

H.E.A.R.T.S

A COMMUNITY CENTER FOR
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND THE ARTS



**South
Bronx
Unite**



A community project led by the Mott Haven-Port Morris
Community Land Stewards and South Bronx Unite, located at
349 East 140th St, Bronx, 10454

The H.E.Arts Community Center

Why now?

Given the myriad challenges faced by residents of Mott Haven and Port Morris, there should be a community center every few blocks. Instead, there are zero that serve as a multi-purpose, multi-use, and multi-organization space where youth, adults, and elders alike can go for a variety of programming.

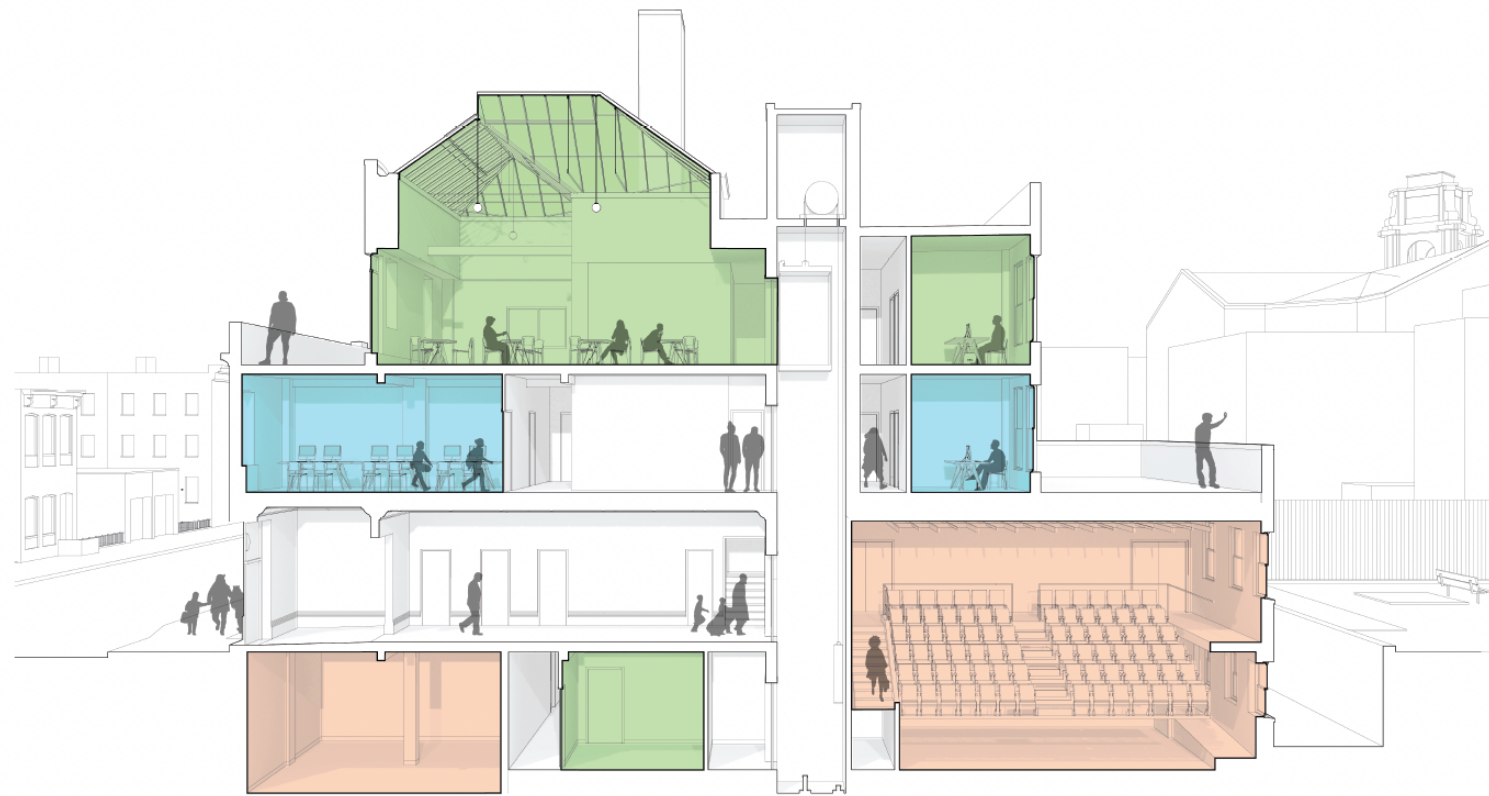
Keenly aware of this deficiency and seeing that there was a building lying abandoned that could fill this desperate need, community members came together to dream, envision, and advocate to transform the dilapidated structure, the former Lincoln Detox Center, into a thriving community hub.

