ENGLEWOOD SCHOOL
REPURPOSING

R.A.G.E. – RESIDENT ASSOCIATION OF GREATER ENGLEWOOD
RE-IMAGINING CLOSED SCHOOLS
RE-IMAGINING CLOSED SCHOOLS
2013-CPS announces and closes 50 public schools

2013, RAGE along with several community stakeholders (parents, residents, entrepreneurs, committed activist) came together to address the retraction of public funding supporting traditional public education.

2013-14: Ongoing meetings with elected officials, CPS, potential funders.

2014- IIT design workshops, concept ideations created

2014– Village Builders looks for funding

Englewood has 5-6 closed schools
Sept. 2014 - RAGE Walk Thru Yale Elementary for an Assessment

Nov. 2014 - RAGE Walk Thru Wentworth Elementary

2014-2015: Ongoing meetings with elected officials, CPS, Developers, potential funders,

June 2015 - RAGE Walk Thru Bontemps Elementary

2015 - School Repurposing Team Focus on Bontemps - Currently seeking tenants

Englewood has 5-6 closed schools
COMMUNITY MEETINGS
RESEARCH & FINDINGS
**YOUNGPLACE**  
by Artscape

Artscapes Youngplace is a community cultural hub in Toronto's West Queen West neighbourhood with 75,000 square feet of space devoted to artistic inspiration, learning, growth and expression. Artscapes’s $7 million transformation of the building, a former school was completed just before the centenary of its construction in 1914. Artscapes Youngplace is named in recognition of a generous lead gift from The Michael Young Family Foundation.

**IHUB**  
by Erik Hersman

Nairobi’s Innovation Hub for the technology community is an open space for the technologists, investors, tech companies and hackers in the area. This space is a tech community facility with a focus on young entrepreneurs, web and mobile phone programmers, designers and researchers.

“We’re trying to create the place where seeds are planted and are easily found by the people with money to help them grow.”

The artists and organizations inside the building represent a vibrant mix of art forms and cultural mandates and provide many programs and events to enjoy.

**MIXED USE WITH CORE PURPOSE**

The Hub also has a number of initiatives designed to build an ecosystem around the Kenyan tech entrepreneur: iHub Research, iHub Consulting, iHub Supercomputer Cluster, and the iHub User Experience Lab.

**REPURPOSED SPACE**
FACTORIA JOVEN
by Selgas Cano firm

This playground is not really a playground at all, instead it's a vibrant, flexible space that acknowledges the wide variety of activities that kids actually want to participate in.

The Factoria Joven (youth factory in Spanish) is a sort of creative community center, equipped for activities as wide-ranging as rock climbing and hip-hop dancing. There's a skate park which essentially winds through the plaza connecting the buildings, and on the ground is actually skateable! But also a concert stage for performing arts. There's a place to learn graffiti and street art, as well as a section of the complex set up for circus training – including tightrope walking. There's also plenty of indoor space for learning music and dance. And wireless Internet, of course.

The skate park's structure actually hides meeting rooms where kids can get group counselling. So the activities get them in, but that also creates an unparalleled opportunity to reach them.

By creating a public space that's so visually exciting, it's hard to imagine that kids (or their parents) will want to hang out anywhere else.

OUTDOORS OPEN SPACE

OPEN HOUSE THEATRE
by Coleman Center for the Arts and artist Matthew Mazzotta

York is a small town southwest of Birmingham, Alabama, that has an abundance of abandoned buildings, but no accessible community space. Mazzotta decided to appropriate an abandoned house between a grocery store and post office in the heart of downtown and repurpose the materials in order to create a gathering place for the community.

This nondescript shed is actually a transformer!

The theater showcases the talents of the local community, both as a built form and through its numerous performances. The shows are all free. York now has a place for prayer services, gospel singers, community dances and films.

EXPERIMENT
THE WALK-THRU – YALE ELEMENTARY – 9/14
THE WALK-THRU – YALE ELEMENTARY – 9/14
THE WALK THRU AT YALE
THE WALK THRU OF WENTWORTH
THE WALK THRU OF WENTWORTH
THE WALK THRU OF BONTEMPS
NEXT STEPS