

Rebuild



2021 1UP Toronto Design Competition & Conference





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1 OVERVIEW



IUP Toronto is a youth leadership program that brings together secondary school students across the Greater Toronto Area to celebrate and incubate city-building ideas.

The 2021 conference theme, Rebuild, highlights bold and innovative ideas related to youth's vision for a post-pandemic city. Co-hosted by Urban Minds and RU A Planner, the conference took place virtually on March 20, 2021 on Zoom. As the year-end celebration of the IUP Program, the conference featured our guest speakers and the IUP Design Competition, a student urban design competition.

For the IUP Design Competition this year, we partnered with Friends of Wychwood Barns Park, a community that

is advocating for the revitalization of the park. Together, we created a challenge for our youth participants to come up with concept plans, ideas, solutions, and designs for the Wychwood Barns Park site. The site for this year's competition holds a lot of cultural significance in the community, namely for being a former TTC transit facility and streetcar storage hub. We hope our participants' creativity and thoughtfulness will be reflected in the comprehensive planning framework.

This report provides an overview of all the student teams' ideas from the IUP Design Competition. It also provides a summary of the IUP Toronto Conference. We hope that through this conference, we can educate youth on city building and provide them an opportunity to shape the city they live in.

2 TOP DESIGN COMPETITION

10 TEAM SUBMISSIONS

25 EXPERTS

Lauren Haein An (Urban Strategies), **Barbara Kuffour Asenso**, **David Carey** (The Bentway), **Sandra Cook** (MJMA), **Amanda Crompton** (City of Markham), **Maxine Cudlip** (Urban Strategies), **George Dark** (Urban Strategies), **Lisa Ditschun** (Artscape), **Kim Graham** (KG&A), **Jennifer Hiseler** (Inside Out), **Tianyi Huang** (LGA Architectural Partners), **Shikha Jagwani** (SGL Planning), **Monika Jaroszonek** (Ratio.City), **Be-**

rnard Jin (MJMA), **Monica Leung** (MJMA), **Joe Loreto** (LGA Architectural Partners), **Vitumbiko Mhango** (City of Toronto), **Ayesha Moghal** (MJMA), **Jannat Nain** (Urban Strategies), **Ashita Parekh** (Perkins + Will), **Sonali Prharaj** (DTAH), **Elly Selby** (LGA Architectural Partners), **Sean Solowski** (MJMA), **John Tasiopoulos** (WSP), **Chris Veres** (DTAH)

