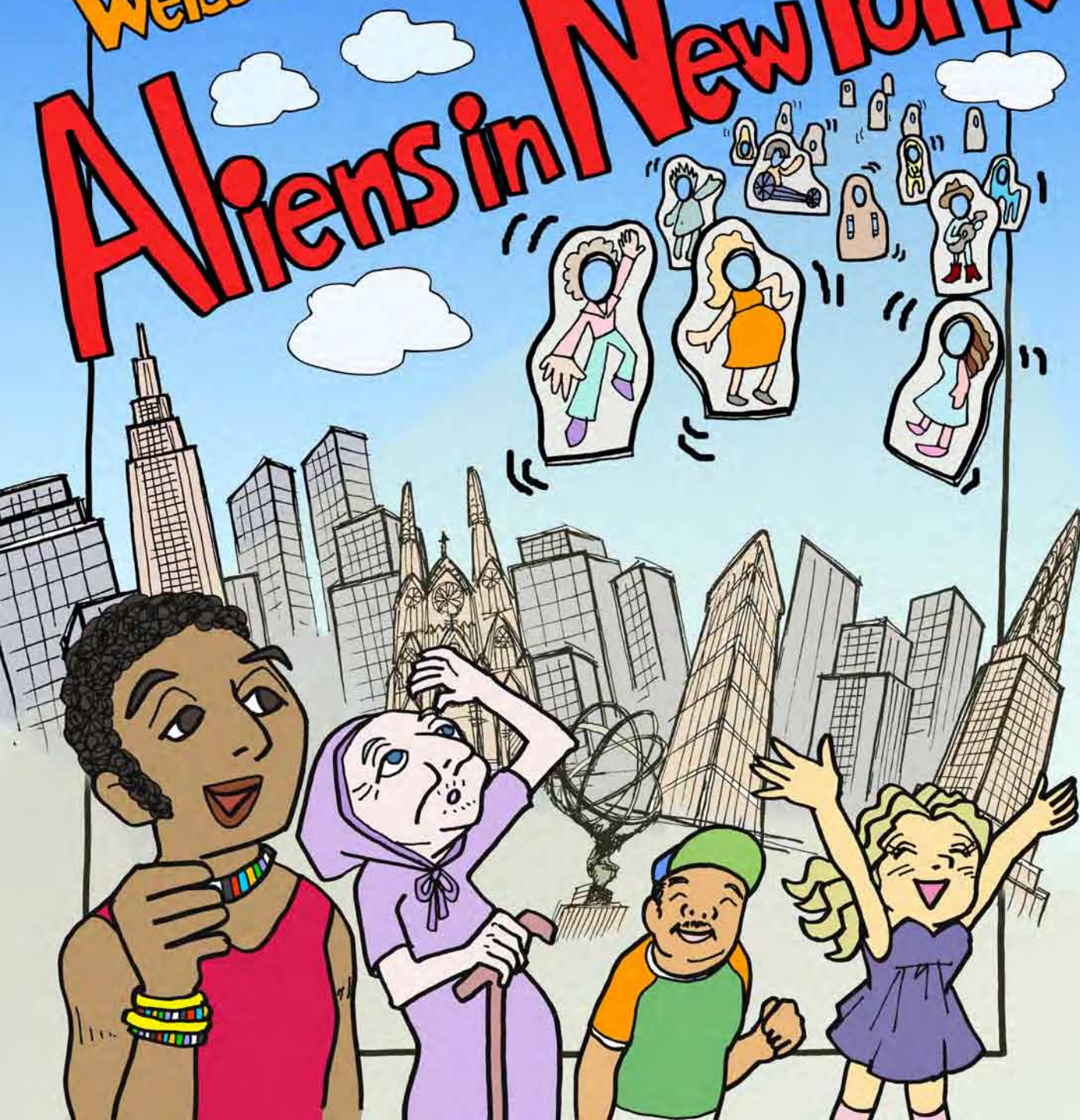
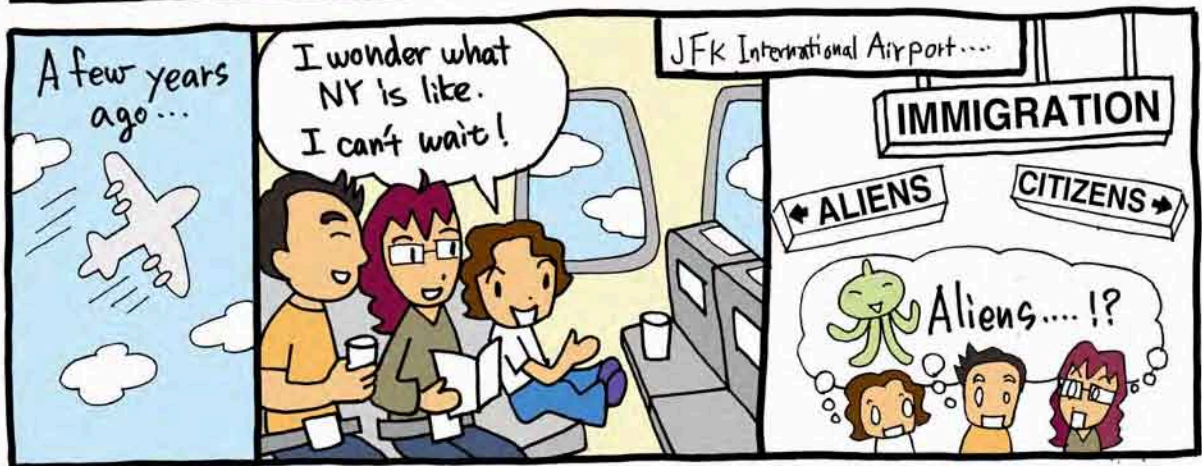
