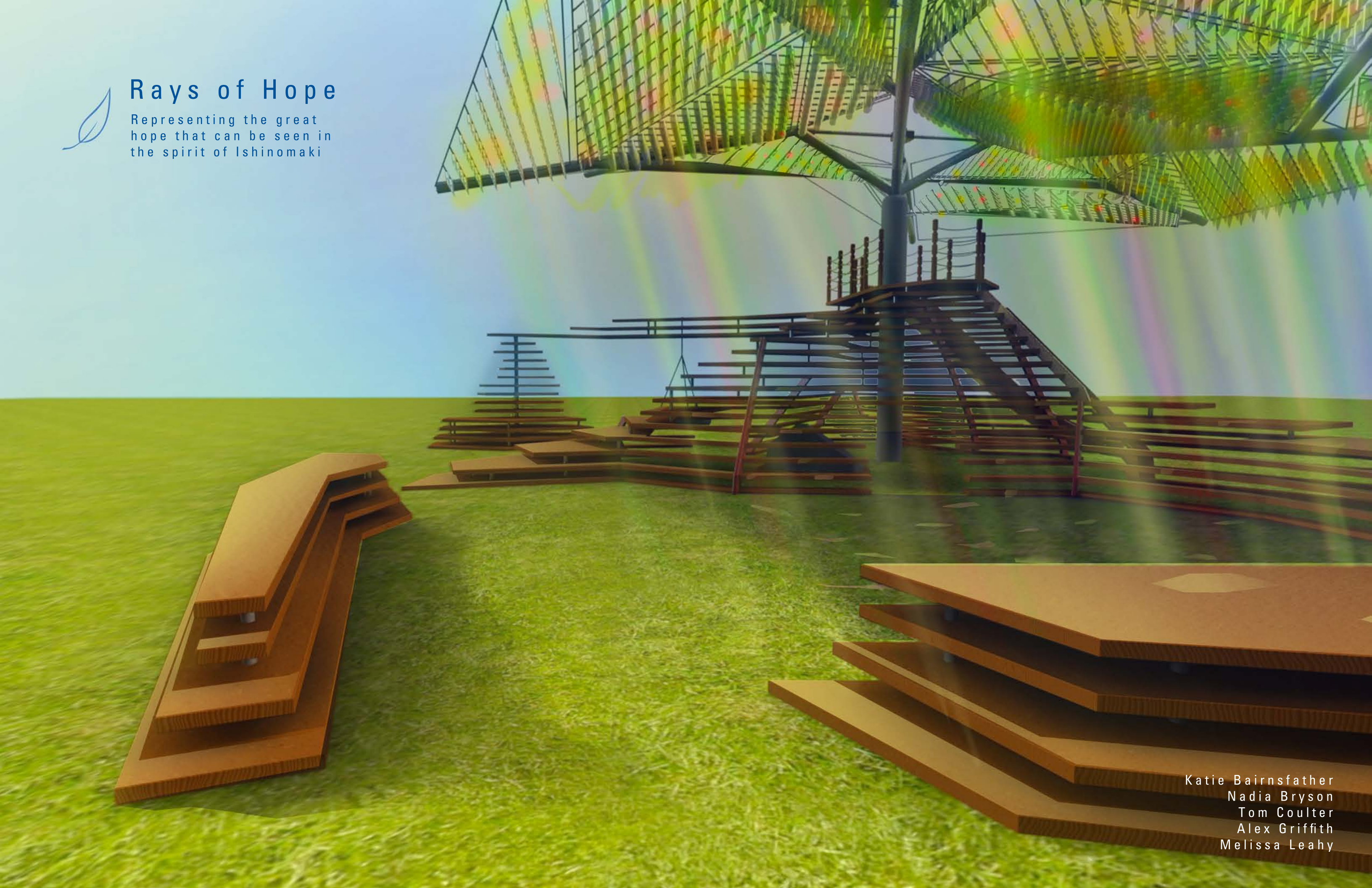




Rays of Hope

Representing the great
hope that can be seen in
the spirit of Ishinomaki



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Ishinomaki

Great hope and strength can be seen in the spirit of the people of Ishinomaki.

Why we are doing this?

To give to a community that has come together in a time of need. To lift up the spirits of the community in Ishinomaki through play and remembrance.

What we hope to accomplish?

We want to maintain a balance between play and remembrance in one area where people of all ages can visit and congregate generation after generation.

