This Planner Belongs to:

Thank you.

to the powerful voices behind the <u>Springfield Choose Your Future</u> initiative.

Many thanks to our fellows participating in our inaugural Springfield Fellowship for Young Leaders.

And our community who has taken the long haul and supported this research with their whole hearts:

Design Thinking Initiative Narratives Project Springfield interviewees Project SPARC

Leslie Abraham
Yaritza Barta
Denys Candy
Erin DeCou
Jo Glading- DiLorenzo
Joesiah Gonzales
Sam Intrator
Nicole Lussier
Kadeja Miller
Priscilla Morales



Scan the QR Code for more of our content.

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Developed by the minds at Smith College's <u>Jandon Center for Community Engagement</u>, <u>Urban Education Initiative/Project Coach</u>, and <u>New North Citizens' Council</u>.

Designed by Zoe Zandbergen & Jake Zigler

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Origins are formative, be they happy or tragic. Honor yours below.

This is the beginning of my story

and I want to _____ Springfield.

a. take backb. elevatec. go beyondd. honor

You choose your destiny and we'll do everything we can to help you on your journey.

For one, this is no ordinary planner; it's a journal, a motivator, and a happiness maker.

As they say, a goal without a plan is just a wish.
Stop wishing and get planning!

nce upon a time,	
	You are the person that knows YOU the best.
	Writing about yourself can help you develop your origin sales pitch. After all, the best
	speeches in life are practiced.
	Writing your origin story here can get you that much closer to making the question,
	"tell me a little about yourself" one of the best questions anyone could ever ask you.

eptember

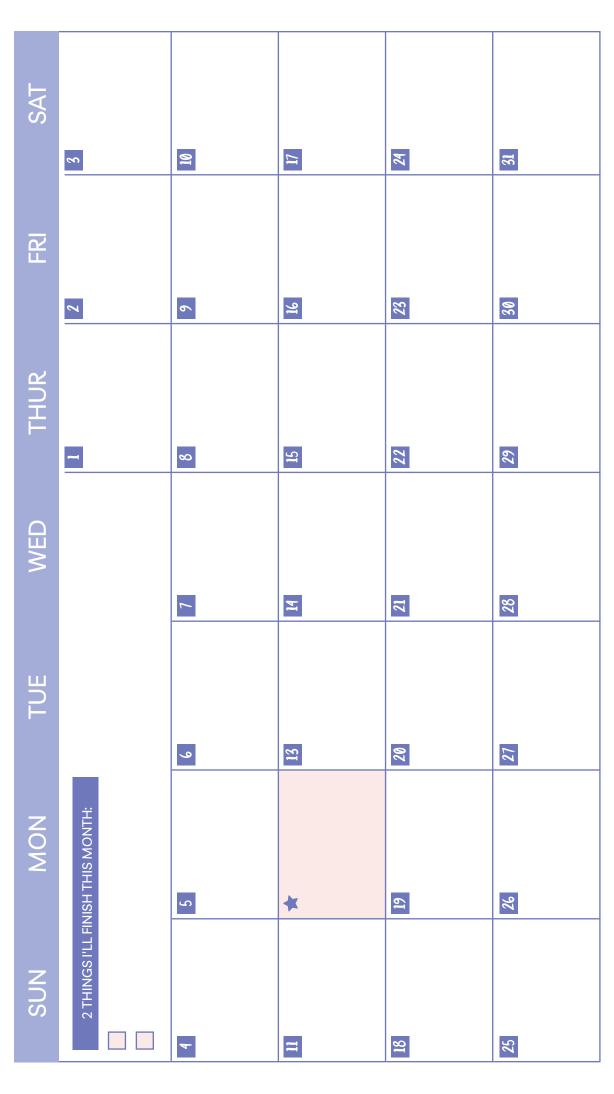


SUN	MOM	TUE	WED	THUR	R	SAT
30	15	=	2	8	4	2
9	7	8	6	10	11	12
13	И	*	16	17	18	61
20	21	22	23	24	25	<u> </u>
27	78	<u>29</u>	30	2 THINGS I'LL FIN	2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH:	

Every hero is supported by a courageous team. Remember them in a time of need.

Add their name, phone, email, and what they can do for you.





All successful journe Break your plan into ac	
Take the first step; it's alw	vays the hardest
	Taking small steps can lead to big wins. If you have a goal you are trying to achieve, by breaking the task up into smaller pieces, it becomes much more approachable and doable. Take each small goal one step at a time and work up to the bigger goal at hand.



At the end of your junior year, take tests like the SAT or ACT, which can launch you towards merit scholarships.



If you're
undocumented,
it may take
some extra fishing,
but you can
still find aid.



Apply for the FAFSA on October 1. The deadline is May 1 for MA!