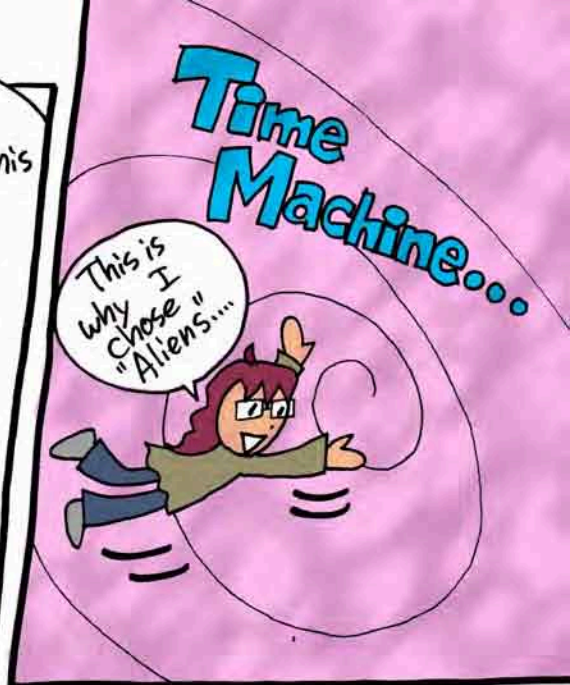


