

# Rebuilding

# Community

## SERVICE

Restoring and improving the surrounding community and therefor increasing the quality of life for inhabitants. Enabling all members of the community to recieve services that they may not have been able to previously.

## COLLABORATION

Teams of different skill levels working with members of the community whether it be homeowners, business owners, or tradespeople. All participants come together to create and improve the shared environment.

## SUSTAINABILITY

Making design decisions based on environmentally friendly standards from start to finish. Choosing local materials with long lifetimes and low to no impacts on the Earth as well as harnessing the suns natural heat and light within a space.



Photos Above Show the aftermath of the Valley Fire. Taken by Kent Porter, PressDemocrat.com

## LOCATION: MIDDLETOWN, CALIFORNIA

This **shared space** will be located in Middletown, California as an outreach program affiliated with the Interior Design Department of the Academy of Art University in San Francisco.

Every year wildfires rage through California destroying homes and local businesses, crippling entire communities. The long-term drought and dry climate conditions are much to blame. In September of 2015 the third largest wildfire in California's history raged through a small community in the northern sector of the state, now referred to as the Valley Fire (Johnston, N, 2015). Although fires tear through California regularly there has not been one of this level of destruction in the state in twelve years with more than 76,000 acres burned by the time it was finally contained. Roughly 2,000 structures were destroyed by the Valley Fire throughout the Middletown, Cobb, and Hidden Valley Lake communities of Lake County, causing about \$1.5 billion in damages (New York Times, 2015). Many are in the process of planning to rebuild homes and businesses throughout the towns: this is where **Rebuilding Community** comes in. Teams will work to help members of this local community plan their rebuilding projects with a positive, inspirational attitude. Students will directly contribute to the community while also getting hands on experience in both residential and commercial interior design.

(2015, October 15.) California: September Wildfires Caused \$2 Billion in Damage, Insurer Says. *New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/16/us/california-september-wildfires-caused-2-billion-in-damage-insurer-says.html>

Johnston, N. (2015, September 25). Valley Fire devastation stuns Marin's Tamalpais Fire Crew. *Marin Independent Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.marinij.com/general-news/20150925/valley-fire-devastation-stuns-marins-tamalpais-fire-crew>

## CONCEPT:

The design was inspired by looking at the hope within the remnants of a structure fire. Durable materials such as concrete, brick, and steel are vital architectural components and usually the only materials left after a wildfire has reached a building. Rebuilding Community works to help those who have lost their homes or businesses to look at all the possibilities that lie within rebuilding rather than focusing on the upset that comes with loss. Victims of wildfires are strongly encouraged to take part in consultations on planning their rebuild, obtain advice on options for recycling different types of waste, or use the shared space for their own community group meetings. Faculty led design teams work to incorporate as much of the remnants of the fire into the new design as possible. When materials can't be put back into the structure or design they are recycled or used to create one of a kind art pieces by local artists and tradesmen. Sustainability is at the heart of the business; all design decisions revolve around reusing materials and improving indoor environmental quality (IEQ) through Interior Design.

The rebuilding Community center joins a vertical studio with service learning to directly interact with and improve the surrounding community and nearby communities also affected by wildfires. A vertical studio brings students of all different educational levels together to collaborate on projects, an integrated learning style in comparison to segregated learning styles with different class levels (Peterson & Tober, 2014). This studio will bring together high school, undergraduate, and graduate students with practicing professionals to work on projects directly related to service learning. Service learning addresses community needs in an educational setting, giving students a chance to learn more about design and teamwork in an actual application while also taking part in civic responsibility by helping improve a community (Zollinger, Guerin, Hadijyanni, & Martin, 2009).

Peterson, M. & Tober, B. (2014). Institutionalizing the vertical studio: Curriculum, pedagogy and the logistics of core classes with mixed level students. *Connecting dots: Research, education + practice*. Cincinnati, OH: University of Cincinnati, 138-144.

Zollinger, S. W., Guerin, D. A., Hadijyanni, T. & Martin, C. S. (2009). Deconstructing service-learning: A framework for interior design. *Journal of Interior Design*, 34(3), 31-45.



(Above) Interior perspective of the second level facing northwest.  
(Below) Interior perspective of the front entry at the first level.



