STUDIO:
Elementary school grounds are currently non-places, unfit for human habitation. Yet the potential value of school grounds as multi-functional urban places is profound. The Learning Landscapes program seeks to reinvent the playground as a central site that mutually respects issues of aesthetics, maintenance, safety, recreation, and education.

VISION:
By creating a strong identity and sense of place, the grounds of Castro Elementary School will foster self-esteem, security, and stewardship in the children, their families, and their neighbors. As a place to meet friends, play, and learn, the playground will become a focal point of community pride and security.

GOALS:
- Reveal the historical & contemporary cultural identity of Castro Elementary in the Westwood neighborhood.
- Create a focal point for community pride and involvement.
- Elevate the students’ self-esteem by strengthening their physical, academic, and social skills.
- Provide an enduring public place that is cared for and protected through consensus use.

SCIENCE 2.2: Students know that energy appears in different forms, and can move the transformed and change the transformed. The shade structure and light and shadow play provide an interactive experience of the phenomena of reflection of light and sound.

Pablo Neruda