10 TEAMS

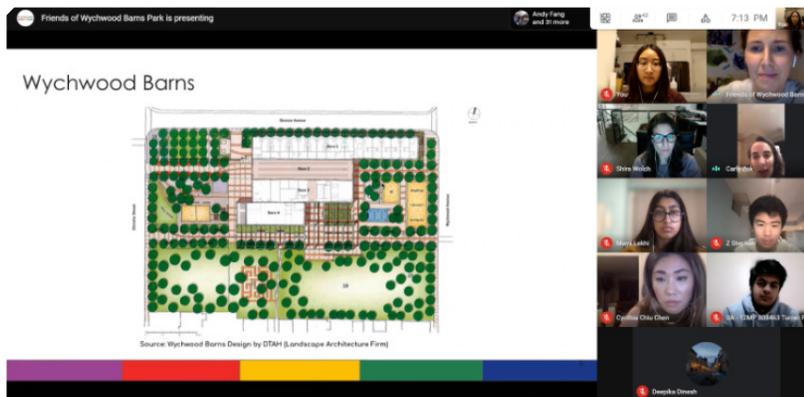
4 SESSIONS

Session 1: Understanding the Site & Users

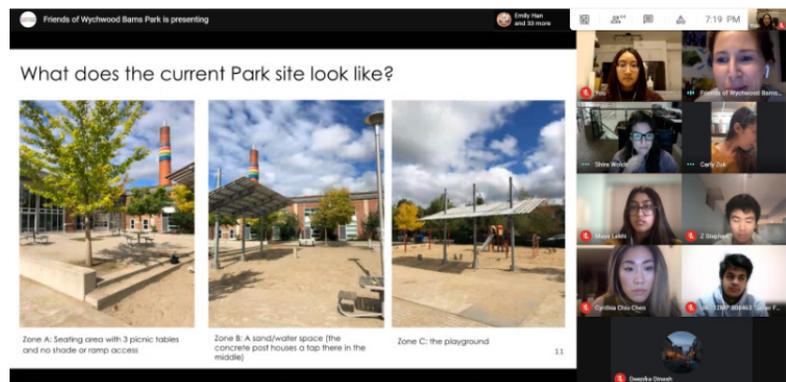
Session 2: Precedents & Programming

Session 3: Concept Plan

Session 4: Finalizing the Design & Presentation



Overview of the Wychwood Barns Park site



Different zones of Wychwood Barns site

Wychwood Barns Park



ABOUT THE SITE

The existing site is at Wychwood Barns Park, a “community cultural hub” nestled between Bathurst and St. Clair West on Wychwood Ave. The Barns really are the “social heart” of the community. They are a collective of 5 streetcar sheds that, during the 20s to 40s, comprised one of the most important transit facilities in the city and housed TTC streetcars. In 1978, the Barns were decommissioned and started to fall into disrepair. In 1996, the Barns were to be demolished and the land was to be sold. At that point, City Councillor Joe Mihevc and local residents

saw the historical value in the site and so began the extensive campaign to save and re-purpose the buildings.

Wychwood Barns Park is the focus of the revitalization project ; it is under City of Toronto jurisdiction and is maintained by City Parks staff. The site of the Design Competition includes a number of zones located on Wychwood Ave, in front of the Barns building.

“How might we re-think Wychwood Barns Park to be a more inclusive and accessible playground and outdoor gathering space for all?”



Personas: User Profiles



Zaara, 7

- Just immigrated from Pakistan to Canada
- Her mother walks her to school and drops her off in the morning before the bell
- She loves to sing and plays the piano at home
- She is currently learning how to speak English at school so visual cues and objects help her communicate with her teachers and classmates



Brenda, 68

- She lives in Wychwood neighborhood and comes to the park every morning for her daily walk and exercise with her husband Bob.
- She also attends Farmers Market every Saturday morning and enjoys meeting up with her friends in the garden club to talk about new techniques of growing vegetables.
- Brenda is a retired Art teacher, and she loves to go to art galleries and community

