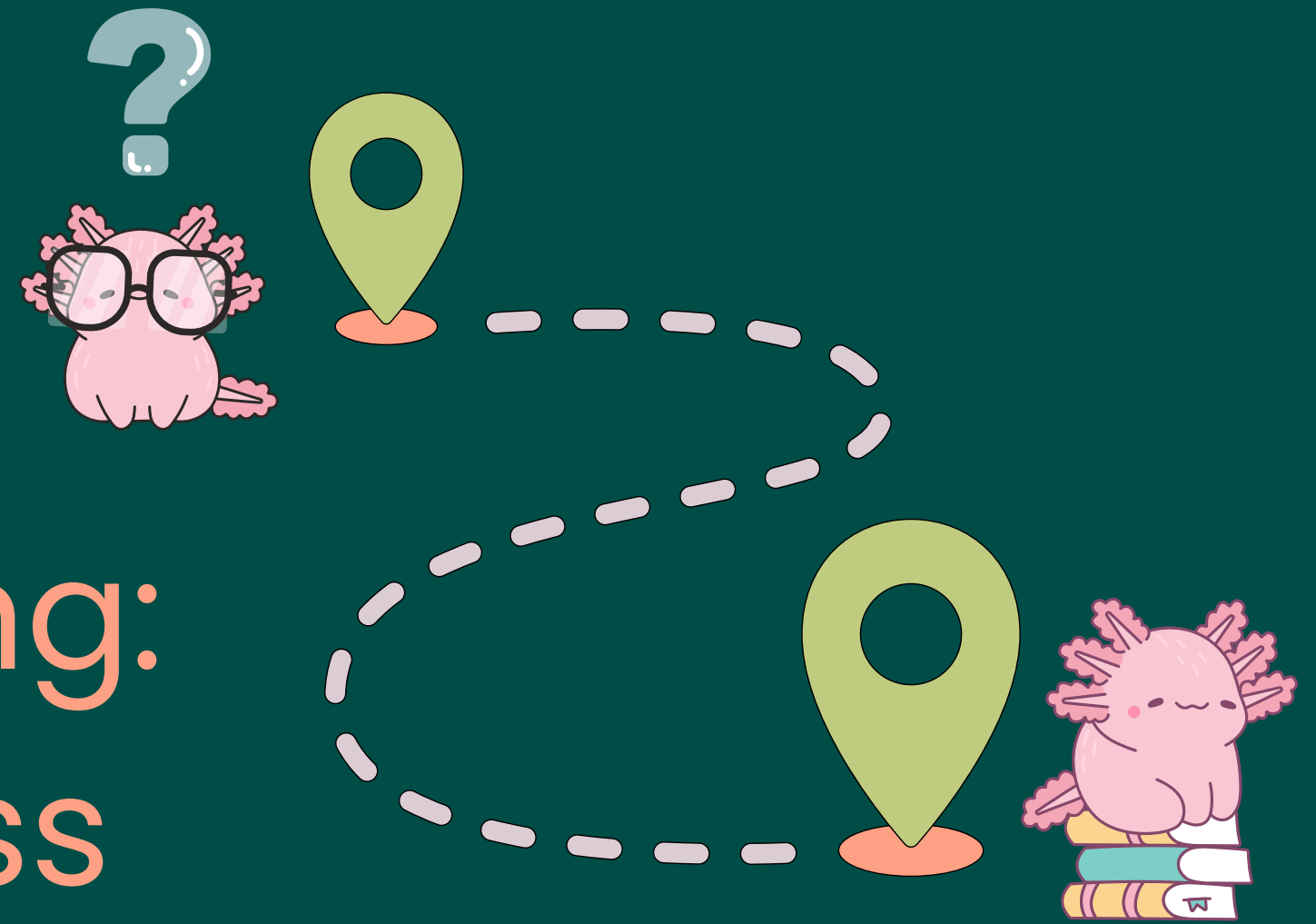NJIT LIBRARY

Hack Experiential Learning: Creating Student Success through a UX Library Competition

Kennedy Jones, Zoe Mooneyhan, & Luci Parrish
New Jersey Institute of Technology

How It Started:

- The 2023 NYC STEM Librarian's Unconference
  - NYU Dibner Library presented
- Many discussions over two years
  - Between librarians and outreach
- With Library Admin's support
  - Crucial for success

The Breakdown:

- Theme: Wayfinding
  - Book display for participants
- Workshops:
  - Measuring and Evaluating User Experience
  - Making a Case for Impact and Feasibility
  - Understanding Literature Reviews
  - Pitching and Presenting Your Idea
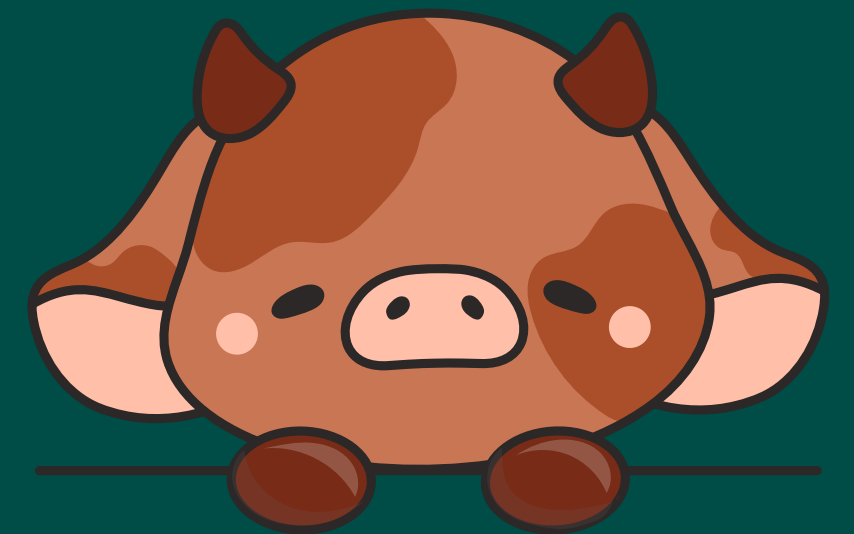- Info Sessions and Mentoring Meetings

The Breakdown:

- Teams and Titles
  - **AEH^2** – "Wayfinding Application: A Digital Navigation Solution for the NJIT Van Houten Library
  - **The WayFind Hers** – "Mookie Map: An Extensible Web-Based Navigation & Engagement System for the NJIT Library
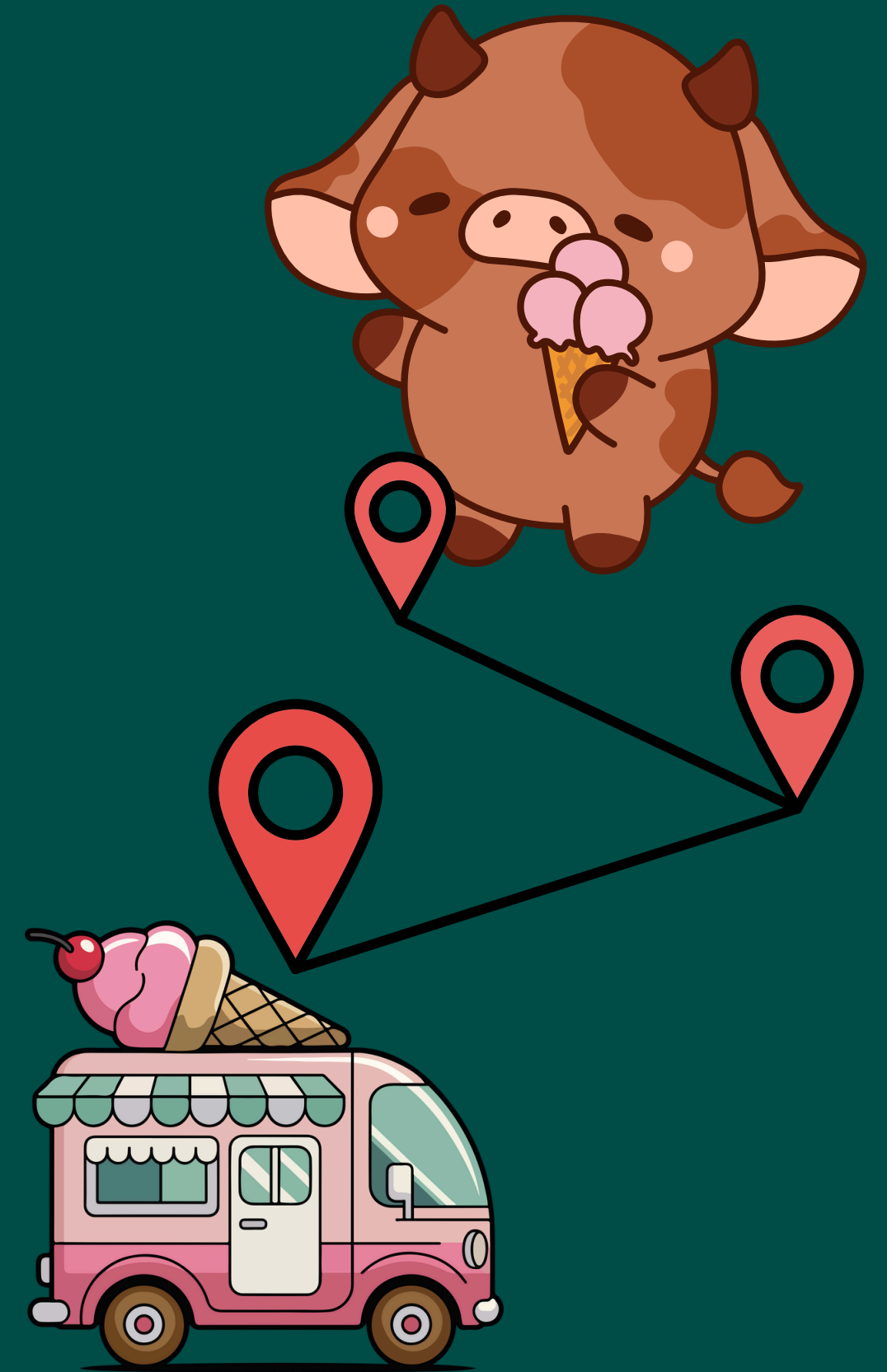
The Breakdown:

- Teams and Titles
  - **DHRILL** – "Van Houten Navigation: Kiosk and Mobile App with Indoor Positioning System
  - **Hooten** – "Hack Van Houten Mobile App"
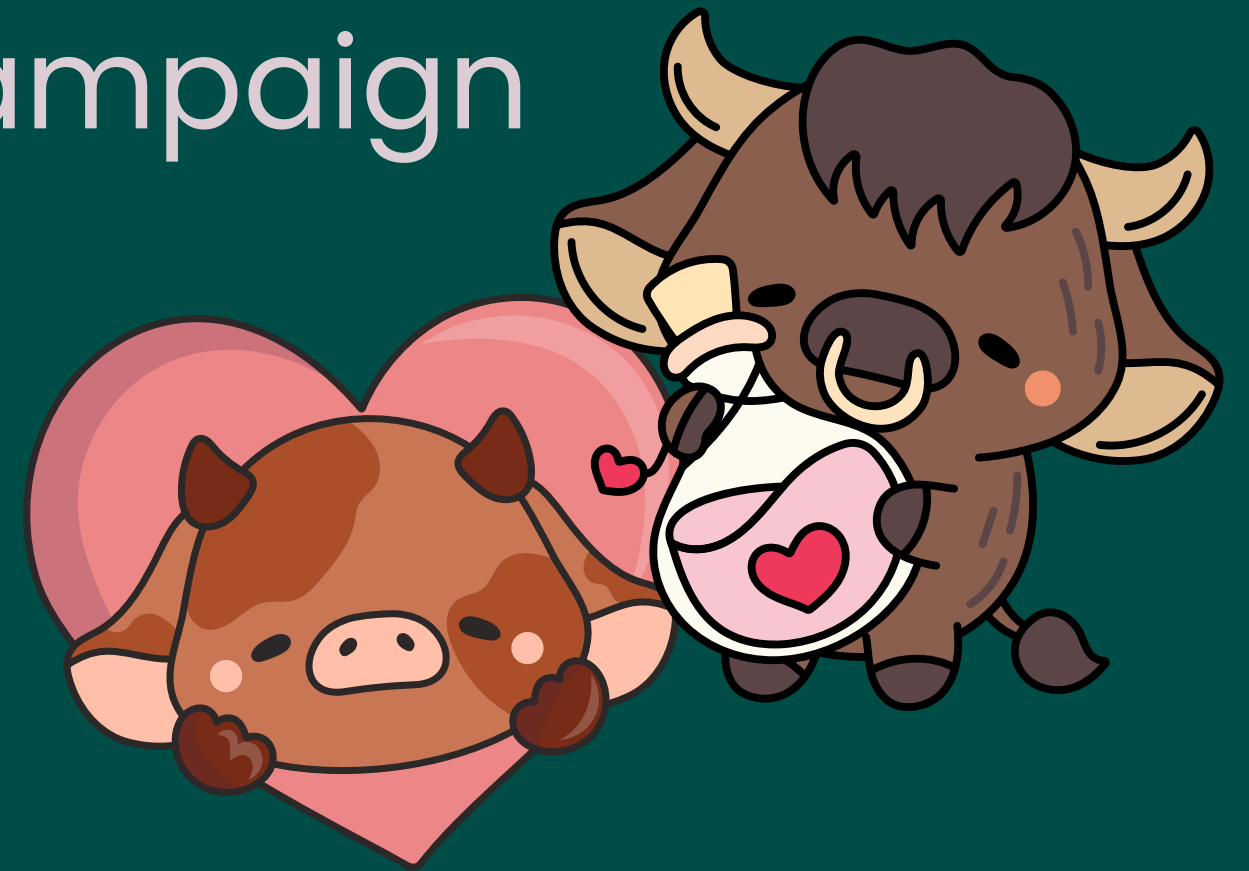 - **Codex** – "NJIT Library Navigator"

