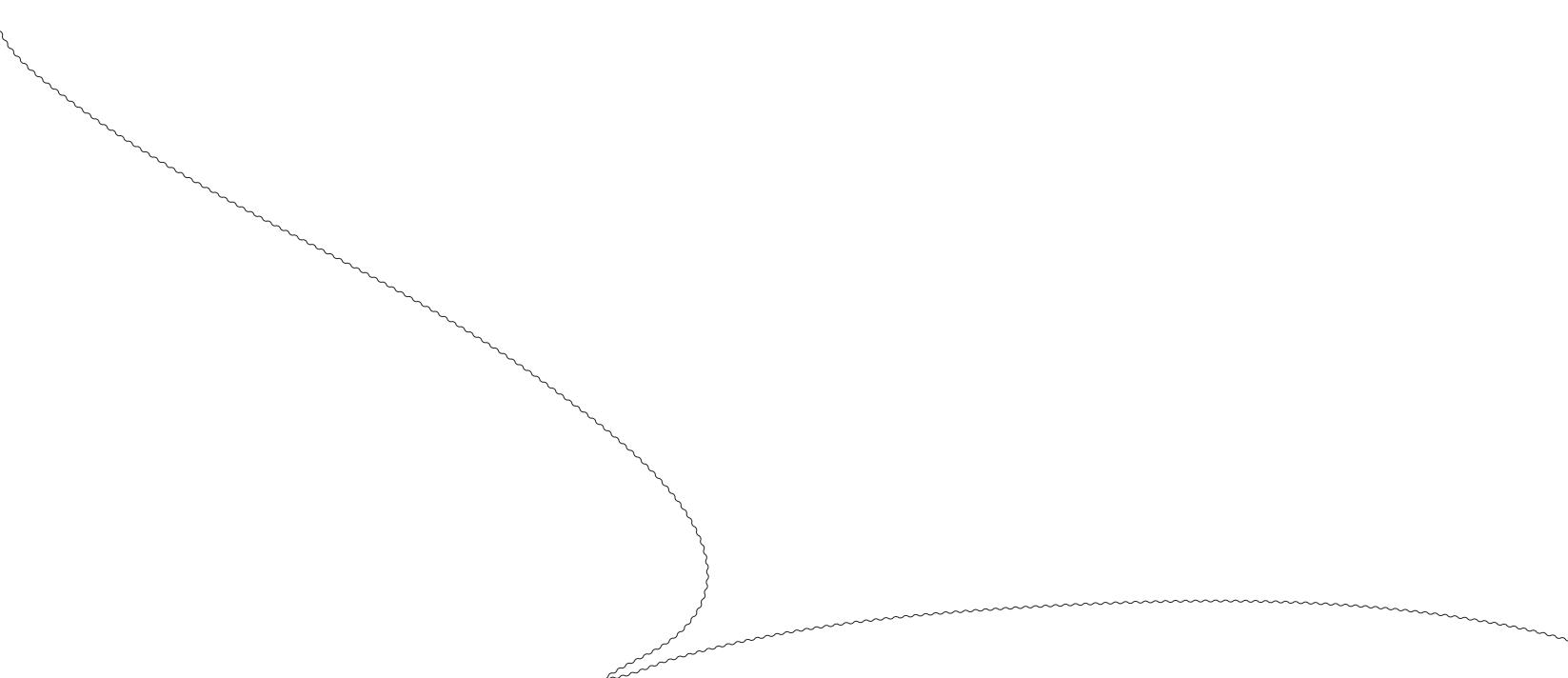




Paths of Tomorrow

people make cities,
and it is to them, not buildings,
that we must fit our plans.
— jane jacobs



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PROOFREADING by NaBeela Washington