Why this project was important to us?

Our goal is to help a community, that has gone through a terrible tragedy, rebuild.



Inspiration

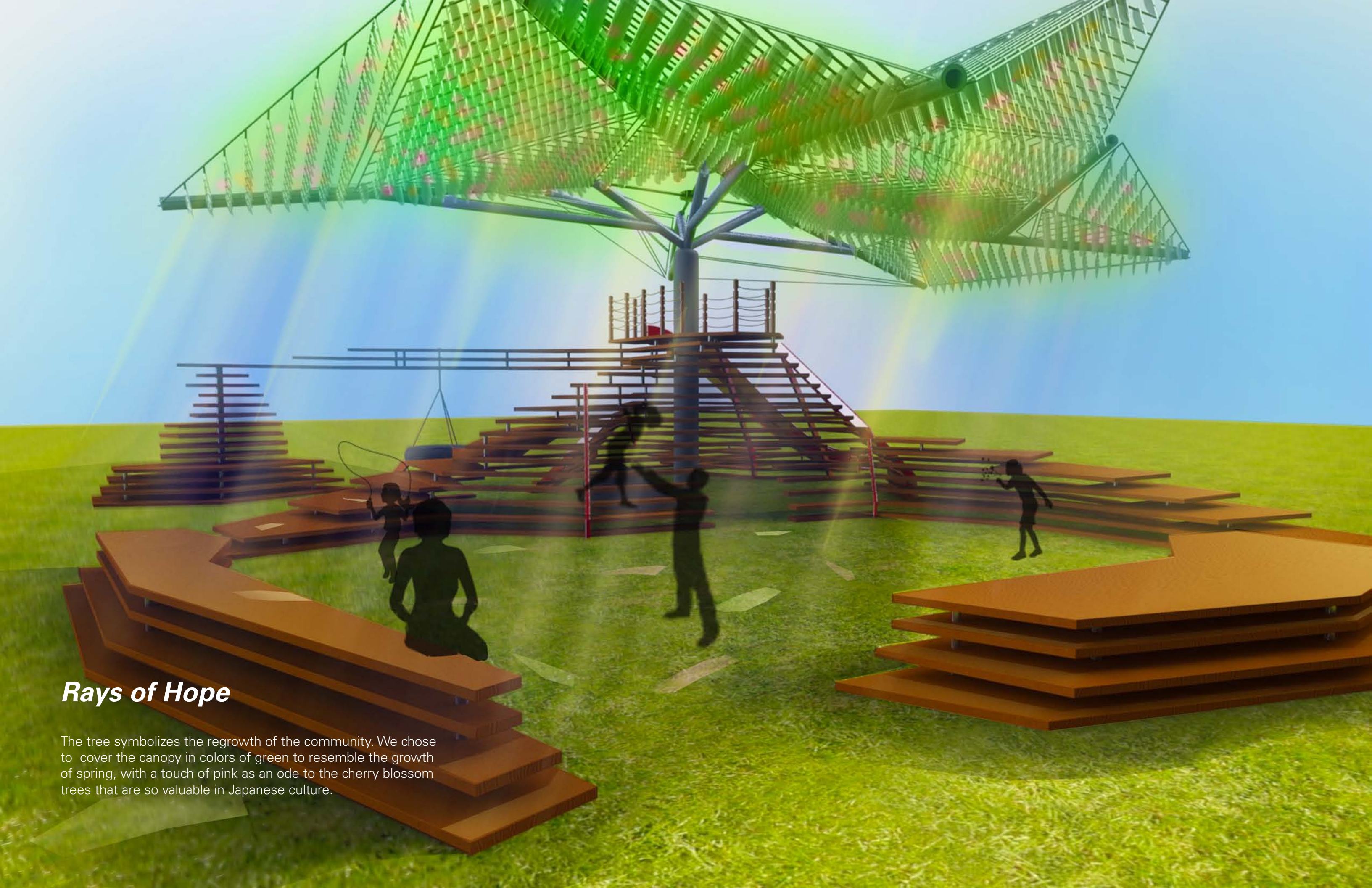
The Tree

The inspiration for this design came from the Rikuzentakata “*Tree of Hope*” left standing following the tragic March 11, 2011 tsunami in Northeast Japan. The understated beauty of a tree, its regenerative spirit, and the regard with which they are held in traditional Japanese culture led to the utilization of the tree as the centerpiece for our design.

