



Graphic designed by b hinesley

“We strive to strengthen, enrich, and support women, and to promote a world free of all types of prejudice, oppression, and exploitation. We connect women to a community of strong women and help them find the support they need to grow, evolve, and find their power within themselves.”

HSR

About Herland Sister Resources

Herland Sister Resources (HSR) originated in 1982 as a culmination of members from several different womyn's* groups in the Oklahoma City area. Founding members wanted to provide a safe gathering place for womyn of the feminist and lesbian communities, outside of the gay bar culture, which, at that time, was the only place for the LGBTQIA+community to congregate.

With this in mind, HSR opened the Herland Bookstore providing a safe place to commune and enjoy works by womyn authors and other material not readily available in the mainstream. What began as a gathering place soon became much more. The bookstore provides the perfect place to meet, organize, and unite; rallying around the betterment of womyn, children, and especially those in the LGBTQIA + community. The group became a national political activist group, participating in the National Organization of Women and many Washington D.C. marches.

In addition, HSR recognized womyn of the feminist and LGBTQIA+ communities nationwide lacked access to a communal gathering place and a source for relevant media. Thus HSR created an extensive mail-service-lending-library which distributed books, records, magazines, and other forms of media.

In 1985, Herland became a non-profit organization assisting womyn, LGBTQIA+, and children's causes of all kinds. They supported womyn's personal needs, funded individual and class-action legal cases, partnered with various charities; sparking the creation of many offshoots. Herland continues to host fundraisers, films, musicians, and dances to raise awareness.

In 2016, HSR shifted their focus from the lending library to engagement. Knowing they held a valuable archive documenting the lives and interests of feminist and the LGBTQIA +community HSR donated the 8,000 plus object library collection to the University of Central Oklahoma's Women's and GLBTQ Center as an extension of UCO's ChambersLibrary. The Center, under the leadership of Dr. Lindsey Churchill has carefully archived material and digitized Herland's monthly newsletters from 1984-2016.

On display is a portion of the HSR archive on loan to the Oklahoma State University Museum of Art. The material featured here serves as a representative of the many LGBTQIA+ archives across the nation which helped to inspire and guide the research behind 50 States.

Herland continues to work for the good of womyn and children across Oklahoma and beyond connecting monthly with an online newsletter. Herland offers classes, support groups, symposiums, and womyn only retreats for all who are interested. Anyone wanting to learn more can go to www.herlandsisters.org

*womyn is a nonstandard spelling of "women" adopted by some feminists in order to avoid the word ending in -men

the word ending -men.

Curated by b. hinesley

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The Womyn of Herland



Herland - What it is all about





MORE TO EXPLORE

The Music of Herland Sister Resources

Herland Sister Resources

HSR on Facebook!

UCO's Women's Research Center and BGLTQ+ Student Center

The Center on Facebook!

The Voice (HSR newsletter) Digital Archives at UCO

News Articles:

[UCO makes history with opening of BGLTQ+ Center \(Edmond Sun\)](#)

[Musical Duo "Push On" Together For 20 Years \(The Oklahoman\)](#)

Feminist Bookstores:

[Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press List](#)

[VIDA Women in Literary Arts list](#)

ABOUT THE CURATOR

B currently is studying as a masters candidate in the Oklahoma State University's Public History program. Through this, she is required to complete an internship in order to gain real-world, practical experience. Since b's research focuses on the LGBTQIA+ community's history and how to bring that out of marginalization into the public mainstream, she consulted Dr. Lindsey Churchill of UCO's Women's Research Center and BGLTQ+ Student Center. Dr. Churchill worked with b to place her as UCO's intern liaison at the OSU Museum of Art for their "50 States" exhibit and all of the partnering events surrounding it. In this role, b has curated an exhibit displaying items from the Center's Herland Sister Resources archive as an example of the important, yet often small archives within the LGBTQIA+ community. Other archives such as this have given inspiration to the "50 States" pieces among many other important projects. Along with the exhibit, b has aided in the creation of other events at OSUMA including Gregory Hinton's "Out West" series of talks, a Community Conversation of LGBTQIA+ community members, and her own talk about the Herland Sister Resources exhibition during Queering the Museum.

Come back soon!

Check our website for extended hours. Admission is always free.

Is there something you'd like to see at the museum? We would love to hear from you.

Oklahoma State University Museum of Art

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