

## ZineCat Team

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Zine  
Union  
Catalog

# Shared Authority

Volume 2.5



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Dear You,

Welcome to Shared Authority 2.5! As we prepare for the Zine Pavilion at ALA, we at ZineCat wanted to make sure that you all were updated on recent developments within our project. It has been a few years since our last issue, so there's much to discuss! We are excited to introduce new team members and new cats to the ZineCat community.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with ZineCat (aka the Zine Union Catalog) is a union catalog dedicated to zines. A union catalog is a resource where libraries can share cataloging and holdings information from their individual collections. The Zine Union Catalog facilitates researchers' discovery of zine holdings by searching a single catalog search interface, and helps catalogers copy records and facilitates the lending of materials between libraries. ZineCat serves educators, researchers, creators, librarians, archivists, and anyone in the general public with an interest in zines.

As always, thank you for your interest in our work and in supporting the creation and cataloging of zines. ZineCat is the collective effort of many avid fans, readers, and makers of zines. You all keep this project going.

With gratitude,  
Jenna + Lauren

## How to Get Involved

If you manage a zine library and are interested in contributing to ZineCat, please complete a GoogleForm online about your zine library/collection/archive. ZineCat depends on your contributions, so thank you in advance!



Section 1 of 5

### Get Involved with ZineCat!

If you're interested in contributing to ZineCat, please submit the following information about your zine library/collection/archive. ZineCat depends on your contributions, so thank you in advance!

If you need support, please contact [zinecatproject@gmail.com](mailto:zinecatproject@gmail.com).

Email \*

Valid email

This form is collecting emails. [Change settings](#)

Name of Zine Collection \*

Short answer text



Find the form at  
[tinyurl.com/b8wsenz5](https://tinyurl.com/b8wsenz5)

# Meet our Mew-est Team Members

## Meep

Feline friend of MetaData Intern, **Vita Kurland**

Meep AKA Meeping AKA Meepington AKA Moo is Vita's cuddly tortoiseshell companion. She loves to sit on the window to feel the breeze and chat with pigeons. Morning cuddles are a routine and every night she unravels an entire toilet paper roll \*to the sound of a vigorous purrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr.



## Yar

Feline friend of Outreach & Documentation Coordinator,

**Jennifer Chen-su Huang**

Besides napping in the sun, Yar's favorite activity is to lay on whatever document Jennifer is trying to read. Oftentimes, zines become his bed.



## Vita Kurland

Vita Kurland (they/them) is an archivist, curator, and dress historian. They are completing their MA in Costume Studies at NYU Steinhardt and MLIS at LIU Palmer while working as a Graduate Fellow at Barnard College in the Archives and Special Collections. Kurland's research focuses on graphic T-shirts, secondhand markets, collecting, and memorial wearables. As an archivist their work is centered around bringing marginalized histories to the forefront of archives and education. They hold their BA in Art and Aesthetics from Bard College Berlin.

## Jennifer Chen-su Huang

Jennifer Chen-su Huang is an artist and writer whose process-driven works interweave elements of craft tradition, language, history, and memoir. She graduated with her MFA in Fiber and Material Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and received her BA from the University of California, Berkeley in 2013. Jennifer is currently an editor for the Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of World Textiles and a PhD student at NYU, where she is examining textile traditions through the lens of Performance Studies.

## Using Social Media to Promote ZineCat

You may have noticed we've been more active on social media this year. Continue to follow our work on:

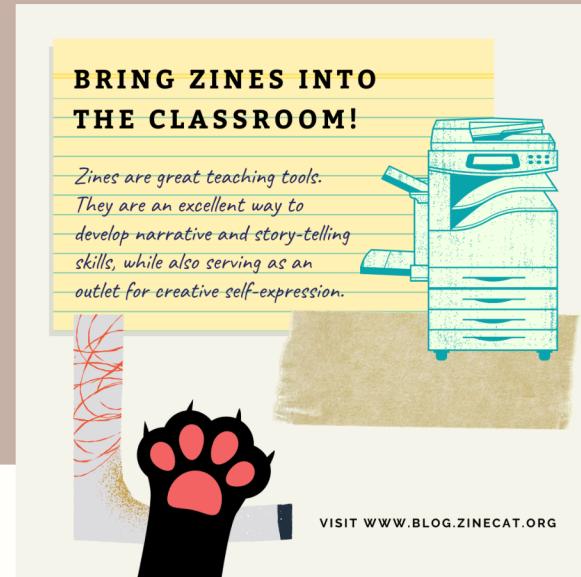
Twitter: @zinecat

Instagram: @zineunioncat



**Caption:** We are excited to be sharing new plain text versions of Shared Authority. Be on the lookout for accessible versions of Shared Authority on our blog and website!

