



harmony

Playground Design for Ishinomaki, Japan.



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Dear Ishinomaki,

For this playground, our first and foremost inspiration is the spirit of the people of Ishinomaki. **Harmony** hopes to celebrate the tenacious composure and selflessness displayed by the people after the 3/11 tsunami and during the continuing rebuilding. Our park utilizes sound and musical instruments as a medium to portray this collaboration. Like a choir or orchestra, the sum of its parts creates beautiful and harmonious music. When people work together, something great takes place.

Ishinomaki's strength of community should be a source of inspiration to the rest of the world, and with your example we are reminded that we are all in this together.

Sincerely,
Adrienne, David, Joyce, Rance, and Sandra.

Adrienne Pearson



David Behman

Sandra Lin

Rance Pitzer



With Harmony...

we want to honor the composure, selflessness and the awe inspiring collaboration and unity the community of Ishinomaki continues to display during recovery.

Inspiration

Choir

We have been inspired by the nature of choirs. Although no one particularly stands out during performances, each individual is important to achieve that beautiful harmony. It's the same message we want to send along with this design: when people come together great things happen.

Water

Ishinomaki is a coastal town. Although the ocean might have taken many away, it will still be a part of the community's daily life. We hope that those who are fearful of the sea can find the water friendly once more.

collaboration



balance

uplifting

peaceful

zen

flow



selfless

energy

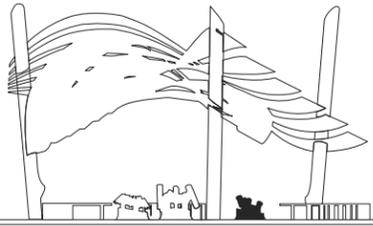
harmony

unity



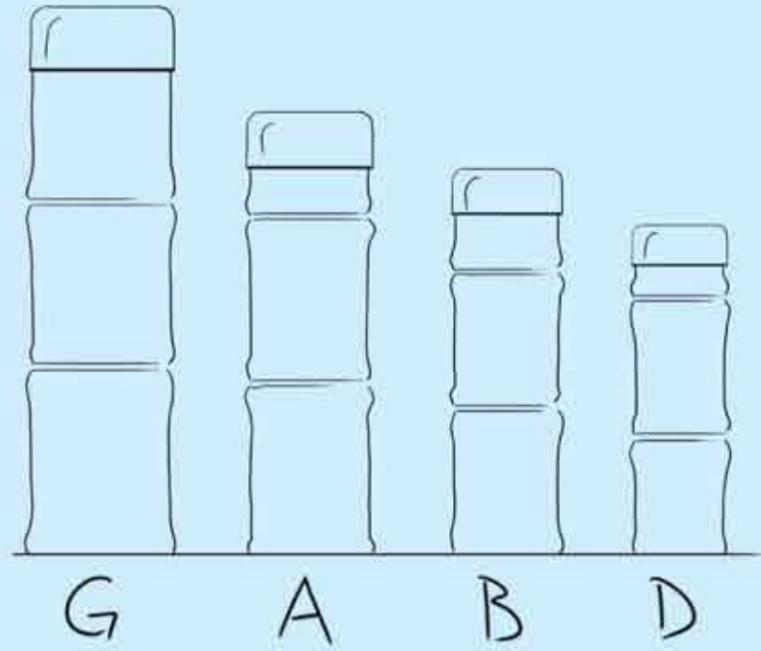
a place that celebrates collaboration

Drum tubes

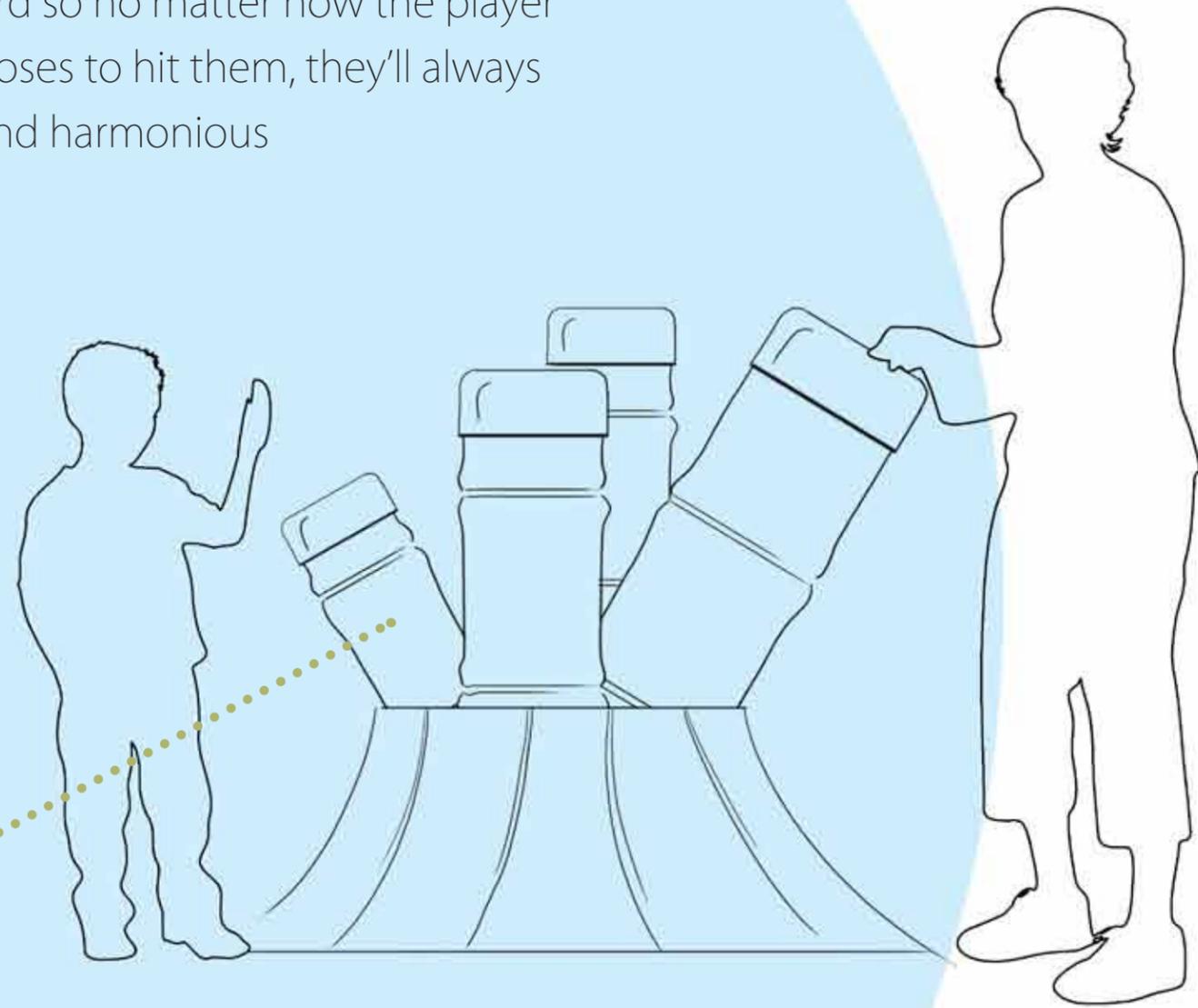


These drum tubes are made out of bamboo. Each drum is tuned to a different note, so when people stand in a circle to play, they work together to make music.

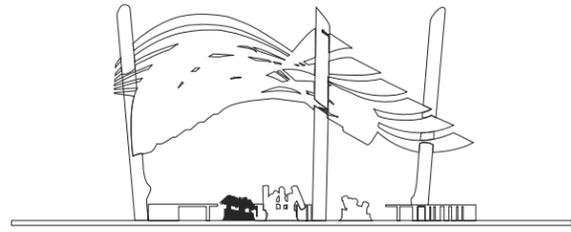




these drum tubes are tuned to a specific chord so no matter how the player chooses to hit them, they'll always sound harmonious



