

PROJECT DETAILS FOR FINAL SUBMISSION

Project Title:
SPIRITED AWAY

Student's Full Name:
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Course:
Architectural Design 4

Studio Brief Title:

Short Project Description (100 words max.):

"Spirited Away" is a community-centered project dedicated to celebrating and preserving the cultural and spiritual heritage of the Urak Lawoi (Sea Gypsy) community. Anchored in their profound connection to the sea, the project provides a dynamic space for the performance of the sacred Loi Reua ritual—a biannual ceremony symbolizing spiritual renewal and the release of misfortune.

By creating a multifunctional ceremonial site, "Spirited Away" bridges the past and present, offering a venue for ritualistic gatherings and everyday community life. The design embraces cultural identity while promoting sustainable practices and social harmony, ensuring the tradition thrives for future generations.

Full Project Narrative/Text Description (300 words max.):

Spirited Away: A Sanctuary for Cultural Reflection and Renewal

"Spirited Away" is a transformative community project designed to celebrate and safeguard the cultural and spiritual traditions of the Urak Lawoi (Sea Gypsy) community. Rooted in their intimate connection with the sea, the initiative creates a multifunctional space for the sacred **Loi Reua** ritual, a biannual ceremony representing spiritual cleansing, the release of misfortune, and a wish for prosperity.

The project's core vision is to honor the Urak Lawoi's heritage while providing a space adaptable for contemporary community needs. The ceremonial site is thoughtfully designed to host the **Loi Reua** ritual, where boats are meticulously crafted, adorned with offerings, and set afloat to carry away misfortunes into the vast ocean. This act, deeply symbolic of the community's spiritual connection to the sea, is supported by facilities for gathering, crafting, and storytelling, ensuring the ritual's legacy remains vibrant.

Beyond its ceremonial purpose, the site serves as a dynamic hub for everyday life, integrating spaces for cultural workshops, performances, and communal gatherings. Local artisans can showcase traditional crafts, such as boat-making and weaving, while intergenerational activities foster knowledge transfer between elders and younger

members. Seasonal festivals and performances further connect the broader community to the Urak Lawoi's way of life, promoting understanding and appreciation.

"Spirited Away" emphasizes sustainability, with eco-conscious designs harmonizing with the natural environment. By protecting the marine ecosystem vital to the Urak Lawoi's identity, the project aligns with their belief in the sea as the giver of life.

Ultimately, the project ensures the Loi Reua ritual and the Urak Lawoi's cultural identity thrive in a changing world. It not only safeguards traditions but also empowers the community through education, economic opportunity, and social unity, making their story a shared treasure for all.