Name of Project: Clark County Parkdale Community Center
Project Identification Number (Provided by AIA Nevada): B16001

Project Category (choose one) - See category descriptions in the Call for Entries Packet: Built Architecture
Type of Project: Expansion, New Construction
Completion Date: June 2014
Type of Construction: 11B
Materials Used: Concrete, metal, wood, glass doors
Building Area: 12,130 sf

Statement of Design Approach (describe initial thinking and considerations for the project):
The Clark County Parkdale Community Center is a 12,130 recreational center designed for the families and residents of the Parkdale neighborhood in east Las Vegas. The community was originally built in the 1960’s, and while it has evolved through generations, many of the original families still reside in this area. The community unfortunately has not seen a considerable amount of reinvestment. Graffiti and vandalism were prevalent in the area and on the existing building, thus the idea would be to provide a durable yet transparent building that the community would care for and respect. The main goal and charge was to design a building that became a beacon and symbol for a community that was in need of better cultural and recreational resources.

The program of the center would include a gymnasium, game room, multipurpose rooms, fitness center and common community room. The community room would be programmed for multiple functions including computer use, video games, relaxing and social events. The building perimeter on three sides would have large covered overhangs that serve as the front porch of the community and provide shade both for the building and the residents that wish to enjoy the outdoors in the shadows of the harsh desert sun.
2016 AIA Nevada Excellence In Design Awards
PROJECT DESCRIPTION FORM

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Narrative (how the initial thinking and considerations for the project were implemented and executed - Limited To 400 Words):
The original Clark County Parkdale Community Center, constructed in 1978, served its neighborhood for 35 years. The architect’s original scope of work was for a 10,000 sf 2-story building to replace the existing building, but was able to achieve added program with an additional 2,130 square feet within the project budget as an added value to the community. The program was reconfigured to allow for more flexible spaces on a single level to accommodate a multitude of current programs while anticipating flexibility for future activities. The project implementation included a number of innovative techniques and efforts. The design incorporated a wood form in the entry/lobby that was designed and built from the wood glulam beams of the original community center thereby respecting the past and celebrating it.

Board formed insulated concrete panels were installed to provide a durable exterior and interior finish. The concrete walls were ideally suited for the inside of the gym. The material also provided the opportunity to create a faceted facade that is inspired by the mid-century modern elementary school’s gable and valley (folded plate) kindergarten wing. The existing building scheduled for demolition glu-lam beams were re-milled and used to clad and create the lobby and entrance form. Durability was achieved for the exterior by the use of insulated concrete board formed panels. The facility includes 9 sectional glass doors that roll-up to allow free movement of the kids and adults throughout the indoor and outdoor program spaces. This feature was also designed to allow for natural ventilation of the entire building by utilizing the doors along with the large exterior overhangs/covered patios and 8’ diameter fans that circulate the air throughout the public spaces. The sectional doors at the gym capitalize on the adjacent community pool by capturing the breezes that go across the pool and help to cool the building.

A community center brings the community together. A literal reminder of this is found in the artist display and amazing craftsmanship of the stainless steel perforated metal panels which was a collaboration between the architect and Arktura Metals. The graphic is created by different size perforations in several layers. The detail of the design unfolds as you get closer to it.
REUSE

wood glulam beams of the original community center were re-milled and used to clad and create the lobby and entrance form

existing glulam
Large halls allow for user interaction/collision spaces; the community center is transformed into a living educational facility. Sectional glass doors that roll-up allow for natural ventilation and free movement of kids and adults throughout the indoor and outdoor program spaces.
Board formed insulated concrete panels provide a durable exterior and interior finish, ideally suited for the inside of the gym. Arranged in a faceted manner, the facade is inspired by the existing mid-century modern elementary school’s gable and valley form / style.
Signage becomes art, defining edges of outdoor spaces...
Deep cantilevers define a simple, clean roof line that protects glazing allowing for optimal daylighting.
careful consideration of landscape elements transform the facility into a playful and inviting community center.

deep overhangs embrace the visitor upon approach, and spaces reveal themselves through full height glazing...
a perforated metal screen protects from harsh exposures while announcing whom the building is dedicated to: “community”
durable materials become an integral part of the composition. Board formed concrete panels define textural solid planes, and draw inspiration from the texture, feel and warmth of the existing community center’s glulam beams.
a retractable stage allows for full flexibility of the gymnasium space. glazed roll up doors create a continuous indoor/outdoor space relationship while embracing passive cooling and daylighting.
upper and lower glazing bring daylighting into the fitness facility, complemented with a high volume space, creates a comfortable well lit space for the community center users.