

con·flu·ence

/ˈkənˌflʊəns/

Confluence: the merger of flows. The dynamic fulcrum.

From the Latin “confluere”: flow together

Synonymous: Convergence, Joining, Conflux, Meeting, Coming together of People, Concourse

Flow of ideas, flow of energy, flow of culture

Our vision is to celebrate San Jose as a symbol of cultural diversity and acceptance, symbol of innovation, layering of cultures and ideas that define the essence of the city and its core values.

The concept of the Tower of Babel serves as a cultural and architectural inspiration. Its reference stands as the symbol of the layering and merger of cultures, languages and idioms which become an aspirational and essential value.

Architecturally we conceived an urban object rooted in deep meaning with high visual impact and gravitas that would capture the identity of the city, validate it and elevate it.

The structure is composed of modular elements extruded around the same core, that nest and support each other to form a layered escalation of forms. The verticality of the tower represents the aspirational values of San Jose as well as its achievements and the stacking dynamic modules, its many facets.

The composition suggests a structure that keeps growing and elevating itself; it is complex, yet clearly determined; visually engaging but effortless. The texture of its “skin” is inspired by the old punch cards, the original form of “code” serving as the unifying language.

San Jose has been attracting curious minds stemming from all over the globe and the many cultures and tongues have been unified by a common vision, energized by collective ambition and connected by a universal form of expression: code.

The Tower is suggestive but approachable. It can be explored, touched, lived. Ideally it will feature two view decks positioned at different altitudes to offer different views of the City and different views of the tower within itself.

Our vision is to create an experience with equally strong visual and tactile qualities; an object with magnetic essence that speaks to the community and invites the community in; that can be touched and felt, moving away from the stereotypical concept of monument.

The use of the Corten steel, with its imperfect quality and patina reinforces the notion of an object that “has always been there”, soft and imposing at once; part of the collective narrative and symbol of a proud community.

It is visual, tactile, emotional.