



YULISBETH ROJAS
Portfolio Spring 2025

DESIGNER STATEMENT

I'm Yuli a Latina graphic designer, born in Mexico, with a passion for creating vibrant, fun designs that reflect my love for bright colors and my optimistic outlook on life. I specialize in branding, logo design, and creative problem-solving, always approaching projects with empathy, dependability, and resilience. My goal is to provide thoughtful, client-centered designs that meet both aesthetic and functional needs. I truly believe that design should be an enjoyable process, and I love bringing that sense of fun into every project.

For me, creativity is not just a job — it's a joyful experience!

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01 BENEATH THE SYSTEM

Beneath the System uncovers the human stories often obscured by immigration systems and policies. It invites viewers to explore the emotional and structural layers of migration, revealing how movement is not only regulated by borders and laws but deeply experienced by individuals. By examining the contrast between institutional control and personal narrative, the project challenges audiences to consider who defines belonging, whose voices are heard, and what lies beneath the surface of policy. Beneath the System asks not just who draws the line — but who lives beneath it.





Pages in Between

This interactive publication invites you to journey through real stories of migration, identity, and resilience — told by individuals across a spectrum of U.S. immigration statuses.

Through pop-up elements, transparent overlays, personal maps, photos, and handwritten reflections, each page reveals the complexities and emotional weight of navigating the U.S. immigration system. The layered format mirrors the multifaceted nature of each person's experience — what is seen, what is obscured, and what lies in between.

This is not just a book — it is a journal of lived realities, a space to pause, listen, and reflect on what it truly means to seek belonging in a system built on lines and labels.





WHO DRAWS THE LINE?

WHERE WERE YOU BORN?

- Australia and New Zealand
- Central and Southern Asia
- Eastern and South-Eastern Asia
- Europe
- Latin America and The Caribbean
- Northern Africa or Western Asia
- Northern America (US & Canada)
- Oceania
- Sub-Saharan Africa

SHOULD PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO MOVE FREELY ACROSS BORDERS?

WHAT EMOTION DO YOU ASSOCIATE MOST WITH MIGRATION?

DOES MIGRATION STRENGTHEN OR WEAKEN NATIONAL IDENTITY?

IF YOU COULD REMOVE ONE BARRIER TO MIGRATING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

SHOULD MIGRANTS HAVE TO PROVE THEIR WORTH TO BE ACCEPTED INTO A NEW COUNTRY?

SHOULD YOUR COUNTRY EMBRACE IMMIGRATION-DRIVEN DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES?

WHAT DOES BELONGING MEAN TO YOU?

Yes **No** **Strengthen** **Weaken** **Yes** **No** **Yes** **No**

Acceptance **Culture** **Familiarity** **Financial Status** **Language** **Legal Status** **Relationships** **Shared Values** **Other**

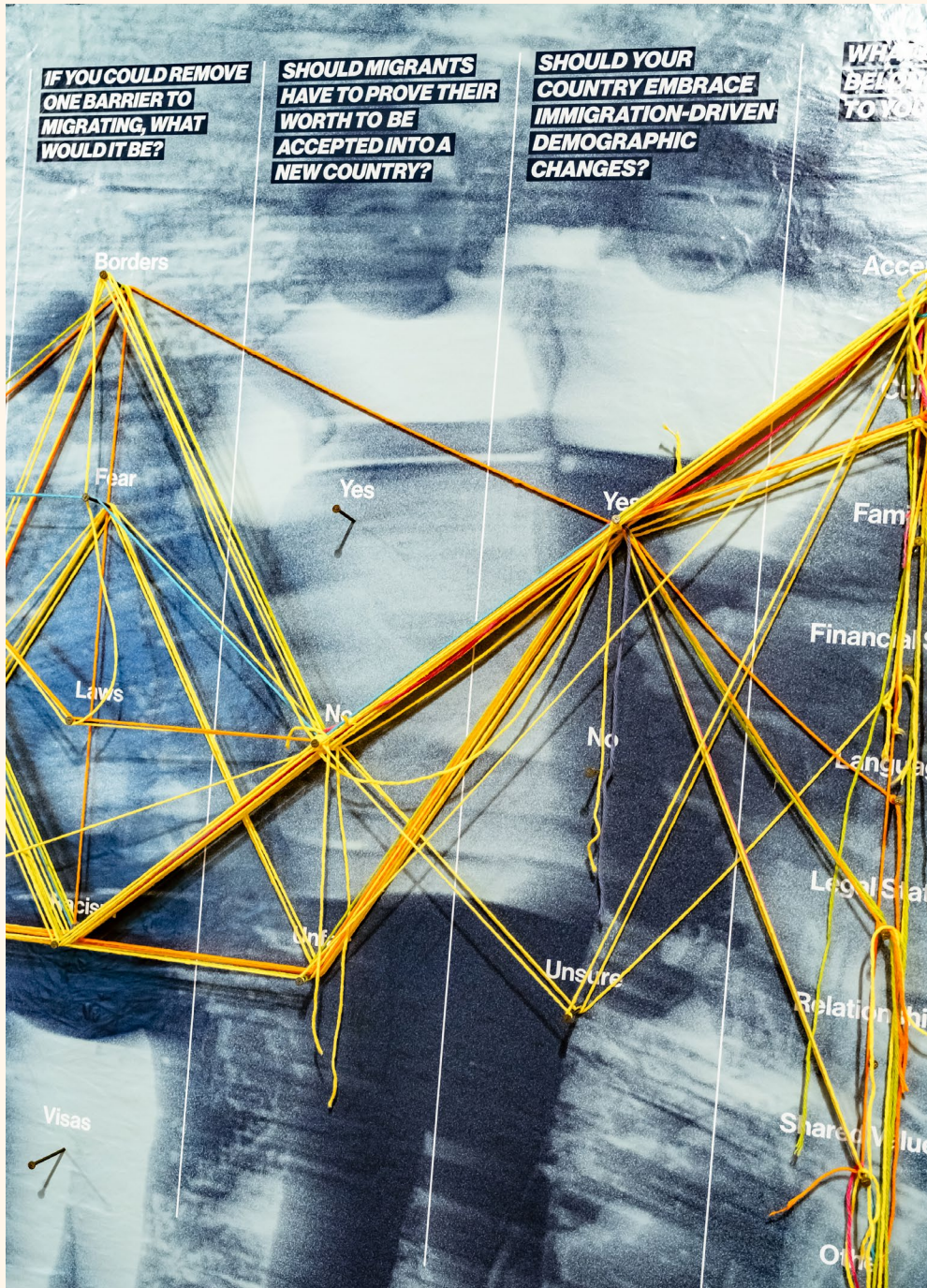
Instructions

1. Choose a thread color based on your immigration status.
2. Tie the thread to the first nail by answering the first question.
3. Loop the thread around each nail while answering.
4. Tie the thread at the last question and cut it.
5. Return the thread to its position.

Immigration Status

- U.S. Citizen
- Permanent Resident
- Conditional Permanent Resident
- Non-Immigrant & Tourist Visa
- DACA
- Undocumented

Other Labels: Anxiety, Excitement, Fear, Hopes, Lose, Overwhelm, Relief, Resilience, Uncertainty, Borders, Fear, Laws, Racism, Unfair, Visas, Dependence, Relieve, Weaken, Fear, Yes, No, Unstable, Relationships, Shared Values, Other, Financial Status, Language, Legal Status, Familiarity, Culture, Acceptance.



Who draws the line?

This interactive installation invites you to reflect on personal experiences with migration, identity, and belonging. Using a thread that represents your immigration status, respond to each question by looping your thread around the answers that resonate with you. As more participants contribute, the wall transforms into a collective web of stories—revealing shared hopes, fears, and tensions around borders and freedom of movement.

Who decides who belongs—and who gets to move?



INDIVIDUAL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ITIN)

An ITIN is a tax number from the IRS for people who don't qualify for a Social Security Number. It works for filing taxes and doesn't give legal status, work rights, or public benefits.

