

EEA Press Release

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Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza accorded Distinguished Blue Ribbon Winner at NYSERDA's Fourth Round of Buildings of Excellence Competition and awarded \$1M

"Exemplary Design at its Pinnacle: Malcolm Shabazz Cultural Center's Revitalization"

The Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza development was recently selected as the Distinguished Blue Ribbon Award Winner in round four of New York State's Buildings of Excellence Competition for the design of a modern and fully sustainable marketplace with affordable residential spaces. This competition supports Governor Kathy Hochul's nation-leading climate goals outlined in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act), which place New York state on a path to economy-wide carbon neutrality and mandates an 85 % reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

"It is this type of project respecting the environment and using the best technique and the support of affordable housing, that is a great need not only in New York but around our country. We look forward to building more projects like the Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza," said **Imam Isak-EL Pasha of Malcolm Shabazz Development Corporation**, Co-Developer with the Shabazz Procida LLC.

"Procida Development Group is proud to be a part of the development team for Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza. Working with Malcolm Shabazz Development Corp., Think! Architecture and Ettinger Engineering, Procida is believes that MSHP can serve as a model for how sustainable community led development can be accomplished across New York State," said **Peter Procida of Procida Development Group**, Co-Developer with the Shabazz Procida LLC.



Image credit: THINK! Architecture



The Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza development will replace, reinvigorate, uplift and enclose the penultimate landmark Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Market in a permanent, modern and fully sustainable space with the Malcolm Shabazz mosque and integrated with affordable residential spaces. The project will push the boundaries of sustainability and decarbonization, create a revolutionary new pathway to Passive House certification, deploy cutting edge domestic hot water production systems, install onsite renewables with battery backup and drastically reduce embodied carbon of building materials and global warming potential from onsite refrigerants. The market design will also include unique heat recovery, daylighting and economizer systems. The project will certify to WELL and Fitwel.

"Think! is proud to be the architect of the new Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza and to work with such a forward-thinking team creating an integral urban setting for the iconic Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Market, known for its West African goods, and providing affordable residences, addressing social justice, equity, and resilient cities," said **Jack Esterson, Principal of Think! Architecture and Design**, architect for the project.

"With deliberate forethought and careful planning, this project exemplifies how sustainable circularity can not only be achieved but also enhanced via the active collaboration and participation of the diverse tenants within mixed-use buildings," said **Edward Ettinger of Ettinger Engineering Associates**, the design team lead.

The Buildings of Excellence Competition, launched in March 2019, is a \$58 million initiative that has awarded 65 exemplary multifamily new construction demonstration projects to date. Within the initiative, \$2 million in Early Design Support funding has been awarded to architecture and design firms to enhance capabilities to design toward carbon neutral standards. It is the only competition of its kind, with the awarded projects becoming part of a comprehensive data collection effort that will help determine how to cost-effectively deliver superior performing buildings that will serve as an essential building block of a carbon-neutral future and advance the design and construction of multifamily buildings. For a complete list of the winning projects statewide, please visit New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Buildings of Excellence website at: www.nysenda.ny.gov/boe.

The Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza development was selected under round four for its carbon neutral performance, profitability, replicability, and for creating a healthy, safe, and comfortable living environment.

NYSERDA President and CEO, Doreen M. Harris, said, *"Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Plaza is a leading example of how cutting-edge innovation in green building design, combined with a host of on-site energy efficiency amenities and aesthetically pleasing features, can provide a better quality of life for our most vulnerable residents while helping New York State reach our nation-leading climate goal to reduce greenhouse gases 85% by 2050. Congratulations to the team for their outstanding project and being named a Buildings of Excellence and Distinguished Blue Ribbon for Design Excellence award winner."*

This project will also provide comprehensive data on design, construction and cost that can be analyzed and shared to increase the number of carbon neutral buildings in New York State. For a complete list of the winning projects statewide, please visit NYSERDA's Buildings of Excellence website at www.nysenda.ny.gov/boe.