Participatory  
Public Art  
Project  
Welcome to The Annual Report of

# Aliens in New York



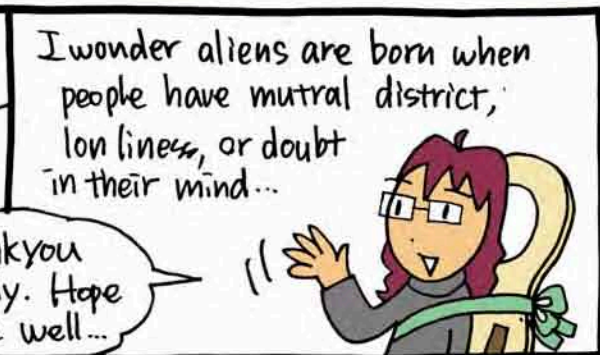




\*1: Thanks again my donors!! Anonymous, Mariko Takegawa, Ivan Velez, Kaoru, tokiolifetime, Yuricon, Katherine Hanson, Gowan Campbell, Louis Payne, Erin Subramanian, Megan Saltzman, Collin Cherry.



That thought let me to a 2010 exhibit titled "Aliens from New York" at Aomori Museum of Art, Japan. At the Northern-end town, I displayed 60 Peekaboo-tan sculptures of various aliens at 12 stations for a month. The sudden appearance of aliens in the big nature made the residents thought...

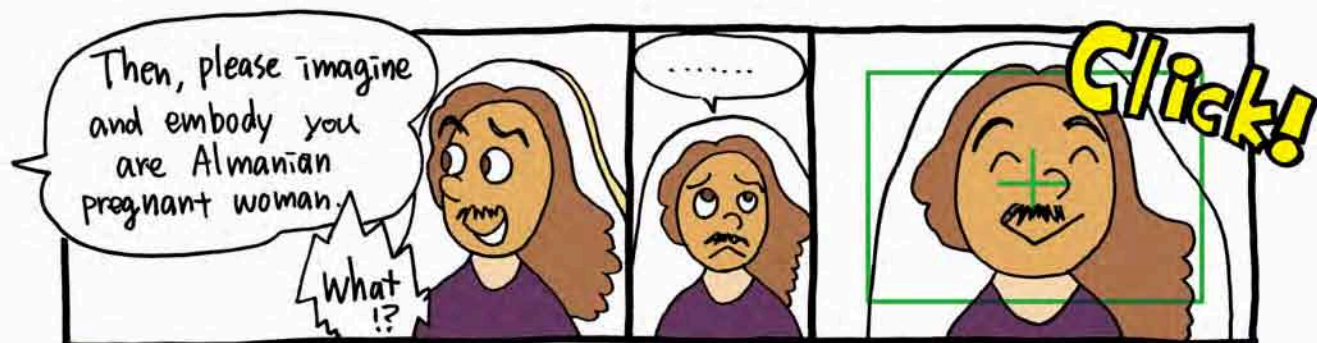


And "Aliens in New York" started...



\*2: When I tell "the art," sometimes people hesitate to participate, then I prefer to say "just a play."





NYFA → New York Foundation for the Arts.

- \*3: 'Free photo print' is enticing to many hesitant audience, but I will get what I need as well, such as really pretend to be the Peekaboo-kun character or filling in questionnaires.
- \*4: Not all people understand the concept of the project soon. Usually it takes times. If the participants hold on to the photo and look at it time to time, more people would realize the concept eventually.
- \*5: Melissa Wolf, Director, The Artist Objective.





But...  
What to do  
next...?

I was lost at the beginning, because I didn't understand American method, "artists collect funds." In Japan, art festivals or art museums who already have their budget called me to work.