Xylophone

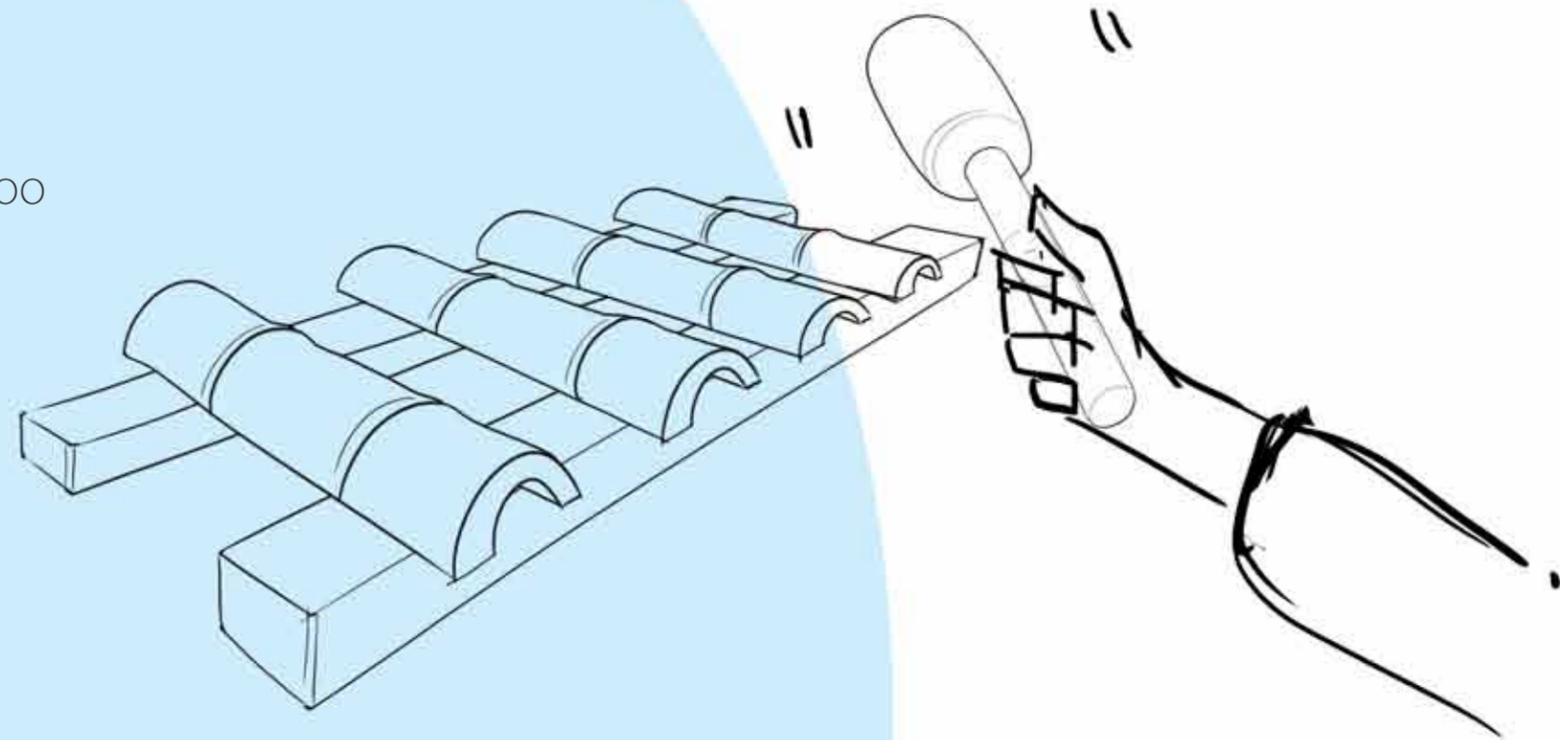
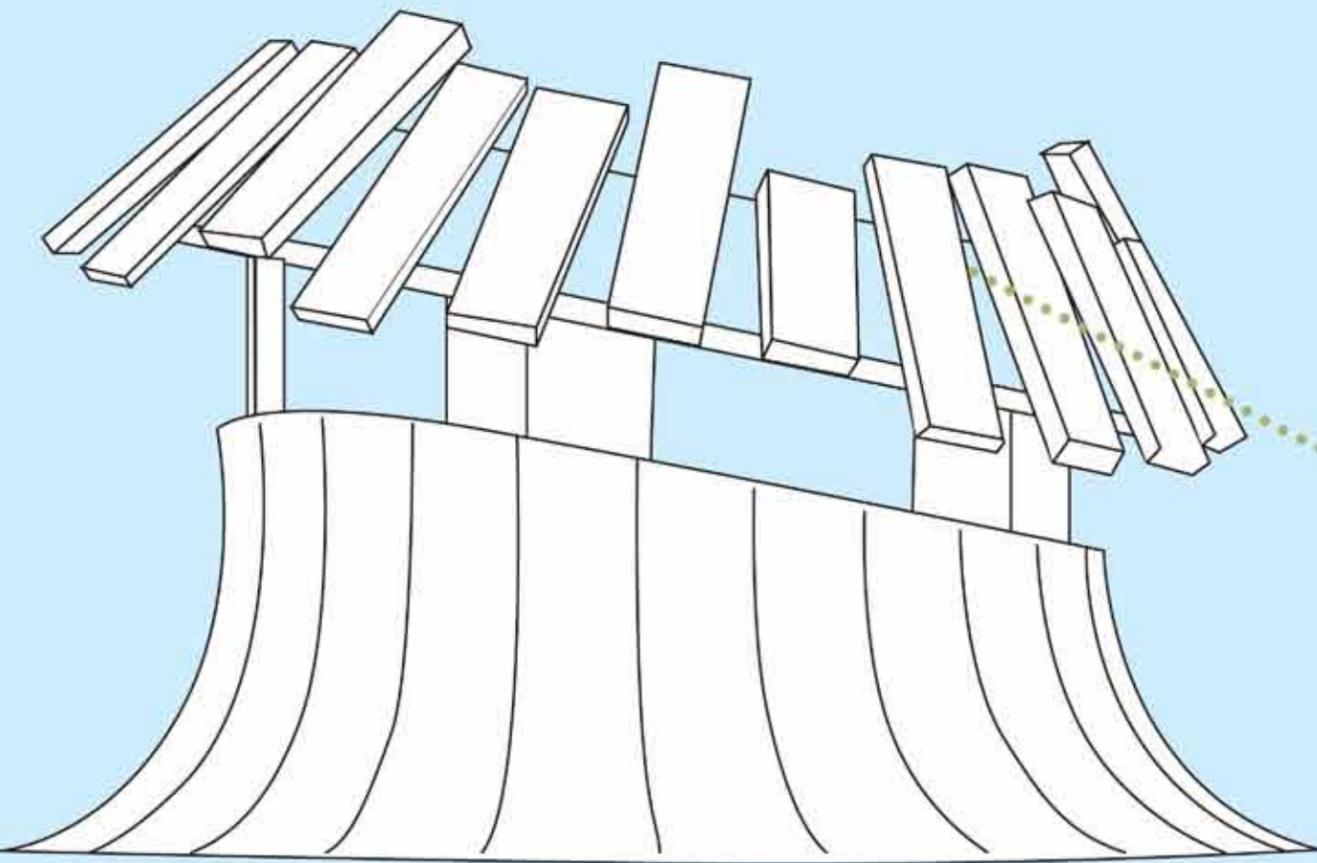


The xylophone is made out of bamboo, just like the drum tubes. All the individual pieces is a note from the same chord, so no matter what the combination is, it will sound like a balanced harmony.

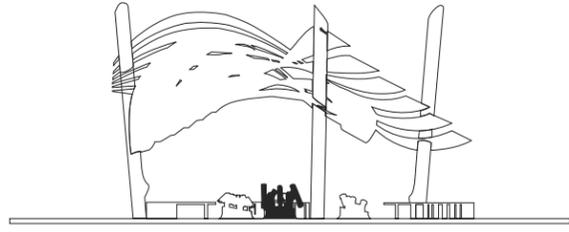




park-goers are able to interact with the xylophone by hitting the bamboo pieces with mallets

