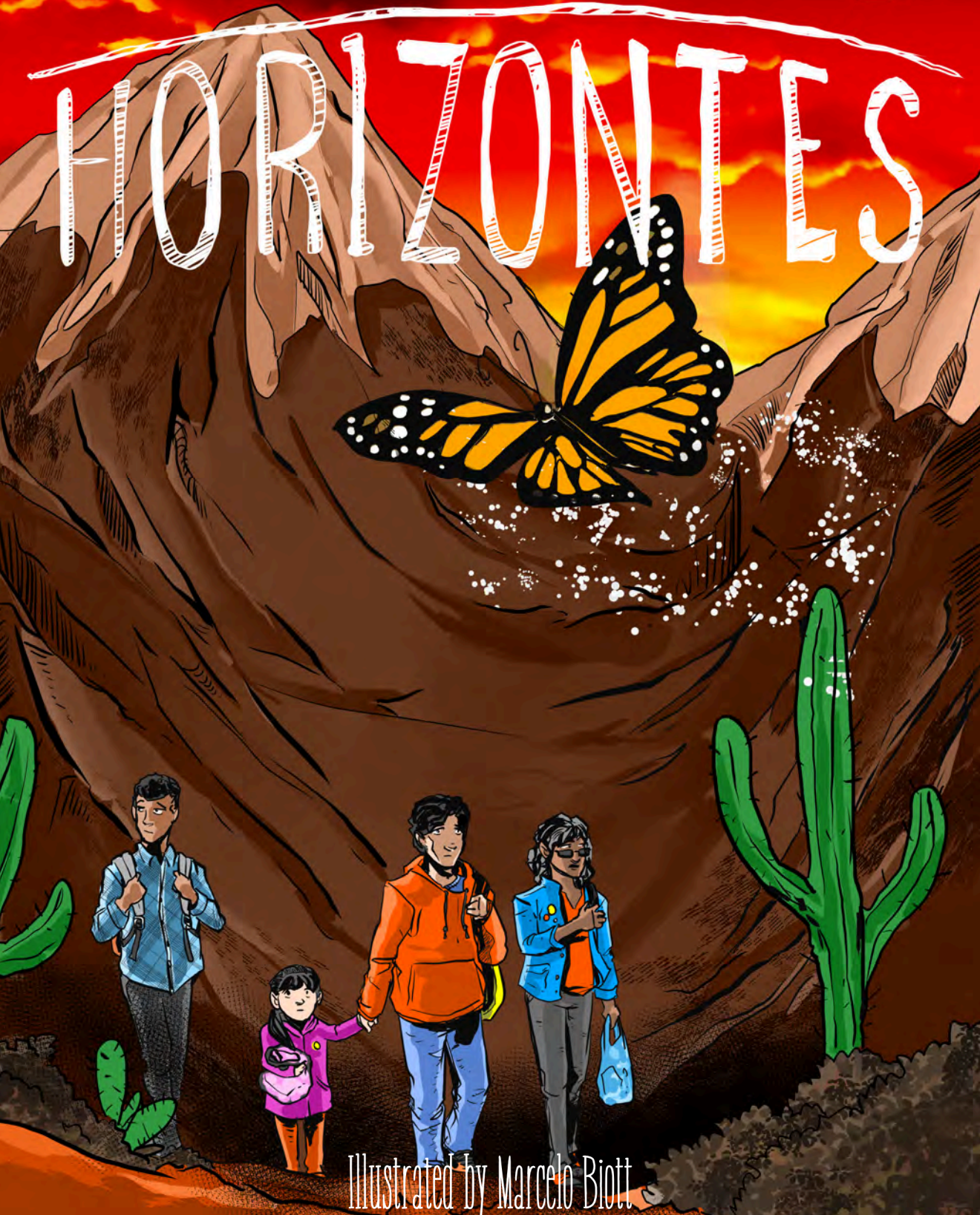


NUEVOS

HORIZONTES



Illustrated by Marcelo Biott




CHICAGO HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN A DESTINATION FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DISPLACED OR FORCED FROM THEIR ORIGINAL HOME.

