



The Making of *The Actionprint* Daisy Paredes, Anthropology, 2021

SERVICE

SUMMARY

I created *The Actionprint*, a toolkit that teaches youth 16-26 the concepts related to and the process of **enacting change with their own ideas**. This project was completed for local nonprofit **Sustainable Youth in Action (SYA)**. The mission of SYA is to empower youth to solve local issues through leadership training, project development, and a network of changemakers.

As the **Education Director** for SYA, I was charged with **outlining, writing, and designing the Actionprint packet**, as well as organizing a **Curriculum Board** to review the guide. This meant developing a curriculum from the ground up and going through the process of review.

My goal was to create a toolkit that **young people** can use to start their **own initiatives based on their own ideas** to impact their communities.



SPICES

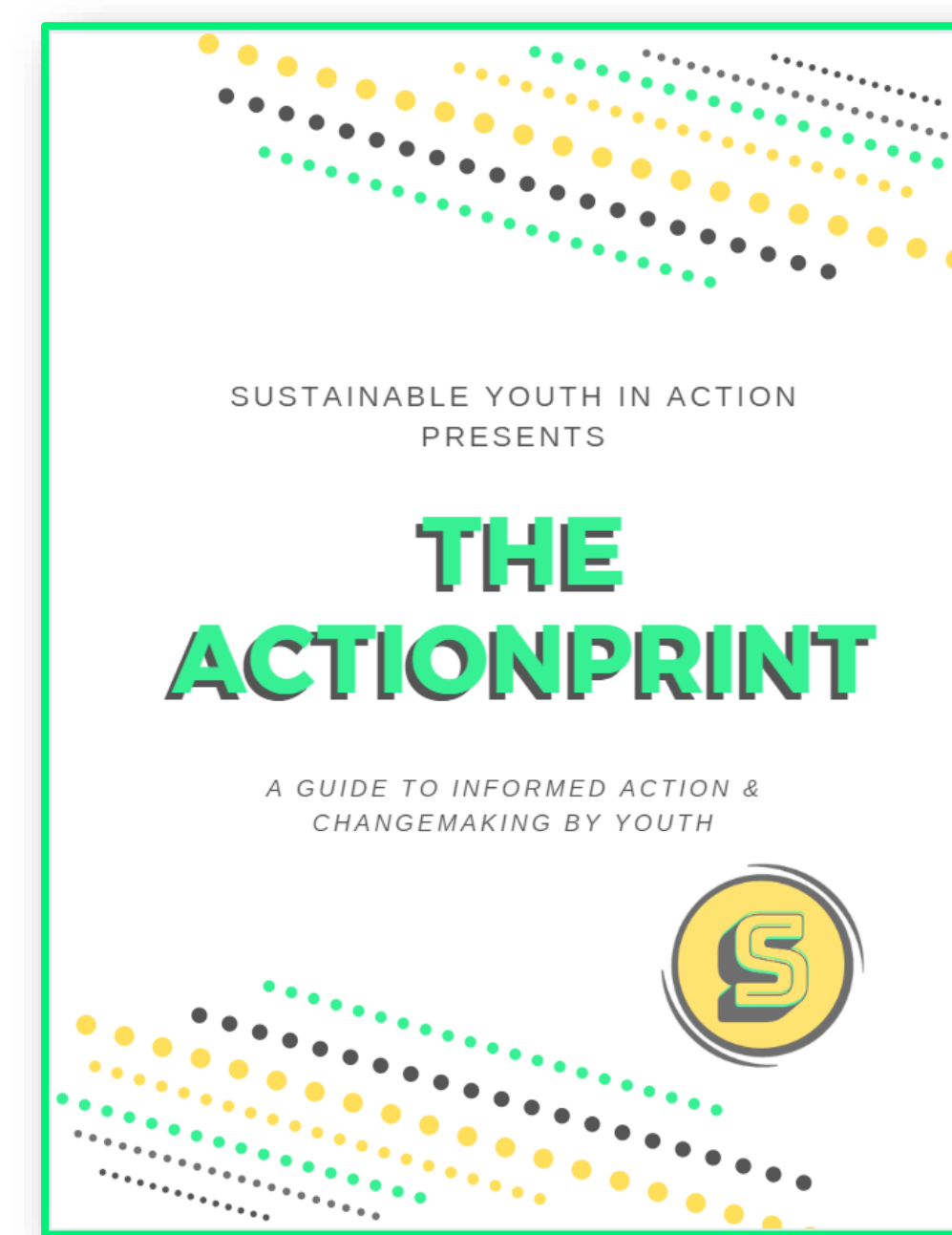
This project embodies the SPICE category of **Service** because it was a creative project done for a **non-profit organization** for no payment or reimbursement. My motivation in completing this toolkit was to further SYA's campaign for **youth leadership**.

HERBS

- Honor:** empowering youth to do good in the world.
- Equitable:** advocating for social & environmental issues.
- Resilience:** refining the toolkit over 2 years.
- Support:** providing others with access, justice, and education.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Producing the packet using specific knowledge, skills, and resources embodied **Creative Courage**. Meeting deadlines, organizing reviews, and writing for nearly two years was an experience in **Project Management**, and revamping the design/writing several times over required **Adaptability & Resilience**. Writing on the topic of changemaking required **Ethical Reasoning**. Finally, delivering a final product after so much review and anticipation resulted in **Agency through Accomplishment**.



IMPACT

The curriculum behind *The Actionprint* has already reached over **300 youth in San Antonio**. It is crucial to SYA programs like the **ThinkLabs** and the **Young Minds Matter Conference**. This will reach partners and watchers **all over the world**, and young people in all those places will use it to **impact their own communities**.

This experience has developed my **confidence**, my **professional communication** skills, and my own understanding of **project development**. The experience of building a labor of love from the ground up is invaluable!

ADVICE

Do not be afraid to take on an intimidating challenge! Great **opportunities** are brilliantly disguised as impossible situations. If you're designing a **curriculum**, you will go through **many** outlines, drafts, and rewrites. If you're working for a nonprofit, remember that coming back to the **mission is key**.