

Finalist

Excellence in Civic/Institutional Development



John H. Harland Boys and Girls Club of Atlanta



The Boys & Girls Club of Metro Atlanta's John H. Harland Club (Harland Club) project included the construction of a two-story 25,000 SF arts-focused facility to replace an underutilized, outdated, and functionally obsolete Boys & Girls Club. Located on a 2.59-acre lot in the Westside community, the new facility is a creative youth development space that is driven by innovation and expression in its design and programming. Programming at the Harland Club is centered on visual arts, performing arts, and culinary arts.

The Harland Club offers 30% more space than the previous building, efficient LED lighting systems, "cool roof" technologies, and rain water harvesting used to irrigate the culinary garden. From a design perspective, the space is catered directly to teenagers, a segment of the population that has been difficult historically for the Boys and Girls Clubs to serve. The new space includes a gym, multi-purpose sports field, community space, a teen loft, a kitchen for culinary arts training, and dedicated arts spaces such as film/music studios, visual arts galleries, dance studio, a graphic design and tech lab, and a café.

The project financing utilized public/private partnerships through New Markets Tax Credit (NMT) allocation; partnering with local community and financing institutions, including Atlanta Housing Authority, Atlanta Emerging Markets, Inc., Invest Atlanta, SunTrust Bank, and various philanthropic supporters. Additionally, the facility has partnered with local nonprofits to help develop its programming.

The Harland Club is an innovative gathering space for Atlanta's youth, helping to impact the lives of more than 225 kids daily. Its location is within a mile of five schools and two bus lines providing access for youth from the surrounding local communities.

Project Team*

- BGCMA Harland Real Estate Company
- Boys & Girls Club of Metro Atlanta
- Collins Cooper Carusi Architects, Inc.
- The Winter Construction Company
- Atlanta Emerging Markets, Inc.
- SunTrust Community Capital, LLC
- SunTrust Bank

*As provided on Awards application