Pull to learn more

DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA)

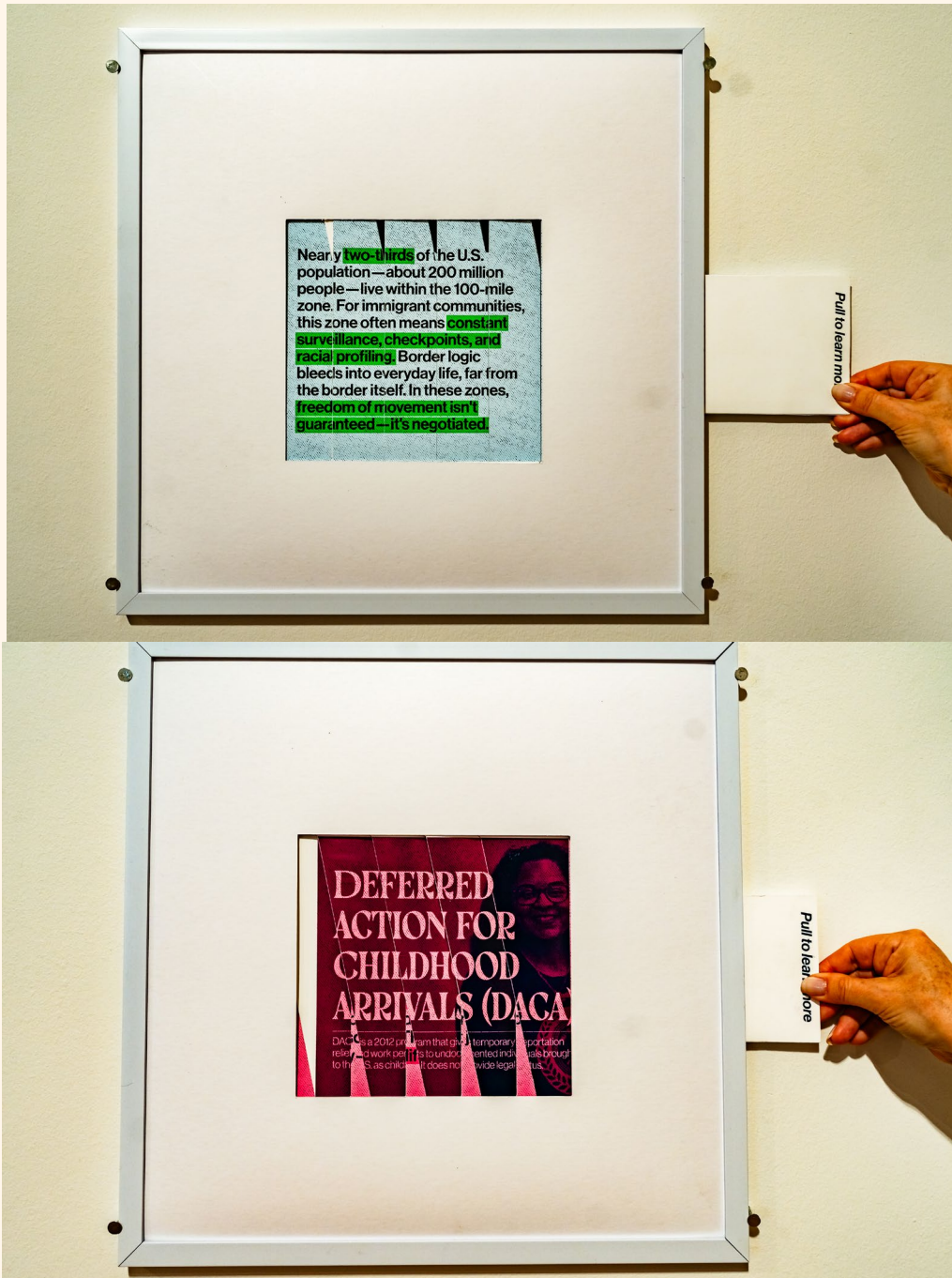
DACA is a 2009 program that gives temporary deportation relief and work permits to young, unlicensed individuals brought to the U.S. as children. It does not provide legal status.

Pull to learn more

100-MILE BORDER ZONE

The 100-Mile Border Zone extends inland from US borders, where CBP has border search and surveillance powers. It includes coastlines, ports, and border communities.

Pull to learn more



Behind the Words

These interactive posters reveal the often-overlooked policies and identifiers that shape the lives of migrants in the U.S.—from the 100-mile border zone to DACA and the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).

Each poster invites you to engage physically: pull a tab to reveal a real-world impact of these technical terms. While many remain unaware of how these systems function, they profoundly influence access, identity, and belonging for millions.

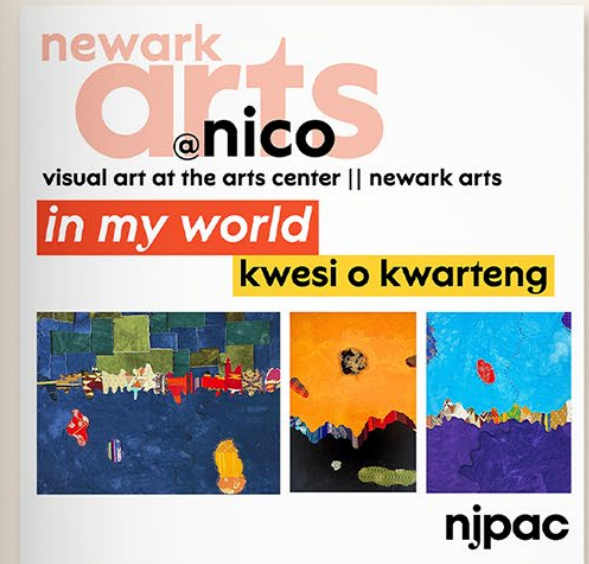
By making the invisible visible, these posters challenge us to confront the bureaucratic borders drawn within everyday life.

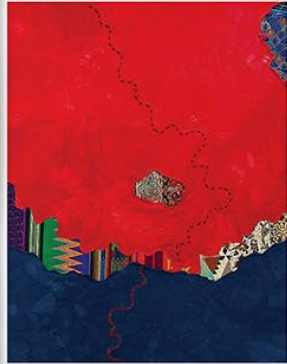
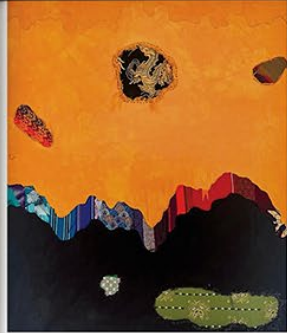


02 New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Creative Design Experience at NJPAC

Collaborated with NJPAC's Creative Design Department to craft compelling print and digital assets. Designed a variety of materials, including social media graphics, flyers, postcards, event signage, and digital advertisements. Contributed to high-profile projects like Sounds of the City, NJPAC's free summer concert series. Mentored by the Art Director, I polished my skills in creative strategy and production while delivering impactful visuals aligned with NJPAC's mission and brand identity.





newark arts @nico

visual art at the arts center || newark arts

in my world

kwesi o kwarteng



Scan above QR code to see information on each painting on display.

Ghanaian-born and Newark-based, **Kwesi Kwarteng** is a multidisciplinary artist who works with textiles. As an immigrant living in the US, Kwarteng transcribes a new language from the combination of traditional and cultural fabrics along with hand-dyed textiles. He creates abstract-like pieces to investigate migration trajectories and share histories while unearthing the intricacies and beauty of multiculturalism. In Kwarteng's works, there is an exploration of traditional weavers in Ghana, influenced by El Anatsui's extraordinary sculptures, twentieth century African American quilting artistry and abstract color field works by Sam Gilliam. Through his early challenges as an immigrant, he learned to embrace the multi-facets of culture and the heterogeneity of the immigrant story in the Bronx, NY, and later in Newark, NJ. He has a BFA from the School of Visual Arts, NY and his works are held in private collections around the world. He is a current Artist in Residence at the Silver Arts Project.

For more information, or to purchase works, email Adrienne Wheeler, Newark Arts' Lead Curator, Artistic Initiatives, Adrienne.wheeler@newarkarts.org or 973.643.1625

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Horizon  music & comedy



**smokey
robinson**

dec 6

enter to win!

Scan the QR code to enter for a chance to win two tickets to this upcoming performance.



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mariza

oct 25

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Scan the QR code to enter for a chance to win two tickets to this upcoming performance.