**ID:** A photo of Yar, an orange cat, posing in the sunlight next to a copy of Shared Authority, is collaged with yellow paper and pink tape.



**Caption:** Integrate #zines into the classroom! Zines are great teaching tools. They are an excellent way to develop narrative and story-telling skills, while also serving as an outlet for creative self-expression. See our most recent blog post for more inspiration - visit [blog.zinecat.org](http://blog.zinecat.org).

**ID:** Collaged image index card, tape, sticker of copy machine and ZineCat's cat paw logo. On top of the index card writes the text: "Bring zines to the classroom! Zines are great teaching tools. They are an excellent way to develop narrative and story-telling skills, while also serving as an outlet for creative self-expression."



# New Collections Added to ZineCat

ZineCat is proud to announce the addition of two new collections: Anchor Archive Zine Library and the OCAD U (Ontario College of Art and Design) Zine Library.



Many thanks to Anchor Archive and OCAD for joining our database!



## Library Embroidery Project

By Jennifer Huang March 14, 2022 No Comments

University of Massachusetts Amherst librarian Ann Kardos has organized an incredible embroidery project to highlight the work of metadata librarians. [Check it out!](#)

**Unseen Labor** is an international library community-organizing embroidery project created by University of Massachusetts Amherst librarian Ann Kardos. Metadata work is

## New Blog Design for ZineCat

SEARCH

[Older Posts →](#)

### Archives

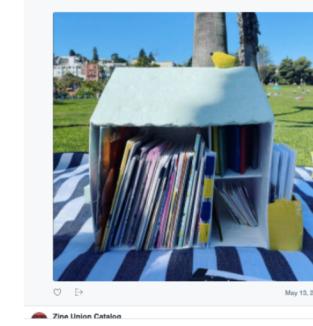
[March 2022](#)  
[February 2022](#)  
[January 2022](#)  
[December 2021](#)  
[February 2020](#)  
[December 2019](#)  
[November 2019](#)  
[October 2019](#)  
[September 2019](#)  
[July 2019](#)  
[June 2019](#)  
[January 2019](#)  
[December 2018](#)  
[October 2018](#)  
[July 2018](#)  
[June 2018](#)  
[May 2018](#)  
[April 2018](#)  
[February 2018](#)  
[May 2017](#)  
[April 2017](#)  
[March 2017](#)

### Categories

[advisory board](#)  
[capstone](#)  
[class projects](#)  
[conference presentations](#)  
[final zine](#)  
[funding](#)  
[miscellaneous](#)  
[updates](#)  
[zine librarians](#)

### Meta

[Log in](#)  
[Entries feed](#)  
[Comments feed](#)  
[WordPress.org](#)

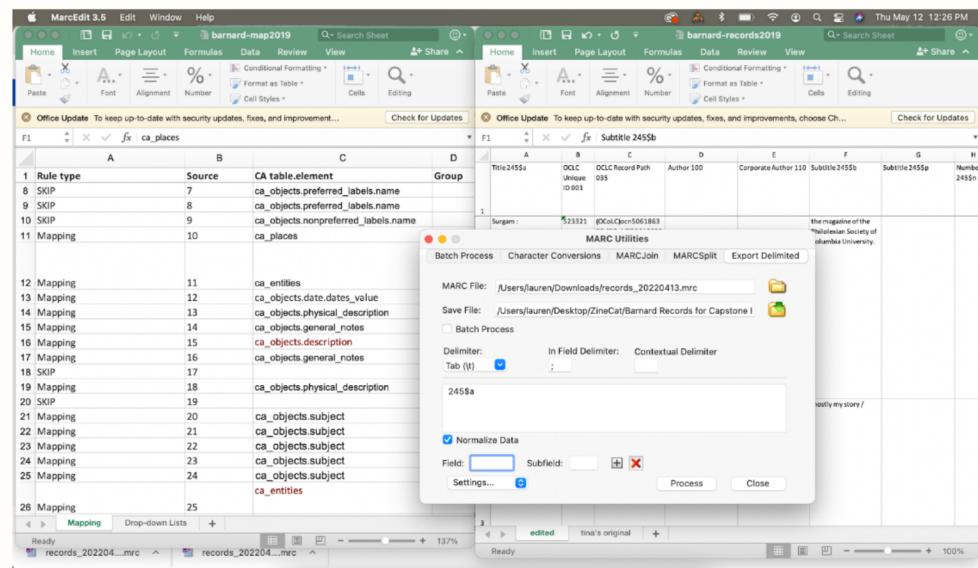


**blog.zinecat.org**

## UPDATED INGEST PROCESS

We've uploaded a few more collections: Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD) and a sampling of the Anchor Zine Archive's collection! Shout out to Cassandra Hradil & Eric Goldhagen for getting this done! It's likely that the full Anchor Zine Archive collection will be ingested by the end of 2022!! Since we received some funding from New York University, we thought it would be good to add their zines as well. This will also be accomplished by the end of 2022, so stay tuned...

