



Guide to the Ayun Halliday Papers, 1990-2025

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Summary

Collection Title:

Ayun Halliday papers, 1990-2025

Creator:

Halliday, Ayun

Source:

Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture

Abstract:

Ayun Halliday is a white American writer and actress. Her works center primarily on the areas of motherhood, travel, and women's social issues. The Ayun Halliday Papers contain correspondence and writings by Halliday, including books, plays, artwork and the zine *East Village Inky*. The collection also includes correspondence and ephemera related to her publications, as well as items associated with workshops and speaking engagements given by Halliday about underground press publications, female travel, autobiographical writing and other topics. The collection also contains more than 200 zines and works Halliday collected from other artists obtained primarily through trade with other creators. These publications span a wide range of subjects intended for both adults and children including feminism, motherhood, child rearing, New York City, zines, art, music, travel, food and cooking, body image and consciousness, sexual education, and more. Acquired as part of the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture.

Extent:

13 Linear Feet (19 boxes)

Language:

Materials in English.

Collection ID:

RL.11289

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m16d08>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Ayun Halliday Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

The Ayun Halliday Papers are arranged into the following nine series: Correspondence, Grants and Awards, Workshops and speaking engagements, Writings: Books, Writings: Plays, Writings: Zines, Writings: Other Publications, Mail Art Publications (by others), and Zines by Others.

The first seven of these series comprise Halliday's personal writings and works including books, plays, artwork, and the zine *East Village Inky*. The collection also includes correspondence and ephemera related to her publications, as well as items associated with workshops and speaking engagements given by Halliday about underground press publications, female travel, autobiographical writing, and other topics.

The final two series represent more than 200 zines and works Halliday collected from other artists obtained primarily through trade with other creators. These publications span a wide range of subjects intended for both adults and children including feminism, motherhood, child rearing, New York City, zines, art, music, travel, food and cooking, body image and consciousness, sexual education, and more.

Biographical/Historical

Ayun Halliday is a white American writer and actress born in Indianapolis, Indiana. She studied at the Park Tudor School and received her degree in Theater Performance from Northwestern University. She is an avid traveler who began writing plays for her experimental theater group in Chicago, the Neo-Futurists, in 1988. It was there that she met her husband, Greg Kotis, a playwright who wrote the Broadway musical *Urinetown*.

Halliday writes and illustrates the zine *East Village Inky*, a publication that she named after her home in New York City's East Village and her first daughter India (nicknamed "Inky"). The zine started out as autobiographical, and her family appears in many of the issues. The success of this zine led to a contract with *Bust* magazine writing for the Mother Superior Column on parenting in 2007. Since its inception in 1998, *East Village Inky* has evolved to include content on a wide variety of topics including contemporary events and popular culture, fashion, art, and other topics capturing Halliday's interest.

Halliday's other published writing includes plays, a travel memoir, a zine guide for New York City, a young adult graphic novel, a children's book, a collection

of short stories, and a cookbook. Halliday currently lives with her husband in Brooklyn.

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Arrangement

The first three series (Correspondence, Grants and Awards and Workshops and Speaking Engagements) are arranged chronologically by year.

All subsequent series including writings and works by both Halliday and others are arranged alphabetically by title.

Items from later additions are described in context but are physically arranged and housed in a separate box.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Processed and described by Valerie Szwaya, 2016.

Accession 2022-0011 added by Meghan Lyon, 2022.

Accession 2025-0098 added by Leah Tams, September 2025.

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2016-0026, 2022-0011, 2025-0098.

Acquisition Information

The Ayun Halliday papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift from Ayun Halliday in 2016-2025.

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Names and Subjects

- Motherhood -- New York (State) -- New York -- Periodicals
- Zines
- Feminism
- Women's health services -- United States
- Underground press publishing -- United States
- Authors -- Political and social views
- Theater -- United States
- Mail art -- United States
- New York (N.Y.) -- Description and travel
- Child rearing -- New York (State) -- New York -- Periodicals
- Parenting -- New York (State) -- New York -- Periodicals
- Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture
- Halliday, Ayun

Collection Inventory

Correspondence, 1998-2021

Physical Description: 6 boxes

6 boxes, plus some additional folders from a later addition.

