



PUBLIC BUILDING – COMMUNITY CENTER

BETANCES COMMUNITY CENTER

Conversion and gut renovation of an existing basketball gymnasium building, addition of a new envelope and tie in with the first floor of an adjacent housing tower achieved a new 27,000 SF community center. Offering broad range of activities. the main feature of the center is a 3-story glass enclosed multi-purpose gymnasium which serves as home to a famed youth boxing program. The facility also houses training area, lockers, classrooms, game room, cafeteria/community room, administrative spaces and a 200-seat multipurpose room.

The center is now the focal point of community life. High-quality architectural elements include the adaption of an unused auto ramp to create an arcade-like space bounded by a curved orange wall which links the two structures. Fitted with perforated aluminum acoustic ceiling tiles, the space allows for up to 200 seats and includes an elevated dance studio behind a moveable partition. Conveying an open and light-filled environment, the center draws people of all ages to participate in classes, athletic activities and community functions and reinforces the neighborhood's sense of pride and hope.

The project was awarded the 2008 Adaptive Re-use Project of the Year by New York Construction News.

CLIENT

New York City Housing Authority

LOCATION

Bronx, NY

PROJECT TYPE

Adaptive Re-Use

COMPLETE

2008

SEAT COUNT

200

ARCHITECT

Stephen Yablon Architect
Stephen Yablon
212.868.1665

SCOPE

Acoustics
Video