

Dear IIDA Panel,

I am excited to share my senior capstone project, which draws from place attachment theory and slow fashion principles to inform the interior design of a community-based fashion makerspace in Franklinton, Ohio. The proposed program seeks to connect Franklinton residents with their community and with Columbus' burgeoning fashion industry. For decades, the Franklinton neighborhood has battled disproportionately high levels of unemployment and poverty and now faces the impedance of gentrification. As a small step towards mitigating these disparities, I propose Franklinton Fabrix (FX)— a community-based fashion makerspace.

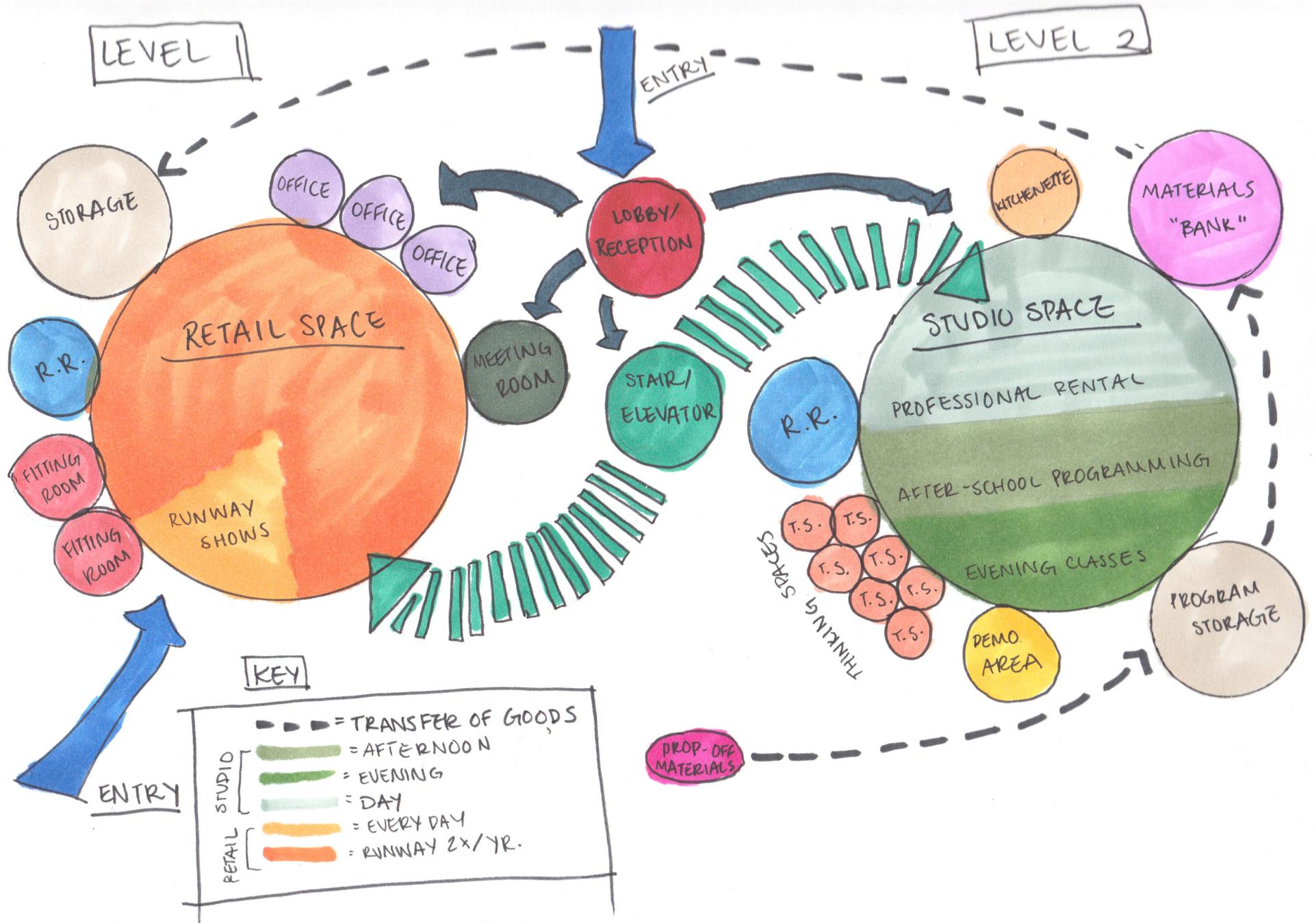
As Columbus continues to climb as a national leader in the fashion sector, Franklinton residents would benefit from a local connection to the industry pipeline. My proposal addresses the importance of sustainable fashion and highlights the potential socio-economic prospects of DIY and entrepreneurial innovation in this marginalized neighborhood. By repurposing a historic fire engine house, FX seeks to preserve the urban fabric and history of Franklinton while providing residents with new creative opportunities.