Another goal of ours this year was to update some of the collections already in ZineCat and determine how easy, or not, it is to update a collection. To understand the (not)ease of updating a collection, we are using the Barnard Zine Library's collection as our use case. Jenna was able to get us the updated metadata in [.mrc](#), [.txt.](#), and [.xml format](#), so Vita and Lauren got busy converting these files to Excel format so they could be ingested more "easily." Thanks to the folk at Duke Libraries, we were given [instructions](#) on how to do this using [MarcEdit!](#) After a couple hours together, Vita and Lauren were able to get the data into ingestable form! Or so we thought. We figured out how to use MarcEdit to convert the Barnard data into an excel file that would match the [MAP for Barnard's collections](#) (Google Sheet).



Frustratingly, it didn't import correctly and we ran out of time together to work on this. So we reached out to Eric to troubleshoot! Eric sent Lauren this Slack message: "FYI: I may be in the middle of an import of new barnard data, I may be in the middle of breaking everything. time will tell." Sounds about right for ZineCat. Like I said, we hope to get the update in by the end of 2022 (maybe it'll even happen this summer)!

### Links:

- [mrc, .txt., and .xml format](#) - [tinyurl.com/2p8bp2z4](https://tinyurl.com/2p8bp2z4)
- [instructions](#) - [tinyurl.com/2vyvzhxx](https://tinyurl.com/2vyvzhxx)
- [MarcEdit](#) - [tinyurl.com/y3vrfr843](https://tinyurl.com/y3vrfr843)
- [MAP for Barnard's collections](#) - [tinyurl.com/5n7kx4b2](https://tinyurl.com/5n7kx4b2)

# Technical Guide

Vita has been working on putting together a [technical guide](#) for collections that want to contribute their metadata to ZineCat (Google Doc). As you may assume, it's a difficult undertaking to explain in 500 words or less. They are modeling the document on the [Digital Public Library of America's documentation](#) including their Ingest Guidelines for [Members](#) and [Non-Members](#) and the [Partnering with DPLA: Initial Metadata Requirements](#). Honor Moody, Metadata Creation Manager at Harvard Library Information & Technical Services, and long-time ZineCat community member, offered some feedback to the draft document in June, 2022. We'd love to get more feedback on the documentation so that it can be a usable document for contributors. Are you a metadata expert that knows a lot about how to MAP content into a digital asset manager? We'd love to work with you!

## Links:

technical guide - [tinyurl.com/2p8z3kr8](https://tinyurl.com/2p8z3kr8)

Digital Public Library of America's documentation

- [tinyurl.com/y58zmmju](https://tinyurl.com/y58zmmju)

Members - [tinyurl.com/ycxepcvk](https://tinyurl.com/ycxepcvk)

Non-Members - [tinyurl.com/2xzrk6vb](https://tinyurl.com/2xzrk6vb)

Partnering with DPLA: Initial Metadata

Requirements - [tinyurl.com/26y75sv5](https://tinyurl.com/26y75sv5)