COVER ART by Kristine Pham

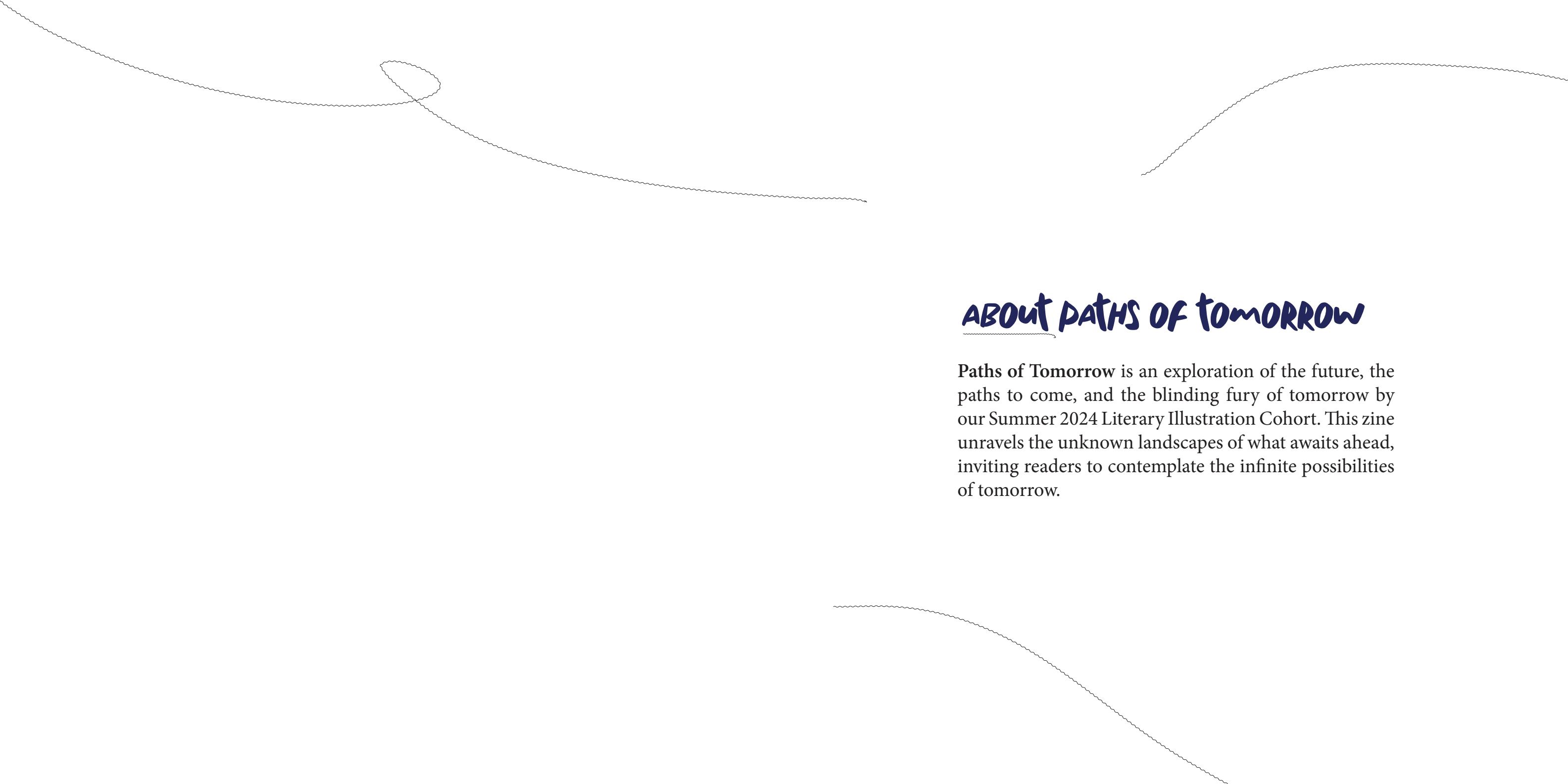
CREATIVE DIRECTION & DESIGN by Spring 2024 Literary Illustrators: Olivia Bell, Leena Jere, Yiran Jing, Evelyn Lewis, Cole Bourke, Jessica Conde.