Correspondence, 1998-2000

Box 1

Correspondence, 2001	Box 1-2
Correspondence, 2002	Box 3-4
Correspondence, 2003	Box 4-5
Correspondence, 2004-2006	Box 5
Correspondence, 2010-2013	Box 6
Correspondence, 2015-2021	Box 19
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Arranged loosely by year with one folder of undated materials (estimated dates 2015-2021).	
Correspondence, bookstores and distributors	Box 6

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Grants and Awards, 1999-2009

Physical Description: 1 boxes

Center for Book Arts application, 2009	Box 6
New York Foundation for the Arts application, 1999	Box 6
Firecracker Alternative Book Award, 2002	Box 6
Utne Independent Press Award nomination, 2005	Box 6
Wales Literary Agency	Box 6
Welcome Hill Studios	Box 6
Zine Culture Syllabus, 2003	Box 6

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Workshops and Speaking Engagements

Physical Description: 1 boxes

Third Grade Zine Workshop	Box 6
Unsavvy Traveller	Box 6
A Woman Alone	Box 6
Western Carolina Literary Festival	Box 6
Zine Workshop Handouts	Box 6
Event programs, handouts, 2010s	Box 19

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Writings

Physical Description: 2 boxes

Books

The Big Rumpus manuscript (3 folders)	Box 7
The Big Rumpus manuscript (3 folders)	Box 7
Dirty Sugar Cookies	Box 7
Job Hopper, uncorrected proof	Box 7
Neonatal Sweet Potato	Box 7
Neonatal Sweet Potato, artwork	Box 7
No Touch Monkey, uncorrected proof	Box 8
Peanut, advanced reader's copy	Box 8
Zinesters Guide to NYC, artwork	Box 8

Plays

Bagel	Box 8
Big Goddess Powwow; Them Bones	Box 8
Edenweed, 1987	Box 8

Fawnbook postcard	Box 8
Janis Joplin's Kosmic Kousin	Box 8
Generation Women and unknown play, 2019, undated	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Draft scripts	
Theater of the Apes events and handouts, 2010s	Box 19
Necromancers of the Public Domain, approximately 2010s	Box 19
Zines	
East Village Inky drawing slides	Box 9
East Village Inky, Issues 10-11, 13, 16-19	Box 9
East Village Inky, Issues 20-27, 29	Box 9
East Village Inky, Issues 30-39	Box 9
East Village Inky, Issues 40-48, 55	Box 9
East Village Inky, Issues 60, 66-71, 2019, 2022-2025	Box 19
East Village Inky Bingo Game	Box 9
East Village Inky Bingo Game	Box 9
Mix It Up Funky with India's Birthday Coloring Book, 2001	Box 9
Reviews and articles	Box 9
East Village Inky, 340 sq ft apartment issue	Box 9
East Village Inky: Back issues synopsis and subject index	Box 9
Scavenger zine	Box 10

Bathtub Fortune Cookie Fan zine	Box 10
Massage Therapy zine	Box 10
Nature Coloring Book	Box 10
Zine-related audio CDs	Box 10
Zine-related buttons	Box 10
East Village Inky: correspondence, invoices, ephemera, approximately 2017-2020	Box 19
Dimly Recalled Doggies of My Hoosier Youth	Box 19
Quaranzine issue 95, 2020	Box 19
Barbie movie manqué©, 2023	Box 19

Other publications

My Life in Zines	Box 10
Rag magazine	Box 10
Hip Mama	Box 10
Mama Calendar, 2005-2014	Box 10
Mama Calendar, 2017, 2020, 2021	Box 19

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Mail Art Publications by Others

Physical Description: 1 boxes

Mail art related materials	Box 10
Action Resource Guide (ARG) Cata-zine, by Ashley Parker Owens	Box 10
AIDS International Mail Art	Box 10
Eraser Carvers Quarterly	Box 10
FACE (Femail Art Network)	Box 10

Global Mail	Box 10
Going Postal	Box 10
Lime Green News	Box 10
Netshaker	Box 10
Red Letter Day	Box 10

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Zines by Others

Physical Description: 8 boxes

Scope and Contents

Zines and zine-adjacent self-published items collected or sent to Halliday.

L'abecedaire de Chat/The ABC of CA	Box 11
2013 ABQ Zine Games: Zine Trivia Challenge	Box 11
A to Z in the Monstrous Manual	Box 11
After That!	Box 19
Aleister Crowley Fan Club Newsletter	Box 11
All on Black	Box 11
Ambivalence	Box 11
Amusing Yourself to Death	Box 11
Amusing Yourself to Death	Box 11
Animal Feelings	Box 11
Annus Horribilis	Box 11
Anywhere I Lay My Head	Box 11
Atlas of Childhood	Box 11
Aubrey's Lego Club	Box 11

The Avocado	Box 11
Bar Scrawl	Box 11
A Beautiful Final Tribute	Box 11
Becoming a Kennedy?, 2012	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Turbitt, Meghan	
Before I Forget What I Read, 2017, 2019	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Freedman, Jenna	
Big Pinch World	Box 11
Biji	Box 11
Bind/Mend/Discard- Brooklyn College Library Zine Collection	Box 11
Birdsong	Box 11
Black Elk Heritage, 1991	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Pourier, Olivia Black Elk. (Handout.)	
Book of Sick	Box 11
Bookshelf Voyeur, 2021	Box 19
Border Lands	Box 11
The Borough is My Library	Box 11
Brainscan	Box 11
Brooklyn	Box 11
Burn Collector	Box 11
Butterfly and Mantis	Box 11