njpac



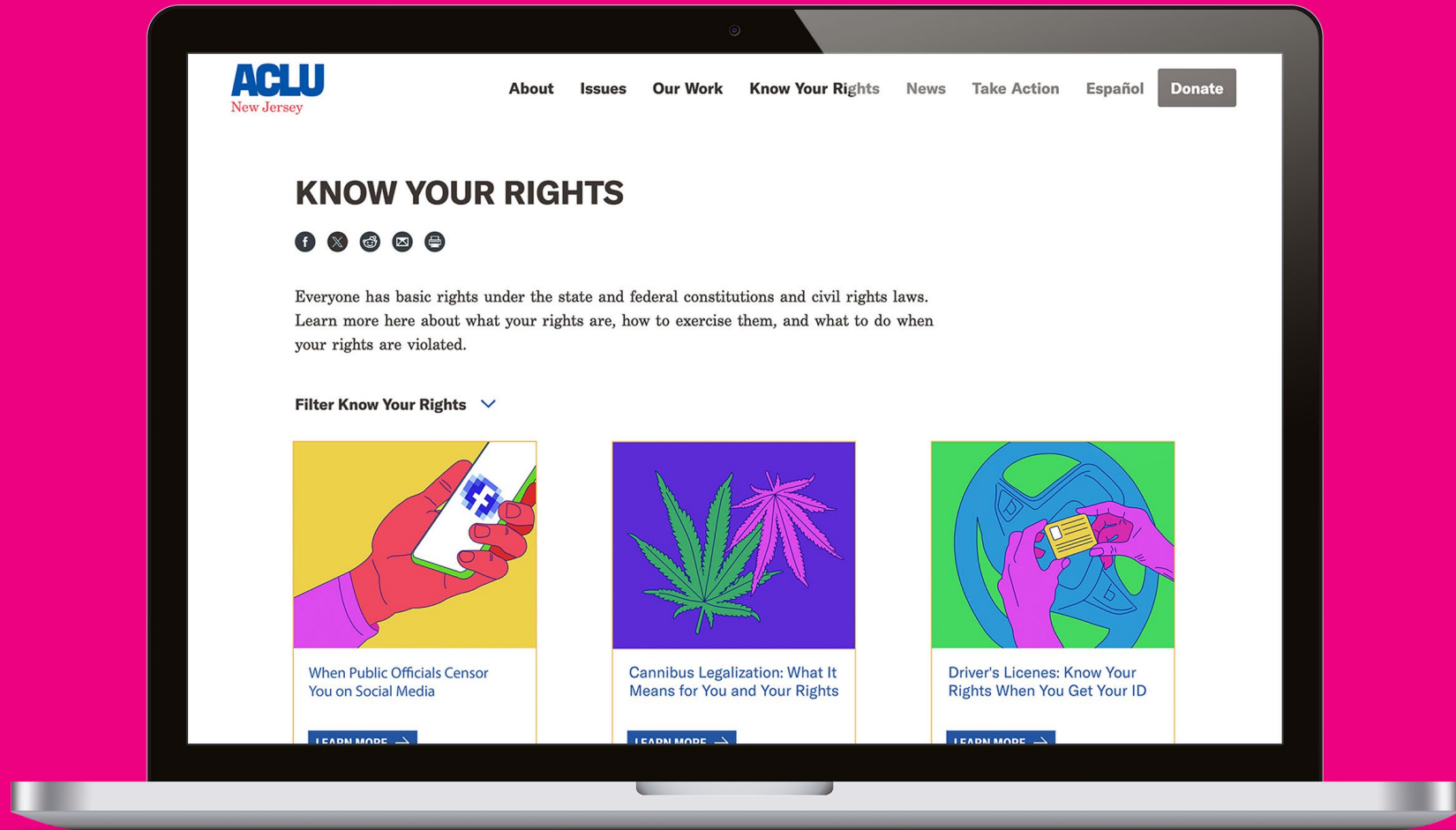
03 a feeling of itself

A feeling of itself is a multilingual, multimedia, and multisite exhibition by LIVES IN TRANSLATION (LiT) in partnership with the Design Consortium (DC) at Express Newark (EN). A feeling of itself highlights the profound connections between language identity, immigration, and cultural legacy, through bilingual interviews conducted by Rutgers University-Newark students, engaging in warm conversations with family and friends.



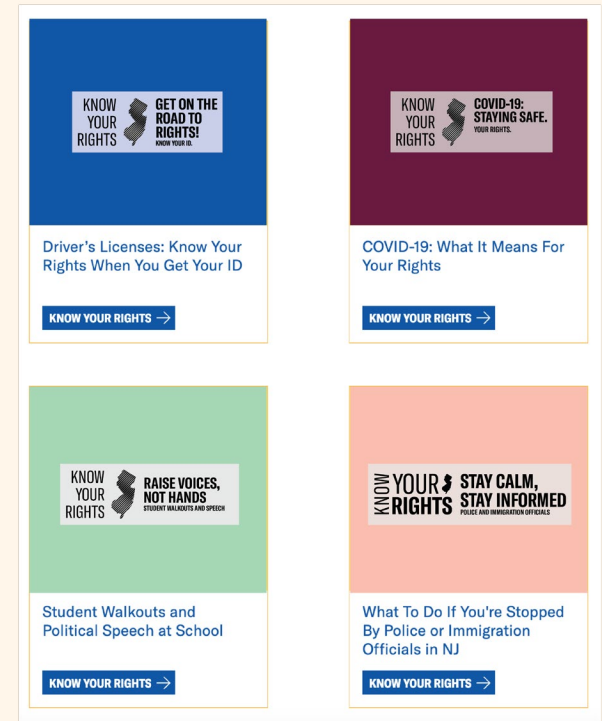
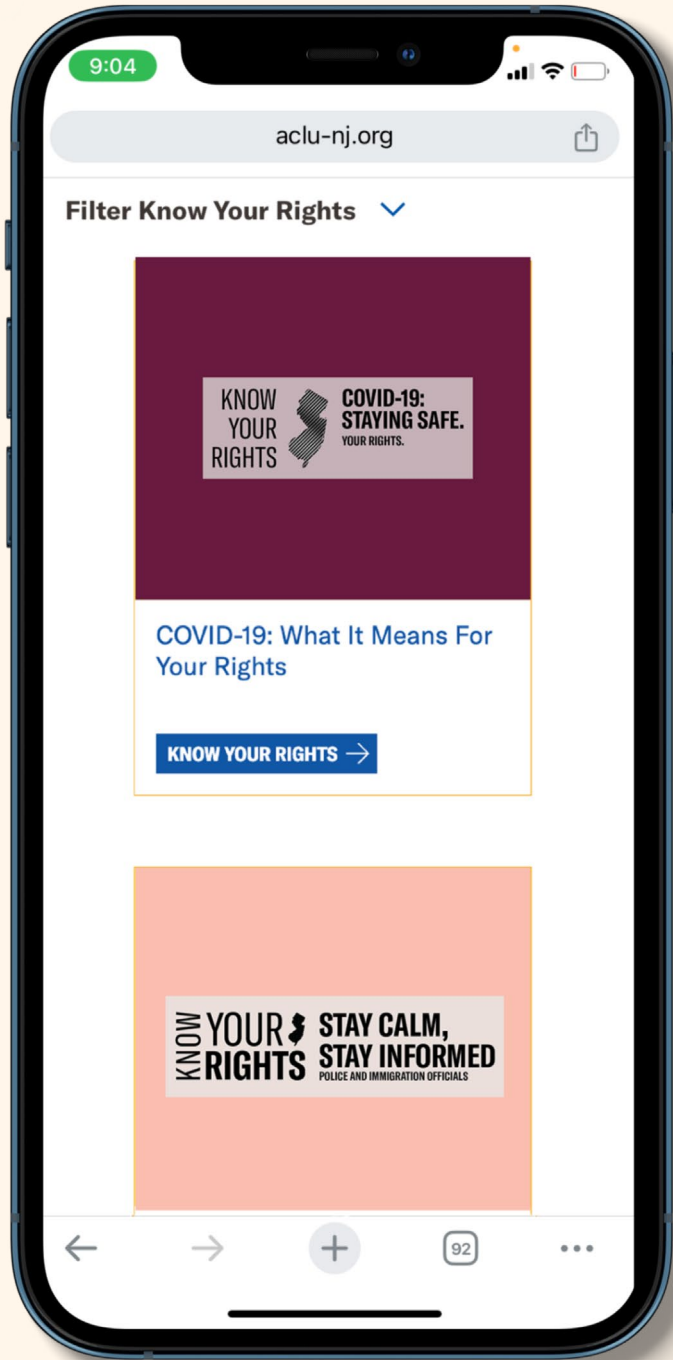


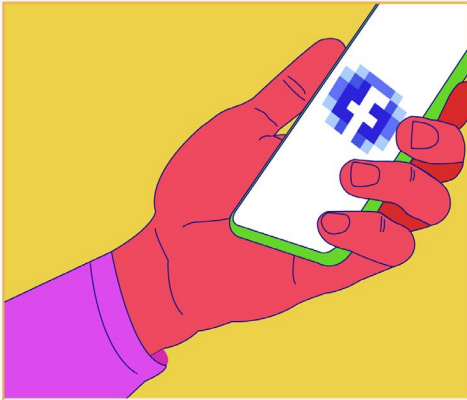




04 AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, INC.

Member of Visual Means, a student/faculty collaborative and creative studio at Express Newark/RU-N. As a member of Visual Means, I was able to take part in the design and development of ACLU's website imagery for the "Know Your Rights" web page.