A Black poet, journalist, and art collector, NaBeela Washington holds a Master's in Creative Writing and English from Southern New Hampshire University and a Bachelor's in Visual Advertising from The University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is the Founder of *Lucky Jefferson*.

Kristine "Kris" Pham is an illustrator and 2D animator in the greater Philadelphia region. She completed her BFA in Illustration and Minor in Animation at the University of the Arts. Her work has been described as a bold personality contained by calm lines.

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ABOUT PATHS OF TOMORROW

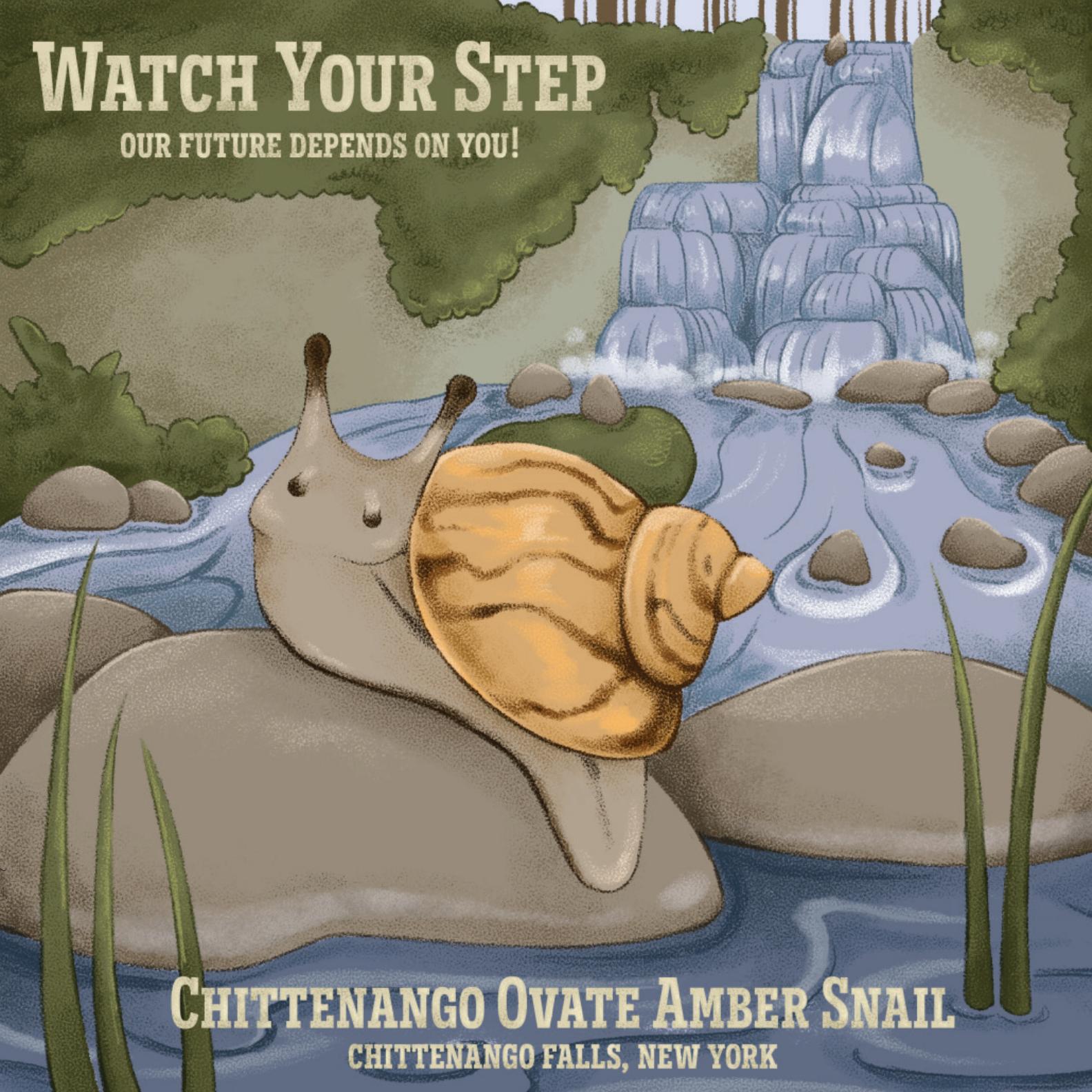
Paths of Tomorrow is an exploration of the future, the paths to come, and the blinding fury of tomorrow by our Summer 2024 Literary Illustration Cohort. This zine unravels the unknown landscapes of what awaits ahead, inviting readers to contemplate the infinite possibilities of tomorrow.

