Darley park is located at north of Baltimore. Comprised of row houses and alleyways, Darley Park has a lot of vacant lands and vacant buildings that cause problems such as unsafe and dirty roads and back alleys and lack of green space.
Main Challenges:
- 1.2 miles of alleyways
- 6 vacant lands
- Almost 65 vacant buildings
People use five senses to understand their surrounding and get a deeper experience of space. Sight, Scent, sound, touch and taste zones will immerse people in nature, teaching them about plants, pollinators and birds.
A meandering path going through five sense, each zone unique and dedicated to a sense, the order of zones follows how people use senses to understand the space. Shrubs along the boundary of site provide view to the path but not access, intriguing passersby.
First sense is sight in which perennials with yellow and red color palette attract attention and bring butterflies and birds to create a glamorous scene, signage provides information regarding native plants and pollinators, garden kaleidoscope and the mural on the building at the first plaza add to the feature of sight.
Scent zone, full of white fragrant flowers that immerse the visitor and help her recall good memories of childhood.
Following is the sound zone with brick pavement in the shape of sound wave. The purple colors of perennials distinguish this zone and attract humming birds. The sound of birds and rattling leaves in the wind will create a pleasant space to sit and just listen.
In the touch zone, the paving pattern imitates a tree bark and different plants have a variety of texture encouraging textile. Barefoot path gives the opportunity of sensing different materials and learning about them. The peeling bark of river birch attracts kids and the seating arrangement gets visitors closer to touch the plants.
Sections show different elements of each zone and how they represent the sense in that zone.
The final zone is taste that comes after feeling safe. Here the urban agriculture creates a perfect engagement opportunity for residents. They plant and take care of the plants and they use the produce. Kids can learn about agriculture and how to plant a vegetable using their own little planters. The path ends up at the second plaza where people can gather, play music, dance and do what they want.
Urban agriculture, 2493.35sqft
Up to 3433 pound (1.7 tons) of fruit & vegetables

Pollinator habitat, 9492.02sqft

Native herbaceous perennials

Ground cover

19.6 % permeable pavement

30 Native trees

Color palette defines the zones

Sight is yellow
Scent is white
Sound is purple
Touch and taste are green and blue
• Native
• Drought tolerant
• Tolerant of urban conditions
• Contributing to each zone