



G E L F A N D
P A R T N E R S
A R C H I T E C T S

A mid-sized, woman-led firm, **GELFAND PARTNERS ARCHITECTS** has a diverse perspective and a social-minded approach to architecture. We bring innovative, sustainable design and transformative solutions to schools, colleges, housing, community facilities, and social enterprises.

THE YEAR OF THE PANDEMIC

Like many other companies, the global COVID-19 pandemic affected our firm tremendously. Some projects that were in progress were put on hold; projects that were scheduled to begin were postponed one to two years. A smooth transition to remote working allowed us to continue important work on other affordable housing, educational and community projects during this unprecedented time.

THE NUMBERS FOR 2020

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS

- 100 units of low income senior housing in a new building completed in San Jose
- 340 renovated units completed serving seniors, people with disabilities, individuals and families in the Bay Area with low or very low income or coming out of homelessness
- 173 renovated units in design which will serve the same populations in the Bay Area.
- Mixed-use building with 63 below market rate condominiums in design which will serve the same populations in San Francisco.

EDUCATION PROJECTS

- Construction completed at one public elementary school in Palo Alto, CA
- Construction completed at an independent school in Mill Valley, CA



Park Avenue Senior Apartments, San Jose, CA.



Addison Elementary School, Palo Alto



- Planning for one new community school in Mountain View, CA
- Seismic upgrade of a public high school in San Francisco, CA

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

- Design of a family resource center in the Mission District of San Francisco, CA
- Design development of a community music center in San Francisco, CA
- Pro bono design and volunteering for non profit organization housing women coming out of prison on Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA
- Design development for tenant improvement for a nonprofit promoting a sustainable water future for California, in San Francisco CA
- Design development of a community education center at the California State Parks' Yosemite Slough in San Francisco, CA

Smart, sustainable design is an attainable, practical, and affordable solution that Gelfand Partners delivers every year.

THIRD PARTY STANDARD USED TO PREPARE THE BENEFIT REPORT

Gelfand Partners Architects used B Lab's B Impact Assessment to prepare this benefit report. It provides a rigorous, point-based evaluation of the company's practices in the areas of governance, workers, community, environment and customers. We measure what matters!

WORKERS

- Full-time employees receive full benefits plus an annual allowance for professional development, and opportunities for advancement.



Community Music Center, San Francisco



Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, SF



- For full-time employees company pays 100% of individual health care premiums for Kaiser HMO and Blue Shield PPO, 75% for Blue Shield HMO.
- Employee Retirement Plan available for workers, including Socially Responsible Investing options
- Managerial staff is 56% women, the Architecture department is 80% women, and the full company staff is 79% women, with pay equity.
- Flex-time work schedules

COMMUNITY

- 50%+ of company is owned by women.
- 30%+ of significant suppliers are majority owned by women or individuals from underrepresented populations.

ENVIRONMENT

In addition to sustainable design on projects:

- Company facility is certified to meet the requirements of SF Green Business, a green building program accredited by the City of San Francisco.
- Company has recycling and composting program.
- Company facility utilizes energy-efficient lighting and heating systems

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPINION STATEMENT

Gelfand Partners Architects was successful in pursuing and creating a general public benefit during 2020.

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WHAT'S A CERTIFIED B CORP?

B Corp is to business what LEED certification is to buildings or Organic certification is to food. B Corporations are for-profit companies certified by the nonprofit B Lab to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. B Corps are using business as a force for good.

WHAT'S A BENEFIT CORPORATION?

A benefit corporation is a new legal form. When a company becomes a benefit corporation, the board of directors has legal protection so it is empowered to consider all stakeholders — workers, community, environment, and shareholders — rather than having the sole legal responsibility of maximizing the bottom line.

