Remaking the City

Service Learning @ Cornell Tech
Course Goals

• Understand technology challenges of small civic orgs
• Rethink urban community services and technology
• Understand technology challenges of small civic orgs

Help students connect to island people, places and orgs
Course Content

- Participatory Design Methods
- Technology & Urban Planning
- Roosevelt Island community as innovation partner
Student Projects

- RIOC: Sharing and publicizing community events
- RIOC: Revamping GIS / mapping infrastructure
- RIOC: Community needs assessment for Sportspark
- MSDTA: Revamping email / website
- RIGC: Making a green map/app of the island
Student Projects

• Carter-Burden: Web literacy course / materials
• Carter-Burden: Ride-sharing to medical appointments
• Hudson-Related: Rethinking food / retail on RI
• RIVAA: Revamping web presence
• RIVAA: New logo / banner design
Guest Speakers

• Susan Rosenthal / Howard Polivy: RIOC

• Carl Weisbrod: NYC Planning Commission

• Judy Berdy: RIHS

• Ben Kallos: City Councilman

• Andrew Winters: Cornell Tech

• Ruth Fasoldt / Paul McConnell: LinkNYC
Student Feedback

- "This is easily my favorite class! I love the focus on digging deeper into design thinking and purpose of technology (not always additive) through our in-class discussions."
- "This class will grow to become one of the best on campus, and will expand our reach and impact in NYC."
- "I think it’s great. I’m a bit anxious about my community project, but I hope it goes well."
- "This is easily my favorite class! I love the focus on digging deeper into design thinking and purpose of technology (not always additive) through our in-class discussions."

"I'm a bit anxious about my community project, because it feels difficult to have a large impact on the community, but I hope it goes well."
Partner Feedback

• "Great! Thank you. So far our group has got us set up with Google Suite and revamped our entire email system."

• "They have been a pleasure to work with and very creative with their ideas. Very positive experience thus far." They have been extremely helpful throughout this process.

• "All is well with our project team. X and Y are a great pair and have been extremely helpful throughout this whole process." All is well with our project team. X and Y are a great pair.

• "Greatly thank you. So far our group has got us set up with Google Suite and revamped our entire email system."
Final Projects

- Final projects require a proposal that could significantly improve life on R.I.
- Developed based on user research and partnerships with island-based organizations.
- Winning team(s) receive support to advance their ideas within 3-5 years.
Final Projects

• Propose an idea that could significantly improve life on RI within 3-5 years

• Developed based on user research and partnerships with island-based organizations

• Winning team(s) receive support to advance their ideas

• Presented to an audience of community members and judges in December

• Within 3-5 years
Final Projects

- Propose an idea that could significantly improve life on RI within 3-5 years
- Developed based on user research and partnerships with island-based organizations
- Winning team(s) receive support to advance their ideas
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Winning Projects

• Let’s Eat Roosevelt - Community events focused on food, music and shared experiences
• Intergenerational Moth - Storytelling and listening events
• Flourish - Mobile application to introduce tourists to visitors to Cornell Tech students connecting seniors, youth and community events focused on green spaces and other PoI on RI.

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Stay Tuned!
Thanks!

- Our guest speakers: Carl Weisbrod, Howard Polivy, Susan Rosenthal, Judy Berdy, Ben Kallos, Andrew Winters, Ruth Fasolot, Paul McConnell
- Jane Swanson & Samar Sabie
- RIOC, Hudson Related, MSDTA, RHS
- Our community partners: RIVAA, RIGC, Carter-Burden, MSDTA, RIOC, Hudson Related, RHS

Thank you!