Program members would gain hands-on experience in every stage of a garment's life cycle; from conception to construction to retail to reuse. By upcycling donated materials and garments into new products, FX's business model creates a closed-loop retail environment that encourages designer ingenuity and consumer responsibility. Stacking the makerspace above the retail store allows participants to witness their creations sell below, encouraging emotional gratification. In addition, the flexible first floor retail space accommodates seasonal runway shows so that participants can share their work with the outside community.

When developing my interior design proposal, I conducted a literature review of place attachment theory, creative autonomy, and slow fashion principles. Through my research, I concluded that emotional bonds exist between individuals and their clothing, individuals and their community, individuals and place, and individuals and environment. Based on this conceptual framework, I integrated design moments within the FX retail store and makerspace that encourage all four levels of emotional attachment. Intersecting circulation paths and communal work zones encourage program members to forge social connections. In addition, views to nature, ample daylight, and access to an outdoor courtyard allow participants to connect with their natural surroundings. Overall, a thoughtful and creative approach to the space would hopefully create a gathering place for all community members and encourage a sense of neighborhood pride.

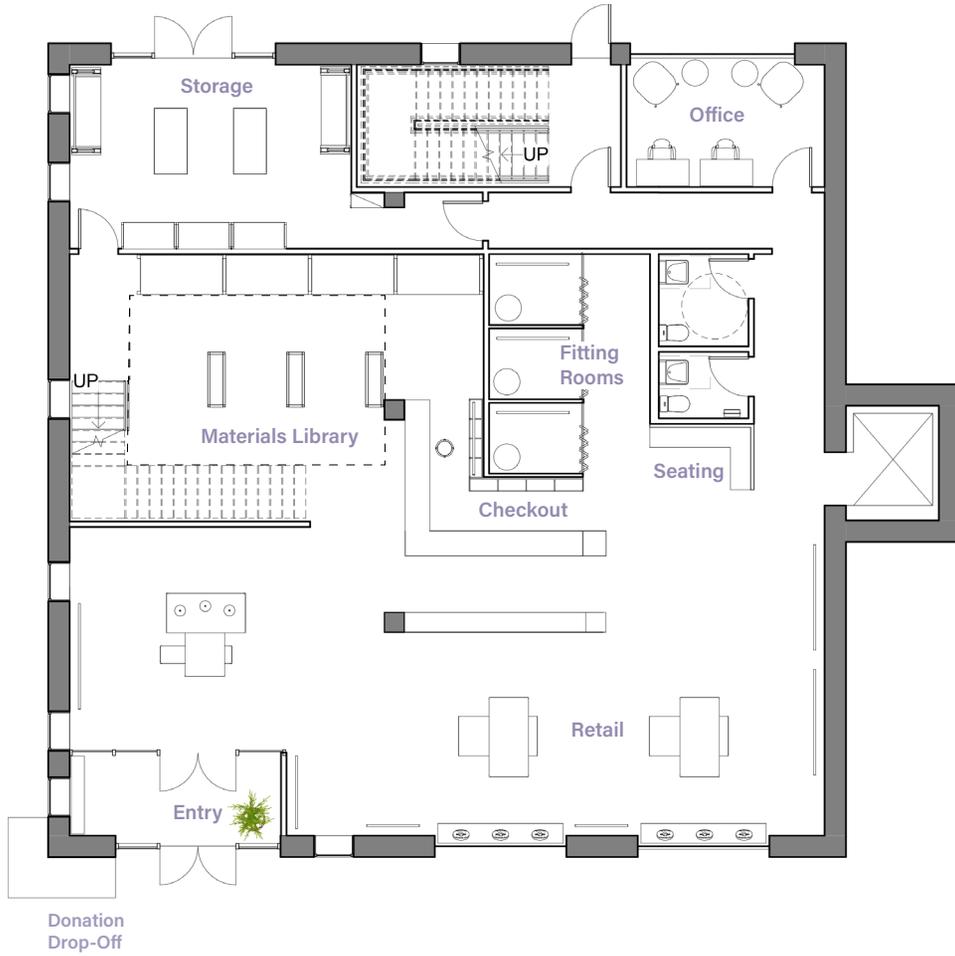
I firmly believe that although everyone inherently possesses creativity, not everyone has equitable access to the resources that help support creative endeavors. My capstone project explores how fashion and the dwindling craft of making can strengthen and revitalize an overlooked faction of my city.

# ADJACENCY BUBBLE DIAGRAMMING



# FLOOR PLANS

## Level 1 | Entry, Retail, Materials Library



## Level 2 | Makerspace



SECTION





# RETAIL SPACE RENDERING



# MAKERSPACE RENDERING