The Breakdown:

- Teams and Titles
  - **Sapling –** "Wayfinding in Public Libraries: A Proposal for NJIT's Van Houten Library
  - **UniVerse** – "AR Wayfinding and an AI Robot for a Friendlier Library Experience"

How It Went:

- A lot of work up-front and at the end
  - Lining up judges, speakers, rooms, supplies
- Promotions & Outreach
  - Scheduling social media campaign
- Small but mighty
  - Attendance low
  - Participation high

How It Went:

- 12 teams participated
  - 7 teams to the end
- Enthusiastic reception by NJIT faculty, staff, and students
  - Article in NJIT Communications
  - Great workshop leader feedback
- Small but mighty
  - A promising start

How to Hack Your Library

- Use the Hack Dibner Toolkit
- Have your Libguide ready and make it your own
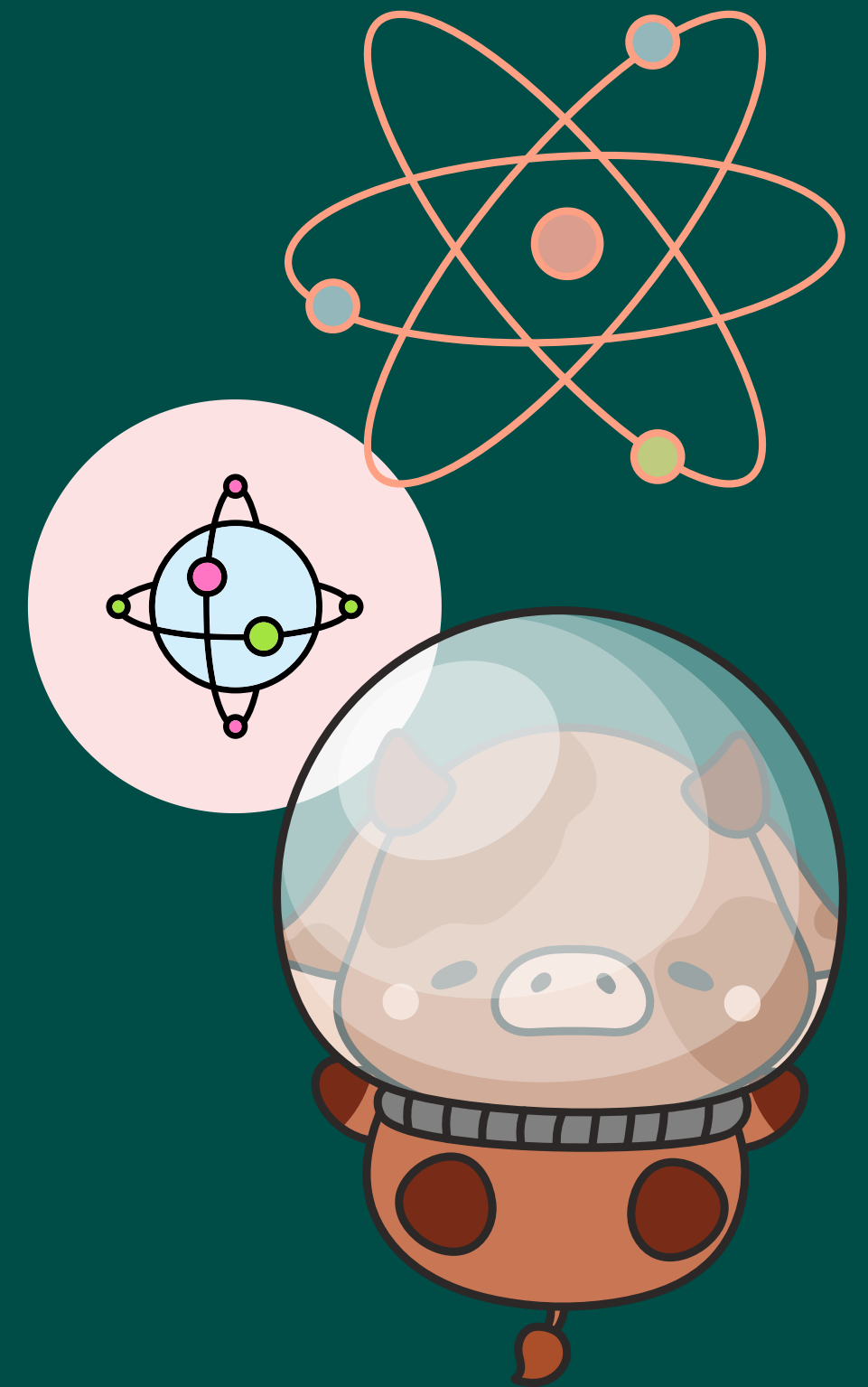- Know your collaborators

