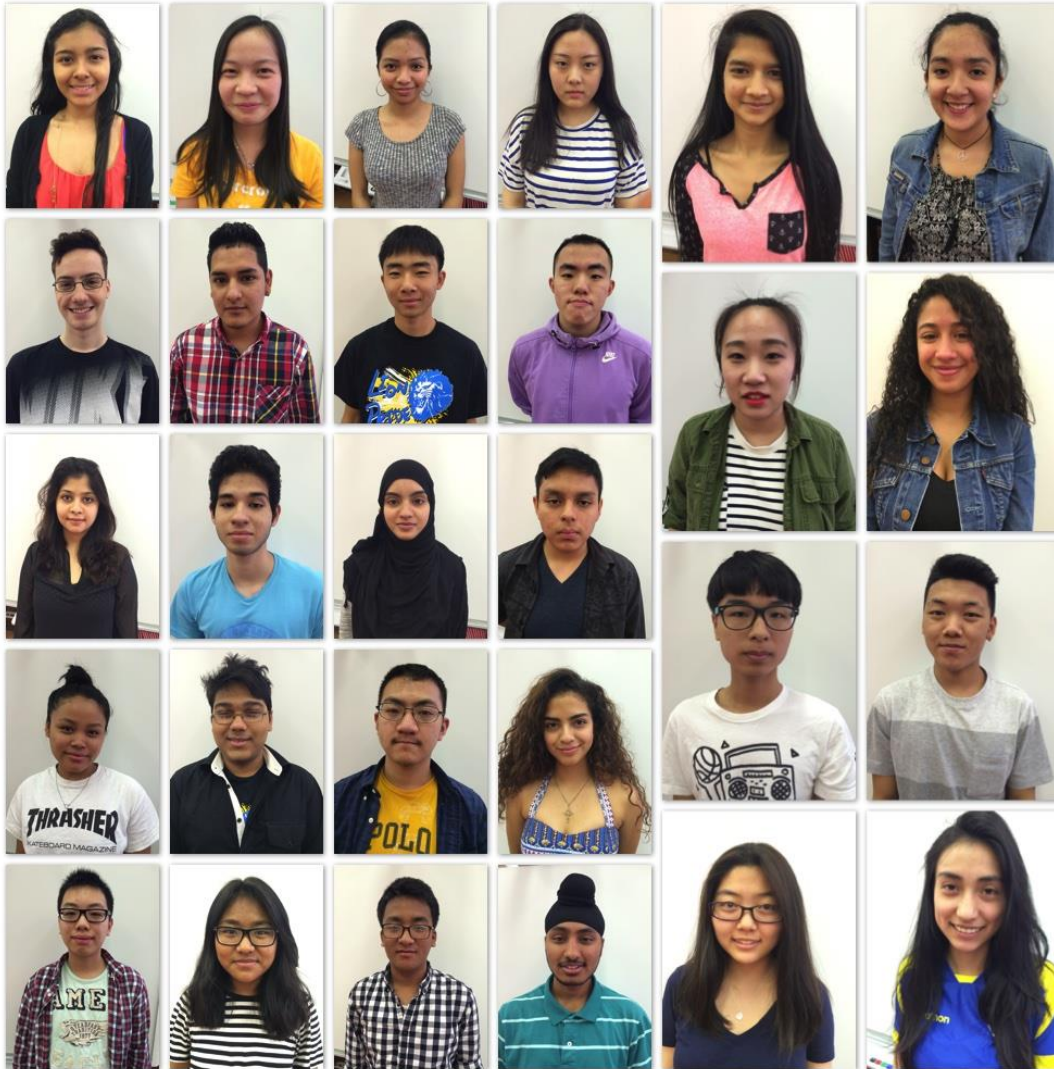


The Building Bridges Welcoming Stories Project



**Julie Mann,
Newcomers
High School,
LIC, Queens**



Earlier Versions of this Project

- Film clip (HW)
- Link is below



[Young Immigrants Share Their Stories](#)

Building Bridges, Welcoming Stories



Why else did we do this project?

In preparation for a visit from Ambassador Samantha Power, my class wrote their **stories**.



[Blog post by my student about this visit.](#)

[Facing History videos and lessons from this visit.](#)

What did students write about?

Part 1: Their journey to the United States



What did students write about?

Part 2: A specific person who welcomed them, who helped ease their transition and made them feel at home.