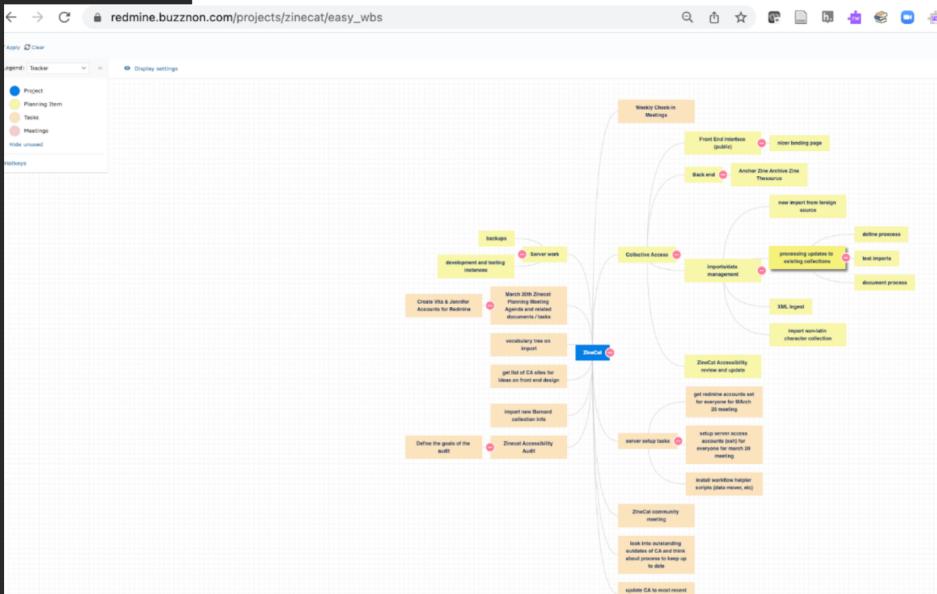
The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the title "zine: Mapping Cheat Sheet". The table consists of two main sections: "Refinery parameters" and "CA table\_element Refinery".

Field	CA table_element	Refinery parameters
1		// this is a sheet that contains mapping rules that have been shown to work in previous Zinecat mappings + ingest. hopefully it will serve as a useful reference for future imports!
2		
3	ca_table_element	
4	ca_objects.preferred_labels	
5	ca_objects.subject	
6	ca_entities	
7	ca_objects.description	{ "relationshipType": "creator", "entityType": "Ind" }
8	ca_entities.entitySplitter	
9	ca_objects.date.date_value	
10	ca_publications	{ "relationshipType": "created" }
11	ca_entities.place	{ "relationshipType": "publisher", "entityType": "Ind" }
12	ca_entities.format_text	
	ca_objects.object_note	

Image of an excel spreadsheet showing the "ZineCat Mapping Cheat Sheet."

# REDMINE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Eric has set us up with a RedMine project management site. We're in the official development phase!! In early 2022, Lauren and Eric started meeting weekly to discuss the functional needs of ZineCat and then in February, we met as a larger group to discuss the larger group's needs. These conversations have resulted in tracking some of the issues we're working on in ZineCat and will aid in future development work. As we scale up and work with more developers, RedMine will serve as a fundamental tool to track, assign, and review the progress of ZineCat's technical development. Here's a screenshot of what we've come up with:



# Tech Updates

Some other things Eric has helped us accomplish include:

- **Setting up development sites for Jennifer Huang & Vita Kurland. Dev sites help us not break things on the main site!**
- **Migrated the ZineCat server to a more sustainable and affordable space!**
- **Aided in maintenance, including updating metadata from Barnard, OCAD, and Anchor Zine Archive!**
- **Planned documentation and scripts to automate backups of the ZineCat servers!**
- **Began discussions with the team for needs related to updating the user interface!**
- **Coordinated an accessibility audit with a sub-contractor: HaiDev! This will entail ensuring that the front end of ZineCat is accessible to people with cognitive or physical disabilities (i.e. semantic structure, alt-text for images, keyboard navigation, etc.).**

# Accessibility Efforts

You can now find plain text and audio files of past issues of Shared Authority!

Visit [www.zinecat.org/about](http://www.zinecat.org/about) for more details.

The screenshot shows the Zine Union Catalog website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for About, Browse, Advanced Search, Blog, and Contact, along with a search bar. Below the navigation is a logo for 'Zine Union Catalog zinecat.org'. The main content area features a red banner with the text 'SHARED AUTHORITY: ZINE UNION CATALOG FOR BEGINNERS'. Underneath, a page titled 'Page 1:' discusses the Preamble to the Zine Librarians Code of Ethics, mentioning marginalized communities and the goal of respectfully engaging with them. There's also a QR code at the bottom left.

Preview all versions of Shared Authority:  
[tinyurl.com/yc7vz358](http://tinyurl.com/yc7vz358)

# OpenRefine

This spring, Vita and Jennifer took the METRO Events Managing Messy Data workshop led by Katie Wolf, where we learned about how to use OpenRefine to harmonize inconsistent data using OpenRefine.

OpenRefine is a powerful, free and open source tool that can be used for data cleaning. It is a Java program that runs on your machine (not in the cloud). It is a desktop application that uses your web browser as an interface, however no internet connection is needed, and none of the data or commands you enter in OpenRefine are sent to a remote server. It is similar to spreadsheet applications, and can handle spreadsheet file formats such as CSV. One of the key features is that OpenRefine will automatically track any steps you take in working with your data.