The Leaves

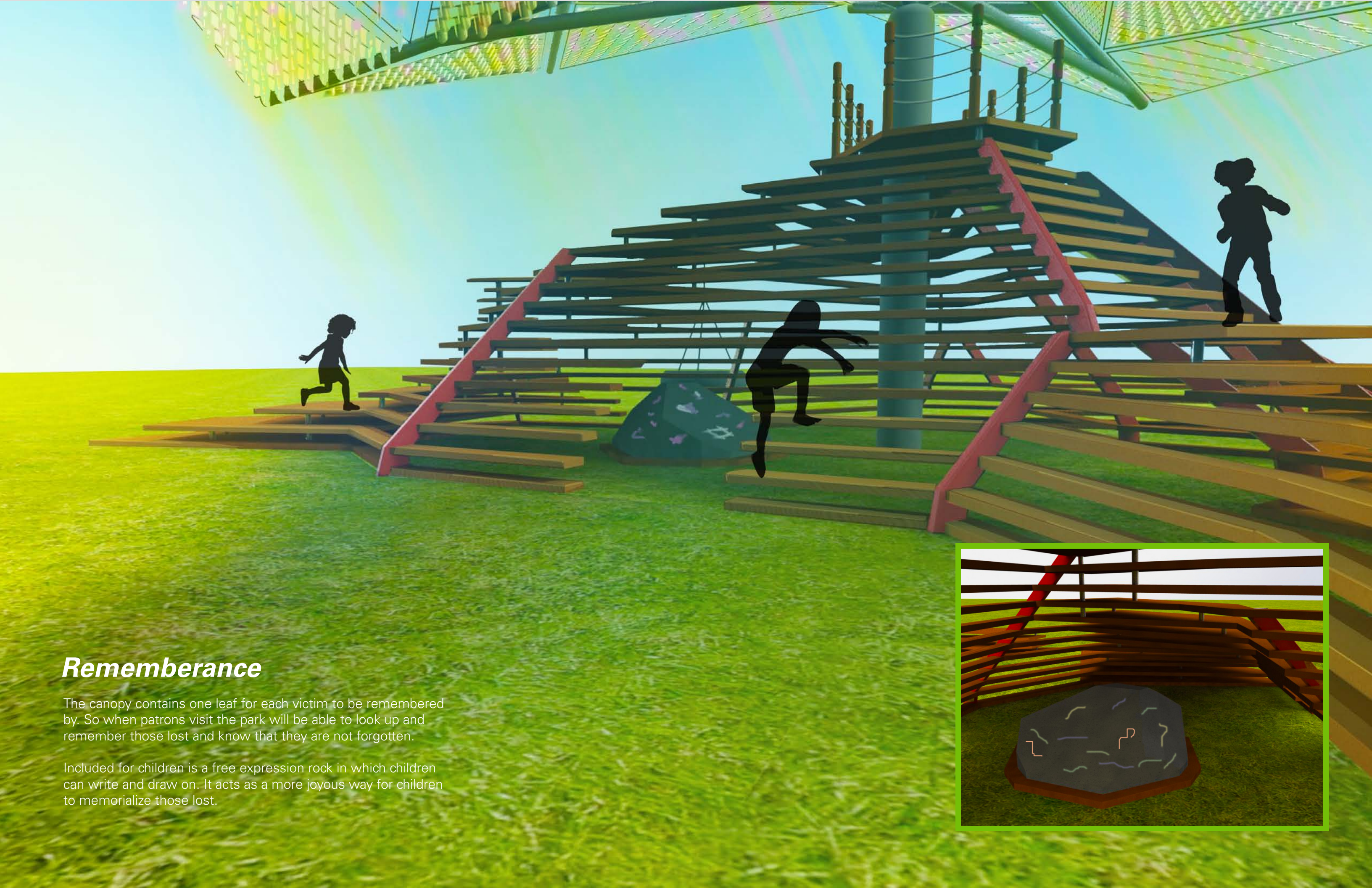
To achieve these goals, the ‘leaves’ on the tree took inspiration from the light soft shapes displayed on this board. The monument is intended to provide shade and shelter like a tree would, but the use of *colored* ‘leaves’ can provide unexpected shape to the design with a play on light and shadow. To create an appropriate monument for those lost, the idea of each ‘leaf’ representing each victim of the tsunami was used, leading to the use of 3,000 individual ‘leaves.’ The ultimate effect of this would be a beautiful shade structure that would allow the patrons of the park to enjoy and reflect on those lost.