The early bird gets the worm. Look into early decision applications for your favorite school.



You've spent high school honing your skills.
It's time to make some updates
to your resume to show it!







Torn between
paths? Choose wisely
and don't be afraid to
go back to mentors
for advice!



Nov. 29 is Maria Ylagan Orosa's birthday. Maria was a Filipina food technologist, pharmaceutical chemist, humanitarian, and war heroine. Her food inventions saved thousands of POW lives during WW2.

November



SUN	NOM	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
-	7	8	4	S	9	<u> </u>
8	6	10	=	12	13	И
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
7.7	<u>23</u>	24	25	76	77	28
*	30	2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH:	SH THIS MONTH:			

Your college roadmap to success.



June of Junior Year/Onward

Many colleges reward prowess. Take your SATs and ACTs early and research which colleges offer merit-based scholarships based on above average test results. You'd be surprised what doors good test scores can open. Aim for a score of 1020/20 or even 1390/30 to really impress your college choices.



October 1

College is expensive. Ensure you apply for FAFSA and get all the help you can. The MA deadline is May 1st but the earlier you apply, the better. Visit www.bit.ly/31K0iCR for a more detailed list of what you need.



December-February

The early bird gets the worm. Research "early decision applications" for your favorite school. Not only are early admissions binding, they show colleges that you're proactive and determined.



Mau

You might not have graduated but you've been honing your skills for some time now. Show that experience on your resume. Add "high school graduate" to your achievements and include ALL internships and jobs you've had!



June

You graduated high school! Don't forget who helped you along your journey, as they may be helpful further down your path. Send your teachers and mentors heartfelt letters of thanks for their commitment to you.



June-August

Choose your path wisely. Not all trial and tribulation has a worthy reward at the end. When choosing a school, consider things like cost, size, acceptance rate, and culture. You still have the ear of that wizard, right? Seek their advice!



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Undocumented students

You deserve to have access to the same resources as everyone else. If you are ineligible for federal and/or state aid, completing the CSS Profile can help you get college financial aid. There are also some scholarships for which undocumented students are eligible (i.e. Jack Kent Cooke Foundation College Scholarship, QuestBridge, etc.). Also, consider applying to colleges that treat undocumented applicants as U.S. citizens rather than international ones because this ups your chance of admission/financial aid. Read more at www.bit.ly/33o0B7a.

December



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FR	4	11	18	25	1 MORE THING I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH:
THUR	3	10	17	24	31
WED	2	6	16	23	30
TUE	1	8	15	22	59
MOM	1 THING I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH:	7	14	21	*
SUN	1 THING I'LL FIN	9	13	20	27

Your reputation precedes you. How would you describe yourself to others?

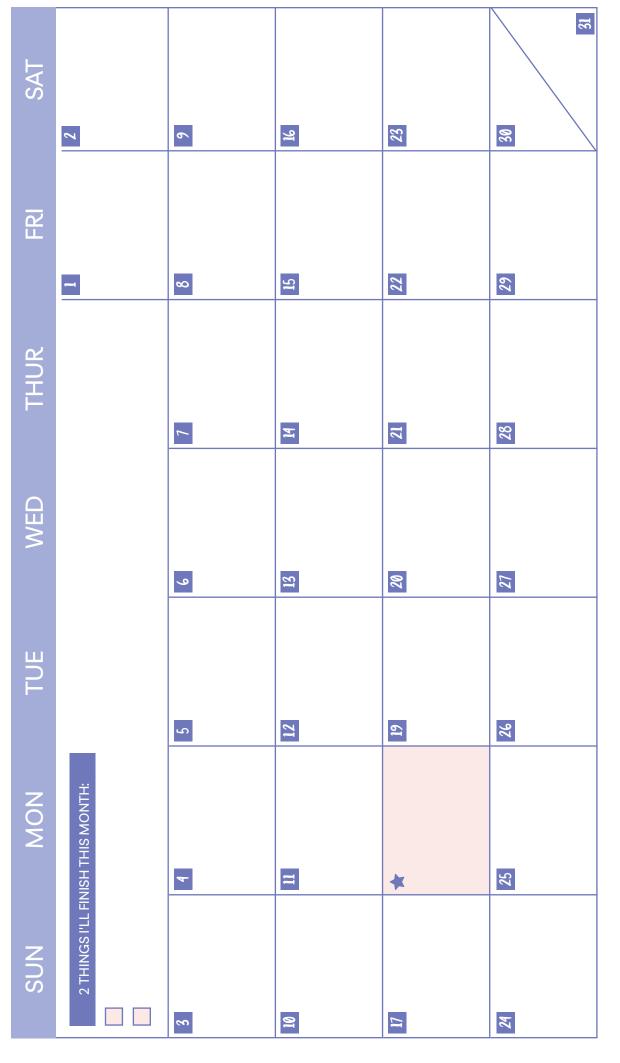
Oftentimes, when applying for a job,

	writing a personal statement, or filling out a scholarship application, you will be asked how you would describe yourself and your personality or how others would describe you. Writing them down here can come in handy for later.
I would describe myself as	
,	, and
My family would describe me	e as
,	, and
The best things about me are	
,	, and

At the end of this year, I want to be

Jan. 18 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which falls on the third Monday of January. Martin Luther King Jr. was a minister, activist, and one of the most important figures in the American civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.