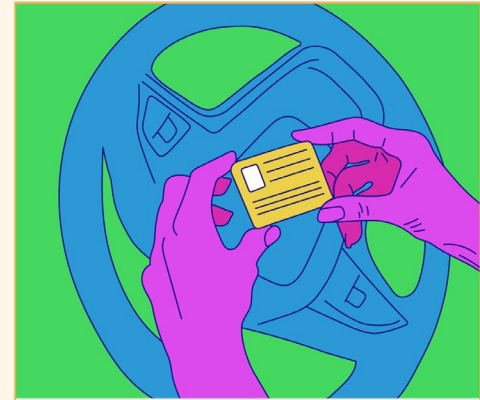
When Public Officials Censor You on Social Media

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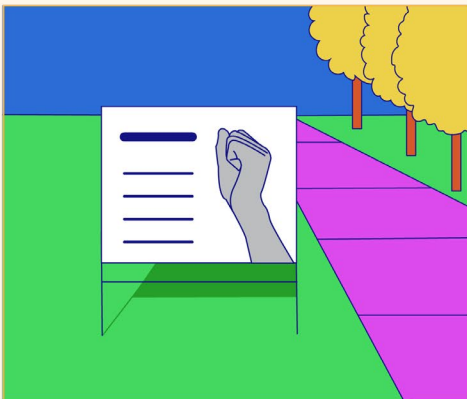
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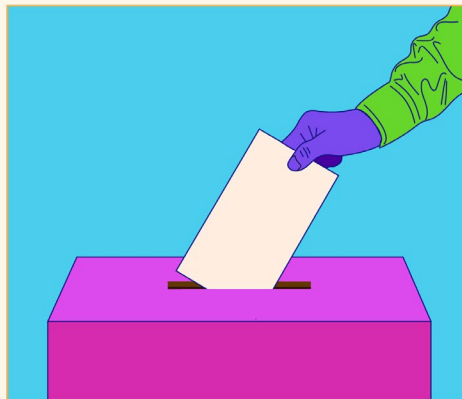
Driver's Licenes: Know Your Rights When You Get Your ID

[LEARN MORE →](#)



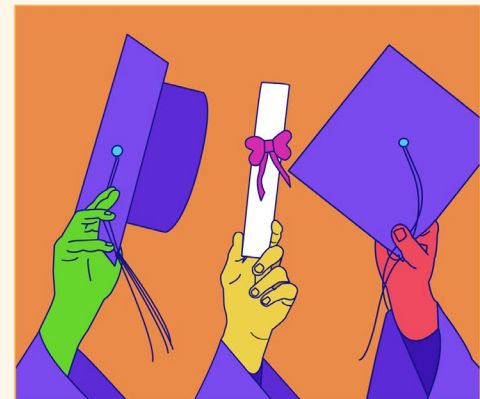
Know Your Rights: Displaying Poltical Signs

[LEARN MORE →](#)



Know Your Voting Rights

[LEARN MORE →](#)



It's Prom and Graduation Season... Know Your Rights!

[LEARN MORE →](#)



05 SACRED REMEDIES

This editorial highlights the importance of honoring Indigenous wisdom in mental health care, alongside modern medicine. It emphasizes the deep connection between Indigenous cultures and the natural world, where plants are viewed as sacred allies in emotional healing. It explores the herbal traditions of the Cherokee, Aztec, and Guarani people, showcasing how herbs have been used for centuries to alleviate anxiety and depression. A few recipes are included so you can step foot in this realm while guiding you with the gathering and preparation process section. The editorial advocates for a more inclusive and holistic approach to mental health care, inviting readers to explore Indigenous healing modalities and herbal remedies. By embracing these traditions, we can move towards a future where all individuals have access to resources for emotional and spiritual well-being, while also acknowledging the resilience and wisdom of Indigenous people.





UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION

In contemporary society mental health issues such as anxiety and depression affect millions of individuals worldwide. These conditions not only impact the individuals directly affected but also extend their effects to their families, communities, and society as a whole. Understanding anxiety and depression is crucial for effective management, treatment, and support systems. This introduction serves as a comprehensive overview of anxiety and depression, exploring their definitions, causes, symptoms, and societal implications.

DEFINITION AND DIFFERENTIATION

Anxiety and depression are two distinct but often interconnected mental health disorders. Anxiety is characterized by excessive worry, fear, and apprehension about future events, often accompanied by physical symptoms such as sweating, trembling, and rapid heartbeat. On the other hand, depression involves persistent feelings of sadness, hopelessness, and loss of interest or pleasure in activities once enjoyed. While anxiety tends to focus on future-oriented concerns, depression typically revolves around past or present experiences.

Although anxiety and depression have their unique features, they frequently coexist, leading to a condition known as comorbid anxiety depression. The complexity of these conditions emphasizes the severity of symptoms and complicates treatment approaches, emphasizing the importance of understanding the interplay between these disorders.

CAUSES AND RISK FACTORS

The causes of anxiety and depression are multifaceted and often involve a combination of genetic, biological, environmental, and psychological factors. Genetics play a significant role, with research indicating a hereditary predisposition to these disorders. Individuals with a family history of anxiety or depression are at a higher risk of developing these conditions themselves.

Biological imbalances in neurotransmitters such as serotonin and dopamine are implicated in the onset of anxiety and depression. These chemical messengers regulate mood, emotions, and stress responses, and disruptions in their levels can contribute to mental health disturbances.

Environmental factors, including stressful life events, trauma, chronic illness, or substance abuse, can trigger or exacerbate symptoms of anxiety and depression. Socioeconomic status, cultural influences, and societal pressures also contribute to the development and expression of these disorders.

Psychological factors such as personality traits, coping mechanisms, and cognitive patterns play a crucial role in the manifestation of anxiety and depression. Individuals prone to negative thinking patterns, perfectionism, or low self-esteem are more susceptible to these conditions.

ANXIETY A FEELING OF WORRY, NERVOUSNESS, OR UNEASINESS, TYPICALLY ABOUT AN IMMINENT EVENT OR SOMETHING WITH AN UNCERTAIN OUTCOME

DEPRESSION INVOLVES PERSISTENT FEELINGS OF SADNESS, HOPELESSNESS, AND LOSS OF INTEREST OR PLEASURE IN ACTIVITIES ONCE ENJOYED



SYMPTOMS AND DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

The symptoms of anxiety and depression manifest across various domains, including emotional, cognitive, behavioral, and physical aspects. Common symptoms of anxiety include excessive worry, restlessness, irritability, muscle tension, and difficulty concentrating. Panic attacks, characterized by sudden and intense fear, are also prevalent in anxiety disorders.

Depression symptoms encompass persistent sadness, feelings of emptiness, loss of interest or pleasure, changes in appetite or activities, sleep disturbances, fatigue, weight changes, thoughts of death or suicide. Some individuals may experience psychomotor agitation or retardation leading to noticeable changes in movement and speech patterns.

To diagnose anxiety and depression, mental health professionals refer to standardized manuals such as the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). These criteria involve assessing the duration, severity, and impact of symptoms on daily functioning to determine the presence of a specific disorder.

SOCIETAL IMPLICATIONS AND STIGMA

Anxiety and depression exert profound societal implications, affecting individuals across various age groups, genders, and cultural backgrounds. The economic burden of these disorders is substantial, stemming from productivity and disability claims. Moreover, untreated anxiety and depression contribute to increased healthcare utilization as affected individuals seek medical assistance for both physical and mental health symptoms.

Stigma surrounding mental illness remains a significant barrier to seeking help and receiving adequate support. Misconceptions, fear of judgment, and cultural beliefs often discourage individuals from seeking professional treatment. Consequently, many individuals suffer in silence, leading to prolonged distress and worsening symptoms. Addressing the stigma associated with anxiety and depression requires concerted efforts from policymakers, healthcare providers, communities, and the media. Promoting awareness, fostering empathy, and providing education about mental health disorders can help challenge stereotypes and encourage open dialogue about these prevalent conditions.

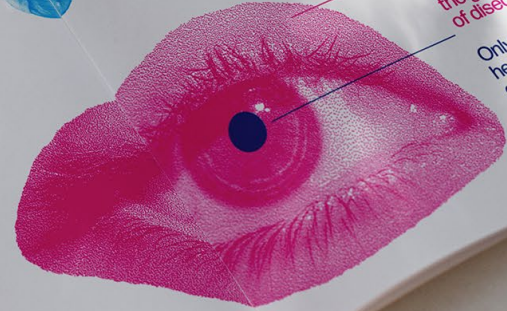
In conclusion, anxiety and depression represent complex and often misunderstood mental health disorders with significant societal implications. Understanding the definitions, causes, symptoms, and supportive interventions of these conditions is essential for promoting early detection, effective intervention, and supportive environments for those affected. By fostering a society where stigma and mental health disparities are minimized, we can strive towards a society where individuals with anxiety and depression receive the care and support they need to lead fulfilling lives.

1 IN 4 PEOPLE around the world suffer from mental disorders—more than cancer, diabetes or heart disease.



INADEQUATE HEALTHCARE
Mental illness accounts for 20% of the global burden of disease.

Only 3% of the world's healthcare budgets goes to mental health needs



SOOTHING THE CHEROKEE SPIRIT:

Cherokee is a gender-neutral name of Native American origin. Meaning "people of different speech," this name is a celebration of the Indigenous people that have come before baby. One of the first civilizations to produce written language, the Cherokee people are a shining example of ancient wisdom and ingenuity.

The Cherokee, like many Native American tribes, have a rich tradition of using herbal remedies to promote well-being and alleviate various ailments, including anxiety. Their knowledge of medicinal plants has been passed down through generations, often accompanied by spiritual practices and ceremonies. While it's crucial to recognize that the Cherokee, like other indigenous groups, have diverse cultural practices and herbal knowledge can vary among individuals and communities, there are several plants commonly used by Native Americans, including the Cherokee, for calming anxiety. Here, we'll explore some of these herbal remedies:

Passionflower (*Passiflora incarnata*): Passionflower is known for its calming effects on the nervous system and has been traditionally used by various Native American tribes, including the Cherokee, to reduce anxiety and promote relaxation. The Cherokee might prepare passionflower as a tea by steeping the dried leaves and flowers in hot water. This tea could be consumed regularly to help manage feelings of anxiety and stress.

