

**2012-2015 Learning Technology Grant Program
Abstract**

(Abstracts are submitted by the LTG award winners)

P. S. 114X Luis Llorens Torres Children's Academy and St. Margaret of Crotona will collaborate with Marquis Studios to create activities for **Architecture of the Community**. Through Marquis Studios, architecture programs as well as technology integration, students study the meaning of the built environment within their own communities through model building, drawing, reproducing neighborhood features as well as use of mobile devices and hand-held technology (IPAD and apps) to enhance student learning. In addition, by studying the **Architecture of the Community**, students will explore the history and social fabric of their neighborhood through the eyes of an architect. They will learn how to judge a building's age based on its architectural style and features. Students will study the meaning of the built environment to those who live in it and, either through model building or drawing reproduces neighborhood features. Skills taught, dependent on age level of students and previous exposure to architecture, will include drawing to scale, scale model building, drawing buildings as pictures (rendering) and drawing buildings to scale (elevation).

Through **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN** and hands-on model building and design projects, students learn that the architectural process is multifaceted, incorporating mathematics, vocabulary, history, sociology, culture, design, and problem solving. Students are divided into teams to fulfill their project designs. Often in conjunction with a study of a neighborhood or as part of the social studies curriculum, each team will choose which type of building it will propose. Previous examples have included choosing between a memorial, sports center or school. Each team designs the project in both plan and elevation and makes a presentation, including materials, to classmates. Following the critique each team makes a scale model from cardboard, IPAD applications, and a variety of materials. Skills taught, dependent on age level of students and previous exposure to architecture, will include drawing to scale, scale model building, reading architectural plans, creating architectural plans, presentation as a group, drawing buildings as pictures (rendering) drawing buildings to scale (elevation), as well as create urban designs.

Lastly, with the collaboration of teachers as well as the library media specialist, students can come to better understand the aesthetics of various cultures by studying the traditional architecture of the urban city. The architectural choices of styles and materials will also reveal much about a region's environment as well as enhance the students' architectural creations through Student use of Computer Aided Design (CAD) through the free Google program Sketch Up.