

PROJECT ABSTRACT FOR FINAL SUBMISSION

Project Title: Intergenerational connection

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Course: Design 1

Studio Brief Title: MASH-UP

Instructor's Full Name: Hayden Minick

Short Project Description (100 words max.):

This project designs a space at Bhanurangsi Pier in Talad Noi, Bangkok, to foster intergenerational connection using principles of boundary, color, and symmetry, inspired by objects like a home telephone, boat toy, and Rubik's cube. The design incorporates modular structures that blend with nature and encourage interaction. Simple, nature-integrated seating appeals to older generations, while vibrant, net-like designs attract younger visitors. Balance-based seating color and reflective materials visually connect all ages. The flexible, adjustable design supports cultural activities and provides a dynamic, inclusive space where different generations can interact and share experiences.

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

This project explores the design of a community space at Bhanurangsi Pier in the Talad Noi area of Bangkok, focused on fostering intergenerational connection through modular elements, color, symmetry, and nature. Talad Noi, a historically rich neighborhood by the Chao Phraya River, is a blend of cultural heritage and modern development, making it an ideal location for a space that encourages interaction across generations. Central to the design is a banyan tree, symbolizing continuity, which anchors the layout and connects various spaces.

The design features modular, adjustable structures that incorporate natural forms and vibrant colors to appeal to diverse age groups. Since forcing interaction isn't always possible, the design uses balance-based elements to encourage cooperation and engagement between generations. Simple, nature-integrated seating is intended to attract older visitors, while younger generations are drawn to bright, net-like structures that evoke playfulness and movement. Reflective materials and organic textures further connect users to the natural environment, while transparent, color-reflecting modules invite participation from all ages, creating visual connections across generations.

The design evolves through various iterations, incorporating different methods of interaction, such as collaborative art-making using Rubik-like interlocking forms. These forms encourage physical engagement, fostering a sense of community and cooperation. The modular structures serve multiple functions: they act as supports for the banyan tree, create flexible spaces for cultural activities like the Vegetarian Festival, and can be reconfigured for various purposes through an interlocking system. This adaptability is key to creating a dynamic space that can accommodate changing needs over time.

Ultimately, this design promotes shared experiences, offering a dynamic environment where people of all ages can coexist, collaborate, and enrich the cultural fabric of Talad Noi.