Chamomile (*Matricaria chamomilla*): Chamomile is another herb with calming properties that the Cherokee may have used to alleviate anxiety. It contains compounds that help relax muscles and nerves, promoting a sense of calmness. The Cherokee might have brewed chamomile tea using the dried flowers and consumed it as a soothing remedy for anxiety.



Skullcap (*Scutellaria spp.*): Skullcap is a plant native to North America and has been traditionally used by various indigenous peoples, including the Cherokee, as a calming herb. It contains flavonoids that possess anxiolytic properties, helping to reduce feelings of anxiety and nervousness. The Cherokee might have prepared skullcap as a tea or tincture for anxiety relief.

Lavender (*Lavandula spp.*): While lavender is not native to North America, it has been widely adopted by various cultures, including Native American tribes, for its calming aroma and properties. The Cherokee might have incorporated dried lavender flowers into sachets or pillows to promote relaxation and alleviate anxiety symptoms.



IT'S SOMETHING THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN PART OF MY LIFE



THE GREEN PHARMACY OF THE AZTEC CIVILIZATION



While the Aztecs may not have analysed them in Western terms, there can be no doubt that they treated mental conditions and disorders using therapeutic remedies ranging from herbal medicines and incense offerings to 'logotherapy' (talking it through, to you and me) and bathing, and from bloodletting to oblations and suction. Central to their approach was the idea of illnesses being caused by a combination of external as well as internal factors. There are several Nahuatl terms referring to the idea of 'possession', often implicating a foreign entity that has entered a person's being.

The two kinds of dangerous aspects most mentioned in the sources as causing pathological intrusions are the *micihuacuetzque* or *chiuapiltin* and the minor rain gods. Madness and various kinds of paralysis are attributed to the former... The most characteristic sickness, thought to be a possession by the rain beings, was a kind of madness mingled with evil in a single pathological process, having its origin in a lightning bolt. (López Austin). The cure was a herb called



'medicine for aquatic fever'. A condition closely related to the watery 'Tlaloc Complex' was epilepsy; alongside a near miss by a lightning bolt, fear (e.g. from a very strong wind), trauma and madness it was believed to be due to possession by *chiuateteo* (the spirits of women who had died in childbirth).

Even a sudden encounter with the *chiuateteo* at a crossroads (dangerous place, especially at night!) could generate sufficient phlegm in the body to precipitate an attack of epilepsy. Anyone who has witnessed an epileptic fit will be aware that foamy phlegm is brought up in considerable quantity by the sufferer. The Aztecs were almost fanatic

in believing in the importance of keeping their bodies, lives and world in balance, including hot and cold forces within us all (an idea not unlike the ancient Hellenic notion of the four bodily fluids or 'humours').

Mental stupor was equally believed to be due to an excess of phlegm in the chest, and could be treated with herbs to induce vomiting, such as *yolloxochitl* ('heart-flower' - pic 3). One particular herbal medicine 'applied locally to the head, helps the frenetic and crazy, removes fear... returns to consciousness [those] who have lost consciousness for any reason'. Significantly, we find a whole plethora of terms relating to conditions of the heart - but these are not physical conditions, they're psychological or spiritual: hearts being 'eaten' (by bad spirits), 'squeezed', 'congested', 'crushed', 'spinning around', 'wanting to die'...

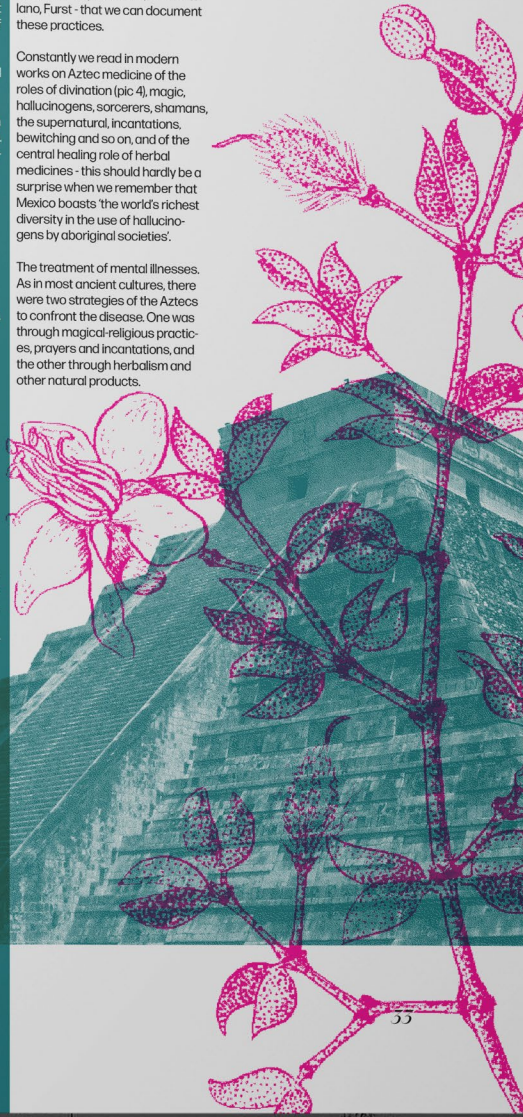
Medicines made of herbs, flowers and crushed stones were complemented by non-invasive therapies we still use today, including 'ritual language', the relieving and releasing of suppressed emotions by encouraging the sufferer to talk about the issue (catharsis) and a generally benign human relationship between healer and patient that included the involvement of family and local community (a principle only acknowledged in the West in the 1970s). When we speak of psychotherapy and talk therapy, we're recommending techniques already in use by the Mexica centuries ago!

It's thanks in large part to the dedicated work of Spanish physicians and chroniclers - from

Sahagún to Hernández - and much later to today's scholars of Nahuatl medicine - López Austin, de Montellano, Furst - that we can document these practices.

Constantly we read in modern works on Aztec medicine of the roles of divination (pic 4), magic, hallucinogens, sorcerers, shamans, the supernatural, incantations, bewitching and so on, and of the central healing role of herbal medicines - this should hardly be a surprise when we remember that Mexico boasts 'the world's richest diversity in the use of hallucinogens by aboriginal societies'.

The treatment of mental illnesses. As in most ancient cultures, there were two strategies of the Aztecs to confront the disease. One was through magical-religious practices, prayers and incantations, and the other through herbalism and other natural products.





06 UNITE & IGNITE

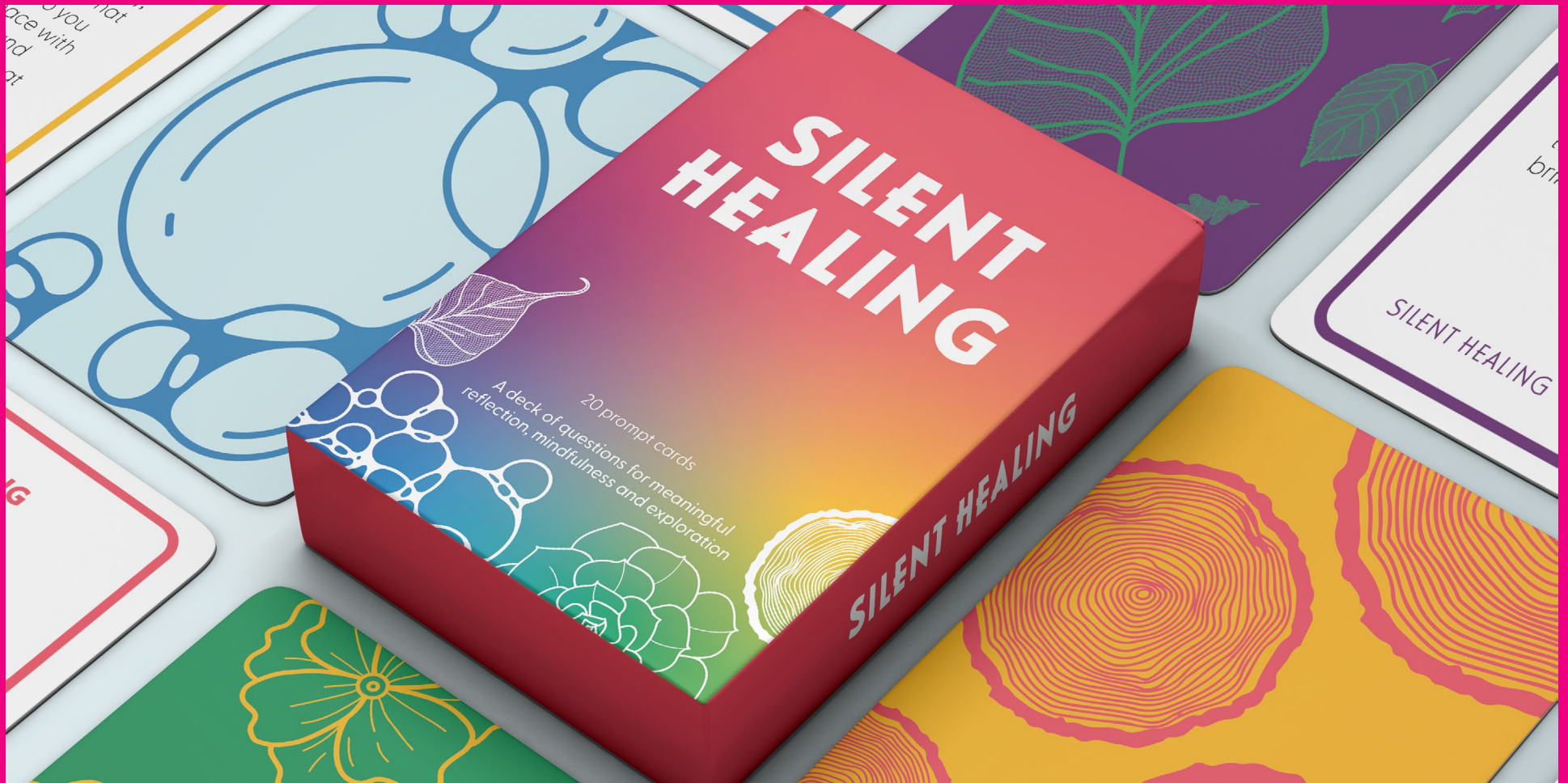
Unite & Ignite is a conference for first generation college students (incoming or current) and educators who are looking to get information and resources regarding higher education. Attendants will experience art, knowledge and health in three days. In this conference attendees particularly first generation students from all over the U.S. would come together to unwind using various art mediums, gain knowledge on the college application process, listen to first gen key note speakers and develop their leadership skills with outdoor activities.