OLIVIA BELL

The path I wanted to focus on for these illustrations was the future of endangered animals local to the Central New York region.

The first animal I chose was the Chittenango Ovate Amber Snail, which resides only at Chittenango Falls State Park in New York. I wanted to depict the snail in its natural environment and visually bring the viewer to its level so we can identify with it on a personal level.

These snails face extinction because of small numbers within their singular location, water contamination, and human disruption within their environment.



The second animal I chose to illustrate was the Indiana Bat. While these bats are found all over the northeastern United States, there have been records of these bats hibernating in caves around Upstate New York. Similar to my first illustration, I wanted to showcase these animals in their natural environment as they hibernate on the walls of caves.

These bats face extinction because of pollutants, cave collapses, and human cave explorers that disturb the hibernating bats. Disruption of these bats during hibernation depletes the bat's fat reserves, which can cause them to die before spring comes.

I wanted to utilize text in my illustration to remind the viewer that it is up to us humans to protect the future of these animals by being sensitive and aware of our impact on their environments. My hope is that these animals have a future where they can grow in numbers and thrive in their environments.

Olivia is an illustrator based in Syracuse, New York. She graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology in December 2023 with a BFA in Illustration and an Immersion in Comics Studies.

**TREAD QUIETLY IN THE CAVES
OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOU!**



LEENA JERE

My path is one with a promise of a life that feels worth living at the end, and how it feels to walk that path after a long period of depression and social isolation.

It's about all the hope contained within the promise of tomorrow and how that hope can keep you going even when your situation feels inescapable.

Leena Jere is a Chicago-based Illustrator studying Animation and Linguistics at DePaul University.





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@RHAEHARA

JESSICA CONDE

The path I chose was walkable cities, something I think we should have more of in the US, not only as a means to build community but also to help the environment.

As someone who does not drive and actively enjoys alternative modes of transportation, such as public transit and walking, walkable cities are also important to me on a personal level.