Hack Your Library
Tookit (from NYU)

Hack Dibner
Research Guide

Hack Van Houten
Research Guide

How to Hack your Library

- **Information Sessions**
  - Schedule and Plan
- **Workshops with Guest Presenters**
  - Find and Schedule
  - Look outside the library
- **Mentors and Judges**
  - Find and Prep
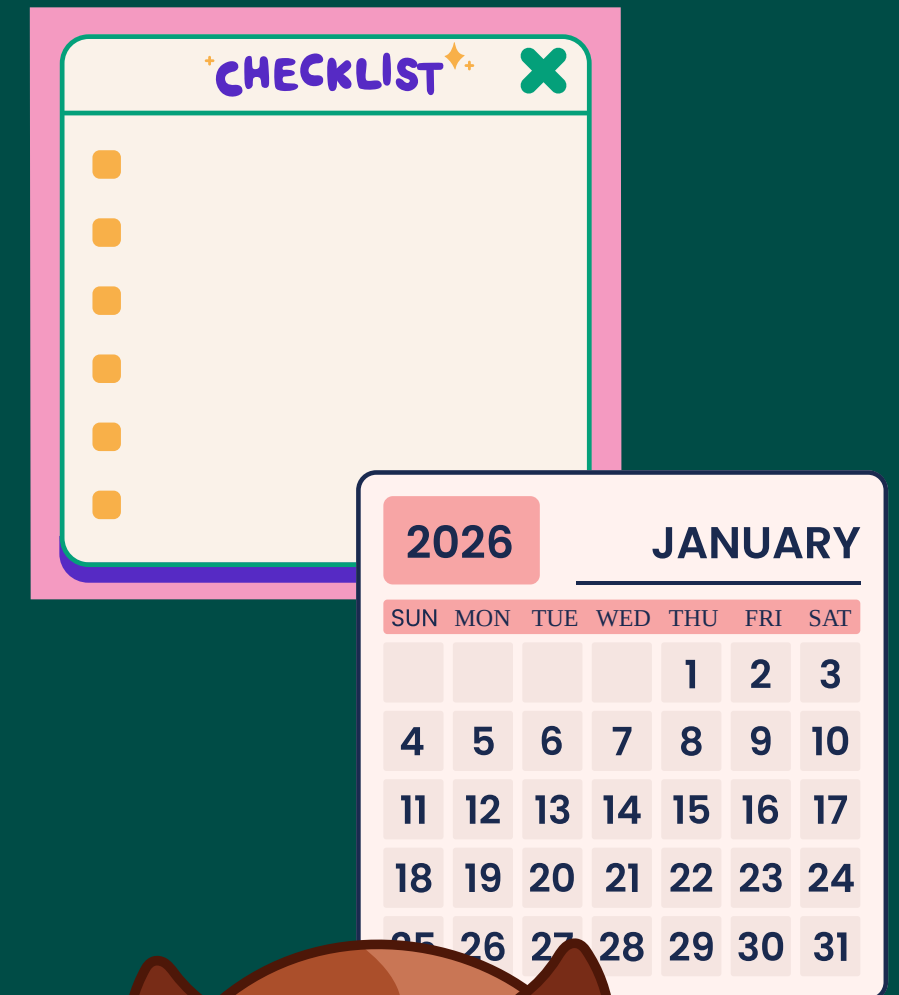 - Look outside the library

Final Showcase

What's Next?

- From Fall to Spring Semester
  - Thanksgiving & Winter Holidays make for too fast of a turnaround
- Clearer expectations
  - Reiterate requirements
  - Send reminder emails
- Design our own logo
  - Branding is key for recognition

Lessons Learned

- One size does not fit all
  - NYU is not NJIT, and NJIT is not Your Library
- Timelines
  - A semester is shorter than you think
- Ask your colleagues to get involved
  - Support is there if you ask

Questions?