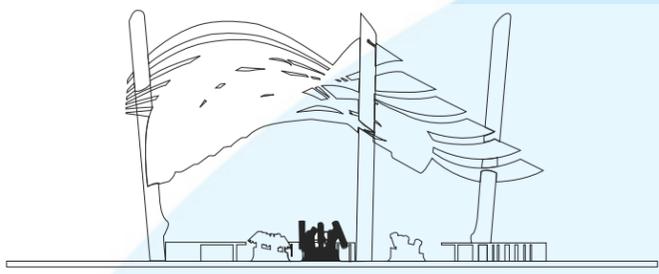


Rainstick



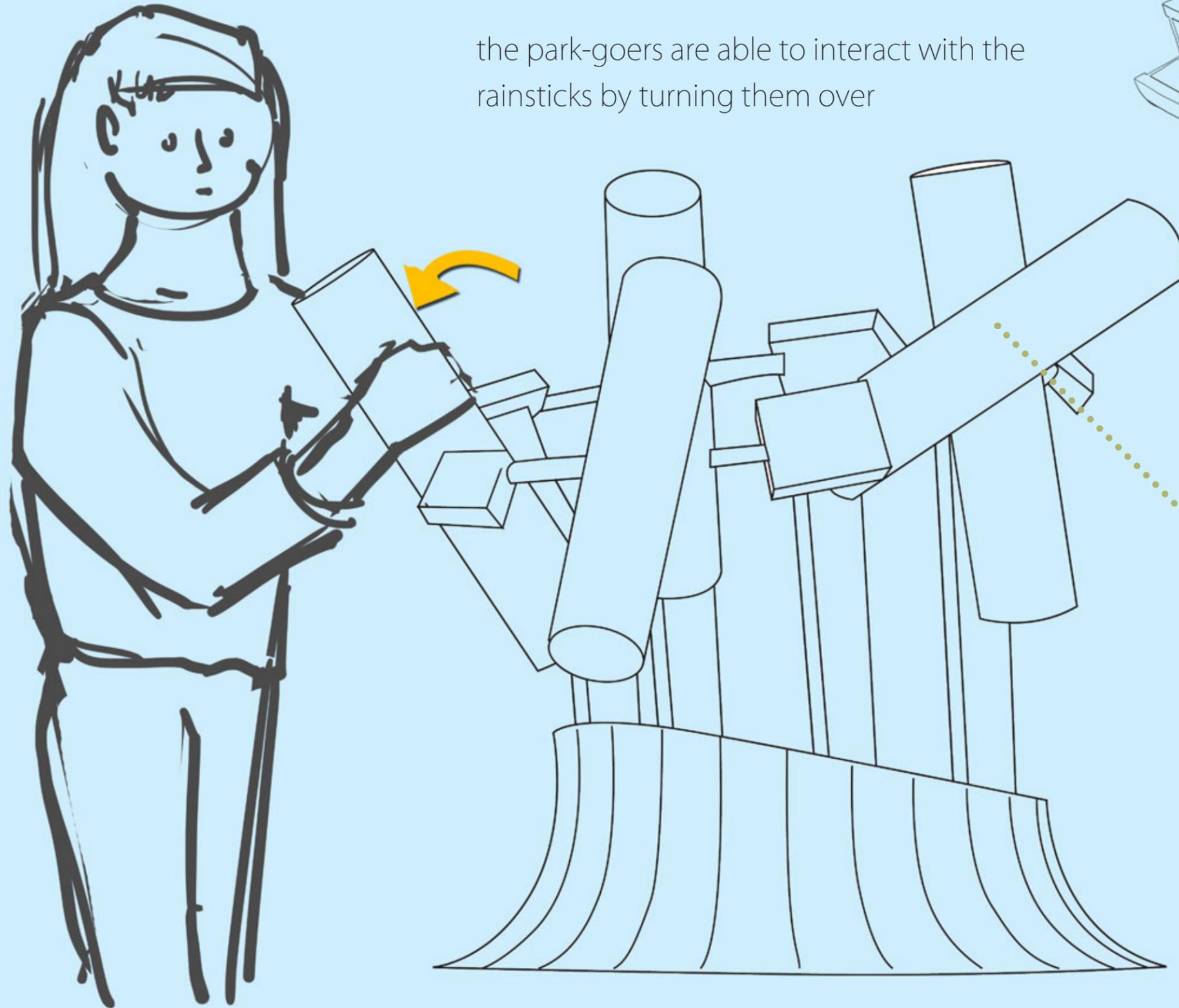
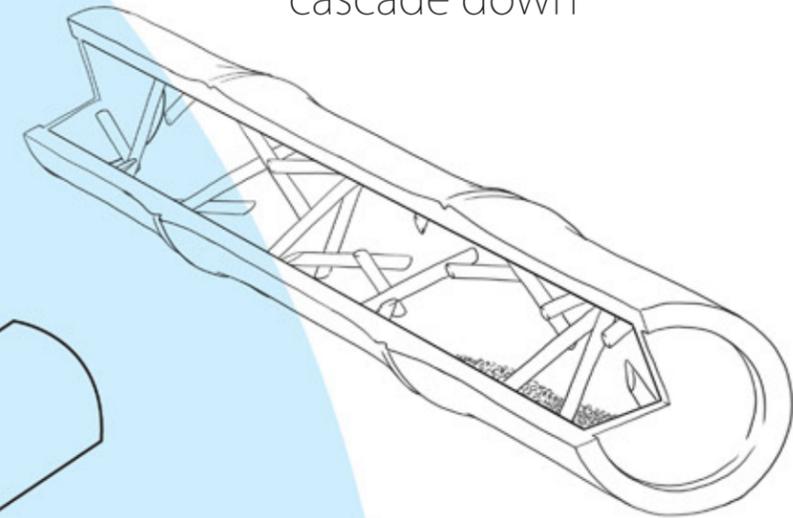
Also made from bamboo, the cascading noise made from spinning the rainsticks sound like peaceful, flowing water without being a harsh reminder of the tsunami to the people of the community.





rainsticks contain either rice, beans or pebbles etc. that hit the embedded nails as they cascade down

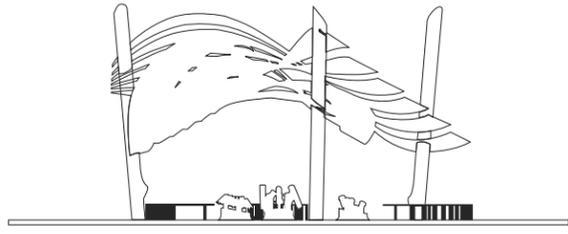
the park-goers are able to interact with the rainsticks by turning them over





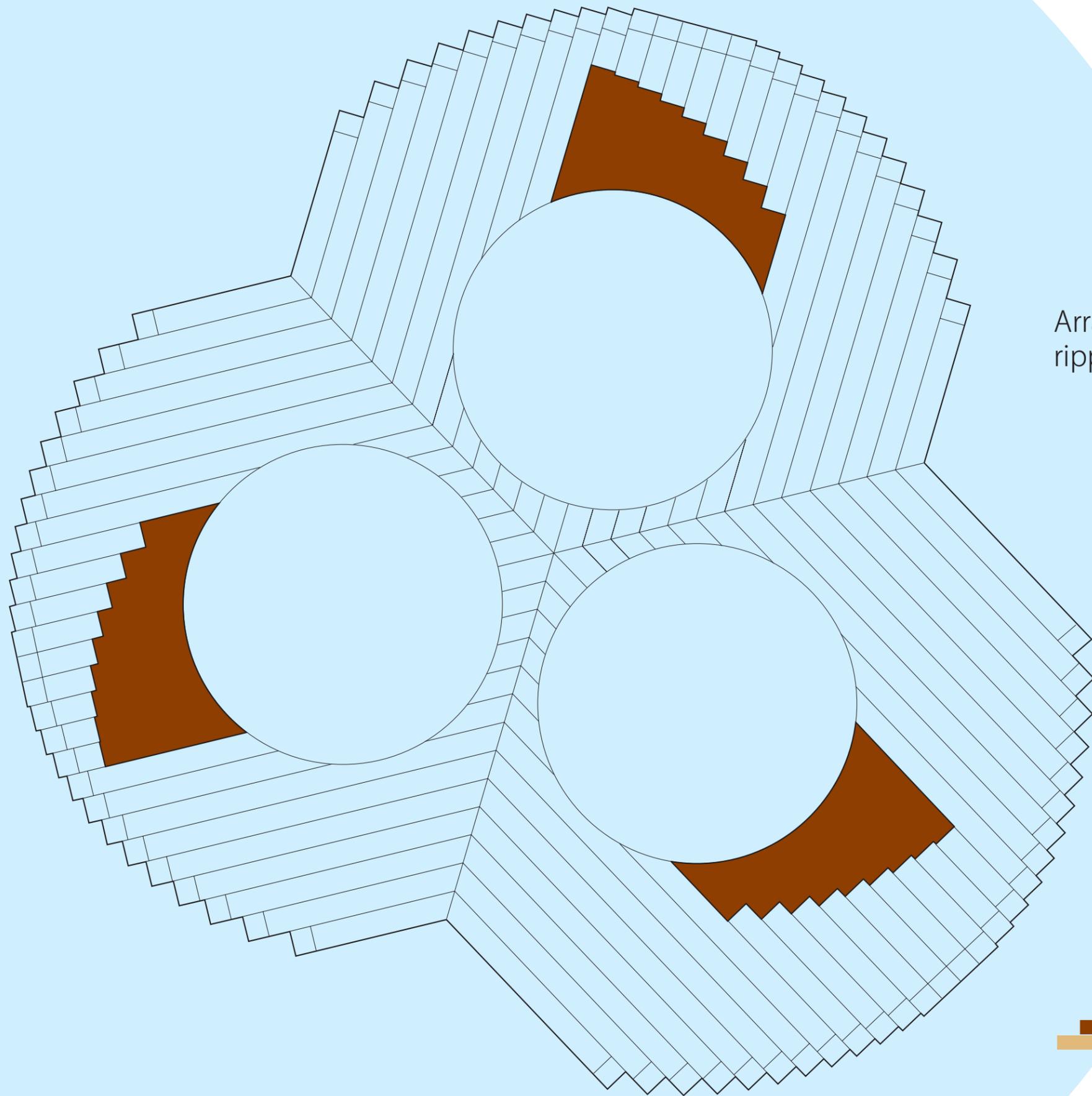
a place that promotes rest and reflection

Benches

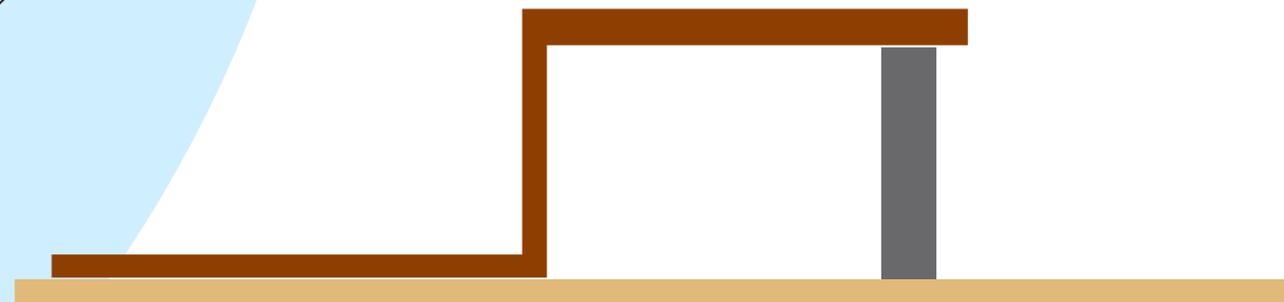


Wooden planks from the boardwalk rise up like waves to create wide spiral-shaped benches. Adults can orient themselves around the central instruments in order to watch the activity, as well as away from the sounds for inner reflection.