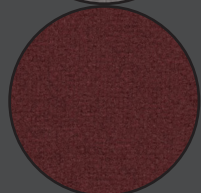
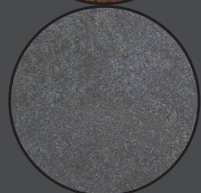


# MATERIALS

Materials were inspired by the remnants of a burned structure. The existing brick shell of the building space was kept brick around the perimeter of the spaces. Interior walls were constructed using sustainable materials such as recycled denim insulation with high acoustic properties and Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) free paint in different shades of gray, representing the smoke of a fire.

Existing concrete floors were retained in the space and finished with Surecrete's VOC free "EcoStain" concrete sealant. Concrete flooring is sustainable as it is very durable, long lasting, and emits low to no VOC's. Steel columns and beams were left exposed throughout the space, representing yet another material that endures strong fires.

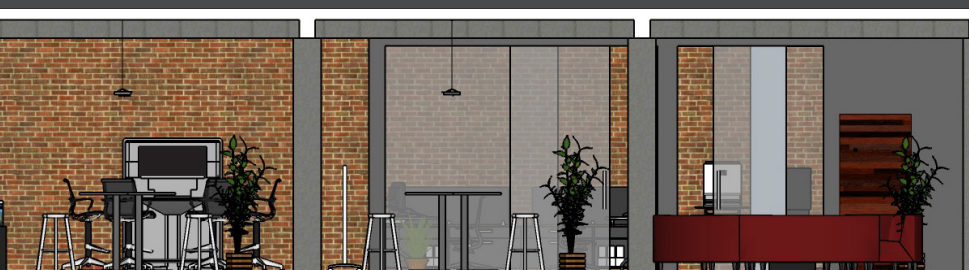
Coalesse commercial grade upholstery is used on lounges, benches and chairs. Local reclaimed wood was used for bathroom doors, wall shelving, a custom reception desk and bathroom storage pieces.



First Level: Facing North

\*Custom ceiling height glass walls with sliding doors along conference room, faculty office and printing room

Nook serves as break-away space for one on one meetings with clients or between group members. Supports Community Meet concept.



Second Level: Facing North

Low bookshelf creates storage for architectural references and design inspirations

## Indoor Air Quality (IAQ):

Select plant species such as sansevieria trifasciata (left) and epipremnum aureum (right) have been placed around both levels for air filtration

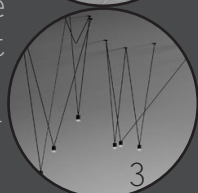


# LIGHTING

1. LED SLIM Semi Direct Surround-lite Pendant by Axis Lighting is used throughout both spaces above large work surfaces. Fixtures feature 25% up/75% down light distribution for subtle ceiling washing. Sensors utilize daylight harvesting by adjusting light levels throughout the day in response to natural light as well as turning off when there are no occupants in the room.

2. Highly efficient LED DAY 2X2 recessed fixtures by Axis Lighting are used in spaces where daylight is not easily reached such as faculty office, restrooms, printing room, and in conjunction with spaces using the SLIM pendant.

