

CREATING CONNECTIONS LEADERSHIP PROJECT

Demetria Simmons, Arrow Smith, and Hannah Wickman

Friday, April 23, 2021



OUR TEAM



Demetria Simmons
First Ward Fellow



Arrow Smith
(They/Them)
Vitito Fellow



Hannah Wickman
Vitito Fellow



BACKGROUND ON THE BOARD

- Saginaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
- Operate 6 parks throughout the county
 - Imerman Memorial Park
 - Price Nature Center
 - Ringwood Forest
 - W.H. Haithco Recreation Area
 - Veteran's Memorial Park
 - Saginaw Valley Rail Trail

BACKGROUND ON THE BOARD

- **Meet once a month- 1st Thursday at 11:30 AM**
- **7 members on the board**
 - **Appointed by majority vote**
- **3-year term**
- **Board helps to organize activities, keep facilities in good condition, hire volunteers, and keep community engaged with the parks in the area.**



OUTCOMES OF THE FOCUS GROUP

- Public Knowledge
 - Ensure that local residence are aware of the parks and their amenities.
- Community Outreach
 - Work with existing community organizations and networks.
 - Allow parks to be public spaces for events.
- Accessibility
 - Create more transportation routes to get local residences at the parks.

COMIC

"As part of SVSU's community engagement, and since 2012, professors from **Business** (Joseph Ofori-Dankwa), **Art** (Michael Mosher), **Theater** (David Rzesutek) and **Sociology** (Dawn Hinton), have developed the **BATS program** and set up joint BATS student teams from their classes. These interdisciplinary collaborative teams experientially and extensively engage the SVSU students to the community and examine areas associated with community revitalization."

Art student Kathryn Arnold was paired with our team and tasked to create a superhero comic book that represented a part of Demetria's life.

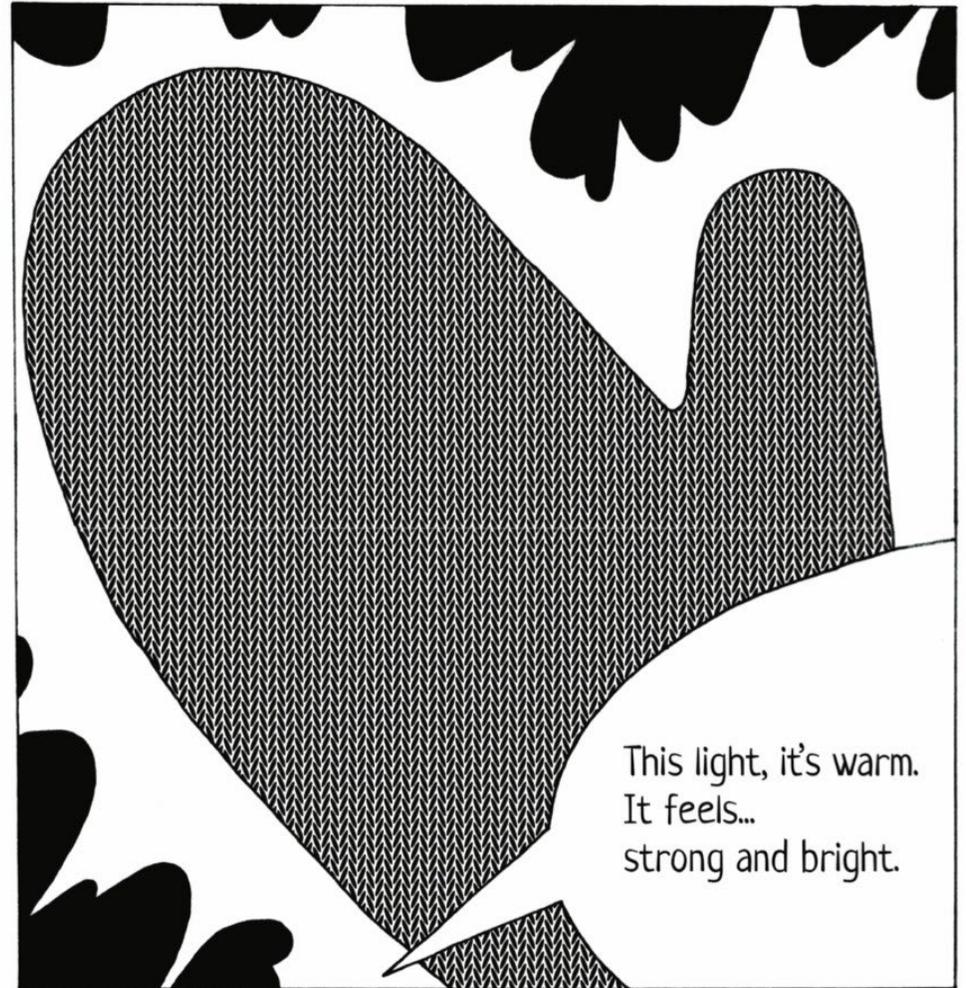
STRONG & BRIGHT

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THE DARKNESS IS COLD.
THE DARKNESS TURNS PEOPLE COLD.
BUT LIFE GOES ON.



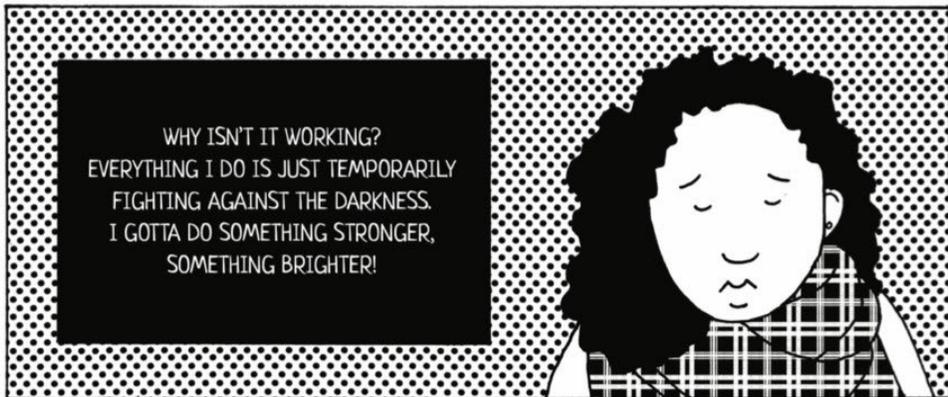
I REFUSE TO BECOME JUST A SHADOW IN THIS WORLD.





This feeling, it's creating this light. A light that the Darkness is afraid of!

THIS COULD BE THE KEY TO DEFEATING THE DARKNESS. I HAVE TO KEEP FEELING LIKE THIS.



WHY ISN'T IT WORKING?
EVERYTHING I DO IS JUST TEMPORARILY FIGHTING AGAINST THE DARKNESS. I GOTTA DO SOMETHING STRONGER, SOMETHING BRIGHTER!



What's stronger than the brightness created by doing what you love in life?!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