Caboose	Box 12
Carl's Large Story	Box 12
Catbird	Box 12
Chicago Zine Fest 2012	Box 12
Childlike Empress	Box 12
Chin Music	Box 12
Chinese Sweatshop	Box 12
CLWN WR 45	Box 12
Confined, 2020	Box 19
Crappy Comics	Box 12
Cute, 2016 Scope and Contents Fishpit	
D.V.	Box 12
DADAZine	Box 12
Damp Laundry	Box 12
Death Adventure	Box 12
Department of Excellence Gazette, 2018-2021	Box 19
Deleterious, 2016	Box 19
Destination DIY	Box 12
Dilettantes and Heartless Manipulators	Box 12
DIY Zine Libraries	Box 12
Don't Change	Box 12
The Drawing Stick	Box 12
Dust Bunny	Box 12

Dust Dances in Sunlight	Box 12
Egg Egg	Box 12
Escape from Cybrokryptia	Box 12
Every Thug is a Lady - Adventures without Gender, 2011	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Eff, Julia	
Extranjero	Box 12
Fact Sheet Five	Box 12
Faerie	Box 12
Female Remedies	Box 19
Feminist Collections- NWSA Zine, 2004	Box 13
Fig. 1 Human Body	Box 13
flickr'd out	Box 13
From Oranges to the Big Apple	Box 13
Freaks, Geeks, and Pipsqueaks	Box 13
Frequenzine, 2021	Box 19
Frooty Booty	Box 13
The Future Generation	Box 13
Fvck the Media	Box 13
Geraniums and Bacon	Box 13
Getting There	Box 13
Glossolalia	Box 13
God Save the Zine	Box 13
Good Morning You	Box 13

Good Night People of Earth, 2021	Box 19
Good Riddance, Twice-Impeached Donut and Goodbye, Orange Donut, 2021 Scope and Contents Pencil Revolution zines.	
Grape-Nuts, 2016	Box 19
Scope and Contents Lautman, Sara	
The Great White Honkey Visits South Korea	Box 13
Guide to Being Alone	Box 13
Guide to Dating Gangsters	Box 13
Hag Rag	Box 13
Haiku a Day	Box 13
Hazards of Young Celebrity	Box 19
The Heartland Underground, 2016	Box 19
Hip Mama	Box 13
Hogwarts Camp FAQ	Box 13
Homezine	Box 13
Homos in Herstory	Box 13
Horndog Comics	Box 19
Hot Dinner Special	Box 13
An Hour From Now	Box 13
How 2 Zine	Box 13
I am bureaucrat	Box 13
I Dreamed I Was Assertive	Box 13
I F#cking Love this Album, 2015	Box 19

I Just Can't Have this Conversation Anymore	Box 19
Illuminated Cold	Box 13
I'm Johnny and I Don't Give a Fuck	Box 14
I'm Not Here to Be Young: The CBGB Adventures	Box 14
Indulgence, 2000	Box 19
Itchy Tits	Box 14
It's All in the Cards	Box 14
It's Captain Elvis' Coloring and Activity Book	Box 14
It's Time to Make a Zine	Box 14
"Jam" Sketchbook	Box 14
Jargon	Box 14
Jen(ny) Ambular	Box 14
Jesus Loves Me	Box 14
Juitchy	Box 14
Junk Drawer	Box 14
Jutchy Yaya	Box 14
The Ken Chronicles	Box 14
The Ken Chronicles, 2015-2018	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Bausert, Ken	
The King, the Jester, the Princess, the Dragon, and Jay-Z	Box 14
Late Night Thinking	Box 14
The Least I Could Do, 2021	Box 19

The Legend of Brunhild	Box 14
Leeking Ink	Box 14
Leeking Ink, 2016	Box 19
Lessons in Taxidermy	Box 14
Let Gluten Freedom Ring	Box 14
Life Story	Box 14
Limited Delivery Area	Box 14
A Little Book of Haiku	Box 14
Liz Mason at Your Service and Cul de Sac	Box 19

Scope and Contents

Zines by Mason, Liz, and Julie Halpern

Los Angeles Zine Fest	Box 14
Low Hug	Box 14
Lower East Side Librarian	Box 14
Lucky	Box 14
Luna in Tuna	Box 14
Mama Gathering 2003	Box 15
Mechanism Exploded	Box 15
Minder	Box 15
Modicum	Box 15
Moment's Notice	Box 15
The Murky Realm	Box 15
My Face Book, 2016-2017	Box 19

Scope and Contents

Pedlar, DB. Includes some correspondence.