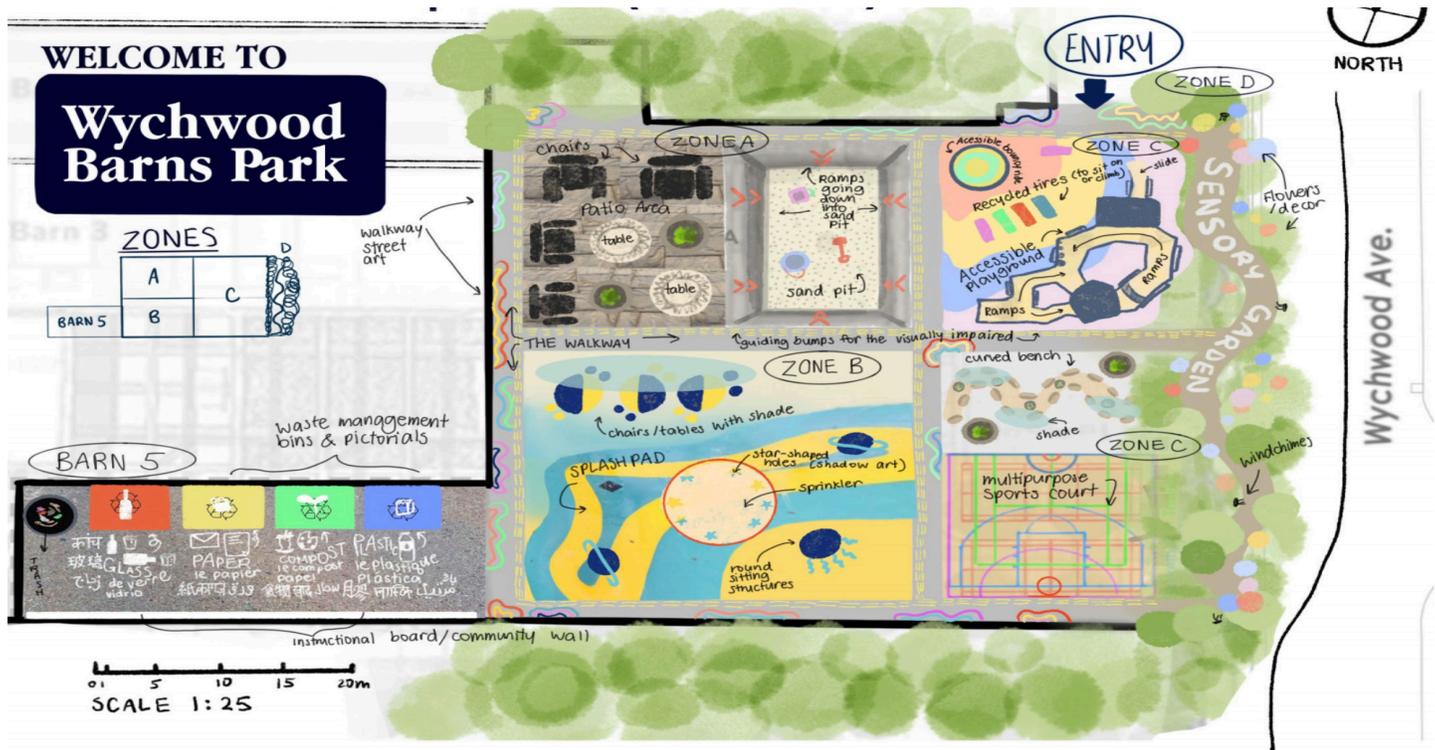


Aaron, 16

- Goes to Oakwood Collegiate and has recently broken his leg playing sports
- He has a cast on his leg and is using crutches, but he still wants to hang out at the park with his friends after school
- Aaron loves to play basketball and rides his bike around the community. Aaron also likes to help his father with renovations and woodworking at home

TEAM PITCHES

1st Place: Team 5



Team 5 created an integrated outdoor space design, complete with multi-purpose activities, active and passive zones.