Yappie!  
I got it!  
Fiscal sponsor



Fiscal sponsorship orientation

Eleanor



Courtney



Explaining  
while dancing



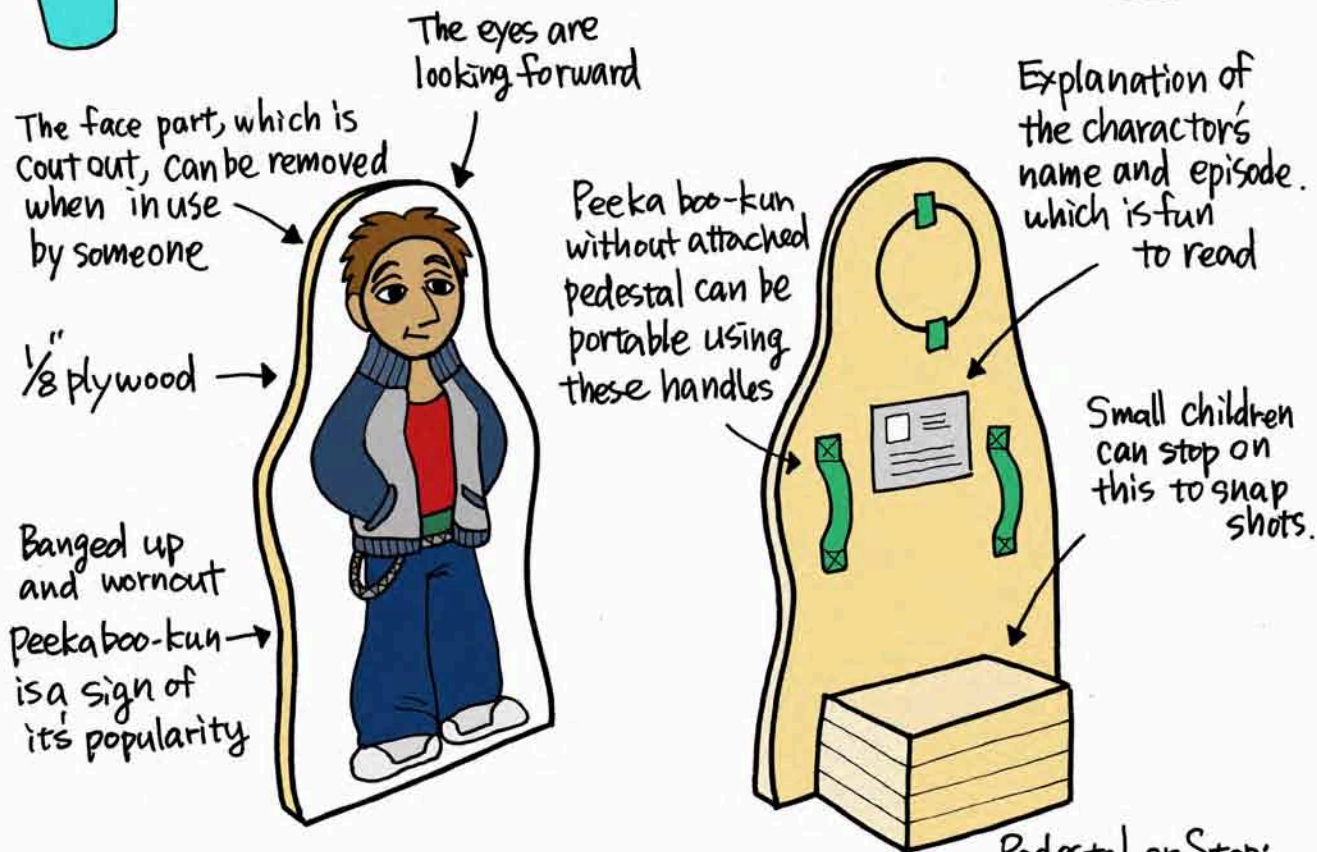
I can't work  
without funds.  
But without my works  
I can't convince people.  
But to convince people  
I need funds to work.  
It seems like  
an endless  
cycle...

Oh, well...  
Let's try even  
in a small  
scale...



Then, I decided to exhibit at "Culture Night", a festival to celebrate diversity of P.S. 122Q Mamie Fay. Every year over 500 families in the area participate the event. I submitted proposal to the principal and P.T.A.

# Complete Illustration: This is a Peekaboo-kun!



**Note:** -kun is an honorific word that Japanese people use to indicate a relationship that is "normal and friendly" in rank, regardless of gender.

use milk crate or box for apples, which contains water bottles or sand for weights.









On Friday, May 10.

# Culture Night



Participants  
are reading  
flyers



Hmm.. Art  
can have such  
a concept.

Please watch  
the world through this  
hole, pretending that you  
are the person in the peek-  
abo- kun, showing  
empathy.



