



Sinister Wisdom

A Multicultural Lesbian Literary & Art Journal

**Welcome to your internship
at Sinister Wisdom!**



About Sinister Wisdom



Sinister Wisdom Mission Statement

Sinister Wisdom is a multicultural lesbian literary & art journal founded in 1976. Sinister Wisdom works to create multi-class, multicultural, multi-gender, multi-racial, world-wide intergenerational queer and lesbian spaces. Through publishing quarterly issues, a Sapphic Classics book series, and offering educational programs, Sinister Wisdom nurtures lesbian communities. Sinister Wisdom is a living archive that celebrates the multiplicity of lesbian identities across races, classes, genders, abilities, and lived experiences. Sinister Wisdom recognizes the power of language and art to create radical, empowering, resilient, and joyous sanctuaries that build and sustain vibrant lesbian futures.

About Sinister Wisdom, the Organization

Sinister Wisdom, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Sinister Wisdom publishes lesbian and queer literature, including four issues of the journal every year; a vital community newsletter twice a month; the Wild Shrew Literary Review of queer and lesbian books; a lesbian art calendar; and the Sapphic Classics series, reissuing beloved, out of print titles by iconic lesbian writers including Minnie Bruce Pratt, Cheryl Clarke, Beth Brant, Tatiana de la tierra, Joan Nestle, and Pat Parker. Sinister Wisdom also hosts lively, dynamic events throughout the year online and in-person, including book clubs, issue launches, discussions with authors, and more. Sinister Wisdom provides free subscriptions to women in prison and mental institutions and offers reduced price subscriptions for lesbians/queer women with limited or fixed incomes. Subscribe today, and join our brilliant lesbian and queer galaxy!

Everyone at Sinister Wisdom constructs their own workplan for their internship at Sinister Wisdom, with some projects just for them and some shared projects

Here is an example of the shared projects that interns can work on:

- FBN Project
- Featurettes
- Social Media Takeovers
- Blog posts
- Proofreading issues of Sinister Wisdom and of Sapphic Classics
- Reviews for the Wild Shrew Literary Review
- Updating the Sinister Wisdom website
- Projects relating to the Lesbian Poetry Archive, www.lesbianpoetryarchive.org
- Reviewing submissions in Submittable



Values

These are some of the values of Sinister Wisdom and the community we are creating.

- Lean into success
- Be gentle, kind, and generous
- Life is long and Sinister Wisdom will always be here for you
- Sinister Wisdom's life is longer than any human life—or the attention of any human editor, publisher, curator, or steward.
- Sinister Wisdom dreams of being an enduring lesbian communal formation, here for the great, great grandchildren we have not met.
- Make art and literature
- Facilitate and embrace the creative work of others
- Show up for one another
- Try new things
- Fail at some things but always learn



What can you do to ensure her life and longevity?

Some Logistics

We have weekly meetings with everyone doing an internship each semester. Be sure to mark the weekly meetings on your calendar!

Weekly Updates

It is helpful to everyone if you do a weekly update about what you have accomplished this week, what you hope to accomplish next week, and what challenges you are experiencing in doing your work. This practice, a weekly update to your work manager, is a great discipline for the rest of your work life. Here is one useful article about the weekly report: <https://jefago.medium.com/why-you-should-send-a-weekly-summary-email-1c556149ed42>

If you Google weekly work updates or weekly report at work, you will find a range of templates to help you think about this project.

Make a plan for when you will write your weekly report and schedule it into your weekly calendar. You can email your report to Julie@Sinisterwisdom.org.

End of Internship Update

Similarly, when the semester ends, please send a full report of everything you did during your internship as well as some reflections on what you learned, how you hope to apply that learning to your future work, and what you wish you had known before starting the internship. Email this report to Julie as well. She uses these regularly if you need her to write letters of recommendation in the future or be a reference for future jobs.



Many people find it helpful to plan out the hours for their internship on a weekly basis and plot what projects they will work on. You can do that on this grid—or adapt it to create your own!

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11
Project											
Project											
Project											
Project											



What are projects that you want to work on? List them here:

Project:

Project:

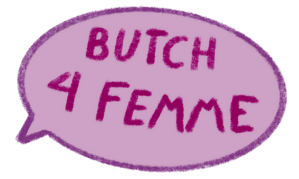
Project:

Project:

Project:



Big Life Questions



One of the things that many people doing internships at Sinister Wisdom are thinking about—and that we talk about—is, how can I live as an open lesbian and do work in lesbian and queer communities that is meaningful to me and makes a difference in the world?

To that end, think about your answers these questions:

What does a good life look like for you?

Where do you see yourself in two years?

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Who do you know that is living the kind of life you want to live? Can you talk with them about how they got there?