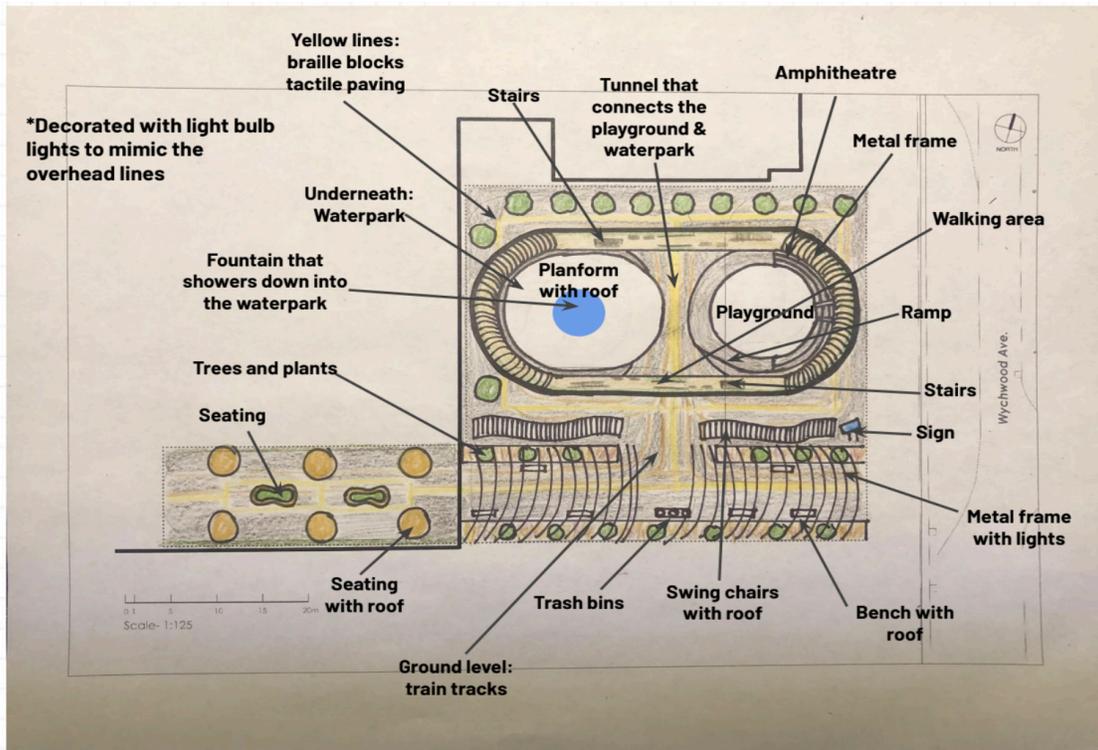
- *Playground*: made of recycled materials such as tire seating/climbing zones. Focuses on accessibility using ramps instead of stairs
- *Waterpark*: using seasonally adaptable features such as bump-like structures for winter/summer seating
- *Multi-Purpose Sports Court*: nets facing north to reduce sun exposure and curved benches to separate space
- *The Walkway*: passing through active and passive spaces and includes sidewalk art, accessibility wayfinding and a sensory garden
- *Educational Zone*: using pictorials and illustrations to help users learn about waste management



1st place winners: Miyuki, Victoria, Drason, and David

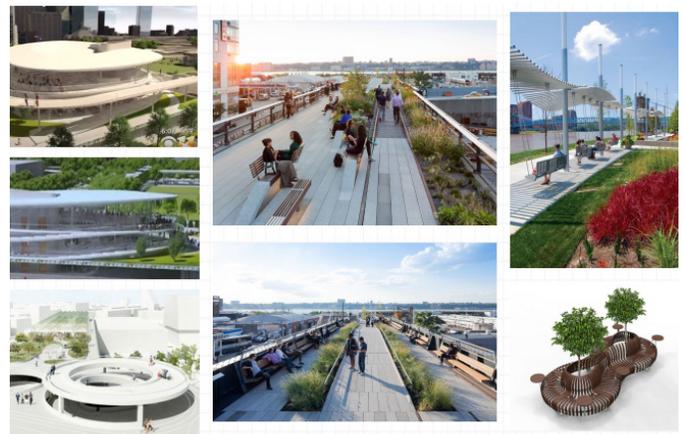
TEAM PITCHES

People's Choice Award: Team 4



Team 4 created a multi-age friendly design, complete with ample seating, walking and accessibility features