Audience  
who look at  
Mamie Fay



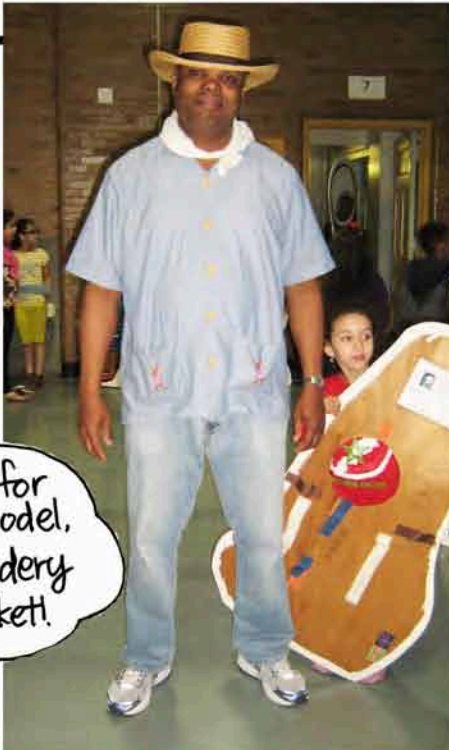
I didn't know  
that our first  
principal was  
such a great  
person!



You should use me for the next model. I have many backgrounds.



Pick me for the next model. An embroidery on the pocket!



Principal who put her face from Mamie Fay's Peekaboo-kun.



It's ending time, but many people are still playing with Peekaboo-kun pieces. I can't wrap up. I'm glad I did this.





Because of NYFA's donation page, I was able to collect some funds... \*6

I'm relieved.  
I can pay for photo and video shoots, transportation, and materials. But, still not for administrative and my labor fee... What can I do?



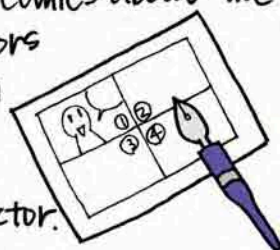
... meanwhile ...

Oh, I got a FB message of group exhibit ...

Women in Comics at Poe Park in the Bronx.

I got an idea!

At P.S. 122 exhibit, I was able to make only one new Peekaboo-kun, and couldn't make any Manga comics to go with. This time, I will make new Manga comics about the Peekaboo-kun characters to show, and post them on the wall. Then participants can know more about the character.



**DEFICIT...**

First half of 2013, I applied many grants but I didn't get any. I also used up most donations through NYFA... I have to think of something I can do without budget.

• If I minimize the number of Peekaboo-kun to exhibit, I can transport them on Subway. It's great saving.



• No photo or Video shoots this time.

• Recycle already existing Peekaboo-kun.

On the other hand....



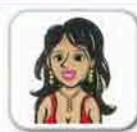
I am going around Japanese community to present my project as a guest speaker.

\*6: The total amount of donation is \$1924.4 as of June 30, 2013. As I didn't prepare for any project campaign, I used Twitter and Facebook. I must work on the campaign on 2014. Half of the donation came from the people I've never met. One donation came from England touched me, as the person chose to make the contribution without any tax incentives.



From July 6 to 31 at Poe Park

# WOMEN IN COMICS Group Exhibit



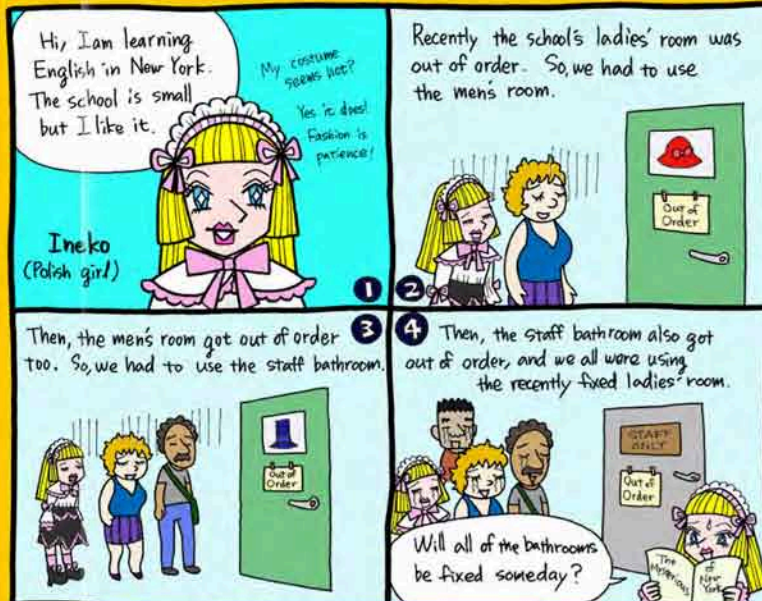
Name:  
**ANITA**  
Nationality:  
**CHILLY**  
Peek-a-boo Board No.  
**AAPBB2006060955**

I am a fashionista.  
My beautiful house and pool is great for my extended family.  
I hope to have many more children and grandchildren in the future.



