

Arriving in the Santa Clara valley elicits undeniable excitement. The climate. The culture. The innovation. Surrounded by sun, sea, mountains, and orchards, one can't help but consider both the valley's vibrant history, and the exhilarating future that it yet holds.

The region's abundance of natural wealth drew people from across the world and of all walks of life. Rich crops blossomed into rows of fruitful trees, which in turn produced a culture diverse enough to shape the world in which we live today. Held fast by the weather, creative minds celebrated each other and cultivated a new era for humanity. The spirit of the region is encapsulated by those with limitless ideas and a lasting connection to nature.

In the heart of it all lies San Jose.

Acknowledging the city's rich history, this proposal is a gift to the epicenter of innovation. San Jose's deep organic and digital roots have shown us that nature and technology hold equal importance to humanity's success in the budding anthropogenic era. *Sentinel Grove* embodies this symbiotic relationship through lasting and experiential means, by introducing native coastal redwoods into the midst of the city. Monitored and cared for by the technological aspects of this proposal, San Jose will steward these youthful giants through their adolescent years until roles are reversed, and the grove establishes itself as the prominent feature of the skyline.

*Sentinel Grove* will wake each morning in a cool embrace of fog. Monitoring subterranean and atmospheric conditions, the elevated walkways will carry both visitors and moisture alike up to meet the trees. Throughout the day, visitors will be able to look down upon the canopies of the newly planted fruit trees in Guadalupe River Park as they explore the grove and relax at the elevated gathering spaces. As night returns, the tower will restore the fog to the trees once again; but this time under the dramatic lighting cast from the structure below, further establishing *Sentinel Grove* as a must-see landmark of the world.

This proposal is a reflection of San Jose's past—the beauty and significance of nature, the present—the advancement of human technology and endurance, and the future—the harmonious marriage of the two. Framed against the backdrop of San Jose, *Sentinel Grove* will remind all who see it why Santa Clara Valley was once known as the Valley of the Heart's Delight.