At ZineCat we use OpenRefine to clean messy data, that means when there are inconsistencies with names, dates, locations etc. we can use this tool to help us harmonize large data sets in bulk!

# Zine Pavilion Presentation at ALA, 2022

Lauren has been busy helping coordinate the return of [Zine Pavilion](#) to the [American Library Association's Annual Conference](#) in Washington, D.C. in June, 2022. As the coordinating group was discussing programming that could be offered, Lauren remembered that [Jenna had done a presentation](#) a couple of years ago and suggested that the same program be offered again.

Here's the full description of the event with some details of when it was offered:

ZineCat: The Zine Union Catalog  
Sunday, June 26, 2-3pm in the Zine Pavilion

Join Lauren Kehoe, co-project manager of ZineCat and the Accessibility & Accommodations Librarian at NYU, for this session about ZineCat (work-in-progress), a union catalog dedicated to zines! It brings together holdings from disparate libraries with divergent metadata schema. The zine union catalog attempts to harmonize, rather than normalize and find mutuality, rather than control of creators and descriptors. The catalog is built on the open access platform Collective Access and is made with zine creators in mind, as much as catalogers and researchers. We're still just at the prototype stage and embrace new contributors and contributions!



## Zine Union Catalog

Zine Pavilion  
American Library Association  
Conference, 2022

@zinecat #ZinePavilion2022



Presentation slides can be accessed in Google Slides:  
[tinyurl.com/373pxuw](https://tinyurl.com/373pxuw)

### Links:

Zine Pavilion - [zinepavilion.tumblr.com](https://zinepavilion.tumblr.com)

American Library Association's Annual Conference -

[2022.alaannual.org](https://2022.alaannual.org)

Jenna had done a presentation - [tinyurl.com/2duxyhhe](https://tinyurl.com/2duxyhhe)

# Funding

## NEH Grant

We applied for an [NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Grant](#) in July, 2021. Sadly, we found out that we didn't get it in April, BUT we got amazing feedback from the reviewers that essentially said this project NEEDS to happen. So after we finished snuggling our cats to get over the disappointment of not getting the funding this time, we decided to apply again. The [updated draft of the narrative](#) can be read in Google Docs. Funding from the grant will support a two-day foundations meeting to be held at Barnard College with representatives from a wide range of library types: low- or no-budget community libraries and archives, academic collections, and public institutions from around the US. ZineCat participants and contributors will assemble at Barnard College for a face-to-face meeting to determine shared decision making, ratify technical specifications, and chart a plan for the future development of ZineCat.

Wish us luck!

### Links:

NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Grant - [tinyurl.com/5n86ref5](https://tinyurl.com/5n86ref5)  
updated draft of the narrative - [tinyurl.com/55weu36e](https://tinyurl.com/55weu36e)

## NYU DH Seed Grant

In other news, we did receive some [digital humanities seed grant funding from New York University](#)! Thanks, NYU!! The seed grant is co-sponsored by NYU Libraries where Lauren works. Read the [full narrative](#) on Google Docs. The funds from this award have provided us with the opportunity to hire an NYU Graduate Student Assistant (Jennifer Huang) and a Web Developer (Eric Goldhagen). In fall, 2022 Lauren will have to present to the NYU community on the project, so stay tuned to find out how it goes!!

Also, NYU Libraries and the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University (LIU) have a dual degree program where students get a MS in Library Science and a second disciplinary Masters degree. This semester, the dual degree students had an opportunity to receive paid internships in the Libraries and Lauren hired Vita Kurland as the Metadata Specialist who has been working with ZineCat since January, 2022.

We continue to seek out funding \$\$\$ opportunities so if you know of any grants or other opportunities that might be of interest, let us know!!

### Links:

[digital humanities seed grant funding from New York University](#) - [tinyurl.com/5udzcryj](https://tinyurl.com/5udzcryj)  
[full narrative](#) - [tinyurl.com/5cze65u5](https://tinyurl.com/5cze65u5)

# Thank You



We couldn't have done it  
without:

- ALA - Zine Pavillion
- Amanda Stevens
- Cassandra Hradril
- Elissah Becknell
- Ella Von Holtum
- Holly Wilson
- Honor Moody
- Jamie Cavallo
- Jennifer LaSuprema
- Jeremy Brett
- Marta Chudolinska
- Milo Miller
- Nick Wolf
- Rhonda Kauffman
- Violet Fox
- Zach Coble

## Connect- the-Dots

Connect the dots to  
complete a paws up for the  
Zine Union Catalog!