Name:  
**INEKO**  
Nationality:  
**POLAND**  
Peek-a-boo Board No.  
**AAPBB2006060905**

I am a big fan of Japanese youth subculture. "INEKO" is my handle name for the internet. I post movies of my Karaoke singing, through my parents don't know it.





July 6. I explained the concept of my art at the panel discussion.

At the opening party, other comic artist said...



Readers automatically believe that authors of superhero comics are males. I sometimes use a pseudonym to get a job.

It's not right, isn't it?



Even though you're a citizen and in NY, You're "an alien" in superhero comic industry...

Can you be my next model of Peekaboo-kun?



Sure!

July 27.  
I participated a comic workshop for teens as a lecturer.

During this exhibit, I got big news from San Diego Comic-Con that one of my manga comics was chosen as one of 5 Best manga for grown-ups.





September 10. during IAP's meeting  
Carlos said to me. \*7

Hey, are you free on September 20?  
We are organizing a festival  
called Viva La Comida at  
Jackson Heights. \*9

↑  
Vegan  
← Carlos \*8

OK!



I used to live at  
Jackson Heights/Elmhurst  
area about a year and  
I wanted to exhibit  
at Diversity Plaza  
at the area.

It's a good chance to investigate  
for the next year's plan. I wonder  
how they react to my Peekaboo-kun?

# September 20, 2013 4:00~9:00 pm Viva La Comida!

It was sudden invitation, and I didn't have enough budget. So that I wasn't able to prepare any new materials. I only had a few South American characters, but...



She  
complimented  
Peekaboo-kun  
in long ~  
loooooong  
conversation →

This is great!  
You should do this at Central  
Park or somewhere much bigger.  
I think many people are interested  
in bla bla... bla...



← Woman  
in the  
area

- \*7: Immigrants Artist Program: One of the services supported by NYFA.
- \*8: Carlos Martinez, Public Art Artist, Photographer, Director of Hibridos Collective and Jackson Heights Art Festival. He is my mentor.
- \*9: Viva La Comida is a festival highlighting the food and arts. It is organised by 82nd Street Partnership, Queens.





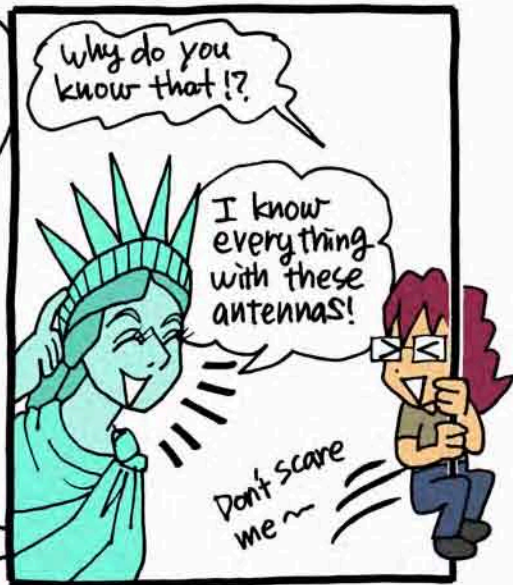
Do you  
want to be a  
member of our local  
artist community?  
We meet once  
a month...

I would love to  
invite you join  
Art Commons.



Many people  
talked to me how they felt  
about my art. But it was difficult  
to explain the theme individually,  
because there was a live band  
next to us. Next time, I would  
avoid music events.  
It was a nice experience.





\*10: The theme of the art projects are virious: family, gender, greeting, travel, marriage, diversity, etc.



I am also applying to New York State Grant from QCA, residency programs and Japanese scholarships.



"Aliens in New York" project hasn't become public art in the true meaning.

You must keep working until the project becomes wide movement, and it gets its own life without you.