FROM 1900 TO THE 1960'S, FOR EXAMPLE, MILLIONS OF BLACK PEOPLE DESPERATE TO LEAVE THE RACIST JIM CROW SOUTH, MADE THEIR WAY HERE RESILIENT AND READY TO BEGIN AGAIN. MANY OF THOSE MIGRANTS WERE SUPPORTED WITH HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT HELP BY BLACK CHURCHES SUCH AS THE BETHLEHEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

FROM THE MID-1980'S THROUGH THE 1990S, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF MEXICAN AND CENTRAL AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE FORCED NORTH TO ESCAPE WAR, ECONOMIC COLLAPSE, OR REPRESSIVE REGIMES THAT WERE OFTEN SUPPORTED BY OUR OWN GOVERNMENT. THANKFULLY, FOR MANY, THERE WERE FAMILY MEMBERS ALREADY HERE WHO SUPPORTED THEIR INITIAL ARRIVAL, A FAMILY FRIEND OR AN UNCLE, READY WITH AN EXTENDED HAND.

THESE ARE BUT TWO OF THE MANY MIGRATION STORIES THAT ARE PART OF THE FABRIC OF THIS CITY. IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT WHILE THERE IS ALWAYS CONTROVERSY WHEN NEW PEOPLE SHOW UP HERE, WHAT IS ALSO PART OF THIS CITY'S HISTORY IS THAT WE FIND A WAY TO CARE FOR THOSE WHO ARRIVE HERE HUNGRY AND HOPEFUL. WHETHER IT IS A SETTLEMENT HOUSE, A TIO'S COUCH OR A NEIGHBORHOOD SHELTER, CHICAGOANS HAVE ALWAYS STEPPED UP WHEN IT MATTERS MOST.



IN A WAY, OUR CITY CAN BE IMAGINED AS A QUILT THAT GETS NEW SQUARES ADDED EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE. THE FOLLOWING STORIES ARE THOSE NEW ADDITIONS.





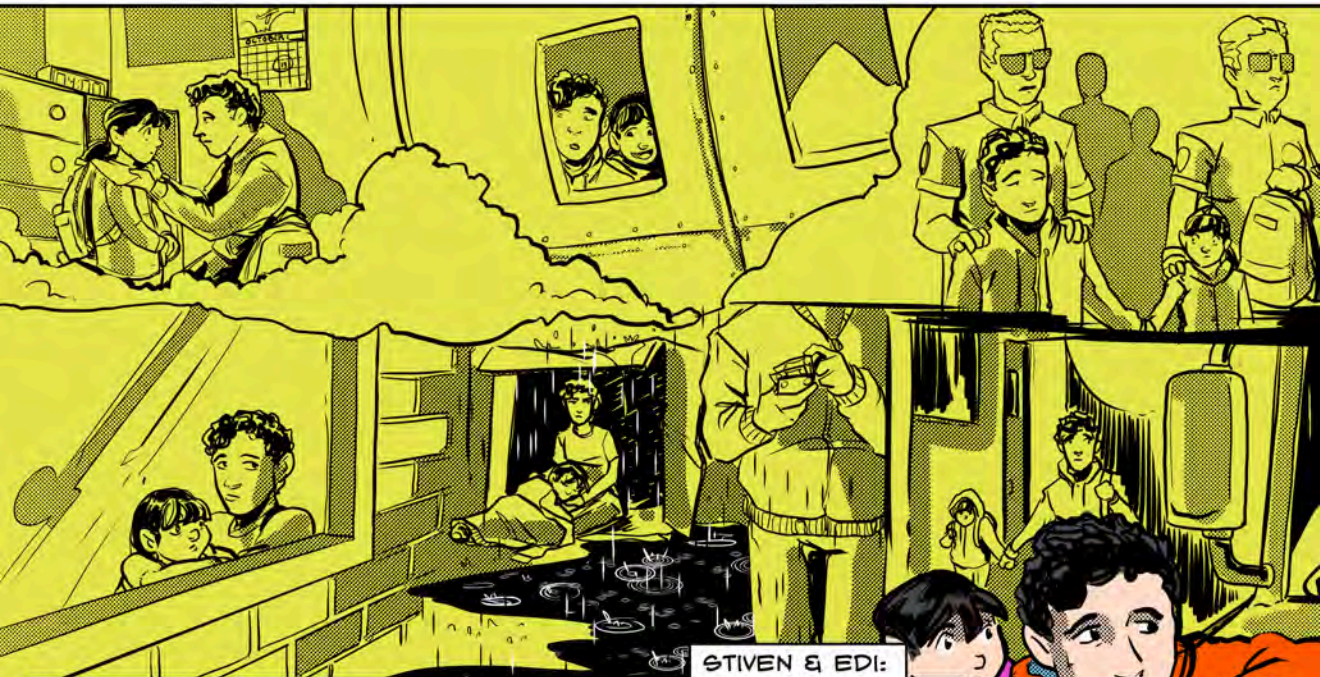
SANTIAGO:

I DECIDED TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES TO HAVE A BETTER FUTURE. I WANTED TO COME TO STUDY AND LEARN. IN MY HOMETOWN IN VENEZUELA MY FAMILY COULDN'T MAKE ENDS MEET. MY FAMILY COULDN'T FIND JOBS THAT PAID ENOUGH TO BUY FOOD FOR US TO LIVE. THE JOURNEY WAS VERY DIFFICULT. I SAW MANY SCARY WILD ANIMALS LIKE SNAKES AND PUMAS. I TRAVELED THROUGH DEEP RIVERS AND SAW LIVES LOST. IT WAS A STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE THE JOURNEY TO GET TO MY DREAM.



SANTIAGO:

I ARRIVED IN MEXICO TO CROSS INTO THE U.S. IN THE U.S. THE POLICE TOOK MY PASSPORT AND ALL MY BELONGINGS. I WAS HELD IN A HOLDING AREA WITH OTHERS WHO SHARED MY DREAM FOR A BETTER LIFE. POLICE QUESTIONED ME FOR 3 DAYS THEN FINALLY THEY GAVE ME A TICKET FOR THIS BUS.



STIVEN & EDI:

OCTOBER 19TH, AT 4PM, EDI AND I GOT ON A FLIGHT FROM COLOMBIA TO MEXICO. WE WANTED TO LIVE IN A PLACE WHERE WE CAN GO TO SCHOOL AND FEEL SAFE. RIGHT WHEN WE ARRIVED IN MEXICO IMMIGRATION DETAINED US FOR TWO WHOLE DAYS. AFTER THEY RELEASED US WE WANTED TO FIND SHELTER BUT WE WERE SCAMMED OUT OF OUR MONEY AND WE WERE LEFT ON THE STREETS FOR NIGHTS. FINALLY WE CAME UPON AMERICAN IMMIGRATION, THEY SHELTERED US FOR A FEW DAYS AND GAVE US A TICKET FOR THIS BUS.



ITZEL:

MY HOME WAS IN GUERRERO, MEXICO. THERE WAS VIOLENCE OUTSIDE MY WINDOW EVERY DAY AND NO JOBS TO SUPPORT MYSELF OR MY ABUELOS. I CAME HERE FOR A BETTER LIFE AND TO HELP MY FAMILY. MY JOURNEY WASN'T EASY, ON MY WAY I HAD MY MONEY AND CLOTHES STOLEN. I COULDN'T SLEEP BECAUSE I FEARED FOR MY SAFETY. I WENT MANY DAYS WITHOUT SLEEPING, I WAS SURROUNDED BY TIRED AND DYING PEOPLE WHO WERE ON THE SAME JOURNEY AS ME. FINALLY, I WAS ABLE TO USE SOME OF MY LAST REMAINING MONEY TO PURCHASE A TICKET ON THIS BUS.





WE MADE IT!
LAST STOP.