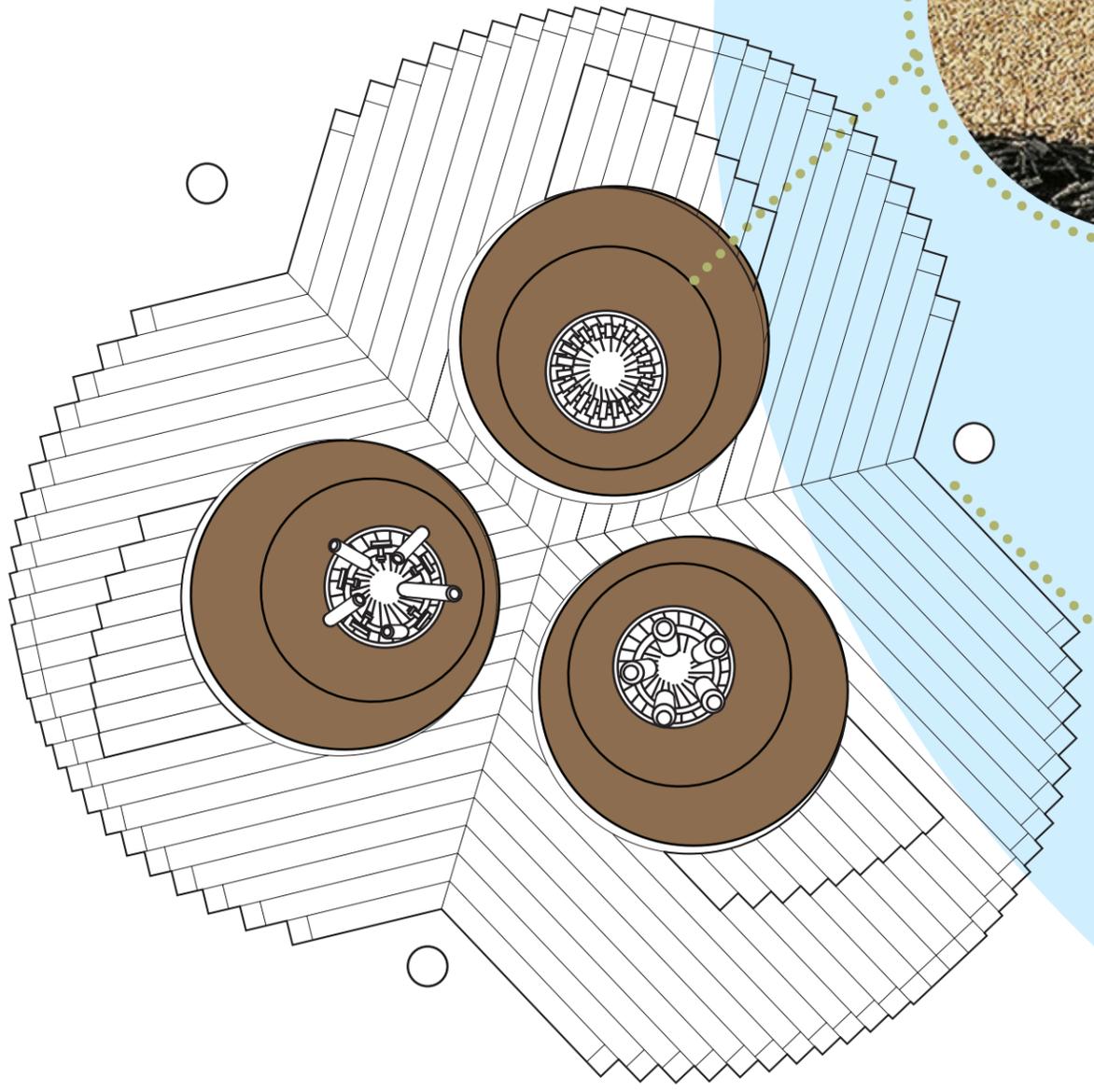


Arrangement of benches is inspired by ripples of water.



Benches raises up from the floor.

Springy soft touch flooring on the central instrument activity areas provides a fun texture and a safe play surface.