07 SILENT HEALING

This narrative intertwines the physical journey of hiking with the emotional, mental, and spiritual reflections that take place during it. Each hike is an opportunity for introspection, discovery, and personal growth. This narrative is not necessarily linear or a one-time-only journey.



LOST

Identifying What's Missing

What do you feel is missing in your life that makes you feel lost? Reflect on how this hike might help you reconnect with yourself or your purpose.

I feel that my life or I lack a sense of self. I often lose myself in my relationships, that I forget I am my own person. Hiking helps me reconnect with nature, and through nature, I see that just like the plants and trees, I am whole. When I hike alone, I know I can rely on myself throughout the hike and during any occasion. Hiking is quiet and I am alone with my thoughts, this makes me confront them. I enjoy the hikes, and try to use the time for creative, introspection and meditation.

Silent Healing

Lessons from Nature

As you walk, notice something in nature (a tree, a trail, or the sky) that mirrors your current feelings. How does this element reflect where you are in life, and what lesson might it be offering?

I often see the trees, they stand tall through all the weather conditions. When the leaves fall and when they are covered in snow they still thrive no matter what. I also feel like these specific trees are here for a purpose just like I am. I am in this world for a purpose and maybe at the moment I just need to focus on myself and become better every day until I find my true purpose. But letting things flow. I realized that life is an experience and it's best to enjoy. Everything is temporary the joy the happiness just like the pain and suffering.



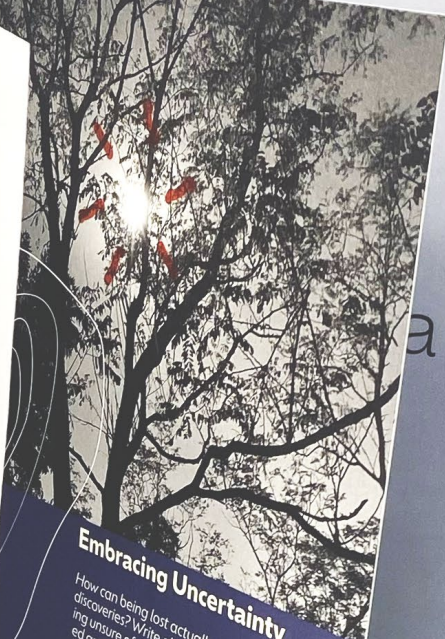
"I realized that life is an experience and it's best to enjoy. Everything is temporary the joy the happiness just like the pain and suffering."

Embracing Uncertainty

How can being lost actually lead to new discoveries? Write about a time when being unsure of your path led to unexpected growth or opportunity, and how that might apply to your current situation.

Being lost can actually lead to new discoveries for example I often use an app when I hike just to see the map and check if I'm going the right direction. At times the app stops working because there is no internet connection and I have to trust myself that I'm going in the right direction. If I end up in the wrong environment I get to discover new places and times in my life I had never seen before and being lost was voluntary or not. Many times ago a romantic relationship ended and overall it was a learning experience and it has brought me to a new path. I learned from it and I am growing to be a better person.

Silent Healing





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-Ayoko K

Self-Acceptance

Reflect on how being able to more
help you accept yourself. All without
judgment. What part of yourself do you
feel most at ease with while in a safe
space and how can you carry that accep-
tance back with you?

Being open to what is before you is a
great first step. It allows you to see
what is in front of you and not just
what you want to see. It is a way to
be more present in the moment and
less concerned with the future or
the past. It is a way to be more
grounded and less worried. It is a
way to be more at peace and less
stressed. It is a way to be more
at ease and less tense. It is a way
to be more at home and less
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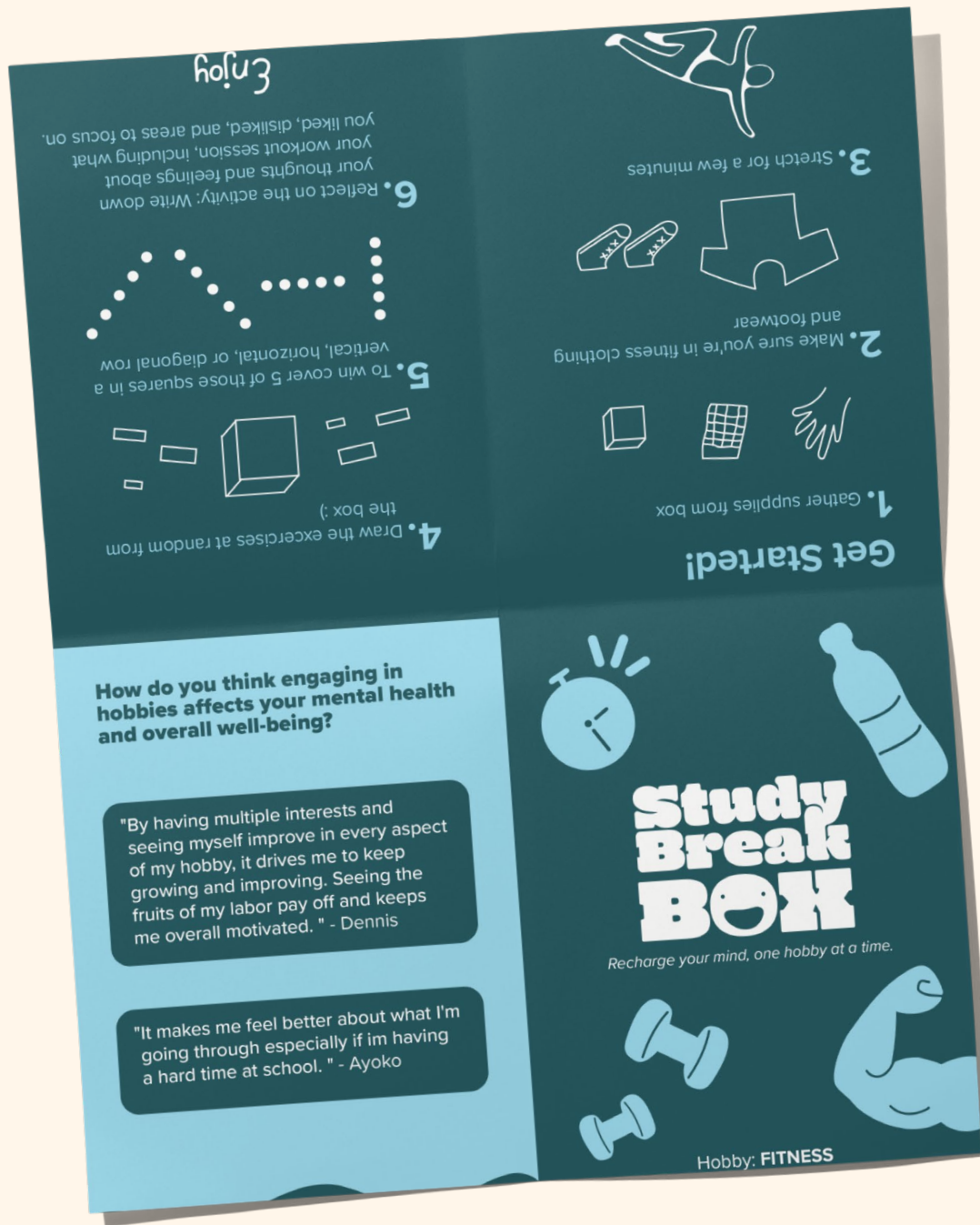
"I'm able to release
resistance and
simply enjoy the
journey, trusting
that there's value in
every step, even if
it doesn't match a
timeline I've created
in my head."

-Ayoko K.