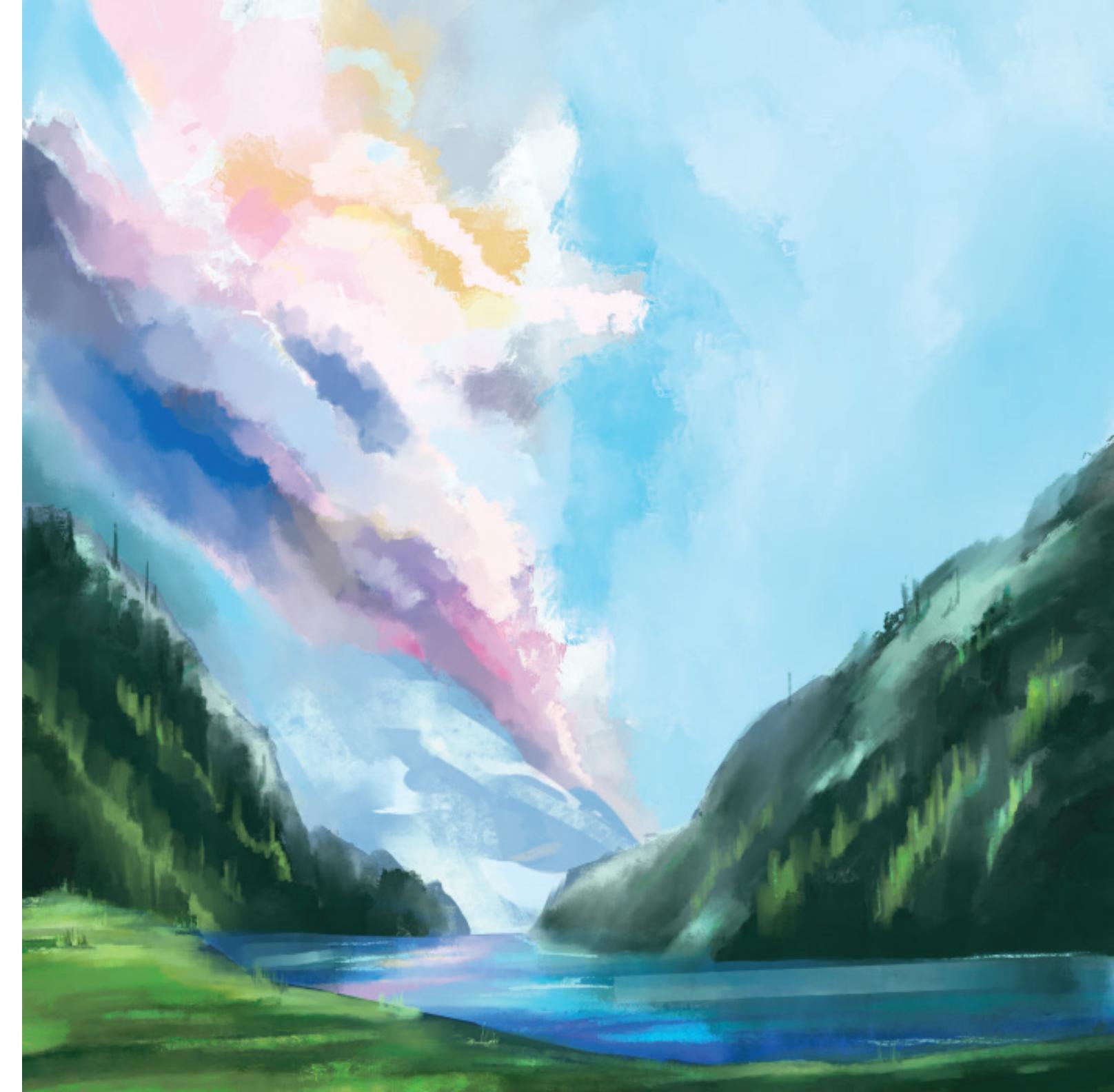
I think we can all agree that we've seen a huge loss in third spaces here in the U.S. as well, so I wanted to include more of those in my little walkable city.

Jessica Conde, also known as @rhaehara is a graphic designer and illustrator based in Chicago, Illinois.

COLE BOURKE

The path I hope to choose for the future is a path of nature; a path where we can live in a world where we have a prosperous relationship with nature. *The Paths We Choose* is hopefully a promising one, a path that could lead us to beautiful fields, clean water, lushes forests, and grand and beautiful skies.

Cole Bourke (he/him), is a senior at Emerson College with a focus on animation. He loves art, music, movies/tv, and comedy!

