

A Guide to the Sister Speak Records, 1998-2019 UA 0015

Sister Speak records
1998-2019



Title Statement

A Guide to the Sister Speak Records, 1998-2019 UA 0015

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

UA 0015

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/617

Unit Date

1998-2019

Language

English

Abstract

The Sister Speak Records, 1998-2019, include drafts and publication proofs of *Sister Speak: A Feminist Literary Journal* as well as administrative files produced by Sister Speak, the student organization at James Madison University responsible for the publication of the journal.

Creator

James Madison University. Department of English

source

Thompson, Mary, Dr.

Extent

0.66 cubic feet 2 boxes

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection open to research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact the Special Collections reference desk (library-special@jmu.edu) before visiting Special Collections to use this collection.

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Acquisition Information

The records were transferred to Special Collections in 2014 and 2016 by Dr. Mary Thompson, Associate Professor of English at JMU. The 2019 Sister Speak Publication Proof was donated by Liz Chenevey in Spring 2020.

Processing Information

Original folder titles were retained; materials housed within zip-up binders were removed and foldered in archival containers. On receipt in Special Collections, the arrangement of the majority of the materials consisted of folders labeled by year. The original order of the materials was maintained, and the collection is arranged chronologically.

Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [box #, folder #], Sister Speak Records, 1998-2019, UA 0015, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Administrative History

Sister Speak: A Feminist Literary Journal is published twice a year at James Madison University and is sponsored by JMU's department of English. The first issue was printed in the fall semester of 1998 as a publication that originated from English 467: Feminist Literary Theory, taught by Dr. Suzanne Bost, who served as the first advisor to *Sister Speak*. The first issue consisted of a photocopied collection of students' favorite response papers from this English 467. While originally titled *Sister, Speak*, with a comma to indicate a command, later editors dropped the comma in the title. The publication aims to embrace equality between genders, and the goal of *Sister Speak* is to be an amalgam of information that educates about issues related to feminism. To this end, the publication includes works that focus on women and/or gender and that question or challenge oppressive gender roles. As of 2026, Dr. Mary Thompson, professor of English, serves as faculty advisor.

Scope and Contents

The Sister Speak Records consist of .66 cubic feet of materials in two boxes that document the production of *Sister Speak: A Feminist Literary Journal* from 1998-2019 by Sister Speak, the student organization sponsored by JMU's department of English. Materials include fliers for informational meetings about the

journal, calls for submissions to the publication, as well as publication proofs and zine drafts. Other materials include related zines produced by the JMU Feminist Collective and ephemera including a button and various unaffiliated feminist publications.

Separated Material

Published (non-proof) issues of *Sister Speak* were removed from collection and cataloged separately as a periodical in Special Collections.

Keywords

Administrative records
Buttons (information artifacts)
Drafts (documents)
Fanzines
Magazines (periodicals)
Feminism
Feminist theory
Feminism and literature
Women and literature
Equality
Gender roles
Thompson, Mary, Dr.
James Madison University -- Students -- Periodicals

Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Origins of Sister Speak

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22545

Unit Date circa 1998-2003

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Miscellaneous zines

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22546

Unit Date 2001-2005

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 2-3 (folder)

Extent 2 folders

Sister Speak drafts

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/32650

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22548

Unit Date fall 2004

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22549

Unit Date spring 2005

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Publication proof

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22550

Unit Date spring 2005

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22551

Unit Date fall 2005

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22552

Unit Date spring 2006

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22553

Unit Date fall 2006

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Scope and Contents

[Includes digital media]

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22554

Unit Date spring 2007

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22555

Unit Date fall 2007

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Publication proof

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22556

Unit Date spring 2008

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22557

Unit Date fall 2008

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22558

Unit Date spring 2009

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22559

Unit Date 2010

Mixed Materials [1000898478] 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Publication proof

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22560

Unit Date 2010

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22561

Unit Date spring 2011

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Publication proof

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22562

Unit Date spring 2011

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22563

Unit Date fall 2011

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Publication proof

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22564

Unit Date spring 2012

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/22565

Unit Date spring 2013

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Publication proof, ENG 302/WGSS 300

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/25001

Unit Date fall 2019

Mixed Materials [1000898479] 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)