08 STUDY BREAK BOX

The “Study Break Box” is a creative initiative designed to provide college students with hobby kits that offer a refreshing escape from their demanding academic schedules. Each kit introduces simple, engaging hobbies that can be enjoyed in a short amount of time, helping students unwind and recharge. The concept was inspired by a personal journey of recognizing the importance of rest and hobbies. Growing up, I observed my mother working tirelessly without taking time to rest, and I saw the toll it took on her well-being. Later, I witnessed the same pattern among college students, pushing themselves relentlessly without breaks. This experience underscored the necessity of incorporating moments of pause and self-care into busy routines. The Study Break Box is more than a product—it’s a reminder of the power of rest, creativity, and balancing a healthier, more fulfilling lifestyle.



Enjoy

6. Reflect on the activity with this prompt: What does it mean to "tend to your garden" in your life?

5. Once they reach 5 inches plant them in a bigger container or outside.

4. Plant the seeds and wait for them to grow! ;)

3. Pour dirt on pot and water it until it's no longer dry.

2. With a marker or art supplies lay around personalize your pot and dish. Add a touch of your personality!

1. Gather supplies from box

Get Started!

How do you think engaging in hobbies affects your mental health and overall well-being?

"By having multiple interests and seeing myself improve in every aspect of my hobby, it drives me to keep growing and improving. Seeing the fruits of my labor pay off and keeps me overall motivated." - Dennis

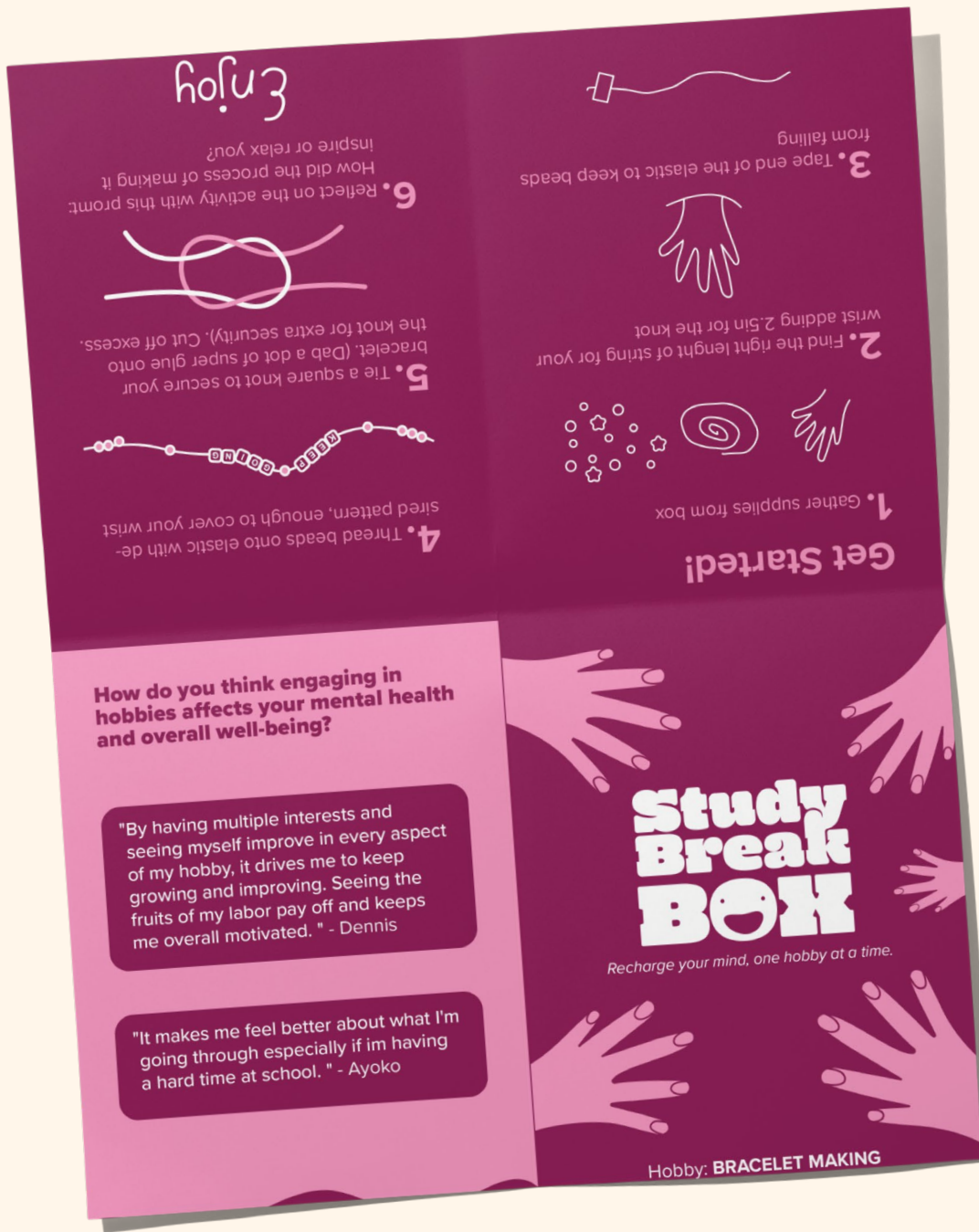
"It makes me feel better about what I'm going through especially if im having a hard time at school." - Ayoko

Study Break BOX

Recharge your mind, one hobby at a time.

Hobby: **GARDENING**





[COLLECTION](#)[GOOD DESIGN?](#)[ARTIST CORNER](#)[PUBLIC RANKING](#)

BANKNOTE HIVE

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09 BANKNOTE HIVE

This project is a curated website collection designed using Adobe XD that highlights the diverse beauty, history, and cultural significance of banknotes from around the world. The interactive and user-friendly interface allows viewers to explore currencies from different countries, providing a visually engaging experience. Whether you're a seasoned designer, collector enthusiast, a traveler, or simply curious about the world's currencies, our website invites you on a visually stunning journey through the captivating realm of banknote design.







SWITZERLAND



Depictions of Swiss Landscapes: Swiss banknotes frequently feature images of the country's breathtaking landscapes, including mountains, lakes, and valleys. The Swiss Alps, in particular, are a recurring theme, with iconic peaks like the Matterhorn often depicted.

Innovative Design Elements: Including intricate patterns, holographic elements, and tactile elements to aid the visually impaired. These elements enhance both the aesthetic appeal and security of the banknotes.

Cultural Heritage: Swiss banknotes often celebrate Switzerland's cultural heritage, including its traditions, folklore, and craftsmanship. Images of traditional Swiss architecture, such as chalets and historic buildings, may be featured on the banknotes.

Multilingual Design: Switzerland is a multilingual country with four official languages: German, French, Italian, and Romansh. Swiss banknotes typically include text in multiple languages, reflecting this linguistic diversity.

Artistic Collaboration: Swiss banknotes often involve collaborations with artists, designers, and engravers to create visually stunning and culturally significant banknote designs. These collaborations contribute to the artistic richness of Swiss currency.

VOICES ACROSS Borders:

Amplifying the voices and experiences of marginalized communities



CINDY WEIL: THE IMMIGRANT YARN PROJECT



Immigrant Yarn Project featured knitted and crocheted yarn contributions made by over 600 contributors from across the country representing generations of immigrants from every corner of the world – and including contributions from homeless communities, seniors, students, LGBTQ, Native Americans, and even a Former Secretary of State. Each submission, both big and small, carries a personal immigration story, made into visual art by the colors and patterns, flags designs, words, or symbols.

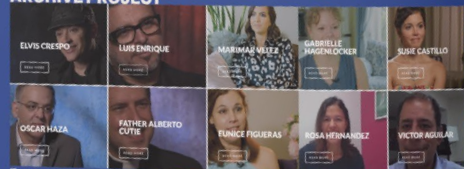
They seek to represent families, heritage, and the journeys, whether recent or generations ago, that brought these knitters and crocheters to the United States of America. The project embodies and celebrates both our shared immigrant story and our citizenry in a nation composed of diverse backgrounds, families, politics, faiths, identities, and ideas.



BY TONY HERNANDEZ: THE IMMIGRANT ARCHIVE PROJECT

The Immigrant Archive Project is the nation's leading oral history project on the modern immigrant experience. Our mission is to record, archive and share the stories of immigrants in the United States in order to help us understand the modern immigrant experience and its vital contributions to American society.

Our growing archive will ensure that the faces and voices of immigrants are seen and heard, not only collectively, but individually. And in doing so will teach us to understand the immigrant in fundamentally human and moral terms.



ALVARO ENCISO: DONDE MUEREN LOS SUEÑOS

For almost a decade, Enciso and a group of volunteers based in Tucson have gone into the desert in 4WD vehicles to plant handmade crosses, painted in bright shades of orange, purple and green, at the sites where immigrants died. The crosses often feature lids from found tin cans and red ceramic dots donated by a fellow artist.

The 77-year-old Colombian immigrant has placed over 1,400 of the crosses using quick-dry concrete. Some are along two-lane highways, others are under trees deep in the desert. Enciso calls this project, "Donde Mueren los Sueños," "Where Dreams Die."