My Little Friend	Box 15
The Nasty Oh-Deer	Box 15
Navigating the Space Between Brilliance and Madness, 2004	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Icarus Project	
ND	Box 15
Nest and Burrow, 2016	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Galloway, Marnie.	
Not A.True Story	Box 15
Notes and Bolts: A Compendium of Music, Food and Art	Box 15
The Obsesser	Box 15
Once Upon a Photobooth	Box 15
One Story	Box 15
The Oubliette	Box 15
Pander Zine Distro Catalogue	Box 15
Papercutter	Box 15
Pennamite	Box 15
The Pen-sill-vain-ya Lottaree	Box 15
Pep G!rlz	Box 15
The Perfect Mix Tape Segue	Box 15
Picaflor	Box 15
Pictorial Anatomy of the Cute, 2013	Box 19
Pieces: Short Works by Shanyna Marchese	Box 15

Pink Tea	Box 15
Placenta	Box 15
Poisonous Plants in the Garden	Box 15
The Poor Little Princess	Box 15
Power Candy	Box 15
Public Streets, Corporate Power	Box 15
Pushing Pencils Comic Zine	Box 15
Rabid Rabbit	Box 16
Rag Hag	Box 16
Rigor Mortis	Box 16
Riverside Art Scene	Box 16
Roasting Coffee at Home: An Intro	Box 19
Rochester Teen Set	Box 16
Rock On! A Pocket Guide to Some Rockin' Venues of NYC's Past...	Box 16
Roots and Wings	Box 16
Roxie!	Box 19
Runner Runner	Box 16
Sally Mountain Peak, 2017	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Bolling, Stephen Cassius	
Scribble Faster	Box 16
Scribbles and Scratches	Box 16
Seaglass	Box 16
Secondhand Emotion	Box 16

September: The Best and Worst of Each Damn Day	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Walker, Liz	
Shards of Glass in Your Eye	Box 16
Shojo Beat	Box 16
Shrinks: A Retrospective, 2018	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Keffer, Karla	
Sketchbooks-Mostly Travel	Box 16
Silkscreen	Box 16
Simple Routines	Box 16
Slave to the Needles	Box 16
Slug & Lettuce	Box 16
Small Science Collective Zines	Box 16
Snacks in the Park, 2015	Box 19
So Tough	Box 16
Some Like it Hot Cookbook	Box 16
Spaz	Box 16
The Story of {Open}	Box 17
Stretch Mark	Box 17
Super City	Box 17
Syndicate Product	Box 17
The SysTris Reader	Box 17
Tales to Behold	Box 17

Tazewell's Favorite Eccentric	Box 17
My Teenage Robot Life	Box 17
Tenacious: Art and Writings from Women in Prison	Box 17
Thanks Mom	Box 17
That Olde, Weird America	Box 17
There is No Such Thing As	Box 17
Thinger Dingers	Box 17
Time Enough At Last	Box 17
Time's Up!	Box 17
Tonight and Every Night	Box 17
The Transmitter	Box 17
Trickhips	Box 17
Trigger	Box 17
True Fiction	Box 17
True Tales of the World's Worst Teaching Assistants	Box 17
Twilight Reflections on an Ethically Raised Life	Box 17
Until the Darkness was Gone	Box 19
Urban Nomad, 2016	Box 19
Usual Tapes	Box 17
Vietnamania	Box 17
Wag	Box 17
Wahl, Dan: assorted zines	Box 19
A Wave Has Hit Again	Box 17

We'll Never Have Paris	Box 17
The Wet Firecracker	Box 17
What is this?	Box 17
What's the Word?	Box 18
White Elephants	Box 18
Whoosh: the Zine for Whale Lovers	Box 18
Winona Ryder/Rydehair	Box 18
Wiseblood	Box 19
Scope and Contents	
Fishpit	
Women Got Me Drinking	Box 18
Work is Where the Heart Is	Box 18
Worries: Ridiculous Crap the Makes Me Anxious	Box 18
Wow, Can I eat it all?	Box 18
Writerman	Box 18
Writing and Loss	Box 18
Wronka Bros.	Box 18
Xerography Debt	Box 18
Xtra Tuf 6.75: Report from Uyak Bay (Audio Zine)	Box 18
You Can Work Any Hundred Hours a Week You Want (in your underwear)!! A History of Micropublishing	Box 18
You Can't Shut Up: Finding a Voice in Women's Zines	Box 18
Your Name Here	Box 18

Zine Libs	Box 18
Zineorama Periodicals and Books	Box 18
Zine World	Box 18
Zombie Cat	Box 18
Zuzu and the Baby Catcher	Box 18

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