

For Immediate Release
October 28, 2009

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AN ECO-PUMP CLAMPED TO THE MAJOR DEEGAN TAKES PRIZE IN INTERNATIONAL IDEAS COMPETITION FOR FUTURE OF GRAND CONCOURSE IN THE BRONX

Bronx, NY – The Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Design Trust for Public Space have named Dongsei Kim and Jamieson Fajardo, students at Columbia University, winners of *Intersections: The Grand Concourse Beyond 100*, an international ideas competition for the future of the Grand Concourse in the Bronx.

Their bold proposal calls for a sleek ribbon-like pump device, about as wide as a lane of traffic, to be installed along the Major Deegan Expressway as a way to clean air, provide acoustic buffering, filtrate rainwater, and ultimately provide pedestrian access to a new green waterfront. Called a p.U.M.p. (purifying Urban Modular parasite), the new kind air purification technology would be manufactured in the industrial district adjacent to the Lower Concourse, spurring development of new green industries in the Bronx.

Coming in second was a project to introduce dozens of farm plots, gardens, and farm stands, playgrounds, and public plazas, to the Grand Concourse. *Agricultural Urbanism* was conceived by a 7-person team from EDAW, a design and planning firm in New York City (Christina Belton, Taewook Cha, Brenda Curtis, Lia Kelerchian, Gentry Lock, Erika Matthias and Shachi Pandey.)

Third place went to Angus McCullough of New York for a system whereby the residents along the Grand Concourse share information with each other and create content along the corridor in playful, surprising ways via speakers, microphones, projectors, and cameras in everyday public spaces.

These ideas edged out nearly 200 other proposals from more than 25 countries in a competition co-organized and presented by The Bronx Museum of the Arts and Design Trust for Public Space. They will be illustrated, along with four other finalist concepts, in *Intersections: The Grand Concourse Beyond 100*, an exhibition of renderings, drawings, videos and models on view

through January 3, 2010 at The Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse at 165th Street.

"These bold new visions may look like science fiction—but in fact they are glimpses of the urban future, based upon the existing character of the Grand Concourse—and are feasible given evolving technology and urban planning," says Holly Block, director, The Bronx Museum of the Arts. "Altogether, they suggest that the Grand Concourse has the potential to become the city's most adventurous and livable urban experiment."

"Altogether, the pervasive assessment running through the proposals is that the Grand Concourse should be transformed from a thoroughfare for cars into a dynamic new public space for people with separate strands for transportation modes and activities," says Deborah Marton, executive director, Design Trust for Public Space.

Other finalists were Vincent Lavergne, Jeremy Nadau, Mathieu Lavergne, and Remi Mendes of Nadau Lavergne Architects, Antony, France; Jason Austin and Aleksandr Mergold, Philadelphia, PA; Christopher Ryan, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; and Emily Osgood, Alejandra Diaz, Laura Keller, Megan Gibbons, and Lisa Woodley of MISI Company and Itir Sonuparlak, Columbia University, New York, NY.

Jury

Members of the jury for the *Intersections* competition are Stan Allen, Stan Allen Architect / Dean, Princeton University School of Architecture; Carlos Brillembourg, Brillembourg Architects; Belmont Freeman, Belmont Freeman Architects; Sam Goodman, Office of Bronx Borough President; Anthony Greene, The Bronx County Historical Society; Dr. Clara Rodriguez, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, Fordham University; Tim Rollins, Artist, Founder of Kids of Survival (K.O.S.); Wilhelm Ronda, Office of Bronx Borough President; Galia Solomonoff, Solomonoff Architecture Studio; Susan Szenasy, Editor-in-Chief, *Metropolis*; and TATS CRU, Bronx-based professional muralists.

Sponsorship

Intersections: The Grand Concourse Beyond 100 is made possible by J. Ira and Nicki Harris Family Foundation, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Team Electric, F.J Sciame Construction, Jane Wesman and Don Savelson, Cauldwell Wingate, Design Trust for Public Space, and Weidlinger Associates.



The Bronx Museum of the Arts receives ongoing general operating support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with the cooperation of the Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and the Bronx Delegation of the New York City Council; Ford Foundation; Starry Night Fund of Tides Foundation; New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency; Bronx Delegation of the New York State Assembly; New York Times Company Foundation; and private sources.

The Bronx Museum of the Arts is located at 1040 Grand Concourse. To reach the museum by subway, visitors may take the D (during non-rush hours) or B trains to the 167 St./Grand Concourse station; the 4 train to the 161 St./Yankee Stadium station. By Bus, visitors may take the Bx1, Bx2, or BxM4 Express to 165th St. and Grand Concourse.

For more information please visit www.bronxmuseum.org or the public may call 718-681-6000.

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