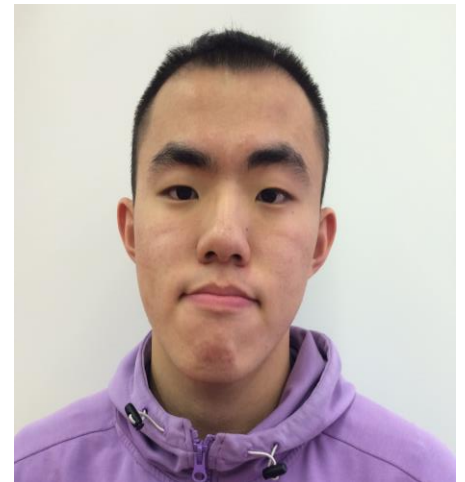
What did students write about?

Part 3: A welcoming action in which they helped a newcomer.



Impact of the welcoming action

“It feels great when I see someone can do well with my assistance, and it makes me feel useful since I can truly help someone. I believe that people’s caring for other people is the bond that connects everybody and it makes a society of harmony. I believe he will do the same kind of things for students who come to school afterward.” HL, China



Weekly Meetings

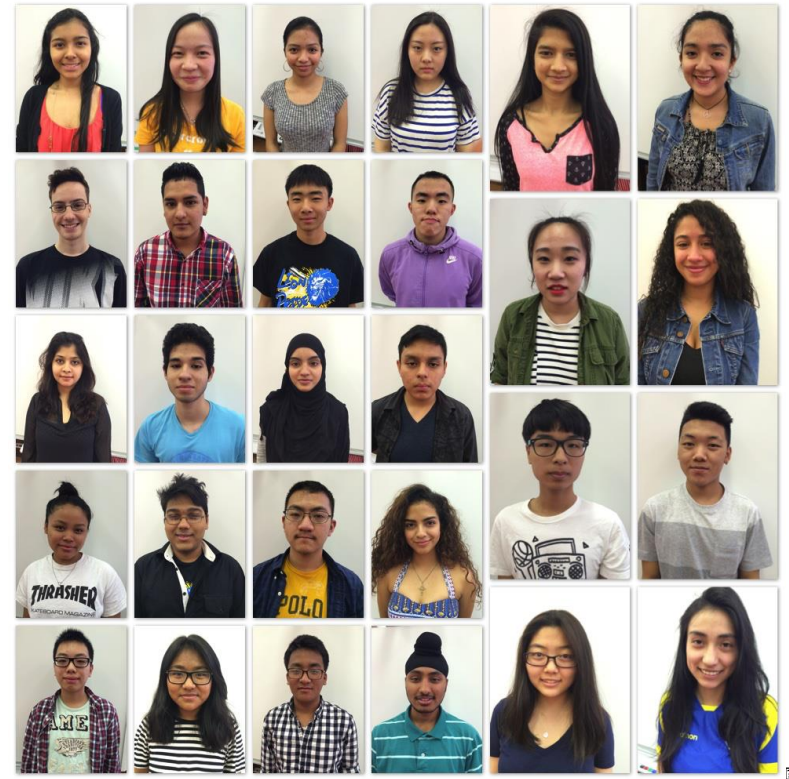
- **Writing groups:** share and refine our stories.
- **Numerous drafts**, each time making sure to show, not tell their story.



Final Outcomes

- Sharing stories in class
- Book
- Book signing party
- Distribution of stories to larger audiences
- NIOT Welcoming Month
- Facing History videos, lessons and blog, on refugees.

The Building Bridges Welcoming Stories Project
Immigration Stories From the Human Rights Class
Newcomers High School
June 2016



Edited by Julie Mann, Teacher
Orlando Sarmiento, Principal

Educational Benefits in my setting:

- **Take students through the writing process.**
- **Teach students how to show, not tell, in their writing.**
- **Teach students how to complete several drafts of writing.**
- **Build tangible community service into a writing project.**
- **Give students an opportunity to learn from and with each other.**

Larger Benefits

- **Educate the world about our students' incredible stories.**
- **Build a bridge between immigrants and their new communities.**
- **Break stereotypes about who immigrants are and why they come.**
- **Give students a chance to document their journey while it's fresh in their minds.**
- **Create primary source historical documents.**
- **Empower and inspire students.**

More questions?

[Email me: jmann6@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jmann6@schools.nyc.gov)



Resources

All of my materials are in
this [Dropbox folder](#).