What is H.E.Arts?

Through years of community-led engagement sessions and planning on how the building at 349 E 140th Street should be transformed and used, we arrived at the idea of H.E.Arts, a center to provide health (H), education (E), and arts (Arts) programming.

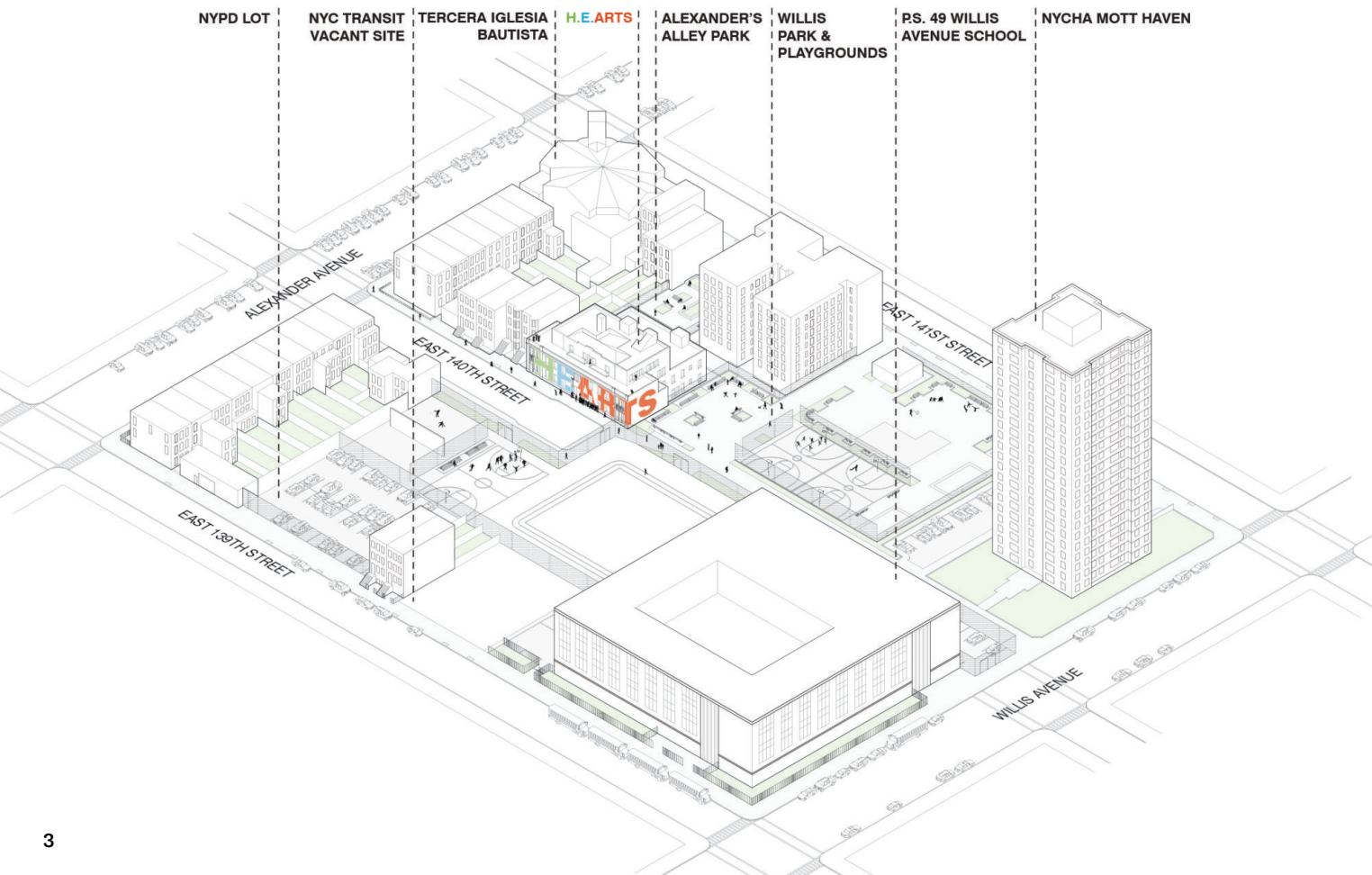
Expanding on the rich history of the building and reversing its existing state of deterioration, the Mott Haven Port Morris Community Land Stewards (The Land Stewards) aims to acquire and convert the 22,750 square foot building into a community-controlled asset that would serve as a vital anchor and tool for local economic empowerment and self-determination.

A Center for Health, Education, and the Arts



■ Health ■ Education ■ Arts

Location



A Victory For The Community!

