

Project Statement

TITLE: CONVERGE

The strong visual presence of the sculpture can be seen from afar, as well as from the sky as the passenger planes approaching the airport will be able to experience it from the air. As a design reference, the detailing of the facade is partly inspired by the headgear worn by the native Americans of the region, the Ohlone. This gesture gives respect to the original occupants of the land, with the sculpture seemingly resting gently on the lands of the river banks across the river. Thus, the sculpture will attempt to link up both sides of the park.

Titanium will be used as the external cladding to ensure a virtually maintenance-free material. During sunrise and sunset, the titanium will reflect the natural colors of the sky. To invoke net-zero energy design principles, LED lighting will be used for the lighting requirement. The lights can be programmed so that the whole sculpture can take on a new colorful presence during night time viewing experience. Solar panels will also become a design feature as it is interspersed within the titanium facade. The placement of these solar panels will follow the east-west sun path to maximize the capacity of the solar panels. These features will highlight the innovative culture of the community within the silicon valley region.

The curvature of the sculpture suspended above the landscape, mimics the flow of the river and nearby walkways below, giving emphasis on the site specific nature of the sculpture. The form of the double helix that makes up the molecular structure of the DNA is adapted into the design language of the sculpture. This will provide the mathematical basis to push the design limit further as the sculpture progresses to the next stage of design development.

As a structure, the sculpture can be designed to allow for the public to go up to the viewing deck at the tip of the sculpture. At a height of about 20 stories, the views from the deck will be spectacular as we are able to enjoy the scenery of the landscape and city of San Jose. The sculpture is the embodiment of the past and future, the young and old, the traditional and progressive. At a time when the world is shifting towards a new normal, the inception of the sculpture will mark this new beginning when the whole world comes together for the betterment of future generations.