Financial Literacy Cheat Sheet

The Rule of Thumb to Building Healthy Savings Habits

A common financial question that financial analysists hear often is, "how much should I save?" A good rule-of-thumb is 50/30/20.

- 50% for essentials like rent and food
- 30% for discretionary spending (like your Netflix subscription, or eating out)
- 20% for your savings, at the very least

Budgeting and saving are easier when you break it down into a simple routine. Just remember; 50/30/20!

Build an Emergency Fund

Emergency funds are for now, not later. After all, you never know what can happen. Your savings isn't just for retirement—it's for the near future as well.

- Start savings now, with an emphasis on an emergency fund
- Set this money aside in a savings account you can't easily withdraw from
- A great emergency fund goal is twice your annual salary—start pecking away at it

Take Advantage of Retirement Savings

It's entirely possible to build an emergency fund while simultaneously saving for retirement. At the very least, contribute the full amount that your company matches in your 401k.

- Saving for retirement can be a out-of-sight, out-of-mind process; just have it taken from your paycheck
- Contribute at least as much as your company matches; that's free money
- Feeling generous? Contribute 15-20% and really build a nest egg; you'd be surprised how little you miss that money and you can always change your contribution

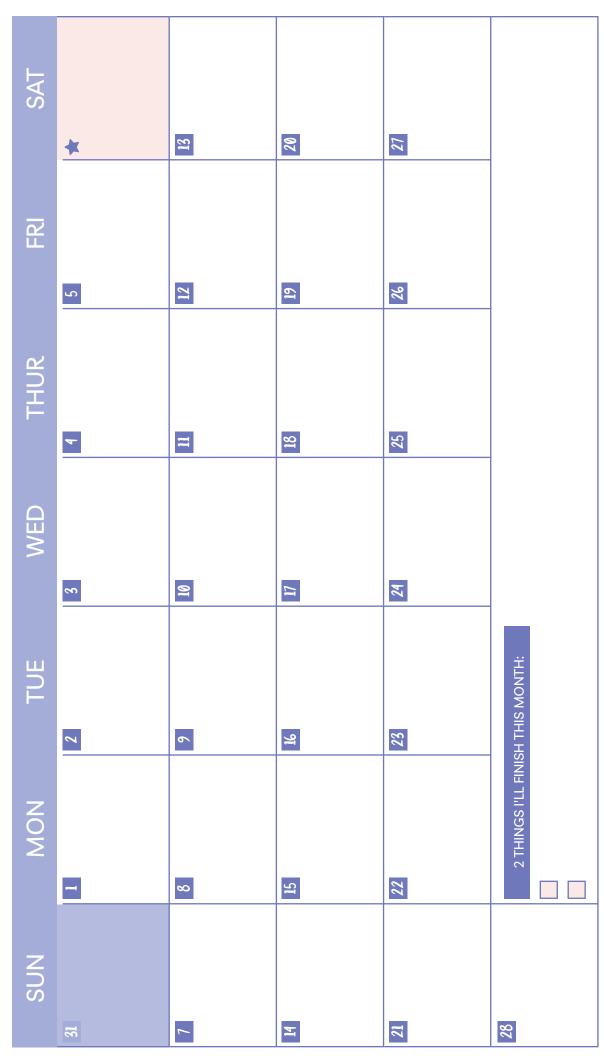
Don't Be Afraid to Talk About Money

It might feel taboo to discuss money. A lot of us grow up thinking it's rude to discuss things like how much a person makes or what your coworker's salary is. However, there's no rule saying you can't ask these questions. The more informed you are, the more informed your decisions are.

