

CultureHouse

creating a community hub from an unused space



About

With support from Olin College of Engineering, the Forest Foundation, and the Better Block Foundation, we are working to develop a pop-up community and cultural space in the Boston area called CultureHouse. CultureHouse is a place to hang out, meet people, create, share skills, and learn. As a vibrant cultural institution in the Boston area, it will serve as indoor public park or communal living room that will be inviting to all as a place to work, learn, play, create, and relax. CultureHouse will work to promote urban design in Boston by acting as a test kitchen for public space and streetscape improvements. Partnering with affordable, local businesses, the space will regular programming determined by the community such as board game and trivia nights, a coffee bar, community dinners, and live music.

Why

Residents of the Boston area are often left without a 3rd space, a place between home and work to form community. With a large population of students and young professionals, our communities stand to gain from a space that can help foster a sense of belonging and promote sustainable community networks. In Copenhagen, investment in public life has made the city more livable year-round and increased health and happiness across the population. We believe we can use Copenhagen's best practices to improve community building and quality of life in the greater Boston area. By creating this multipurpose public common space, we hope to build off the success of urban design projects in the Boston area, connect people across the region, and enhance public life in the city.

How

Taking from DIY urban design philosophy, CultureHouse will employ tactical urbanism to create a livable space and streetscape. With a one-month pop-up in July, we will use design strategies and inclusive programming to activate a unused commercial space. Through active prototyping and evaluation, we will develop a template for creating a CultureHouse so the project can be iterated on in the future.