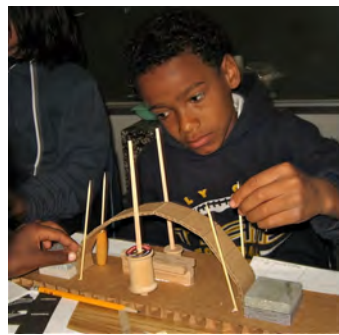


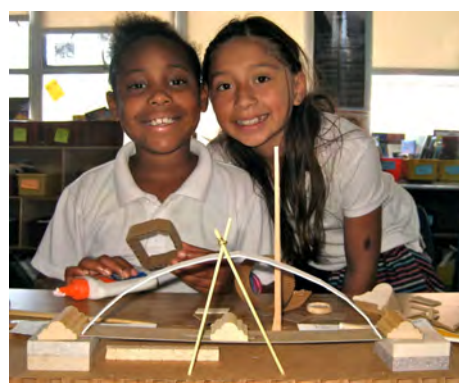


Building Bridges: From Our School, To Our Community, To Our World

Children's Architecture Think Tank
Malcolm X Academy
May 30, 2013



During this Architecture Think Tank residency, students at Malcolm X Academy built symbolic and real bridges among themselves; within the school; and into the community and the world. They continued to help the Hunters View HOPE SF housing developers forge stronger connections between the school and the neighborhood. The students investigated how the needs of children and youth—especially those at Malcolm X Academy—can be meaningfully integrated into the public spaces in the new housing development. They created visions for how the redevelopment project can be a catalyst for positive change in the community.



Mr. Moore, and Ms. Rahima's 3rd and 4th grade students, Principal Cooley
Architect Shirl Buss from UC Berkeley Center for Cities & Schools
Architects Rommel Taylor, Prescott Reavis from National Organization of Minority Architects





Towers of Power

The children built individual towers featuring adjectives describing themselves. Then they paired up and joined their towers together by building a symbolic bridge containing ingredients that represented their commonalities.



Friendship Bridges

Inspired by images of bridges from around the world, the students worked in pairs to design and build a bridge—to symbolically integrate themes of importance and relevance to each individual in the pair.



Community Connections

The students explored how learning landscapes—pathways, landmarks and amenities in the school—can connect with buildings and landscapes in Hunters View housing development to be constructed adjacent to the school.



Learning Landscapes

Each student created a scaled 2-dimensional collage—either in Plan View or in Elevation—to communicate their best ideas about how to treat the public corridor between the school and community.



Gateways and Pathways

The students generated a menu of options for how to make public spaces in the new community child-friendly. Their ideas included: walking paths, mazes, gateways, shaded places to gather, exercise stations, and art paths.



Bridges to Our Future

Students worked in two person teams to apply their ideas to a scale models of the where the school site meets the planned Hunters View park. The main features included a Heroes Wall; Vegetable Gardens; Gateways; and an Observation Tower to view the SF Bay.