



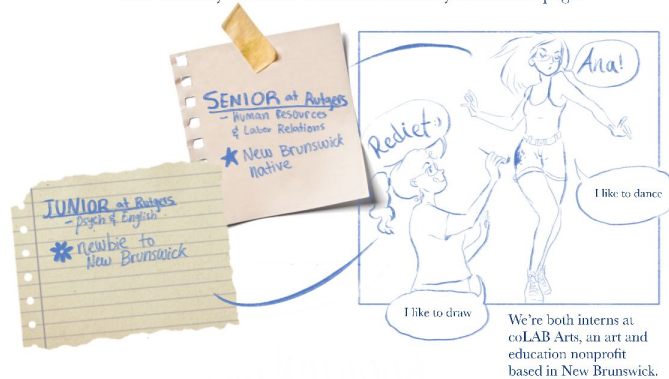
3 LESSONS 2 INTERNS 1 SUMMER

A big thank you to our supervisor, John Keller and Jersey Water Works' director, Paula Figueroa-Vega for making this story possible!

written by Ana Camacho & Rediet Mereke
illustrated by Rediet Mereke



And this story will make a lot more sense if you read this page



A Little Background:

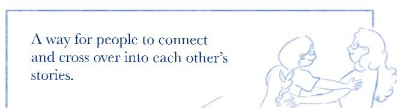
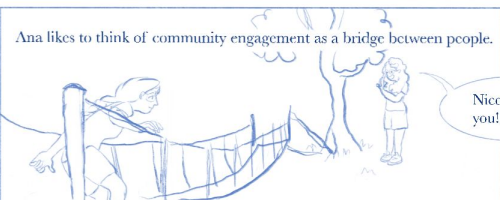
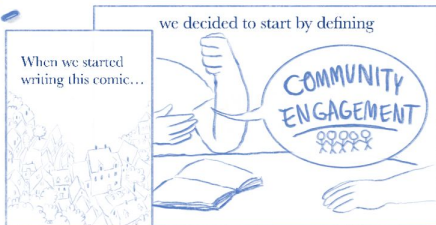
This summer, we are part of the Rutgers Summer Service Internship (RSSI) program, through which we both found coLAB Arts. After tabling at the Jersey Water Works and Lead Free NJ Membership Meeting as part of our internship, we were invited by Jersey Water Works to write a blog to increase awareness about art and community engagement. Naturally, we decided to get a little creative with it and we made the comic you're reading now.

Here are the lessons we've learned about public service and community engagement this summer. Hope you enjoy!

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Welcome to our summer of crosswalks.



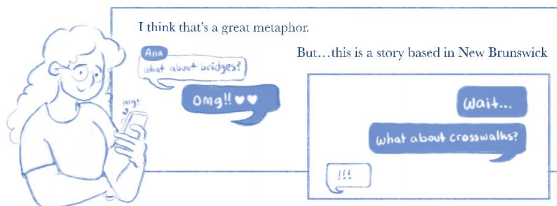
A way for people to connect and cross over into each other's stories.

People who want to make a difference-

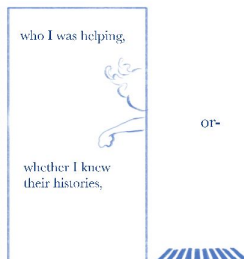
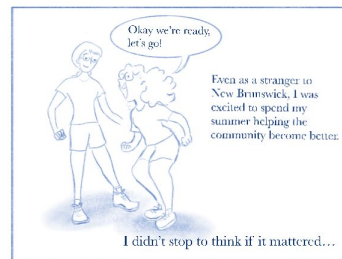
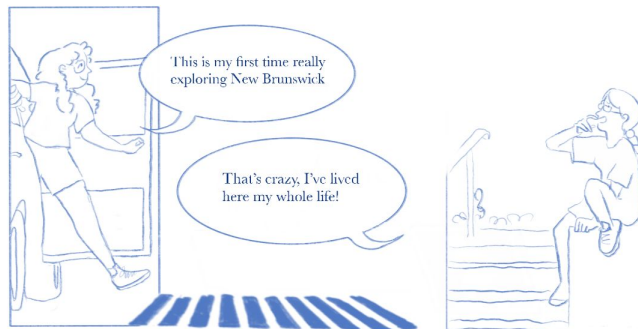
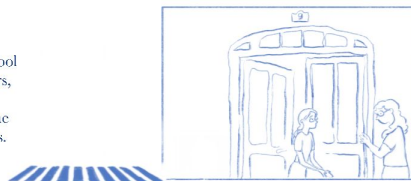
So you're Rediet

and you're Ana.

and the people with the history and lived experiences to ensure these changes are both positive and lasting.



Despite going to school together for two years, Ana and I met each other for the first time at coLAB Art's doors.





Lesson 1: Don't try to be Superman



Lesson 2: Share your successes



sculptures made of refuse collected from local streams - coLAB Arts watershed sculpture project

Later that summer, we attended the Jersey Water Works and Lead Free New Jersey membership meeting.

Along with...



And everyday members of the community who sought to make a change.

Government officials,



Engineers,



Teachers,



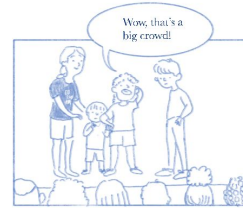
We displayed and discussed the results of our community-based interventions on the environment.



Though we knew little about nonprofit work in the waterworks sector going in, we found that those who were well established were excited to help a new generation continue their work.



We saw some of these friendly faces in the audience at the Bloustein Final Sharing...



where we helped children from coLAB's Creative Cities Design Institute show off what they learned this summer.



In partnership with the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, they presented their art,



displaying the interventions they believed could help make New Brunswick a better place!



Lesson 3: You don't need to be big to make a difference