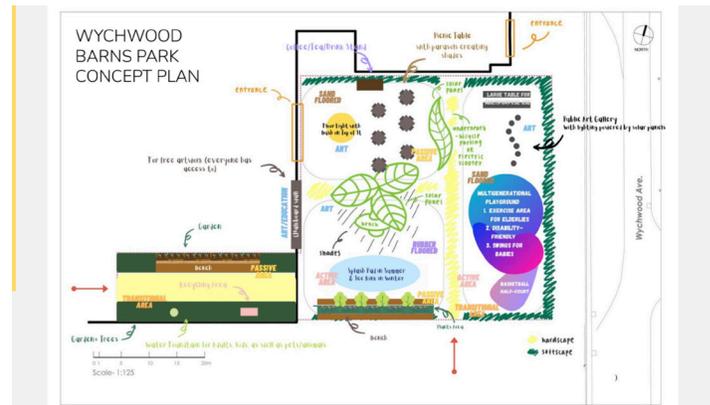
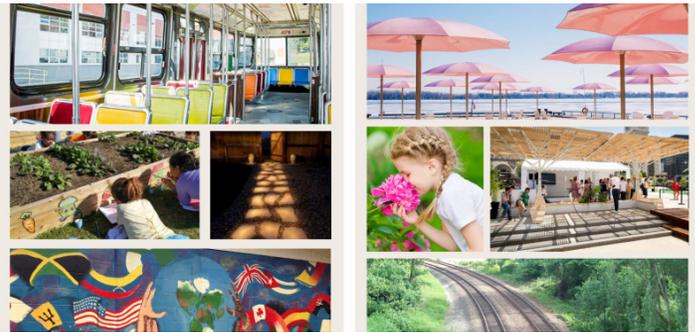
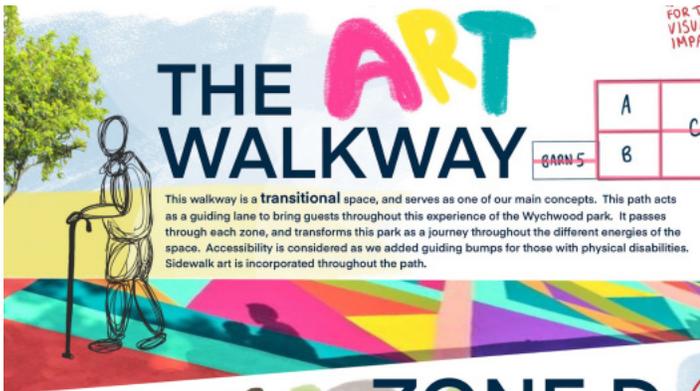
- *Amphitheatre:* integrated into the playground with seating and a walking area
- *Waterpark:* using fountains and tactile paving
- *Seating:* covered seating for indoor/outdoor environment
- *Walking Pathway:* complete with covered roof for indoor/outdoor environment, stationary and swing seats and ample lighting



People's Choice winners: Amy, Kishan, Fernando, Esha

TEAM PITCHES

Standout Ideas



SUSTAINABILITY

- *Solar Panels:* introducing renewable energy to power the neighbourhood
- *Rainwater Collection:* provide filtered water for plants on the premises
- *Focus on Greenery:* trees lining site zones and community garden

FOCUS ON OUTDOORS

- *Amphitheater:* encouraging outdoor performances and festivals
- *Greenery:* emphasis on tree-lined walking trails and spaces
- *Recreational Activities:* promoting use of water parks and playground areas for various age groups

