other Resources to Check Out

- Comic Book Legal Defense Fund
- Small Press Previews
- Comixology, Indie Comics
- Women Write About Comics
- The Comics Journal
- Autostraddle: Drawn to Comics
- Queer Comics Database
- ALA Graphic Novel and Comics Round Table
- Zine Archive and Publishing Project (ZAPP) now at the Seattle Public Library
  - Email zines@spl.org to access the collection
THAT’S ALL FOLKS!

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