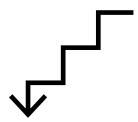


DOCUMENTING YOUR CREATIVE GOALS



DO-IT-YOURSELF WORKSHOP

About this workshop



Naming the dreams we have can inspire our curiosity and can give us the vision and drive we need to get started and sustain our momentum. Identifying practices and actions we want to engage with can help us to identify skills and strengths we need to develop and support that we need to receive. Knowing where we're headed can help us to connect with others and seek out new opportunities.

In this self-led, or 'do-it-yourself', workshop, you will use zine making to help identify and document your creative hopes and goals.

If you don't know what goals you have at the moment, that's ok. This process will help you figure it out and what the next steps on your journey could be.

Materials you will need



- 3 or 4 sheets of paper (A3 is great but A4 will work fine)
- Pen or pencil you can write and draw with
- Glue
- Scissors
- Collage materials - just a couple of magazines will do

You might want extra things if they are available to you, like different pens and pencils, pastels, paint, washi tape, coloured or textured paper, stickers, personal photographs or written text.

LET'S GET STARTED



Some silly exercises to begin with



You might like to try these exercises just to loosen up and get your thoughts flowing.

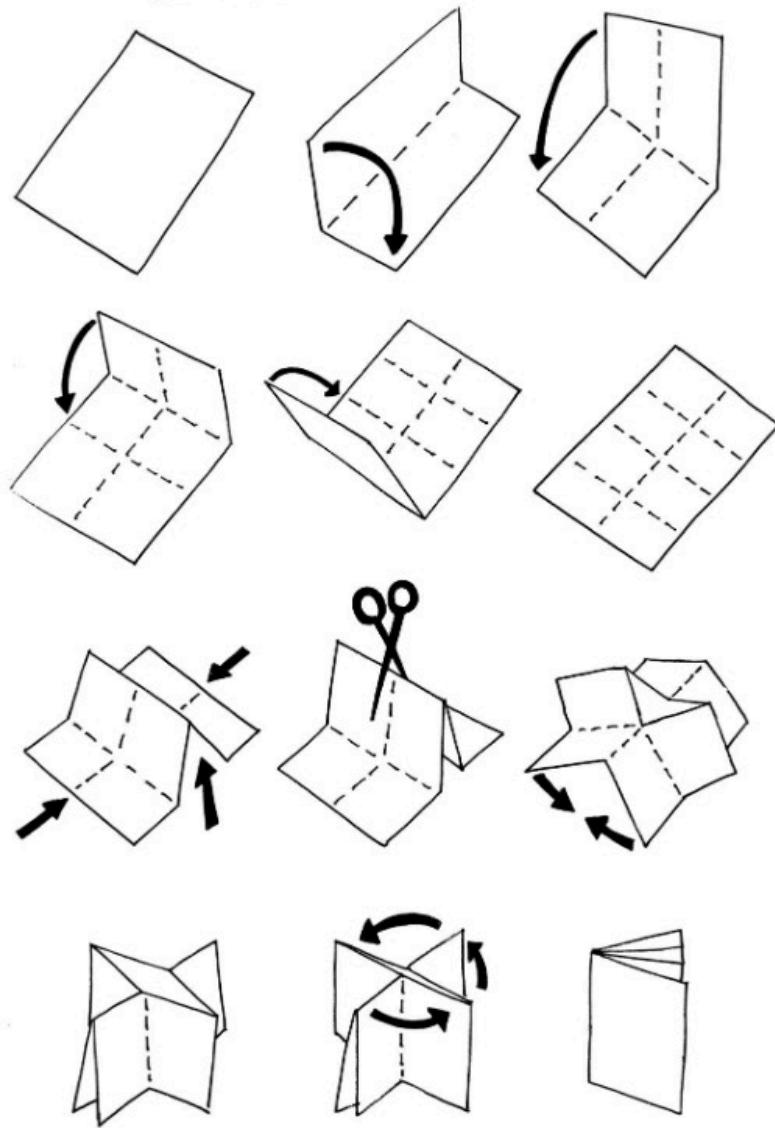
- Write freely and without stopping for 2 minutes in response to the prompt, "An artist is..."
- You are now 80 years old. A friend's grandchild comes to your house and finds a box in your attic. They ask you about it. The box is full of artefacts from your long and interesting creative career. There are leaflets, programmes, pictures, postcards, small artworks amongst other things. Imagine what these items are documenting.
- Cut some small slips of paper, about 12. Write one random word or phrase on each one. Make a pile or put them in a hat. Draw out the slips (you can take as many as you want at once) and make up a new creative project that reflects these themes.
- Draw six boxes on a piece of paper and set a timer for 4 minutes. When you are ready, quickly draw six pictures or scenes that represent the first project ideas you think of.

