

Williamsburg Students Instrumental in Brooklyn Barge Bar Design

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by Greenpoint Gazette



On May 27, WHSAD students were awarded brand new laptops by the owners of Brooklyn Barge as thanks for their work in creating the Brooklyn Barge Auto-Cad designs and renderings. Back Row (L-R): Alain Codio (WHSAD Architecture Teacher), William Drawbridge, (General Manager, Brooklyn Barge), Thomas Morgan (Operating Partner, Brooklyn Barge), Evelyn Rivera (WHSAD Architecture Teacher) Front Row (L-R): WHSAD Students Kyle Lewis, Arlene Lindo, Joselin Flores, Luis Barrera-Pastuizaca Photo by Jay Wiprovnick

While it's impending opening has generated controversy among locals, and a liquor license is still pending for the establishment, owners of the Brooklyn Barge Bar are showing their commitment to the neighborhood and their efforts to keep the establishment a family-friendly affair.

Over the last few months, the owners have been working with students at the Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design (WHSAD), who created detailed drawings for the space, that the owners then used for the construction and permitting process that followed subsequently.

"This is just the kind of opportunity we work very hard to create for our students," said Gill Cornell, the principal at WHSAD. "It's just these kinds of projects that illustrate to the students how the skills we are teaching in the classroom will enable them to succeed in life."

The Barge Bar, which is located adjacent to Transmitter Park, envisions itself more than just an eatery or a bar – it wants to be a hub of community activity. The bar will offer free community fishing, kayaking, sailing, and historic vessel tours when it opens.

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The Barge Bar will also be one of the sites of the Billion Oyster Project, a project that seeks to restore the New York Harbor with a billion oysters by 2030.

WHSAD students had all these proposals in mind as they submitted designs for the space.

“Our whole focus is on working with the local community,” said Thomas Morgan, one of the partners of the new location. “We looked to WHSAD to create all the architectural drawings and renderings for our project. Our expectations were very much exceeded.”

In recognition of their work, the WHSAD students were given new laptops to continue pursuing in their interests in the design world.

The Barge Bar is expected to open sometime in the middle of this month.