Rays of Hope

The tree symbolizes the regrowth of the community. We chose to cover the canopy in colors of green to resemble the growth of spring, with a touch of pink as an ode to the cherry blossom trees that are so valuable in Japanese culture.



Rememberance

The canopy contains one leaf for each victim to be remembered by. So when patrons visit the park will be able to look up and remember those lost and know that they are not forgotten.

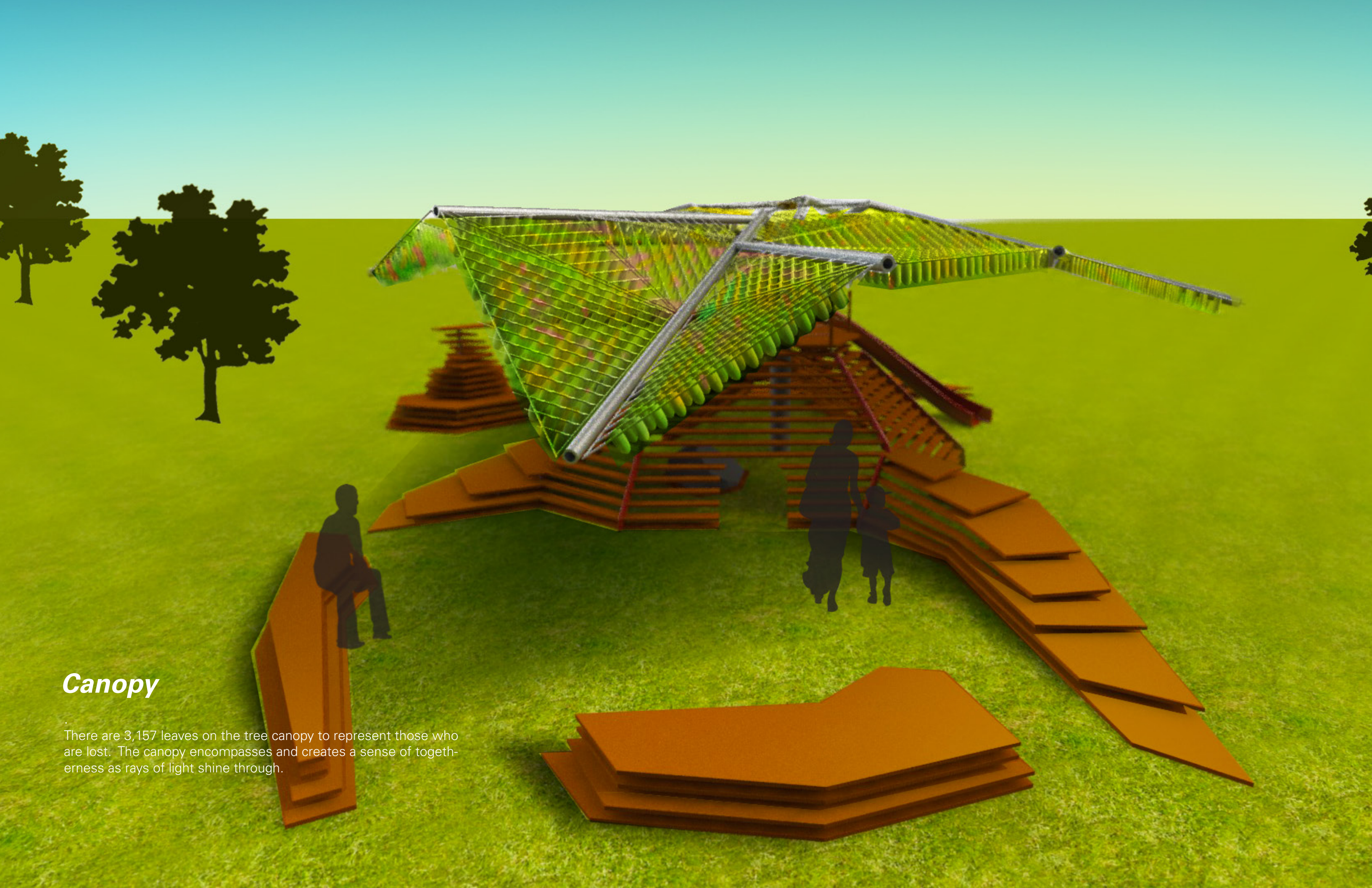
Included for children is a free expression rock in which children can write and draw on. It acts as a more joyous way for children to memorialize those lost.