In September 2023, The Land Stewards and our joint venture developer partner, Alembic Community Development, were selected as the winning applicant to the Request For Proposals issued by New York City Economic Development Corporation to redevelop the vacant Lincoln Recovery Center building into the H.E.Arts Community Center!

In response to the wave of real estate speculation threatening the South Bronx, The Land Stewards is undertaking a bold campaign of resistance and hope — building the H.E.Arts Community Center — to bring this project to life, and help protect and enhance the future of the South Bronx.



Vision For The Future H.E.Arts Building

Health

The H.E.Arts Center will house organizations that provide programming ranging from healthy nutrition and yoga to maternal health and mental wellbeing. We envision exercise classes, health screenings, group counseling, new mothers support groups, and meditation circles, among other programs. **The building will be outfitted with a new commercial kitchen and cafeteria area as a space for healthy cooking demonstrations, and a community kitchen.**

Education



Education-focused organizations at H.E.Arts would offer **workforce development training for industries as varied as food services and renewable energy, afterschool homework support, interview and resume writing instruction, STEM classes, and other programs.** One organization that has expressed intent to become a H.E.Arts tenant – Green City Force – would provide green jobs training to young people living in NYCHA developments.

The Arts



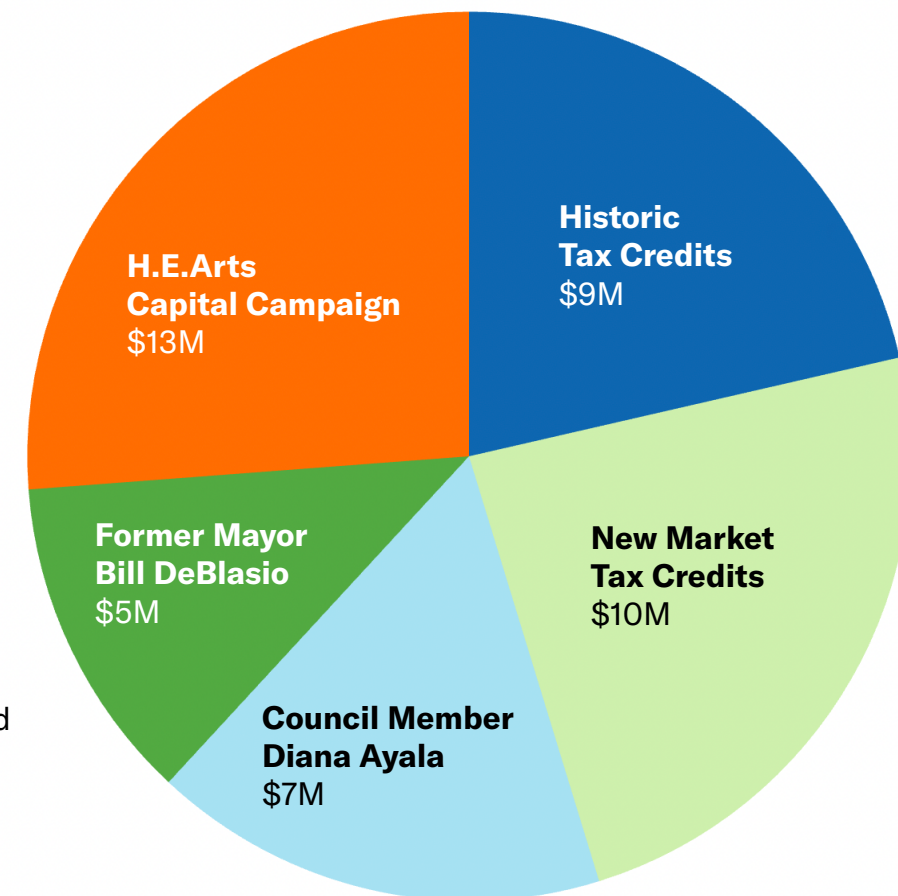
Arts programming will include **music instruction, drawing and painting workshops, theater, graphic design, dance, photography, and film.** Noting the scarcity of performance spaces in the area, **H.E.Arts will also have a theater, which will be available as a rehearsal space and for a variety of performances, discussions, and other community events.** UpBeat NYC, a local arts organization that offers music instruction to youth and that has been involved in the visioning and advocacy for the Lincoln Recovery Center, has expressed a desire to offer their programs and conduct performances at H.E.Arts.

Budget and Funding Sources

The H.E.Arts Community Center will be an economically sustainable, community-controlled project that provides no-cost services and programming to the South Bronx. For this to happen, the project team is working to unlock \$44 million in funding to support the total development cost of the building's rehabilitation.