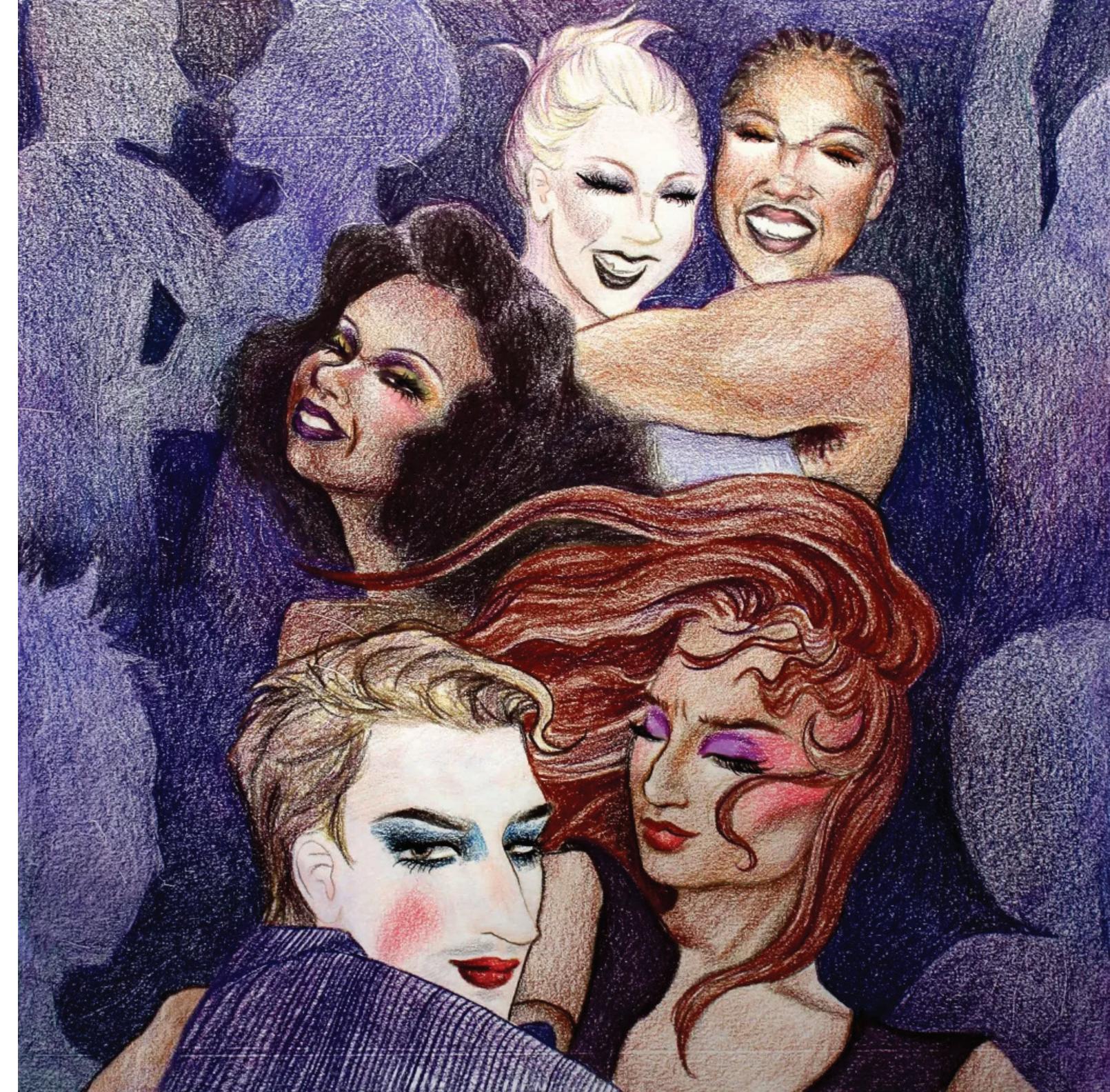


EVELYN LEWIS

My imagined path of tomorrow is one of joy and shameless self expression. As a queer person and makeup artist, I get so much joy from seeing queer people take up space, enjoying themselves, dancing, singing, spreading love and freely expressing themselves.

A future of queer liberation is the path I choose to walk on everyday, and it's the future I hope for.

Evelyn Lewis (they/them), is a recent graduate from The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, and a multidisciplinary artist with a focus on illustration, textile design, and makeup.



YiRan Jing

As an artist, I imagine a future filled with magic, where there are no wars, only positive energy. In this world, spirits guide us towards harmony.

What if our universe were different, with spirits leading us? If there are any upper-level powers against humanity in the future, will humans look the same?

Yiran Jing studies Illustration and Design at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