pour in place rubber

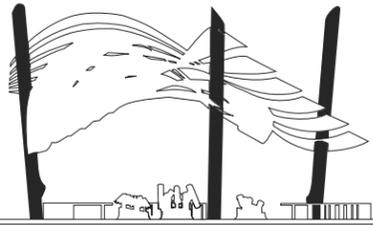


pine wood planks

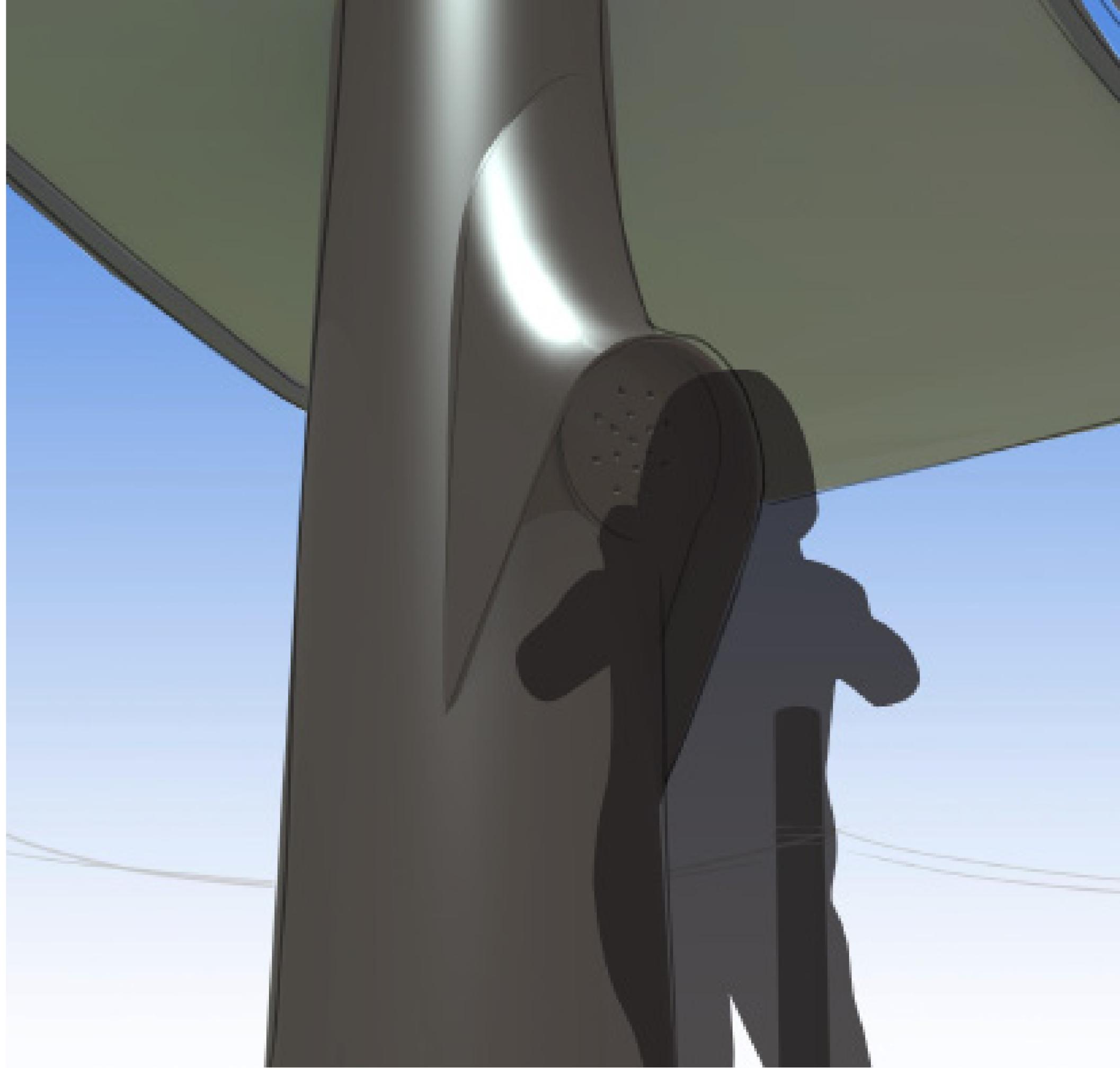


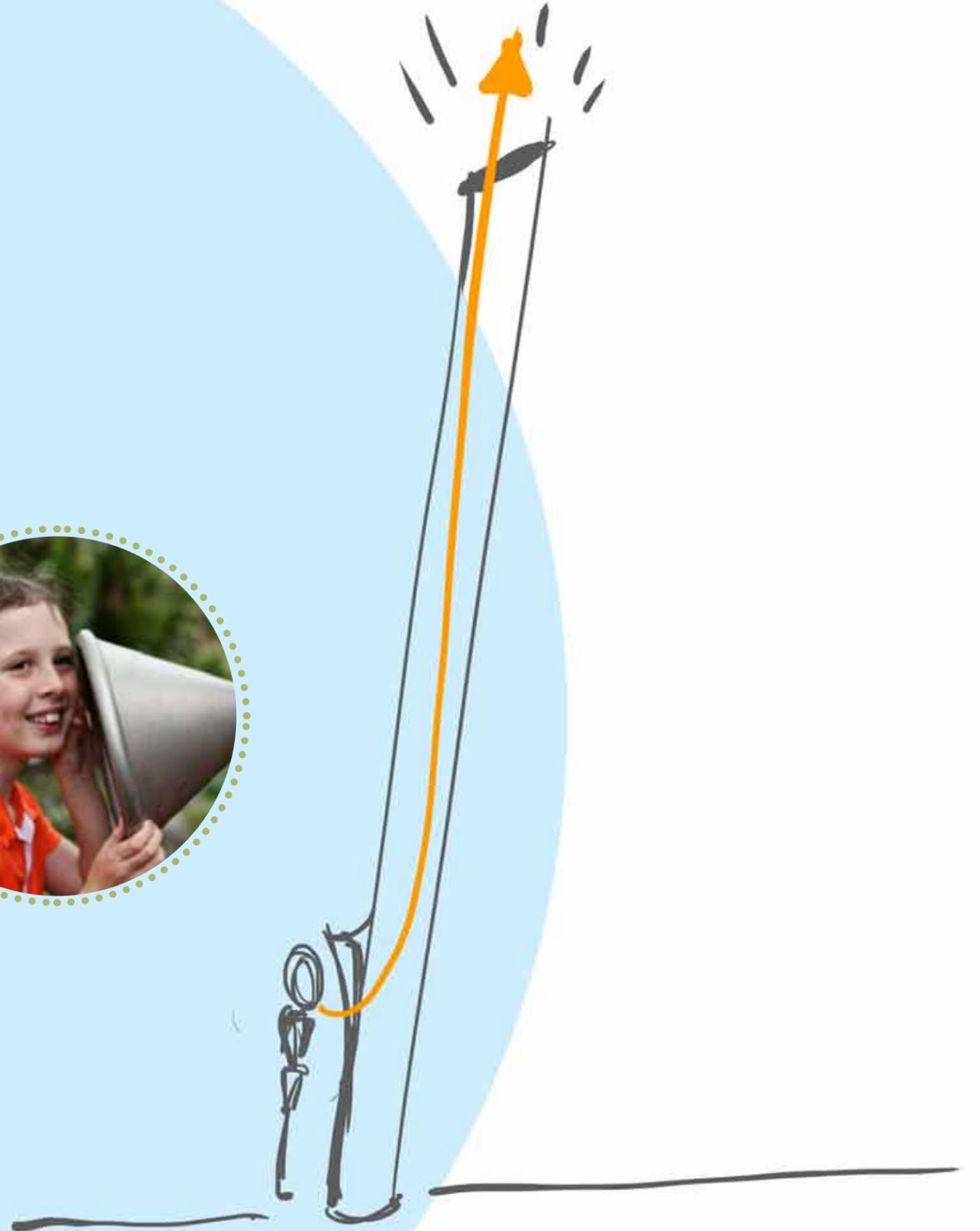
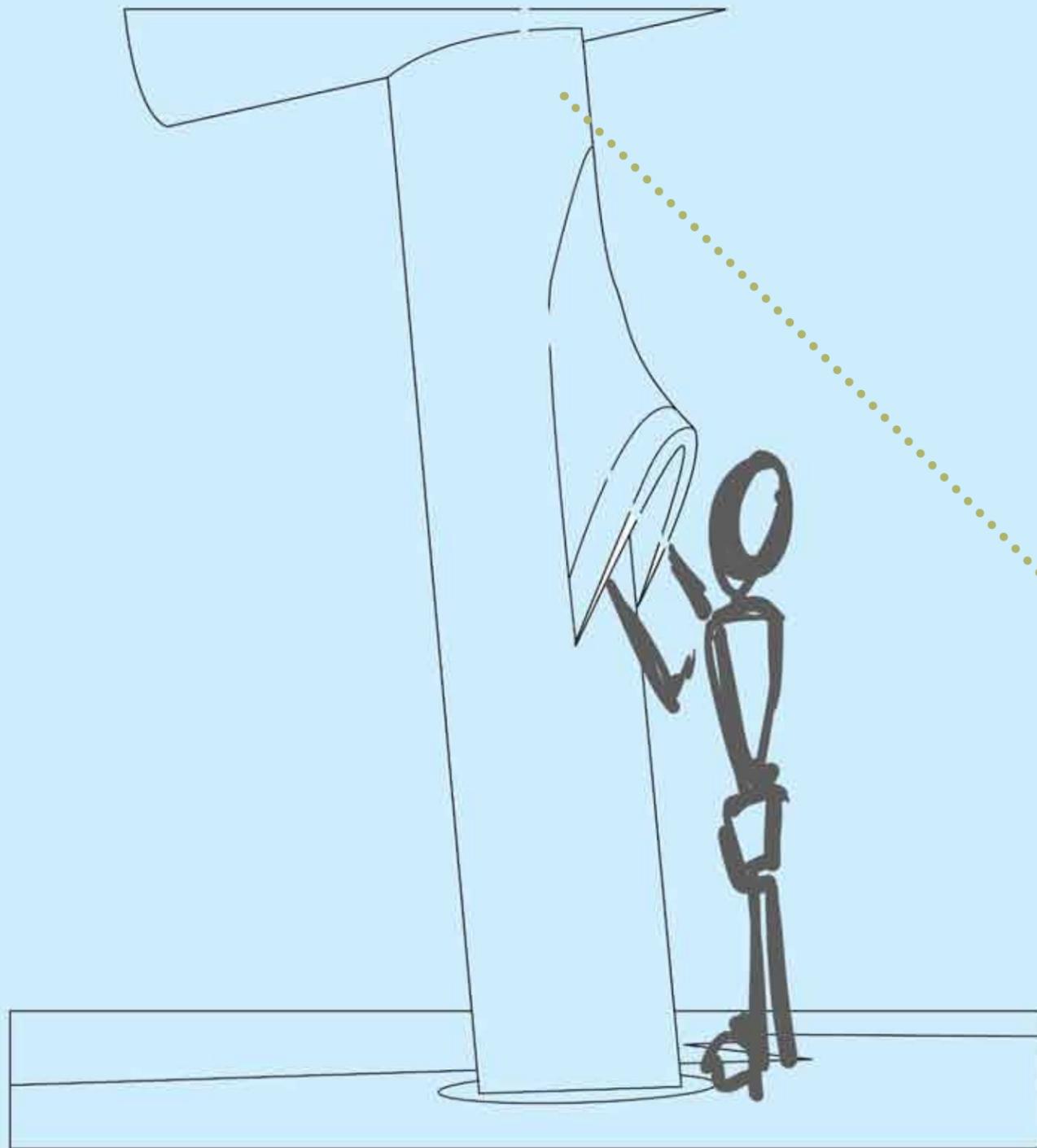
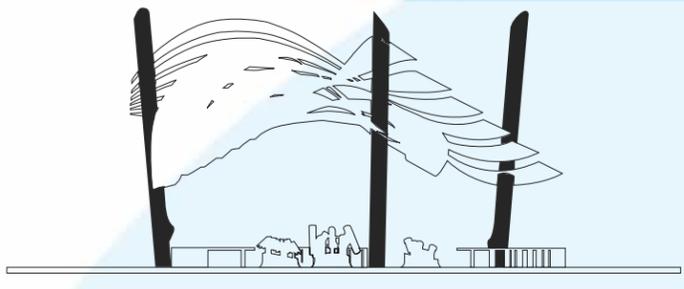
a place that allows for remembering

Voice tubes



Adults and children alike need places to express their feelings. Grief, conversation, laughter, and secrets can be shared into the microphone openings. The expressions of the people travel up through the tubes and out into the heavens.





