How can city planning embrace different cultures and promote desirable and sustainable spaces?

**A Center for Community & Culture**

**+SITE location**

**+SITE history & culture**

The Kansas Territory was the 1st battleground in the conflict over slavery and southern succession that led to the Civil War. The Kansas Territory, struggling with slavery laws for years, until they finally found success in 1861 as becoming a free state, granting voting rights for women, and deeming Kansas as an actual state.

Kansas City, Kansas has a rich and diverse culture and history. Each year, a celebration is held to honor and celebrate this. The most recent celebration was in 2009, marking the 150th year celebration since the area started their right to become a state and to be free.

The citizens in the area fought hard for their territory to become an actual place, and this battle shapes who the citizens are and how honored they are to live in the place they do.

This celebration runs for 6 months from January to June, and celebrates many different groups such as the Germans, Africans, English, Irish, Scottish, Shawnee, Welsh, and Wyandot Indians.

**+SITE specifics**

Kansas City, MO - 463,202
KC Metropolitan Population: 2,035,335
Site Area Population: 314
Site Size: 35.5 acres

**+SITE inventory & analysis**

**+SITE history & culture**

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**+KC growth**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>146,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>463,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2,035,335</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>146,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>463,202</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**+PROBLEM statement**

How can city planning embrace different cultures and promote desirable and sustainable spaces?

**+PROJECT goal**

Downtown Kansas City, Kansas will become an attractive and diverse city by engaging residents thru sustainable, well-planned activities and spaces.

**+MASTER plan**

Elizabeth Dahl
Primary Advisor: Jay Kost
LA 572 Design Thesis
Software: Hand Rendering, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Sketchup

Surrounding Parks
Building Usage
Bus Routes
The path around the large water feature in the park runs just over a half a mile long all the way around. It can be used for running, biking, and walking. Vegetation separates the path from the water, but there are some openings to the water in a few areas along it for interaction with the water.

The large plaza space on the South end of the park acts as a space for the public and a connection point between the downtown corridor and the rest of the park. It looks out along a large body of water, and provides shade, seating, and a place for public interaction.

The concert space on the site can accommodate up to 5,000 people. There is a bandstand attached to the community center that will be able to also be used as a deck or patio when concerts or shows are not taking place.
**DESIGN details**

The seat of the bench is made of a wood material that is sealed to prolong its life.

The base of the bench is made of cement for prolonged life and to act as a sturdy material.

The planter is tiled with stone on all faces, including those being sat on.

Tall grasses and greenery, along with natural growth, will act as the centerpiece to the planter.

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**DOWNTOWN corridor**

The downtown corridor lies on the South end of the site. It offers to public shopping, dining, and resting along its entirety.

Acting as a main pedestrian corridor within the Kansas City downtown, it also accommodates for small amounts of vehicular traffic.

This pedestrian-friendly space encourages more walking and less driving, and gives the community a place to gather and enjoy every day.

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**COMMUNITY CENTER patio**

The patio placed at the intersection of the man made river and placed just outside the Community Center acts as a central node to reach all sections of the park.

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**DOWNTOWN corridor**

Trash Receptacles

Outdoor Seating

Sidewalk Lighting

**+DOWNTOWN corridor**

Water

Rock & Riverbank

Wood Base

**+COMMUNITY CENTER patio**

Water

**+DOWNTOWN corridor**

Trash Receptacles

Outdoor Seating

Sidewalk Lighting

**+DOWNTOWN corridor**

Trash Receptacles

Outdoor Seating

Sidewalk Lighting

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An acting area for public gatherings with a large seating area and a stage for performances.