Magnusson Architecture and Planning celebrates 205-unit Casa Celina topping out

BRONX, NY Magnusson Architecture and Planning (MAP) staff joined developers Xenolith Partners, JASA, ELH Management and the Kretchner Companies along with builder Mountco for the topping off of Casa Celina. ANYCHA Seniors First RFP winner, this 16-story, all-electric building will offer 205 affordable senior units.

The winning RFP proposal for NYCHA’s Sotomayor Houses in the Soundview neighborhood (and named in honor of the Justice Sonia Sotomayor’s mother, Celina Baez) this 16-story building will offer affordable senior units.

3,350 s/f of community space will be accessible to NYCHA residents and the surrounding community. The development will also provide on-site social support, health services and cultural programming for seniors and the community.

The 136,000 s/f all-electric building includes a wide variety of sustainability and resiliency measures as well as amenities such as an exercise/fitness room, laundry room, lounge areas, a ground floor community space, and a landscaped rooftop terrace. The north/south orientation of the site and building provides an opportunity for energy generation through a large solar array. The angled recesses of the windows and articulation of the facade were then added to shade the east/west facing units and mitigate heat gain.

Overall, the design is an evolution of the public housing typology, one that creates a much stronger relationship to the neighborhood particularly through the ground floor plan.

Covenant House New York wins 2022 Big Apple Brownfield Award for Community Support Services

NEW YORK, NY According to Gotham Organization, in partnership with Covenant House International, FX- Collaborative, Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, and Monadnock Construction, Covenant House New York’s new headquarters has been selected as the winner of the 2022 Big Apple Brownfield Award for Community Support Services. Located at 460 West 41st St., Covenant House New York is a shelter for homeless and trafficked youth. The 12-story project encompasses 60 bedrooms, closets, classrooms, computer rooms and a recreational center, among many other amenities.

Previously, the site at 460 West 41st St. was occupied by various residential and commercial buildings, a parking lot, and a narcotic rehabilitation center. The redevelopment project consists of the new 12-story headquarters for Covenant House New York. Completed in November 2021, this new facility provides 160 beds of emergency shelter, a health center, employment training, and educational services. Approximately 60% of the new building consists of community, educational, recreational, and support spaces for residents.

“We are humbled to have worked with Covenant House on such an impactful project for the youth of NYC and are happy to see it receive the recognition it deserves,” said David Picket, president of Gotham Org.

Bromley Cos. tops out 122 Fifth Ave. with STUDIOS Architecture

MANHATTAN, NY Bromley Cos., developer of a diversified national portfolio, celebrated the topping out of 122 Fifth Ave., an 11-story mixed-use project. 122 Fifth Ave. is the latest addition to the ever-growing Union Sq. neighborhood and will feature new retail offerings including athleisure retailer, Allbirds. Scheduled to be complete by 2023, the landmarked project will be home to the New York headquarters of Microsoft and other tenants.

Through a $100 million investment, Bromley Cos. have elevated the offering of the project with the addition of a rooftop pavilion and terrace to the building, expanding it to 300,000 s/f. By expanding horizontally, the building’s core has been relocated, unlocking the plan for more efficient and larger floor plates with better eastern light into the space. 122 Fifth Avenue goes beyond the traditional adaptive reuse program and instead reinvigorates the existing building, while creating an all new “crown” and merging with a brand new office building, formerly an adjacent parking lot.

Designed by architecture firm STUDIOS, the newly reimagined 122 Fifth Ave. features 300,000 s/f of retail and office space throughout. Among the amenity package, 122 Fifth Ave. features high-touch amenities, a rooftop terrace, a bike storage room with a shower area, and café.

“With a brand-new rooftop pavilion and more than 300,000 s/f of commercial space, 122 Fifth Ave. is transforming the historic neighborhood of Union Sq. It was our goal to integrate the historical elements of this landmarked project while also meeting the needs of the modern tenant. 122 Fifth Ave. seamlessly merges the past and future of the neighborhood, and we look forward to completing the project later this year,” said Nicholas Haines, CEO of Bromley Cos. “The Bromley Cos. was founded 50 years ago. It is no coincidence that as we celebrate this milestone, we also meet to celebrate the redevelopment of 122 Fifth—the new home of one of the most notable technology companies in the world, Microsoft,” said William Haines, chairman of Bromley Cos.

“As long-term investors in the Union Square neighborhood, we drew inspiration from its history and are proud to announce the topping out of 122 Fifth Ave.”