Make your 8-page zine



Take your A3 (or A4) piece of paper and follow the instructions below to make your 8-page zine. There is a picture and video to help you.

How to fold a zine



By www.tellatiale.org.uk



You can find the video here: tinyurl.com/gzl8page

Creating content for your zine



Now, you are going to create content for your zine. You can use whatever methods you prefer and materials you have available but here is some guidance for how you might like to approach this process.

Collage is commonly used in zine making and can be an easy and useful way of trying out a layout without committing too soon.

You could try writing notes to the questions in the sections below on loose sheets of paper, going back through and cutting out the sections that feel most significant. You can also create artwork this way and cut out pictures or shapes from your collage materials.

When you feel like you have the content you want to include, arrange it on the page. When you're happy with how it looks, stick it down with your glue.

Once everything is stuck down you might like to add marks, drawings or text on top using marker pens or pastels.

An alternative would be to use the zine like a notebook and write directly on the pages, maybe adding colour, drawings or pictures where you want to.

It's totally up to you! It's your zine!

If you run out of pages, just fold another 8 page zine, stick the back cover of the first zine and the front cover of the second zine together and just carry on designing and making.

My practice



Leave the front cover of your zine for now and turn to the first double page spread. Use this space to explore the following questions in relation to your creative practice. You don't have to answer all of them, just use them as a prompt to get you thinking.

What do I currently enjoy the most? What makes me feel curious or excited? What feels important to me to explore or develop?

Are there things that feel challenging in my creative practice at the moment? What are they and how am I dealing with them? Is this something I should be letting go of or something I should be pushing through? Is there someone or something that could help me?

What does success look like for me? How do I want the creative process to feel?

What lessons have I learned about myself and my practice that I would like to apply or share going forward?

Once you have reflected on these questions, you might like to identify one or two things that you are going to focus on for now.

My creative community

Using the next double page spread, reflect on the creative community you have or would like. You can use these prompts to help you:

What does a creative community look like, and do I have one?

What help, support and encouragement do I ...have already? ...still need? ...offer to others?

Once you have reflected on these questions, you might like to identify one or two ways in which you are going to strengthen your sense of creative community.

Where does CHARTS fit in?



Using the final double page spread, consider how being connected with CHARTS and having access to a network of people, opportunities and cultural and community spaces could help you and others like you on your creative journeys.

How can being connected with...

- skilled people
- resources
- the CHARTS platform
- partner organisations, and
- cultural and community spaces

...help you to build your creative practice and strengthen the creative community around you.

Once you have reflected on these questions, identify one or two ways CHARTS could most support you.

Then, identify one or two ways CHARTS could support people that you know or the community more widely.

Do you have an idea for an exhibition, project, event, training course or workshop?

Splurge all your ideas onto the page. No bad ideas. No questions are silly questions. 😊

Finishing up



Now you know what's in the zine, you can make the covers. Create a cover that reflects what is inside and will make you happy and inspire you when you look at it.

Once you are finished, take a picture of your zine and share it with Kirsten at kirstenm@chartsargyllandisles.org. If there are sections you don't want to share, that's ok. Just share what feels comfortable.



This workshop was designed by Martha Adonai Williams for Glasgow Zine Library.
Please credit this work if shared.

