Our Digital Content

The Transgender Archives is actively improving public access of our collections through digitization.

Transvestia (111 issues, 1960-1986), created by Virginia Prince, was the first widely distributed magazine focused on the cross-dressing community.

Starting in 1964, the Erickson Educational Foundation (EEF), a philanthropic organization funded by Reed Erickson, published newsletters, pamphlets, and more.

From 1971-1982, Adele Anderson compiled 13 scrapbooks that include clippings from newspapers and magazines published in the UK.

The FTM Newsletter (67 issues, 1987-2004), created by Lou Sullivan, became the most widely circulated & highly respected publication exploring transmasculine experiences.

The Trans Activism Oral History collection consists of video & audio interviews, collected 2019-2020, with Trans+ activist elders & allies from across North America.

Contact Us

transgenderarchives.ca
transarc@uvic.ca
@TransArchives
@TransChair
Chair in Transgender Studies
UVicTransArchives

Dr. Aaron Devor
Founder & Inaugural Chair in Transgender Studies
Founder & Subject Matter Expert, Transgender Archives
Founder & Host, Moving Trans History Forward
Professor, Sociology Department
ahdevor@uvic.ca

Lara Wilson
Director of Special Collections, University Archivist
ljwilson@uvic.ca

Visit Us

The Transgender Archives at the University of Victoria Libraries is located in the Special Collections and University Archives on the lower level of the William C. Mearns Centre - McPherson Library. The Transgender Archives is in a beautiful and serene location that includes a reading room, classrooms, exhibit space, and a climate-controlled vault. No appointment is needed. Open Monday-Friday, closed weekends & holidays.

Open to the public, free of charge.

uvic.ca/transgenderarchives/visit
Our Physical Collections

The Transgender Archives at the University of Victoria Libraries began with the generous donation of the Rikki Swin Institute collections. These included archives of Ari Kane, Betty Ann Lind, Virginia Prince, and the International Foundation for Gender Education.

Virginia Prince (L), Transvestia founder and transgender pioneer, and Reed Erickson (R), Erickson Educational Foundation founder.

It has since been enhanced by many other generous donations, including the personal papers of Reed Erickson, the records of Stephanie Castle and the Zenith Foundation, as well as the University of Ulster Transgender Archive, donated by Richard Ekins.

Recent major donations include bequests from Aiyyana Maracle and Red Jordan Arobateau.

Aiyyana Maracle (L), artist, educator, storyteller, and Two-Spirit woman from the Six Nations territory.

Red Jordan Arobateau (R), American author who became one of the earliest and most prolific writers of 'street lit.'

About The Transgender Archives

The University of Victoria Libraries is home to the largest physical Transgender Archives in the world. We preserve and safeguard the history of groundbreaking Trans+ activists, community leaders, and researchers who have contributed to the betterment of Trans+ people. The Transgender Archives is accessible to the public, free of charge.

Fast Facts

Our records span more than

160 meters or 530 linear feet
(1.5 football fields long)

start in the

Late 19th century

are in

15 languages

and are from

23 countries on 6 continents

Find what you’re looking for by searching UVic Libraries’ online catalogue, our finding aids, or by using our Discovery Tool.

uvic.ca/transgenderarchives/discovery-tool/

Donate

The Chair in Transgender Studies, Dr. Aaron Devor, is the Founder and Subject Matter Expert for the Transgender Archives. The Chair in Transgender Studies supports and builds the Transgender Archives by actively attracting donors, and promoting the collections with academic and community researchers from across the globe. Help support the work that we do by making a donation today. We can issue Canadian or US tax receipts.

uvic.ca/research/transchair/support/