CREATING FLEXIBLE LEARNING SPACES

The PS1 Bergen School Library is part of the Robin Hood Library Initiative, a program whose long-term mission is to have all NYC children reading at grade level or above. MPA was one of a small group of architectural firms selected to design the libraries, each of which must accommodate 10,000 new books, an instructional area with work tables for 30 second to fifth graders, and a reading-aloud space for 30 younger children.

MPA created an integral assembly of custom-designed work tables and a “stage” for the younger children, and collaborated with Pentagram to develop large-scale graphic identity elements, including a frieze of children’s drawings, the LIBRARY bench, and an animated ceiling. Ceiling elements extend outward into the corridor and stairwell, leveraging the initiative’s resources to contribute to the overall identity of the school.

RECOGNITION

Building Brooklyn Award, 2008
Design Share Award, International Forum for Innovative Schools, 2005