

Germane Barnes

Lecturer
Designer

Barnes' research and design practice investigates the connection between architecture and identity. Learning from historical data and perspectives from within architecture as well as cultural and ethnic studies, he examines how the built environment influences the social and cultural experience. He is also the designer in residence for the Opa Locka Community Development Corporation where his design and research contributions have been published and exhibited in several international publications and institutions. Most notably, Curbed.com, where he was named a member of the 2015 Class of Young Guns, under-the-radar professionals who are busy challenging the status quo in the design industry.



Before site image of vacant property in Opa-locka's Magnolia North Community. A small neighborhood in comparison to other Miami-Dade communities, this area has a horrifying history. At one point this was the location of the highest murder rate in the United States.



After image of play ground and seat installation after community build day. The process of inclusion allowed the residents to feel empowered throughout the design and building efforts.



Magnolia North Community Park is the result of community collaboration in design. After a multi-generational inclusive design charrette, a site plan was created that incorporated the amenities and activities that residents of Magnolia North requested. Residents were also included in building the park for their community.



COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY



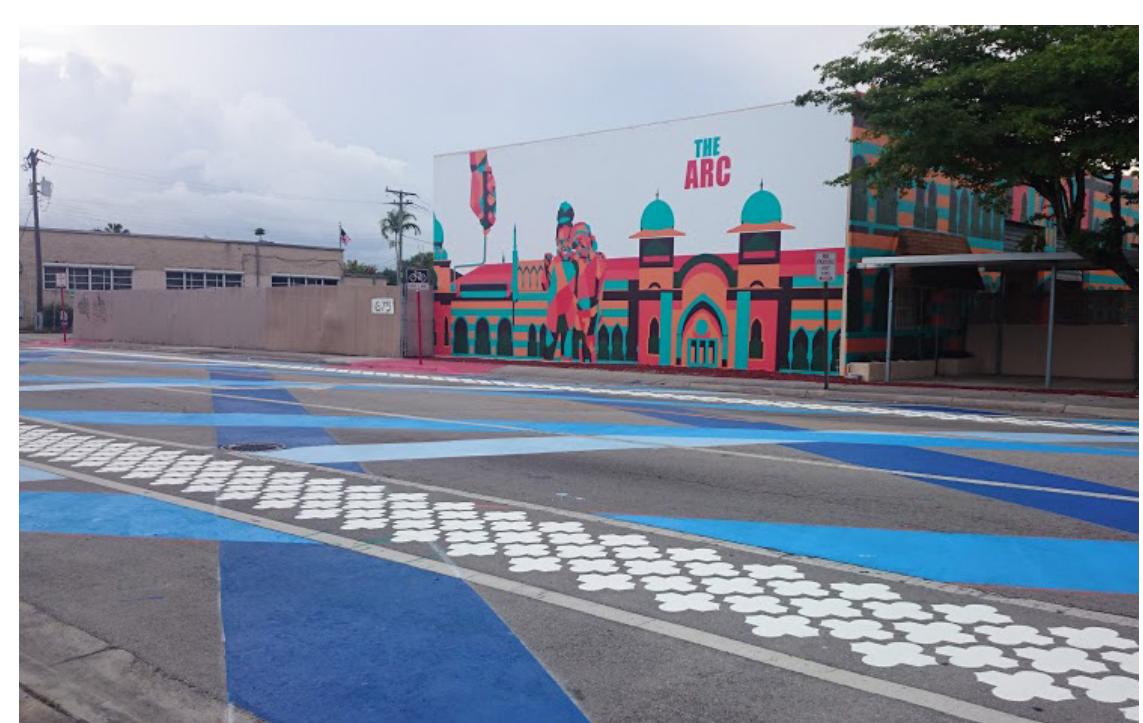
FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY



Dubbed "The Arts & Recreation Center (ARC)", this flexible cultural facility is the result of community involvement during the entire construction process. Including a fully coordinated display of tactical urbanism to implement the multi-layered street design.



The Public House model is intended to provide amenities to the people of the community. The first public house is a flexible community center that provides residents a location to host parties, receptions, or art events.



The city of Opa-locka as well as its residents now utilize the ARC for a myriad of events and it has become one of the key assets of a struggling community.