Intergenerational

The tire swing is a gift of American play culture. The slatted sloped structure allows for easy adventurous climbing for all ages. The entire area is meant to be utilized as a play structure as well as a gathering place for all ages. Benches along the edges provide relaxation.





Canopy

There are 3,157 leaves on the tree canopy to represent those who are lost. The canopy encompasses and creates a sense of togetherness as rays of light shine through.

Orthographics

Layout

The layout allows for maximum mobility. Multiple routes inward guarantee that there are no crowded spaces. Congestion is limited by placing the various play areas apart from each other.

Visibility

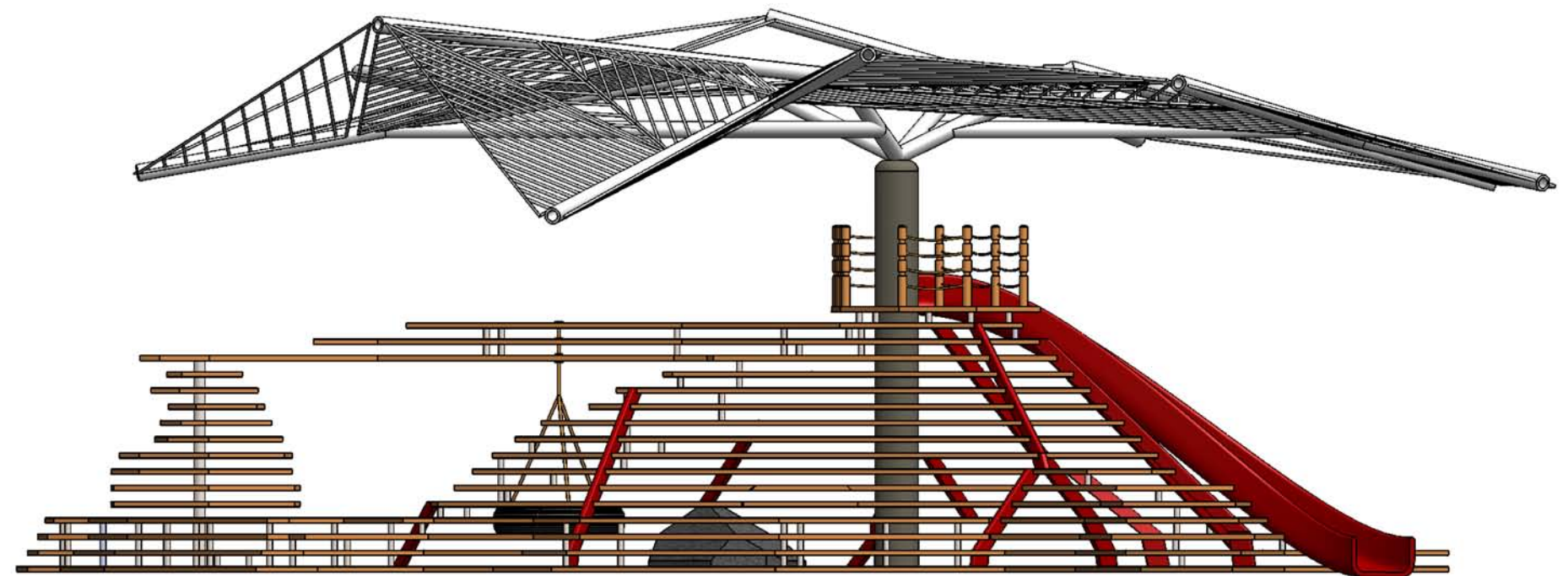
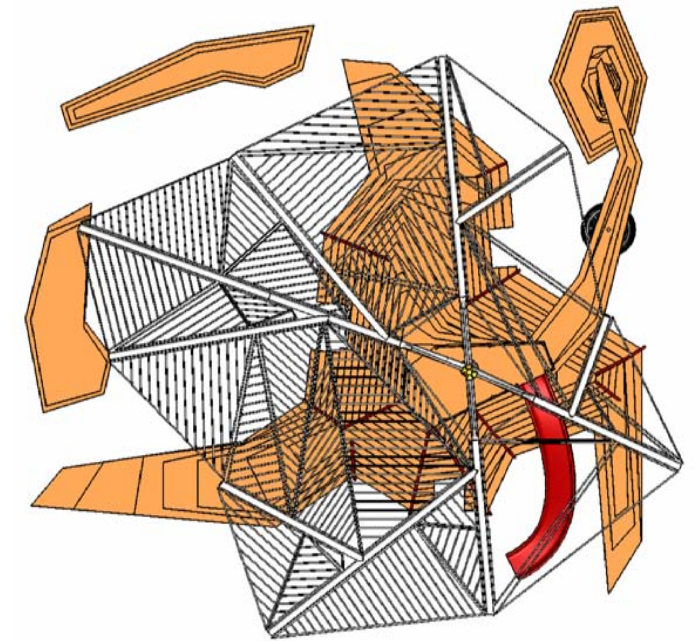
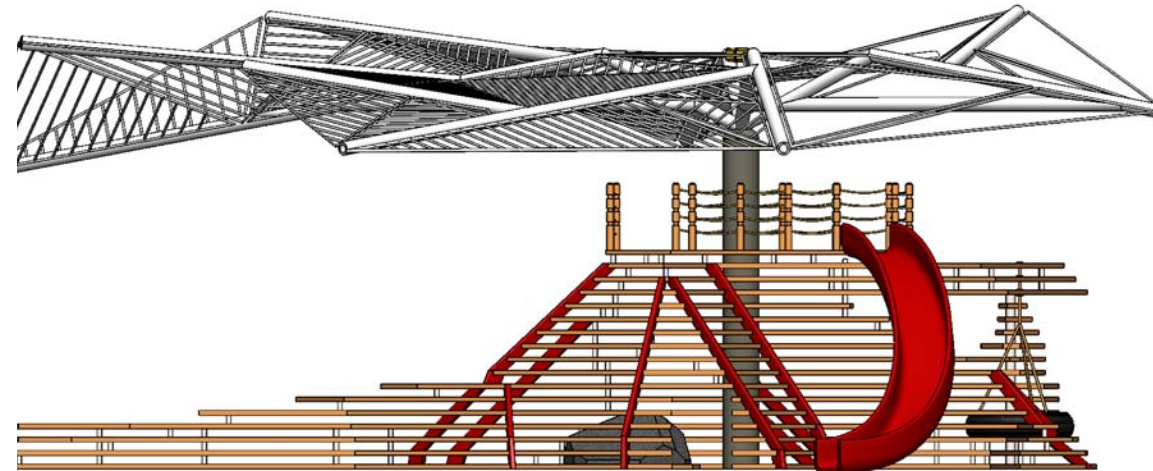
The parents can easily see the kids playing which provides for overall safety. The way it is laid out increases visibility with a wide open area in the middle and benches and play elements on the edges.

