

# The Justice Thurgood Marshall Amenity Center at PS 103

Baltimore, Maryland

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cross Street Partners and Beloved Community Services Corp have successfully transformed the Henry Garnet School into the Justice Thurgood Marshall Amenity Center at PS 103. In collaboration with the University of Maryland, this center not only honors the enduring legacy of Justice Thurgood Marshall and other civil rights leaders who called Upton home, but will also deliver crucial community services, resources, and education to an underserved area.

Situated in the vibrant heart of Baltimore's Upton community, PS 103 was built in 1877 as a segregated elementary school for African American children. Among its distinguished alumni is Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first African American appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court, who attended the school from 1914 to 1921. PS 103 was a pivotal institution until it closed in the early 1970s, after which it became a recreational center offering office space to nonprofit organizations until its permanent closure in the early 1990s. After lying vacant for over two decades, the building narrowly escaped complete destruction in a 2016 fire; however, thanks to roof replacement and essential structural repairs, the building remains solid.

The Amenity Center represents a bold step forward in positioning Upton as a cultural tourism destination, celebrating and amplifying the community's vital role in the nation's Civil Rights Movement. The newly established Justice Thurgood Marshall Center empowers the Upton community to realize its vision—one that seeks to reclaim its rich African American heritage and serve as a central hub for cultural revitalization. This vision places the legacies of remarkable entertainers, artists, and civic leaders at the forefront, drawing investments back into the community.

Now complete, the three-story historic building features 12 repurposed classrooms anchored by the University of Maryland's Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. Center for Law, Justice, and Ethics. This center provides legal and restorative justice programs for residents from across the city.

Additional tenants include Beloved Community Services Corp's headquarters, a public event space, School of Public Health, Center for Health Equity Innovation and Design Studio, Transformative Research and Applied Violence Intervention Lab, and STEM City USA/Center for Career Advancement Group.

Named in honor of Justice Marshall, the project has been nominated to become a protected site, managed in perpetuity by the National Park Service. This designation could create a new tourist attraction for West Baltimore, helping to spur further residential, commercial, and hospitality development throughout the Upton community. ■



**cross**  
**street**  
PARTNERS



### DEVELOPER

Beloved Community Services Corp  
Cross Street Partners

### ARCHITECT

Sulton Campbell Britt & Associates

### GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Mahogany, Inc.

### CSP ROLE

Co-Developer  
Financial Advisory  
Owner's Representative  
Property Management

### PROJECT TYPE

Adaptive Reuse, Education,  
Historic/cultural exhibit space,  
Community services, Programming

### PROJECT SIZE

22,068 square feet

### PROJECT COST

\$14MM

### START / COMPLETION

Summer 2022 / Winter 2023

Cross Street Partners  
2101 E Biddle Street, Suite 1201  
Baltimore, MD 21213  
CrossStPartners.com