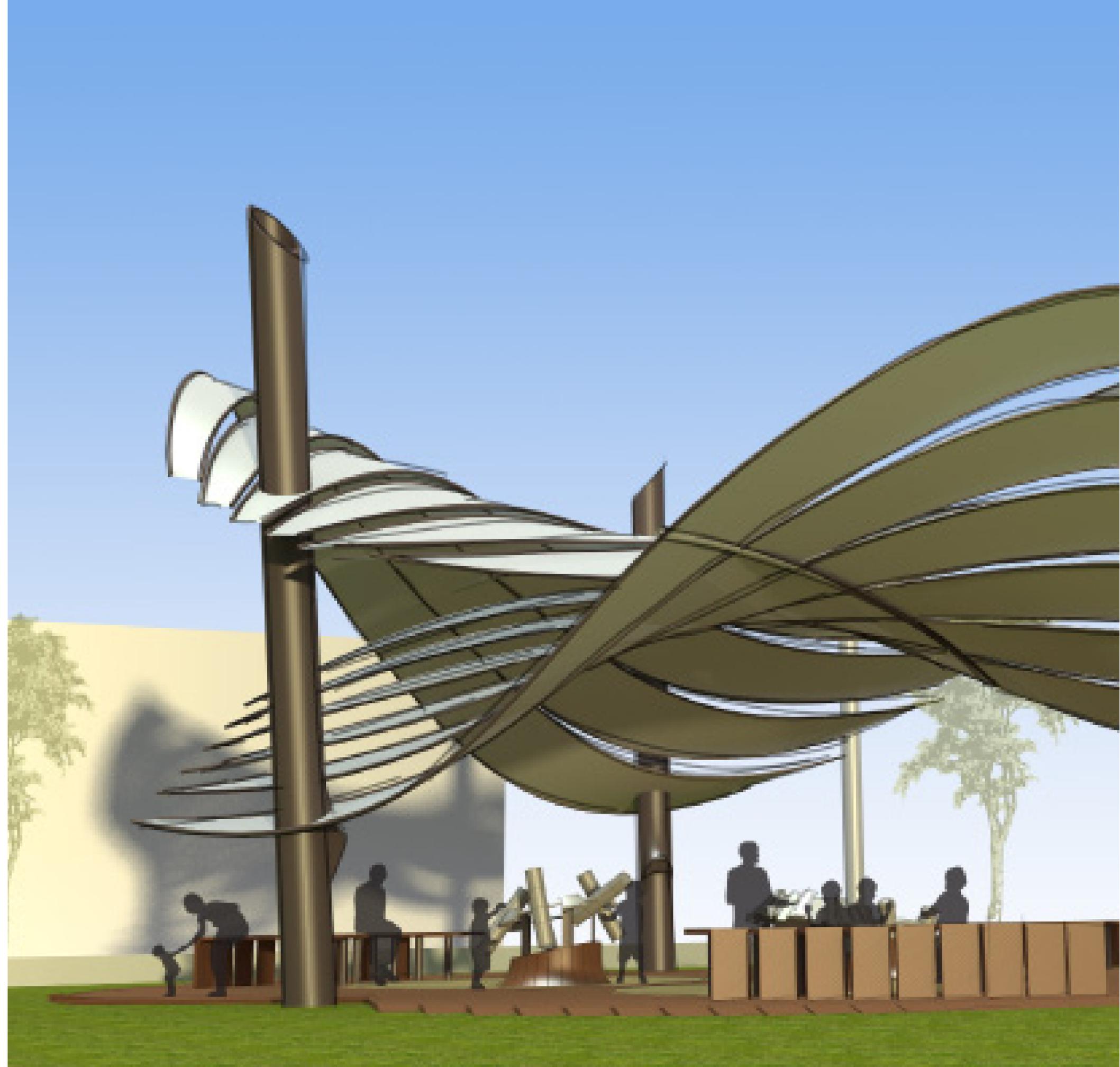


a place that honors Ishinomaki's unity

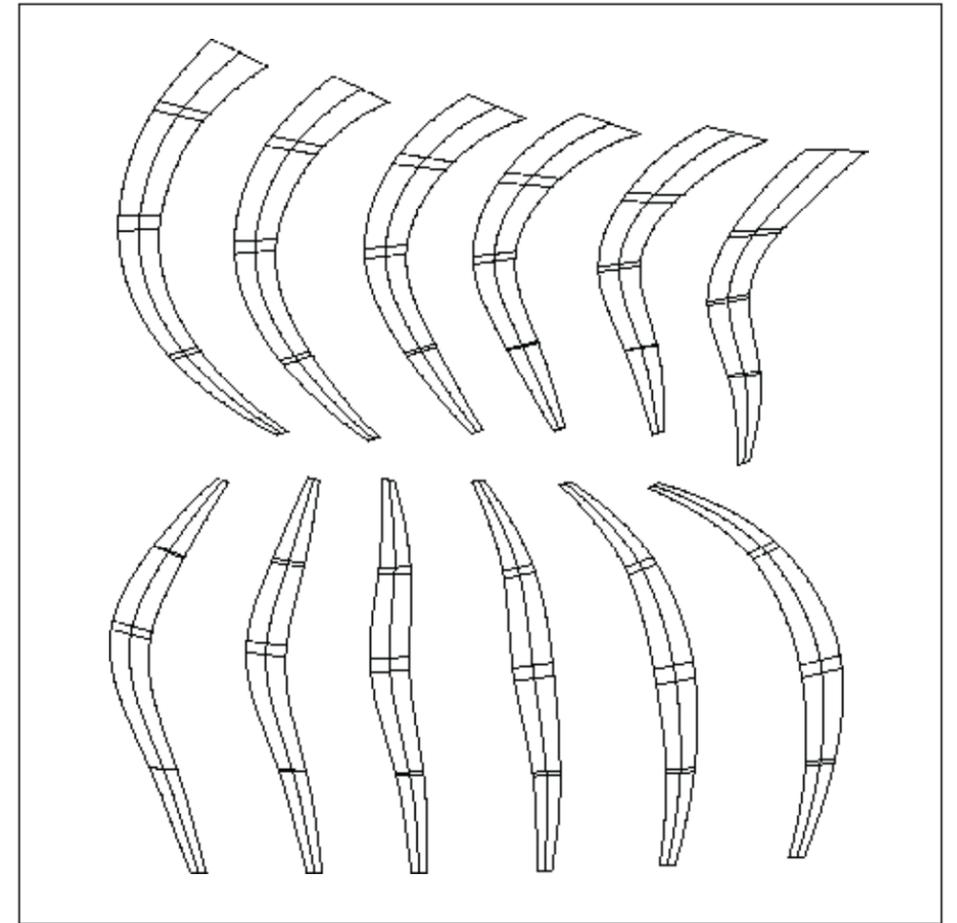
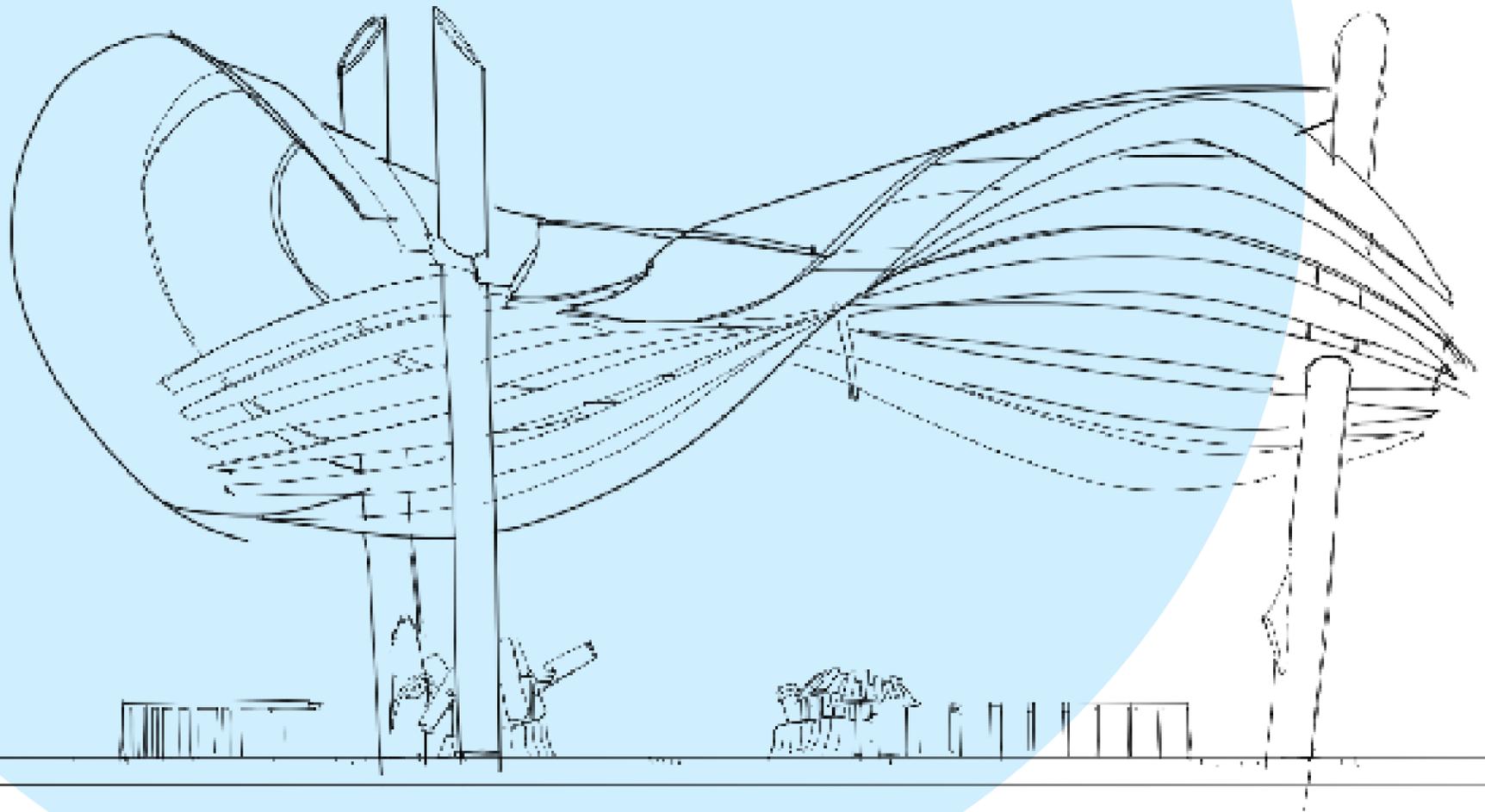
Awning



A pure white awning provides shade for the people, and its airy and open structure conveys an uplifting feeling. It contains and reflects the sounds from below, as well as serves as a visual representation of the unity displayed by the community.