Deviation of Space

Different areas of the playground allow for different kinds of atmosphere. The north area would be for more play and physical interaction while the southern area maintains a quiet atmosphere and a place for people to relax. Both can view the canopy with ease.

Viewing

The overall layout is also designed to maximize viewing of the intricate canopy. Those sitting on the benches can simply look up at the canopy while others can climb to the top of the tree trunk to take in a whole new view of the playground.



Materials

Composite Wood

Recycled HDPE composite wood could make up the structure of the abstract body of the tree. We would like to use as much recycled material as possible with its decreased cost on the community and its eco-friendly nature. Composite wood is beneficial because of its durable, low maintenance and safety factors. Composite wood has the ability to hold up to weather, termites and UV light.

Mylar Canopy

The canopy could be made out of Mylar which is a thin plastic material that is light weight and can be very colorful.

Recycled Steel

Recycled Steel would potentially make up the inner structure of the tree. It would provide a great deal of strength to the structure in addition to being a recycled more eco-friendly product.



Features

Shade

The shade is provided with the canopy. Open areas allow light to shine through. The leave are attached to metal cords and strund through two holes. Triangles make up the surface of the canopy to provide structure.

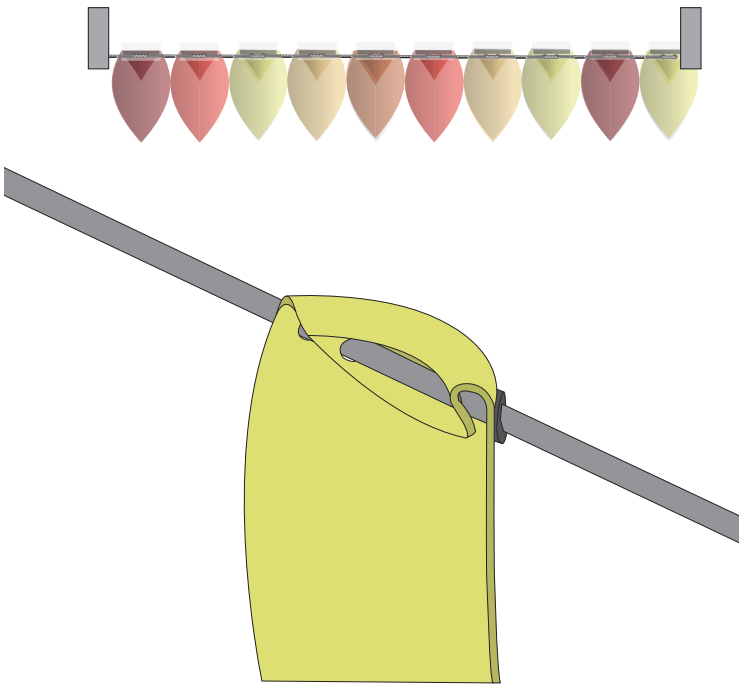
Seating

The seating is inocorporated with the tree and uses the same material. The benches reflect the roots of the tree that extends out.

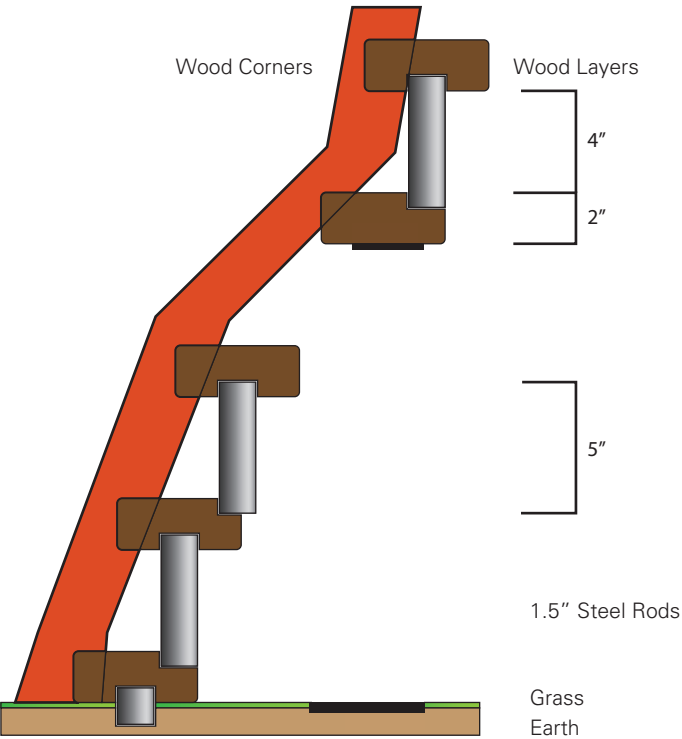
Viewing

The overall layout is also designed to maximize viewing of the intricate canopy. Those sitting on the benches can simply look up at the canopy while others can climb to the top of the tree trunk to take in a whole new view of the play-ground.

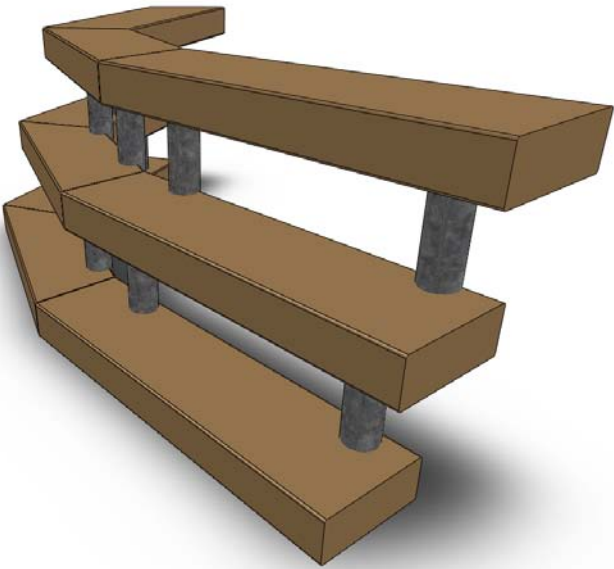
Flag Construction and Details



Wood Panel Construction Side



Wood Panel Construction Perspective



Cover Arm Super Structure Cut-Away

