

Press Release

Bartlett student designs for Global Generation's King's Cross Skip garden were given planning permission by Camden Council.

Ahead of its move to a different part of the King's Cross development site, [Global Generation's Skip Garden](#) has received planning permission for twelve new structures, designed by undergraduate students from BSc UG3 [The Bartlett School of Architecture](#) at UCL. The structures, which will include a twilight gardening space with giant glasshouse lantern, a composting toilet, a chicken coop and an inflatable cinema will be constructed by the students this spring. A pop-up exhibition of the new designs opens today to the public in the current garden space.

The Skip Garden

The Skip Garden, an urban food growing garden, has re-located 3 times already during the last ten years to make room for the advancing regeneration of the area, but its transient nature is also its most important asset. Each move brings about new spatial opportunities, new ways of doing things and the chance to engage new people. The pending move and the collaboration with BSc UG3 of The Bartlett School of Architecture UCL is another milestone in the Charity's ten-year history. Jane Riddiford, co-founder of Global Generation explains her mission: "it's not about growing, it's not about food, it's not about community, it is about all these things together, the whole story of interdependence; an ecology, in the middle of London."

Making

The collaboration between The Bartlett School of Architecture UCL and Global Generation is led by tutors [Julia King](#) and [Jan Kattein](#) who run BSc UG3. The design unit has pursued an agenda of full-scale making during the Autumn Term for a number of years which exposes students to real world challenges. Jan Kattein explains: "Building your own structure and then inhabiting it engages you with your work in a very visceral manner. You become accountable, you need to take responsibility". This year BSc UG3 have evolved its programme to pursue a making agenda during the entire academic year. Students have to engage with a real client and a real site. Innovative design solutions are the result of satisfying a real need and responding to a real set of parameters.

Challenge

Realising a real project in a university context does not come without challenges. The project was awarded funding from School's Architecture Project Fund, a new fund for speculative and experimental works initiated this year by Professor Bob Sheil, Director of The Bartlett School of Architecture. "As far as I can remember, this is the first time that enrolled Bartlett students have been awarded plan-

ning permission for a project of study," says Sheil. Jan Kattein says: "Staff are learning just as much as students, but the pressure is on, the world is watching and everyone involved knows that we have to get this right if we want the unit to inform the current debate about the future of architectural education."

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Notes to editors:

Global Generation and the Skip Garden
Global Generation is an educational charity whose aim is to connect people of all ages to each other and the natural world in order to build relationships, grow ecological understanding and entrepreneurialism as a foundation for creating a positive future. The young people we work with are mainly from Camden and Islington. We run projects in our Kings Cross Skip Garden and in the surrounding business area and also at our campsite on Pertwood Farm in Wiltshire. We combine activities such as supporting bees, carpentry, urban food growing, cooking, and eating with dialogue, story, creative writing, silence and stillness. These practices help us to create the conditions for people to come together in a fuller and more connected sense of who they are and what they are a part of and from that space, to practically and creatively contribute to ecological and social change.

The Skip Garden is open Tuesdays to Fridays 10 – 5pm.
www.globalgeneration.org.uk

King's Cross
King's Cross is a critically acclaimed 67 acre, 8 million sq ft devel-

opment in central London. The developer, the King's Cross Central Limited Partnership, is creating a piece of the city, which includes 20 new and refurbished office buildings, nearly 2,000 new homes, as well as new shops and restaurants. Aside from the sheer scale, what makes King's Cross different is the determination to create an interesting place with a varied mix of uses. The area benefits from a lively and diverse arts and events programme that makes use of the world-class public spaces that are being built.

The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL
The Bartlett School of Architecture is part of The Bartlett, UCL's Faculty of the Built Environment. It was established in 1841 and is UCL's world-leading centre for education and research in architecture.

It has been voted the best school of architecture in the UK for ten years in a row by the Architect's Journal and for the past three years has topped the Guardian league tables.

Located in the heart of London, the School is at the forefront of international research and teaching, encompassing interdisciplinary collaboration and methodologies. Bartlett students are amongst the most sought after in the UK and Europe for their outstanding drive, creativity and skills.
www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/architecture

Support

The project owes its success to the support from a wide range of organisations. The King's Cross Partnership is providing the site, have offered funding to employ a site manager and have supported the planning process. Bam Nuttall, Bam Construct, Kier and Carillion are helping with the logistics of the project and have pledged building material donations, The Bartlett's Architecture Project Fund, UCL's Public Engagement Fund and Roca are providing financial assistance. UCL's health and safety team are advising on construction risk management. Arup, Expedition, Heyne Tillett Steel, Max Fordham, Structure Mode and Whitbybird are providing engineering support for the students – free of charge. Julia King says: "Sometimes the world comes together to make something happen. It's incredible how many people are contributing to this project, there is a huge amount of good will and the students are the hinge-point of all these relationships."



artists' impression of proposed skip garden, drawing by YangYang Liu and UG3



design team meeting in the Skip Garden yurt, photograph by Jan Kattein



current skip garden, photograph by Jan Kattein