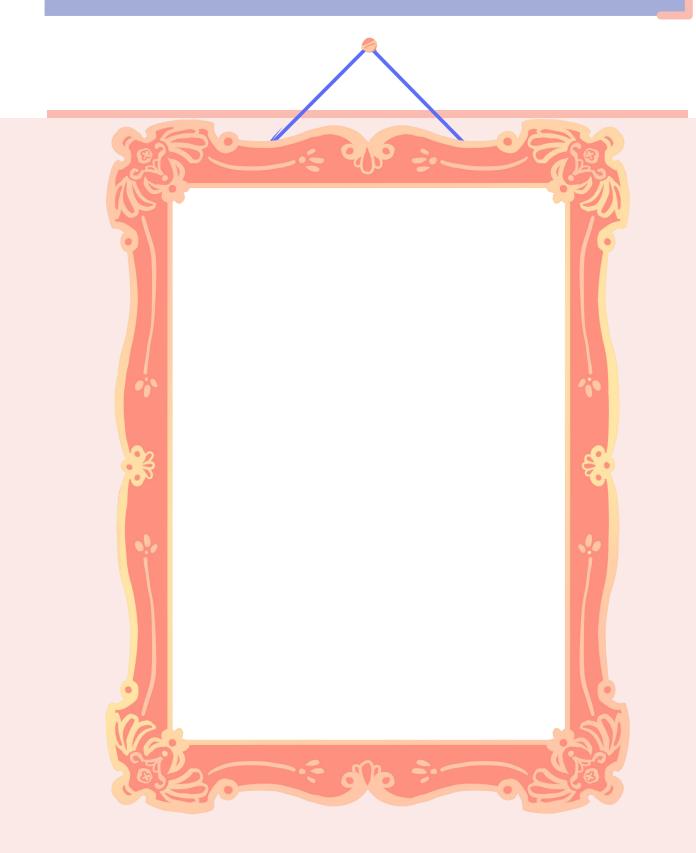
Do what you can to earn an honest but ambitious living. Leave a legacy and good habits to the people that look up to you.







Mirror, mirror, on the wall. Who's the fairest of them all? Draw an honest self-portrait.





SAT 2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH: R WED Z O W

Writing down your financial goals gets you that much closer to achieving them. Spell them out here.

FINANCIAL GOAL

DUE DATE

Take a course at www.cashcourse.org	ASAP

Writing down financial goals makes them much easier to plan for. Are you saving up for a car? Whatever the case, plan ahead and you'll find it that much easier to succeed. BTW, check out our dedicated financial terms sheet next to January!



SAT FR THUR WED NOM 2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH: SUN II 2

August is a time for new experiences and a change of scenery. Ensure you have a proper inventory.

I'm packing for and	d I need:
A fresh outlook	
	Whether you are packing for a short trip or a life-changing move, remember to bring with you more than just physical items, but also the hopes, dreams, and values that you wish to carry with you.
	These are the things that make you who you are and will matter the most in a new



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Mental & Emotional Wellness are Important

You're Still Growing

It might not seem like it, but your brain is still growing and developing in new ways, even if those ways are subtle. Many of us think we stopped developing long ago, but we develop new habits, let go of old ones, and can change drastically all the way into our 30s.

Change can be exciting, but it comes with bad feelings too. Anxiety and mental health are important things to be aware of in your 20s. Don't neglect them in the name of your hustle or career—try and balance them all equally.



Take Advantage of Low-Cost or Free Health & Wellness Services

Whether you're a college student or a low-income young adult, you more than likely have better access to mental health and wellness services than you think. Many local wellness services employ pay-what-you-can or free models.

For instance, there's a free crisis line by the name of MHS that operates 24/7.

Simply text "MHS 741741" and you instantly speak to someone that can help.

Don't forget that pay-what-you-can models aren't unheard of, especially in the Valley.



Jun. 19 is known as "Juneteenth", which is a holiday celibrating
 the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States.
 Unfortunately, the United States does not recognize this as a federal holiday



SAT 2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH: ER I THUR WED MOM

Visualize what scares you most so that you can stare fear in the face and conquer it.

Draw Two of Your Fears

(people, places, or things)

Name:
Plan of attack:
Name:
Plan of attack:





SAT	3	10	17	24	31
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TUE		9	13	20	77
Z O W	2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH:	5	12	19	97
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Who has lent you a hand on your journey? Send them a letter of gratitude.

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August

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TUE	3	10	17	24	31
MOM	2	6	16	23	30
SUN	1	8	*	22	53

How can you make your friends and family happy for free this year?

Craft a cool card from scratch	

You're at a pivotal point in your life. Saving money now will ensure you're that much closer to financial success in the future.

With that said, people will understand if you don't spend money on gifts for your friends and family during the holiday season. Instead, think of heartfelt and free gifts you can give.

September

SAT 2 띪 THUR WED TUE MOM 2 THINGS I'LL FINISH THIS MONTH: SUN

You did it; an entire, uninterrupted year of journaling. List your greatest successes here.

Finished this planner a	nd didn't even complain
	Don't forget to take time out of your day to celebrates your successes, whether they were a year in the making or something you started and finished in a single day.
	Part of your personal growth is pausing to see how far you've traveled. If you truly take a second to see what you've accomplished in a year, you'll be guaranteed to be surprised.