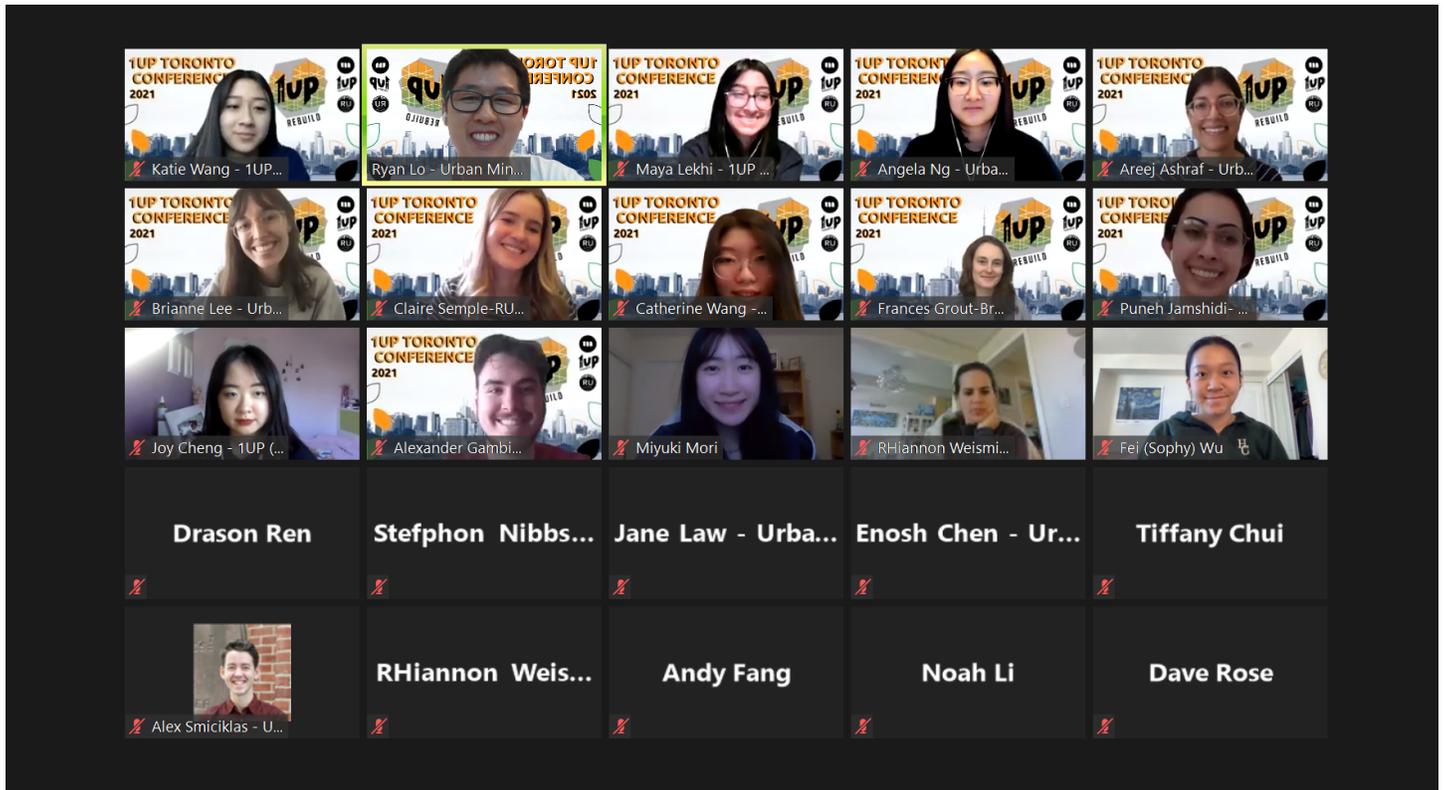
ART + INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES

- *Promoting Local Artists:* showcasing art on walls and around site (including public art gallery)
- *Streetcar Statue:* paying homage to the site heritage
- *Pedestrian-Friendly Paths:* wide sidewalks for all modes of movement (stroller, wheelchair)

ACCESSIBILITY

- *Mobility:* adding features like ramps to make the space more user friendly
- *Braille:* using braille on blocks and paving for improved accessibility

3 IUP TORONTO CONFERENCE



This year's IUP Conference comprised of guest speakers who presented on the following topics:

1. **Indigenous Housing and Health** Selena Martinez (Design Empowerment Phoenix)
2. **Transportation** Sean Hertel (Sean Hertel + Associates)
3. **The Local Economy** James Pang (Willowdale BIA)
4. **Panel Discussion on Youth & Outdoor Spaces**
 - a) Jackie Hamilton (Greenbelt Foundation)
 - b) Victor Perez Amado (Ryerson University)
 - c) Krista Nightengale (Better Block)
 - d) Josh Fullan (Maximum City)
5. **IUP Design Competition Winning Team** - Miyuki Mori
6. **IUP School Chapters** - York Mills Collegiate Institute, St. Robert Catholic High School

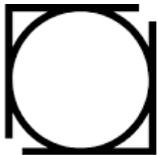
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