"I'm honoring someone every time I go there and put a marker for someone who decided to make the trip knowing in advance the risk. And that to me, is an act of courage."



JESS X SNOW: #TOIMMIGRANTSWITHLOVE

Jess X Snow, a queer Asian-American multidisciplinary artist provided some of the artwork for the campaign in collaboration with Roger Peet. Snow said, that she realized her passion was creating art that focused on uplifting immigrants. Immigration advocacy groups Define American and Welcome.us have partnered to launch a new campaign, #ToImmigrantsWithLove, as a way to encourage people to show support for immigrant communities around the United States.



10 VOICES ACROSS BORDERS

This project focuses on an underrepresented topic within contemporary communication design: the stories of undocumented artists allies and the broader theme of immigration. I created a thoughtfully designed booklet to highlight the voices, experiences, and creative work of individuals whose narratives are often overlooked.



BORDER

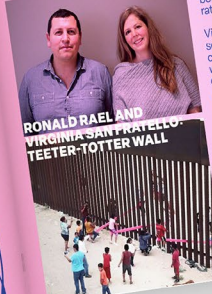
RAFAEL LOZANO-HEMMER:
BORDER TUNER



"Border Tuner" is a large-scale, participatory art installation designed to interconnect the cities of El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua. Powerful searchlights make "bridges of light" that open live sound channels for communication across the US-Mexico border. The piece creates a fluid canopy of light that can be modified by visitors to six interactive stations, three placed in El Paso and three in Juárez.

Each of the interactive "Border Tuner" stations features a microphone, a speaker and a large wheel or dial. As a participant turns the dial, three nearby searchlights create an "arm" of light that follows the movement of the dial, automatically scanning the horizon. When two such "arms of light" meet in the sky and intersect, automatically a bidirectional channel of sound is opened between the people at the two remote stations. As they speak and hear each other, the brightness of the "light bridge" modulates in sync, —a glimmer similar to a Morse code scintillation.

RONALD RAEL AND VIRGINIA SAN FRATELLO:
TEETER-TOTTER WALL



Architecture studio Rael San Fratello has been researching the border that separates Mexico from the USA since 2003.

Viewing the boundary as a site that severs relationships between the two countries, they wanted to create a place where citizens across the border could connect, so they designed three bright pink "teeter-totters" (see-saws) to slot into gaps in the steel border wall.

One designer worked from Juárez in Mexico and another in El Paso, USA. For just under twenty minutes on 26 July 2019, residents of El Paso and the Ansara community in Mexico could, for the first time, unite through play.

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**YO FUI
EXTRANJERO
Y TU ME
RECIBISTE**

**UNDOCUARTIVISM:
LATINO UNDOCUMENTED
IMMIGRANT EMPOWER-
MENT THROUGH ART
AND ACTIVISM**

By: Joanna B. Perez

The article examines how undocuactivists are challenging perceptions of illegality among undocumented immigrant youth through art and activism, known as undocuactivism. It explores their efforts in advocating for immigrant rights and access to education, particularly focusing on the period from 2010 to 2017. Undocuactivists utilize protest art, lobbying, and public demonstrations to push for policy change and amplify the voices of undocumented immigrants. Undocuactivism emerges as a vital tool for grassroots organizing and challenging societal perceptions of illegality within Latino communities.

**WHAT IS SOCIAL JUSTICE?
By: SDF**

In this article we discuss the concept of social justice, which involves fair distribution of rights and opportunities. It outlines various social justice issues such as economic inequality, racial injustice, and environmental justice. It highlights examples of social justice movements and ongoing efforts in San Diego to address issues like affordable housing and racial inequality.

**"THE NEIGHBORS, PART
TWO, IN TWO PARTS: SANCTUARY:
AND HOME**

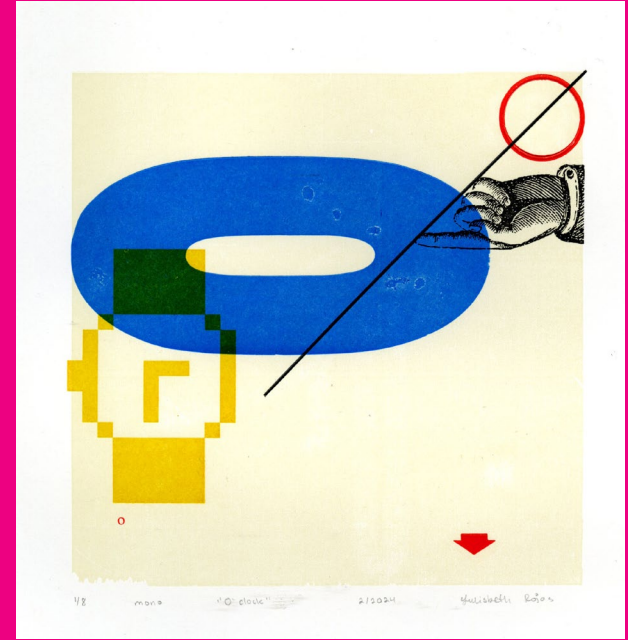
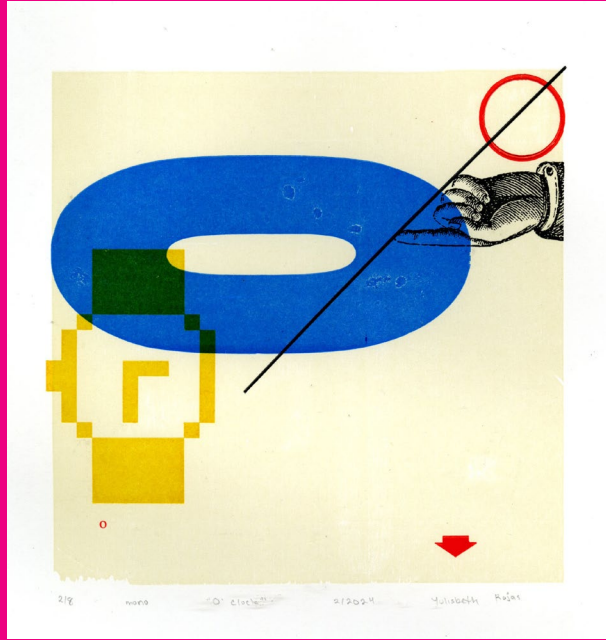
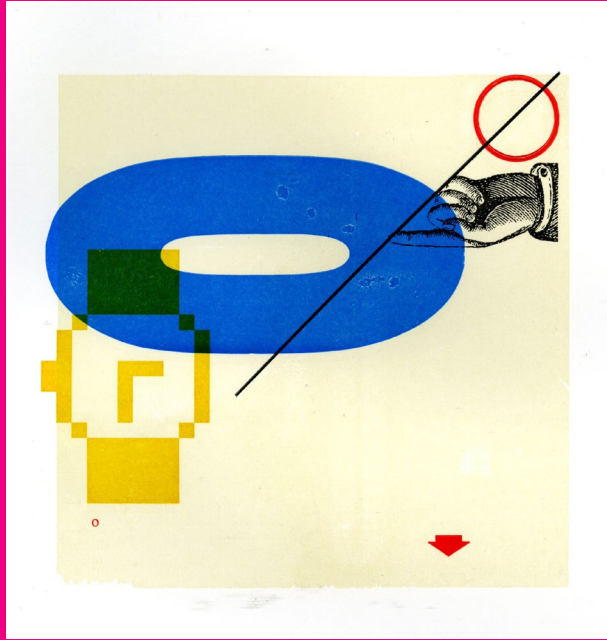
By: Andrea Aragón

The article discusses two exhibitions examining the consequences of US immigration policies. One features a large border fence adorned with names of those who died trying to cross, focusing on an immigrant's sanctuary in a Chicago church. The other showcases photos of rural Guatemalan communities impacted by remittances from the US, contrasting the hope associated with the American flag in Guatemala with nativist sentiments in the US. Both exhibitions highlight the resilience of immigrant communities.

**UNDOCUMENTED ART AND
ACTIVISM: A DIALOGUE
WITH NATALIA DEEB-SOSSY
JOANNA B. PEREZ**

By: Cecilia Morales

The article discusses how art, activism, and the experience of being undocumented intersect. Aida Lizalde, a fourth-year art studio major, utilizes various media to depict her undocumented experience and engage in activism. She will participate in an event titled "Undocumented Art and Activism: A Dialogue with Natalia Deeb-Sossy" at the Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum. Lizalde emphasizes the importance of using art as a form of activism and discusses her outspoken nature regarding race issues. While her art reflects her personal experience as an undocumented AB 540 student, she acknowledges that it may not resonate universally with other undocumented students. The event aims to humanize the reality of being undocumented and foster understanding among the university community.



11 LETTERPRESS

Create a variety of printed works combining traditional and contemporary techniques. Projects include custom typographic compositions, experimental prints, and multi-layered designs that integrate type with visual elements. Using both mechanical printing methods and digital tools like Adobe Suite. Each project explores the interplay between typography, composition, and content, highlighting the aesthetic and experimental possibilities of letterpress.

THANK YOU!

Lets connect!

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