Youth Lounge

Du Quoin Youth Center

Proposed Site: Keyes Park

Du Quoin is a small town in Southern Illinois with a population of 5,800. The community is built around its strong-lived traditions and is known for being very tight-knit. One persisting issue facing the community is the issue of underage drinking. Because Du Quoin has recently lost their bowling alley and movie theater, and the only other sources of entertainment being restaurants or bars, there are not many activities for adolescents to enjoy on their free time. This leaves them to find alternative activities to pass time, and most will end up at a party or similar activities and participate in underage drinking solely because there are no other options.

This project proposes the development of a Youth Center for Du Quoin, which will help combat underage drinking and other issues through engagement with the community. When adolescents become involved with their community, it influences a need to be part of a greater good which then leads to increased academic performance. Adolescents will be highly involved with the organization of activities and any decisions made by the center. The center will provide entertainment not only for the youth but for the community as a whole by hosting local artists, bands, poets, comics, and allowing any youth members to perform and bring the community together. This youth center will also provide an outlet for the youth to explore the arts, and allow the youth and local artists to create, display, and sell their work. The goal is to give the youth a place of their own while increasing their connection and presence in the community and bring more local activities to Du Quoin.

Legend

1. Art Studio
2. Women's Bedroom
3. Men's Bedroom
4. Employee Lounge
5. Manager's Office
6. Mechanical Room
7. Gymnasium Storage
8. Women's Locker Room
9. Men's Locker Room
10. Art Gallery
11. Conference Room
12. Education Center
13. Lobby
14. Youth Lounge
15. Kitchen/Bar
16. Multipurpose Gymnasium
17. Youth Lounge Mezzanine

Activities in Du Quoin

Youth Activities in Du Quoin

Ref.

Mezzanine Level Floor Plan

First Level Floor Plan

Project Site at Night

Building Entrance

Art Studio

Youth Lounge

Longitudinal Section