3. LED MATCH pendants by Vibia light the entry and exit of the first floor for decorative contrast.



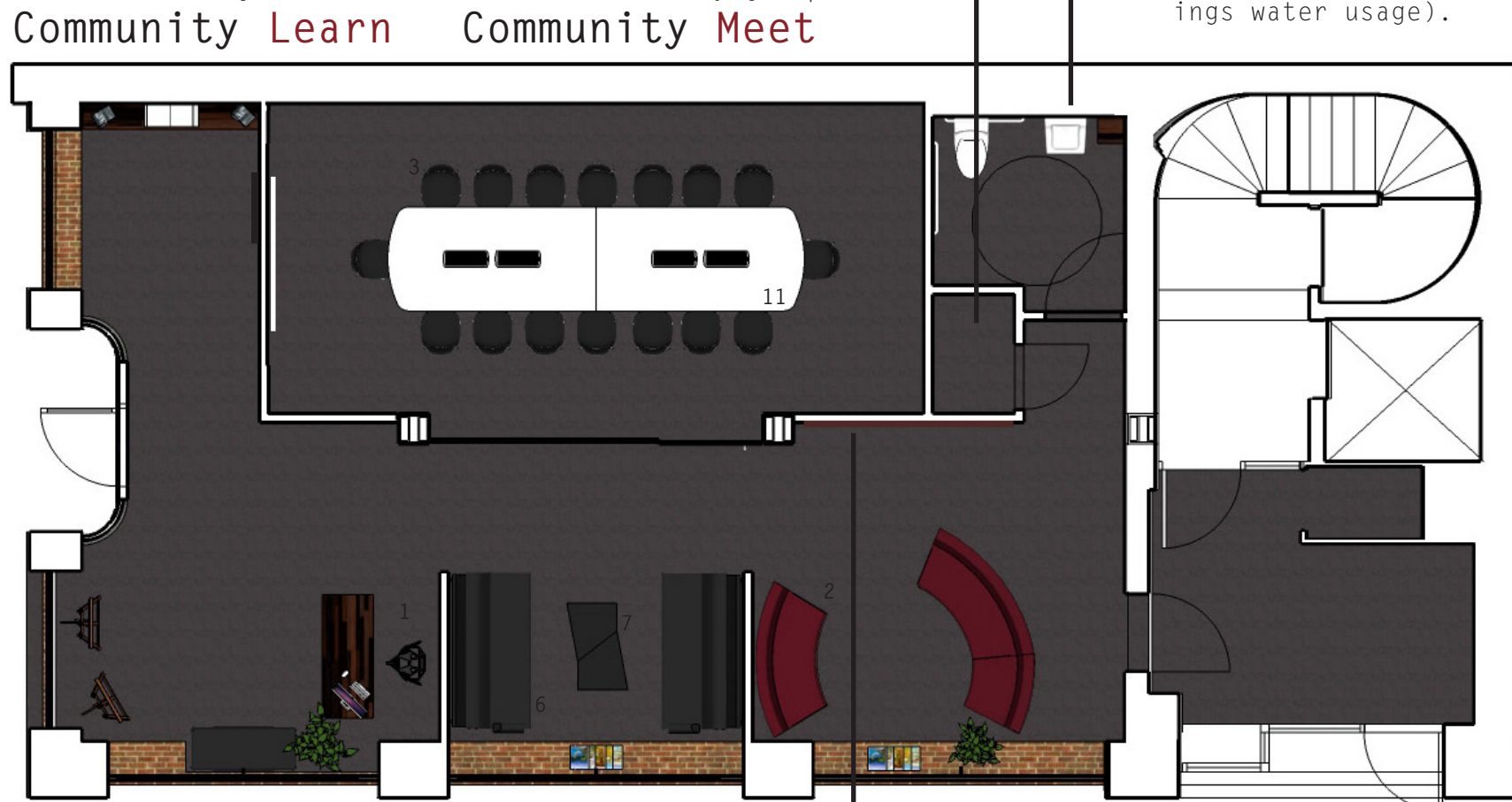
Built in display cases contain information on offered services as well as architectural references. Wall mounted TV monitor plays slideshow of current information. Space is visible from exterior to invite the public to learn more about interior design.

Conference Room features an E-Table so users can easily plug in laptops and other devices, making sharing work on the projection screen quick and easy. Room may be used for team meetings, team research, or outside community groups.

Storage Closet

ADA Compliant restrooms on both levels utilize Kohler watersense certified toilets (1.0 gallon per flush reduces buildings water usage).

first level



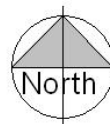
Community Learn

Community Meet

Community Greet

Reception space with seating and easels for current projects or news to be displayed

wall mounted architectural/design magazine display and magazines left around window ledges encourage Community Learn concept



# FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT



1. Stool One by Herman Miller
2. Circa Modular Seating by Coalesse
3. Eames Molded Wood Chair by Herman Miller
4. Mediascape Table by Steelcase, with monitor
5. Setu Stool by Herman Miller
6. Bix Lounge by Coalesse
7. Sebastopol Table by Coalesse
8. DeJa-vu stool by Herman Miller
9. Pixel Height Adjustable C-Leg Desk by Knoll
10. HP DesignJet T520 36" Large Format Printer
11. E-Table 2 by Steelcase
12. C:Scape desk combination by Steelcase

Mediascape station creates a collaborative technology based station for groups to discuss, plan, or update each other on projects. Devices plug into the center of the table to connect to monitor or charge

Rolling white board for mobile brainstorming and lessons

Faculty office

Plotter/Printer Station

second level



Studio Space

Height adjustable matte desks in 4'0" lengths give enough space for users to work on a variety of projects individually or in groups

Breakaway space with lounge style seating for breaks, computer work, or collaborative conversation

Pin up space along wall with bench seating and extra space for standing. Space kept relatively clear as it's in front of fire escape

