Cathedral Community Then and Now

Program Goal: Students will explore a neighborhood’s change over time and discuss concepts of “community” and “welcome.”

Vocabulary
- Community
- Neighborhood
- Construction
- Map

Essential Questions
- How can neighborhoods change over time?
- How can buildings like St. John the Divine be a part of their community?

Pre-Program Activities
- Look at a map of your neighborhood. What kind of buildings are on the map? What happens in those buildings?
- Analyze your community as if it were a person, and use the worksheet on Pg. 2 to answer the following questions: What does your community look like? What does it eat? What will its job be? What pet will it have? How and where does it learn?
- Visit a church or other community building in your neighborhood and do a close looking from outside. What do you see? What do you think happens in there? What’s its purpose? How do you know? How does looking at this building make you feel? Why did the builders want you to feel this way?

Post-Program Activities
- Draw yourself in a space where you feel welcome. (Use the worksheet on Pg. 3.) How can a space help you feel welcome? Why is it important to feel welcome and safe? What can you do to help others feel welcome in your community?
- Draw what your neighborhood will look like in the future. What changes? What stays the same?
- Select a building in your neighborhood and design an “update” for it. What would you include if you were going to redesign it today? What shapes and materials would you use to build it?
- Create a stained glass window that reflects/represents your neighborhood. How can you demonstrate the concept of “welcome” with a window?

Extra Resources
Mapping Historical Photographs from the New York Public Library: oldnyc.org
Lessons on planning and creating a community mural for young students from Teaching Tolerance: https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources/tolerance-lessons/activate-activism-planning-our-mural
How does your community...

Learn?

Sound?

See? Smell?

Taste?

Move?

Feel?
Directions: Draw yourself in a space where you feel welcome and safe.