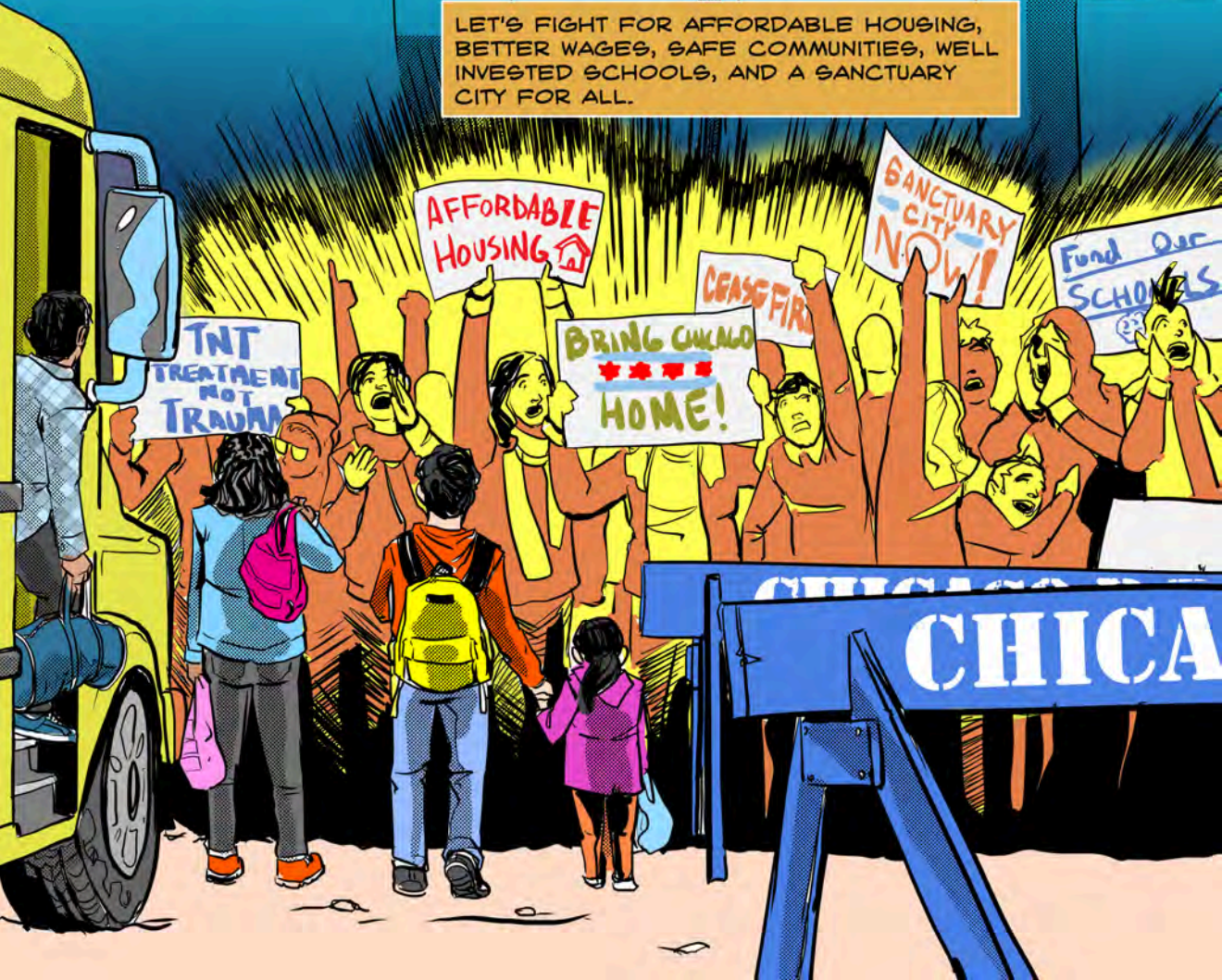


SKREEE!

JOIN THE FIGHT THAT UNITES
OUR COMMUNITIES,

BECAUSE TOGETHER WE WIN,
DIVIDED WE LOSE.

LET'S FIGHT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING,
BETTER WAGES, SAFE COMMUNITIES, WELL
INVESTED SCHOOLS, AND A SANCTUARY
CITY FOR ALL.



AFFORDABLE
HOUSING

SANCTUARY
CITY
NOW!

Fund Our
SCHOOLS

TNT
TREATMENT
NOT
TRAUMA

CEASE FIRE

BRING CHICAGO
HOME!

CHICAGO

This comic book project is part of a collaborative effort between Palenque LSNA and Schurz HS Estudiantes Sin Fronteras club. By showcasing diverse narratives and experiences, this project aims to bridge communities and spark meaningful conversations. Through the medium of comic books, the project highlights the importance of storytelling in fostering connections.




Palenque
LSNA
Liberating Spaces through
Neighborhood Action



WOODS
FUND
CHICAGO

follow artist marcelo biott

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 @themarcelobot

2024

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MUSEUM

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