H.E.Arts Capital Campaign

This will be a three-year, \$13 million campaign to strengthen and sustain the H.E.Arts Community Center for years to come. Please stay connected to learn how you can provide direct financial support to our capital campaign. More to come!



Timeline

1931

The Mott Haven Health Center opens as a neighborhood health facility, supporting the larger Lincoln Hospital within the South Bronx.



1970-1978

The Mott Haven Health Center became known as the Lincoln Detox Center, where the People's Drug Program was established as a one-of-a-kind holistic drug rehabilitation program. This community-driven program pioneered the use of acupuncture as an alternative to methadone to treat heroin addiction.



1970

Reacting to the poor conditions at the Lincoln Hospital, The Young Lords and Black Panthers made headlines by marching into Lincoln Hospital and staging a nonviolent takeover in 1970. This intervention had lasting effects for the community and led to the formation of new social justice and health focused initiatives within the South Bronx.



2013

The Center continued to provide acupuncture treatment as a NYC Health + Hospitals clinic, until the building was closed in 2013.

2022-2023

In 2022, in response to a decade of sustained advocacy and organizing by the South Bronx community, the city released a Request for Proposals to redevelop and operate the building. In Fall 2023, the H.E.Arts Community Center was the selected proposal!

2023-2025

As the H.E.Arts Community Center moves toward implementation, the project team will:

- Seek and secure additional public and private funding
- Gain even broader public support
- Work with city agencies to obtain permits to allow construction to begin

2025-2027

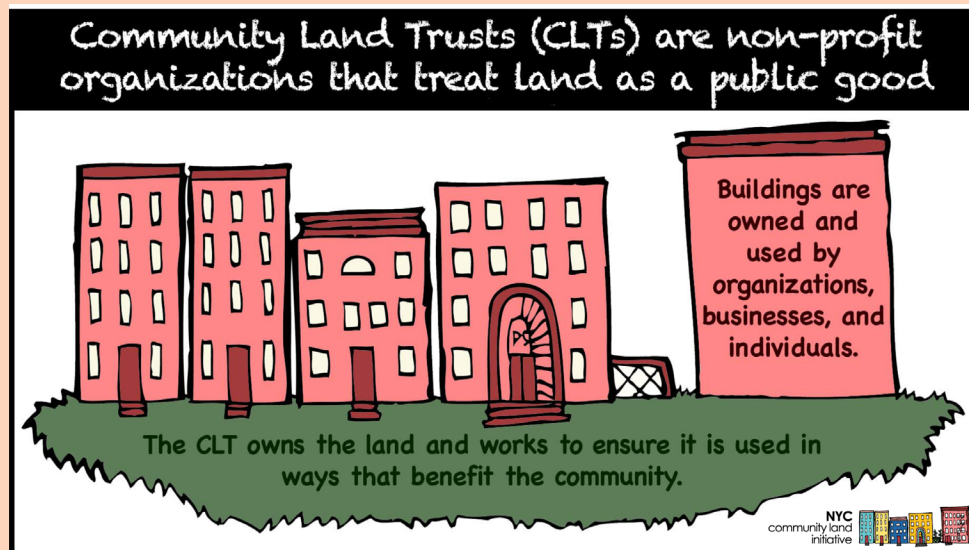
...and beyond!

The remediation and renovation of the building will begin in 2025, and by 2027 the H.E.Arts building will be completed and the Health, Education and Arts programming will begin!

Community Land Trusts

What are Community Land Trusts?

Community Land Trusts (CLTs) are community-controlled non-profit organizations that own, steward, and/or manage land in ways that promote public good. They exist outside of the influence of market pressure, create spaces that meet community needs and priorities, develop deeply affordable housing, uphold sustainable development, and address historical injustices. MHPMCLS is proud to be a community land trust and to be part of the citywide land trust movement through the NYC Community Land Initiative.



The Land Stewards

What is the Land Stewards?

The Mott Haven-Port Morris Community Land Stewards is a CLT that was created in 2013 by South Bronx residents to acquire land for public use and to hold it in perpetuity.

We seek to ensure that community members retain a stake in our neighborhood and promote pathways to meaningful self-determination for the Mott Haven-Port Morris community.

What is South Bronx Unite?

South Bronx Unite (SBU) is a community-based organization that brings together neighborhood residents, community organizations, academic institutions, and allies to improve and protect the social, environmental, and economic future of Mott Haven and Port Morris.

SBU is also the advocacy arm for MHPMCLS, and is helping to coordinate and strengthen the H.E.Arts Center project together with a wide range of community and project stakeholders.



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H.E.ARTS

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Visit our website:



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For more information or to get involved, please email **devan@southbronxunite.org**