Järva Kultur & Sport
Cultural activation of Järva, Stockholm

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The different districts in the suburbs located in the northwest part of Stockholm are rich in culture. People of all kinds of ethnicities live in this area. Cultural events will be a part of my project but the sports aspect that would bring people daily to the area is what I find to be a major part of this project.

The main focus will be on the citizens of Rinkeby, Hjulsta, Kista, and Husby. To do that I will need to understand and choose a spot that is central for these regions. But also who, in the future, will be a part of the community. I want to give the northwest part of Stockholm a building that would invite people from all around Stockholm together, to integrate Stockholm with one of the segregated suburbs of Stockholm. A building that would enhance and define the Järva authority, which it deserves, as a center of northern Stockholm.

What I feel is missing is a common space where people can express their thoughts and opinions, share their cultural holidays and celebrations, and have a space where everyone can feel welcome. This should be a space that invites everyone, despite age, gender, origin, or opinion. Sport is a big part of every youth’s childhood and the lack of sports centers makes it hard for youths to try out different sports.

To gather some more accurate information I sent out a survey asking about the youths of these suburbs think of the area they live in. This survey helped me to get a better understanding of what is missing and what should be focused on.

In this thesis project, my aim is to create a building that in the big picture becomes the heart of the suburbs northwest of Stockholm. The main focus of the building is to offer different kinds of sports and creative rooms (facilities equipped with computers and software with different free of charge for youths up to 18 years old.

THE HISTORY OF JÄRVA

Järva was built between 1965 and 1975 as part of the “million homes program” to counter the housing shortage at the time. Problems emerged at an early stage of the program, and over the years many initiatives have been pursued in the affected neighbourhoods – ranging from small changes to major interventions. A lot of good things have been accomplished. However, despite all the resources devoted to these initiatives, they have failed to achieve the social development and stability that was envisaged.
THE FUTURE OF JÄRVA

Patrick Amofah, who sits in the district committee has a bright vision for Järva. He says.

Järva City Park will turn the negative associated with the area into opportunities, more sports and culture, more housing and jobs, reduced segregation, connect Kista and Rinkeby and renovate the area.

Patrick Amofah believes, the area can also attract tourists, which can create new jobs in hotels and restaurants.
Stockholm is one of the most segregated cities in whole of Europe. Its not only the suburb that is segregated from the rest of Stockholm. The different areas in the suburb in itself are segregated.

Studies have shown that kids and youths that grow up in segregated communities with parents who have low social knowledge are most likely to struggle as adults.

With the connection to this network I performed a study on 100 kids and youths. My aim with the survey was to get to know the interests and the physical activities of these kids. What they like, what they have tried and what they have not, what they want to try and what they want to learn.

Apart from the survey i have had dialogues and interviews with people living in the suburb so that i can get a broad database for my foundation.

This data then became the baseline for the project. Järvafältet kultur och sport.
SITE

Rinkeby-kista is one of many segregated suburbs that needs attention. It is situated in the north-west part of Stockholm and consists of rinkeby, kista, akalla and husby.

My aim for this project is to break the segregation between the suburbs, to give the youths a helping hand into the society and hopefully lead them away from criminal circles.

As this will be a connecting point for Rinkeby-kista and because the small parts in this large suburb are segregated in themselves I don’t want the project to have any connection to any of these areas.

Therefore the site becomes an obvious choice for me. This green wedge is the perfect site for my project as it is centered and is not limited in space. It is easy to access by public transport, bicycle or walking. It will act as a barrier breaker to this large road that divides the two areas.
When designing the building I wanted to create an organic volume that speaks with the landscape. I therefore used the most organic shape as my building block. The circle.

Each programme was then shaped into a circle depending on the space it needed. These circles then gave shape to each plan. As the sporthall and blackbox work best in rectangular plans, they retain their shape but are dug into the slope.