

FORMATION OF CONNECTIONS

A photograph of a brick building at dusk. The building has a menu board on the wall with various food and drink items listed. People are walking on a sidewalk in front of the building. The sky is dark with some clouds, and there are string lights hanging from the building. The overall atmosphere is warm and inviting.

Cities are home to people of all walks of life. Jersey City in particular is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the United States. In order to form communities and relationships within the city, I found it imperative to create ample potential for connections at points where different users and uses of the building might intersect with each other and with the public realm at large.

CULTURAL GROWTH



Through my research of significant public gathering spaces, I have found that the most successful spaces accommodate and embrace local cultural functions of all sorts. Providing a wide variety of spaces for local artists, musicians, and creative types to practice and share their respective crafts will result in the creation of new connections, exposure to a wider audience, and growth in the number of people participating in and consuming local Jersey City culture.

FLEXIBILITY OF USE



In order to suit the needs and interests of as many people within the community as possible, and reach a goal of 24/7 building usage, I saw fit to make nearly every space within the building capable of addressing more than one need or function. With flexible spaces, the Powerhouse can play host to a variety of events and activities at all times of day and year, resulting in increased safety and increased foot traffic and exposure within the building and neighborhood.