Covers most of the site, provides sufficient shadings.



The music

The sounds made by the instruments work together to create a melody. The sound falling water is made by the rainsticks; the drums sound like rocks being thrown across the surface of water, and the xylophone creates the sound of water droplets. These all come together to create a peaceful environment that can remind the people of Ishinomaki of the positives of water in their lives.

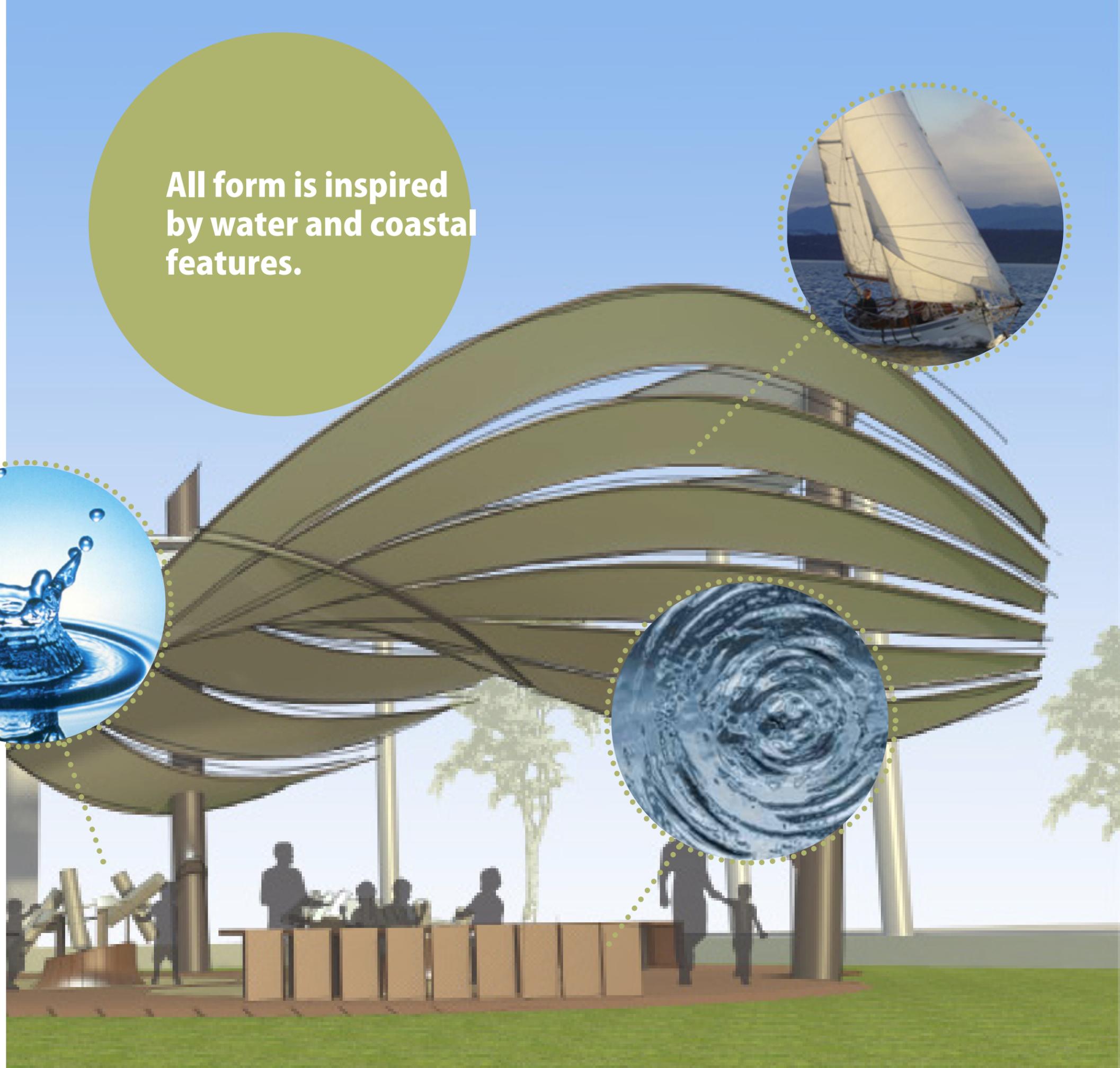
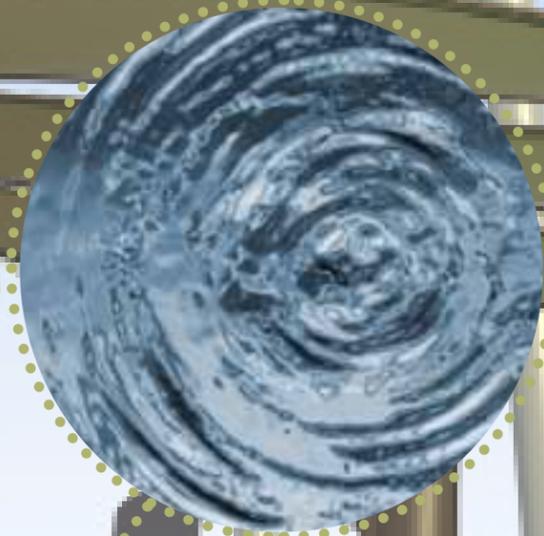


Each set of instruments makes a different tone of water.

The form

Emphasis on circular radiating patterns makes visual connections to a waterdrop and the ripples it makes in the water. The community's ties to water and coast and celebrated without being given a negative connotation.

All form is inspired by water and coastal features.



Hello! I'm Nobu and this is my family. I'm in the 2nd grade. I live with my mom, dad and cat, Maru. We recently moved back to Ishinomaki after a year living in Hitachi. Our home was swept away and so was my sister Akiko. We miss her very much.



a Saturday morning.

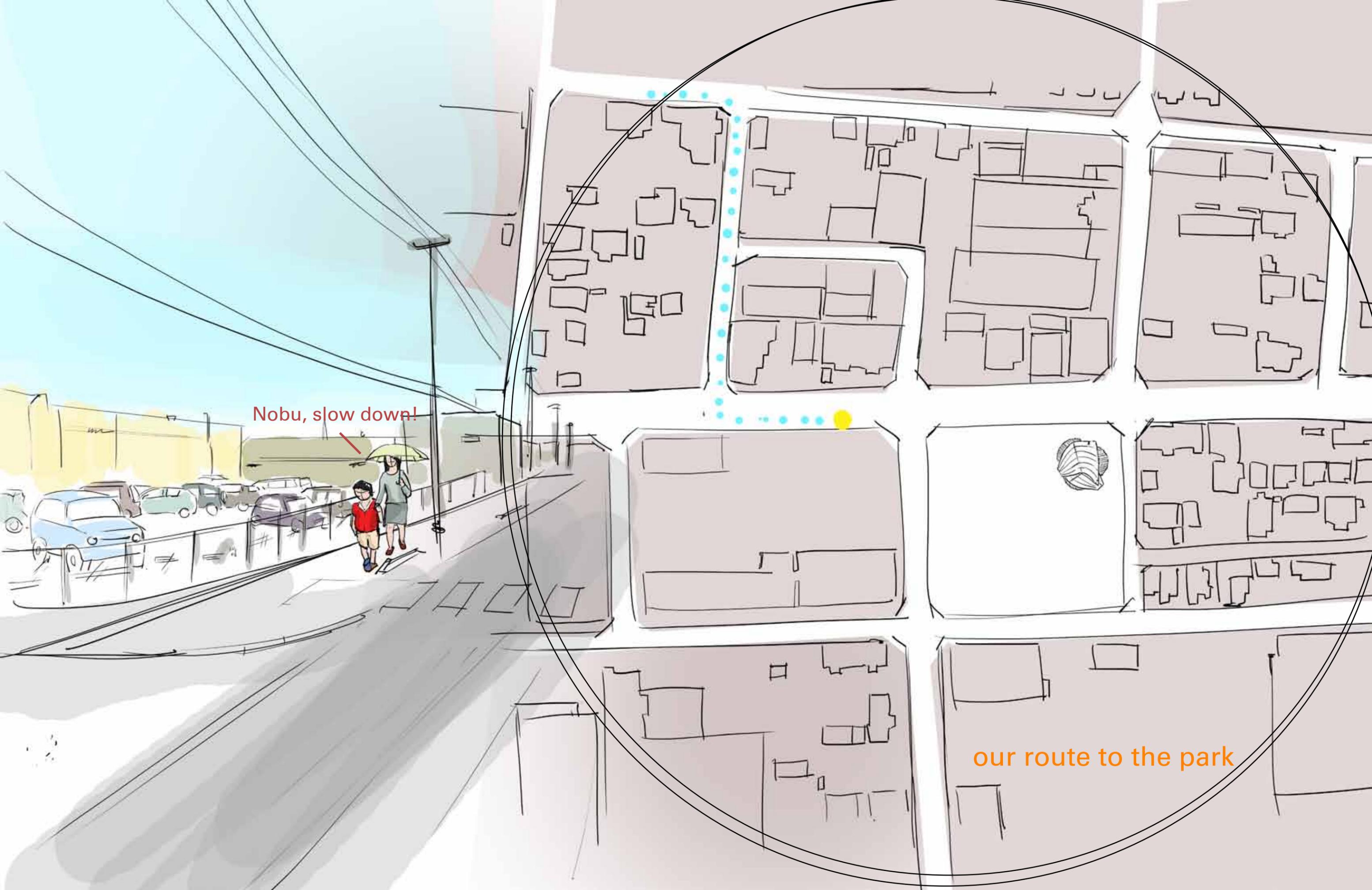


Nobu-chan, is your homework done? Do you want to go play at the Harmony Park after lunch?

