

November 6, 2012

101 BEDFORD ROOFTOP: Concept and Programming

The design concept for the 101 Bedford Rooftop Program adopts the organization of the traditional village. Specifically, the scheme is comprised of various spaces of different size, proportion, functional purpose, and range of activities. All are organized in a hierarchy, which emanates from the central and dominant space, the Piazza.

Appropriately located in the central and closed end of the U-shaped 101 Bedford building footprint, situated along the western edge of the building at Bedford Avenue, the Piazza both anchors the village layout and prioritizes the spectacular views of the Brooklyn and Manhattan skylines beyond.

Vertically organized on three distinct levels while providing multiple resident use options, the Piazza is entered through two formal forecourts, which are directly linked to two elevator/stair towers and both of the adjacent multi-functional building wings. The prominent covered Colonnade element, large gathering space, Cafe and Barbecue features, in consort with the overt orientation toward the Manhattan skyline, define this area as the central node for public resident activities.

The northeast and southwest building wings of the rooftop village contain smaller scale, eclectic spaces incorporating a variety of specific programmatic elements for resident use. These uses range from intimate seating, lounging, sunbathing, and table areas, to larger scale uses such as barbecue gatherings, group parties, the Amphitheatre, multipurpose recreational activities, and group entertainment.

Lastly, the incorporation of varied and vibrant green plant materials, including but not necessarily limited to trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers, is a critical component of the 101 Bedford Rooftop Program. All spaces throughout the rooftop village will be made conspicuously richer with the green elements woven throughout the hardscape, seating, gathering, structural, screening, and pergola elements.