I can see..  
In few years, many people will be walking around the city with Peekaboo-kun...

Performers who are dancing around with twirling Peekaboo-kun at Central Park...



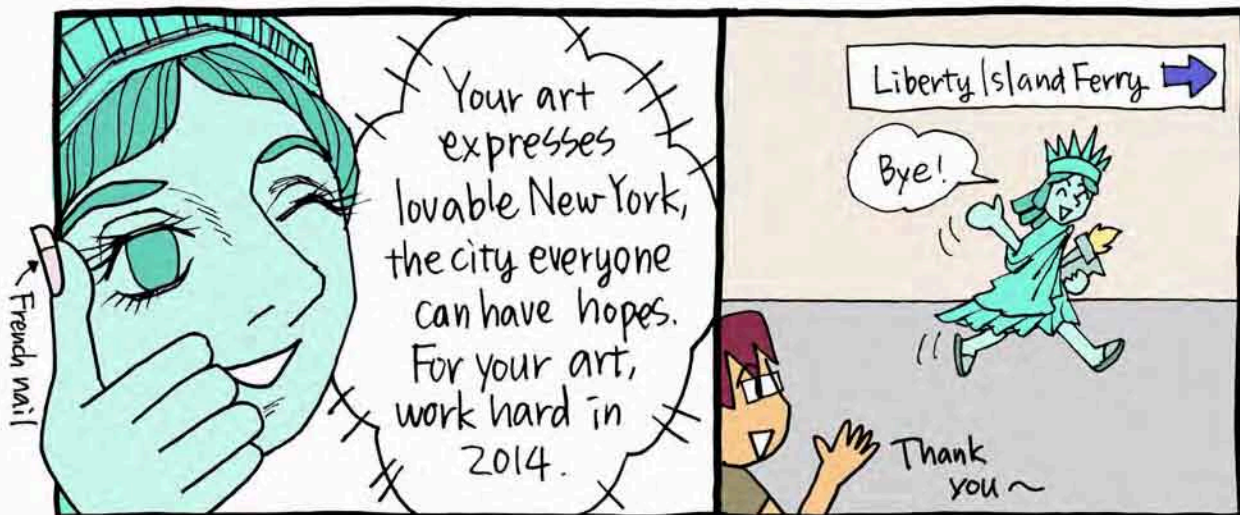
Spectators are parading on the route of New York City Marathon with numerous Peekaboo-kun....



W.. What? I only exhibited at Queens and the Bronx so far. You have a great imagination.....





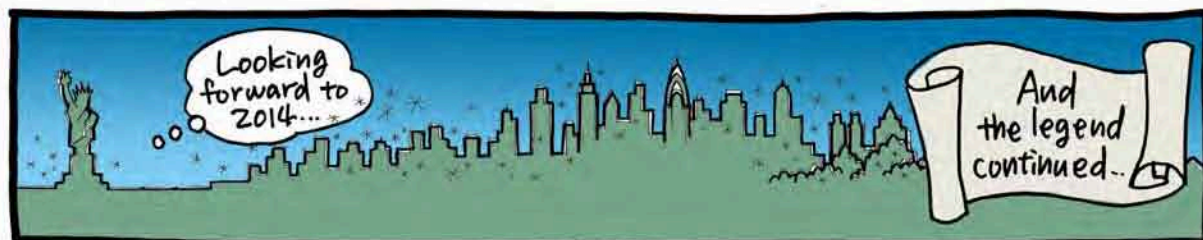


So, I want to show my new Peekaboo-kun pieces with corresponding Manga comics at Diversity Plaza and more! \*11



I need your help!  
The following story of this Manga comic report will depend on your support. At the next "Aliens in New York" art project, I am planning to give away original art certificate to participants!

Stay tuned!! \*12



\*11: In September, one of my Manga comics was chosen as one of twelve Best Manga 2013 from Otaku USA, which is the largest English Eastern Manga Anime magazine. My manga comic are expected to be more exciting!

\*12: Please read the contents at the end of the report. When I'm invited to hold a show, I will be anywhere!!