OK!!! I've been hearing so much about it from other kids!

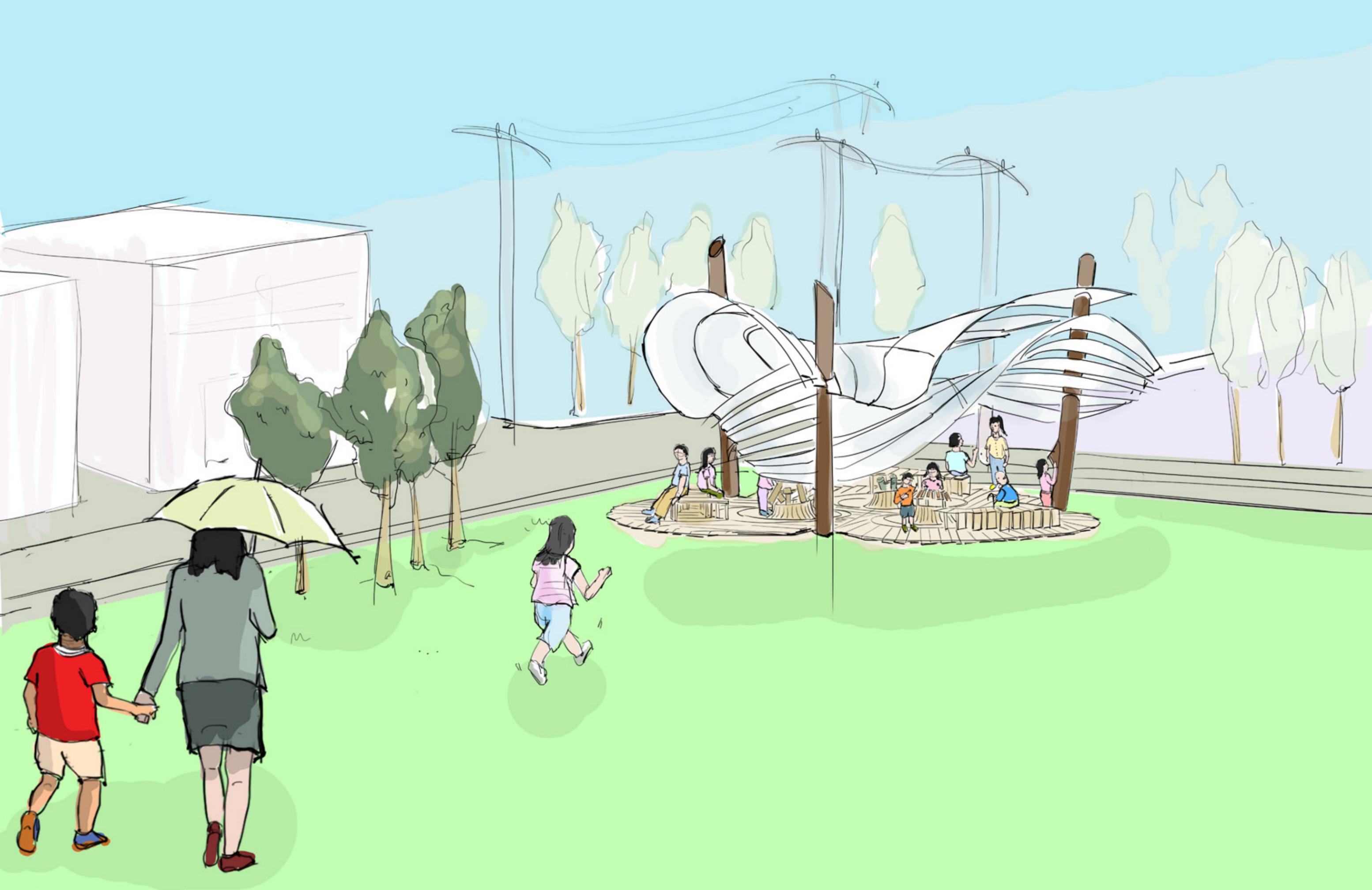
HARMONY PARK OPENS!!





Nobu, slow down!

our route to the park









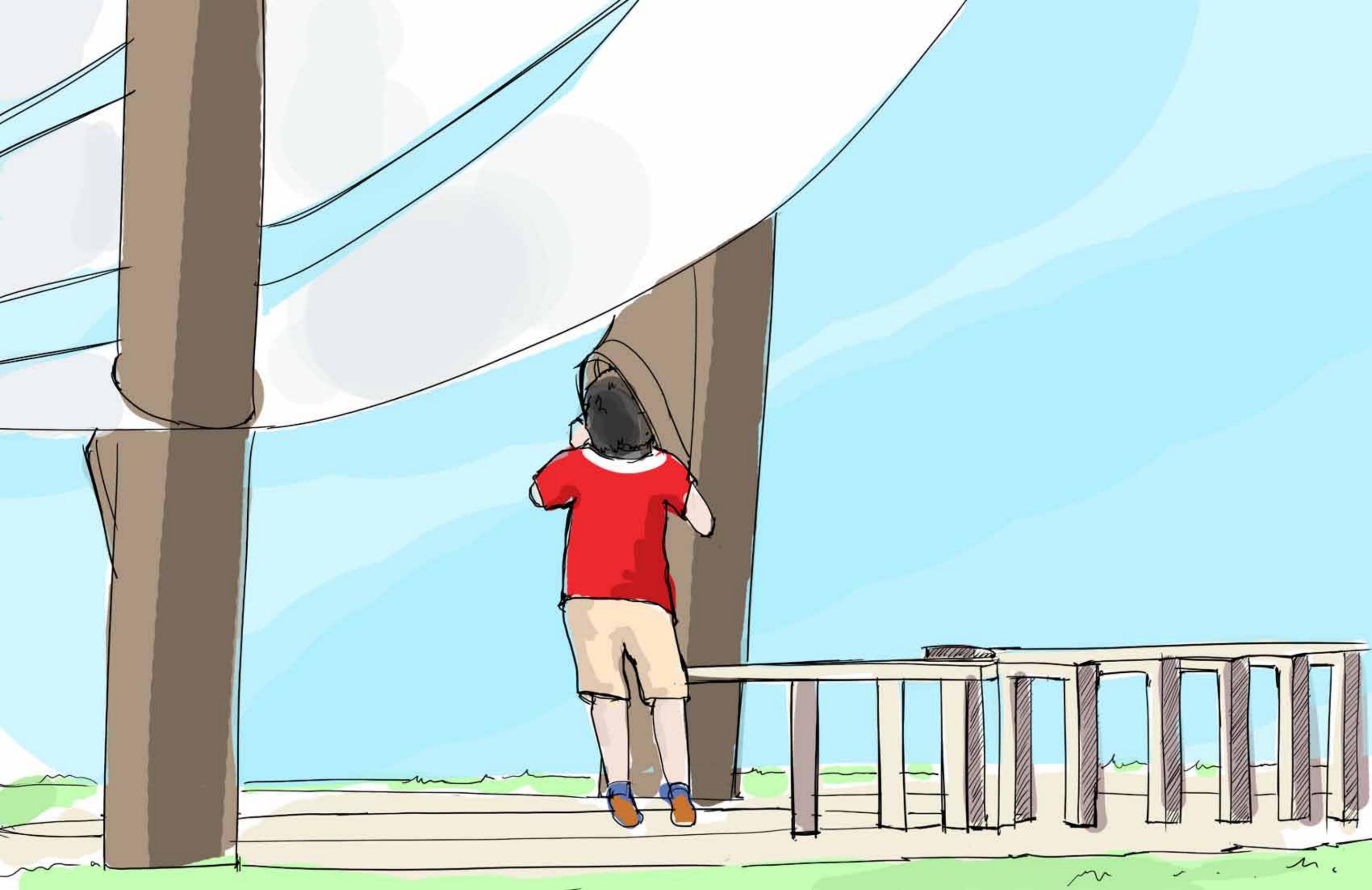


1, 2, 3, 4!!!!

Hmmm...you are right
Nobu! Maybe you can talk
to Akiko and tell her about
your day.

Mom!!! Are those
tubes over there used
to talk to the sky?







Great things are bound to happen when people gather with one heart.

