

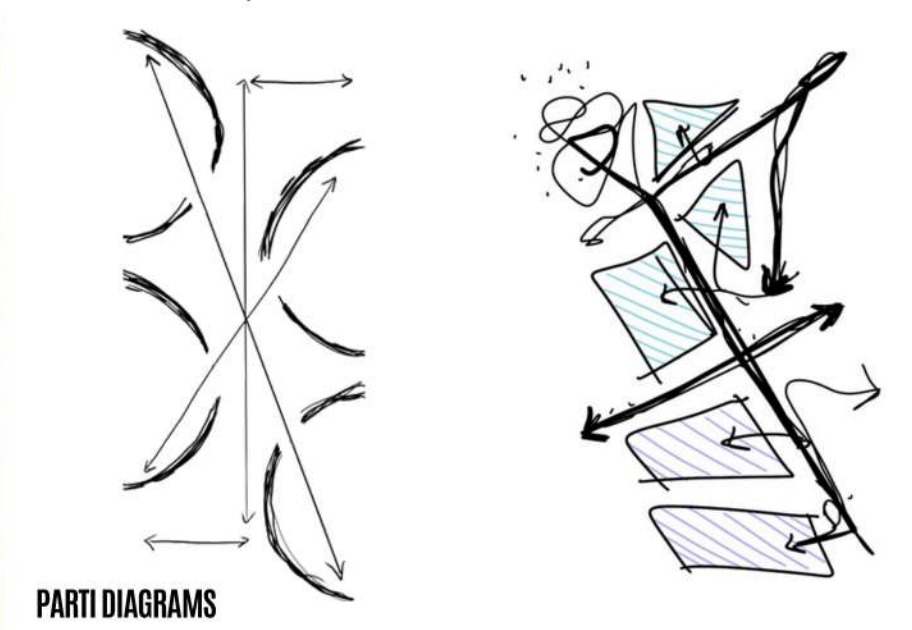
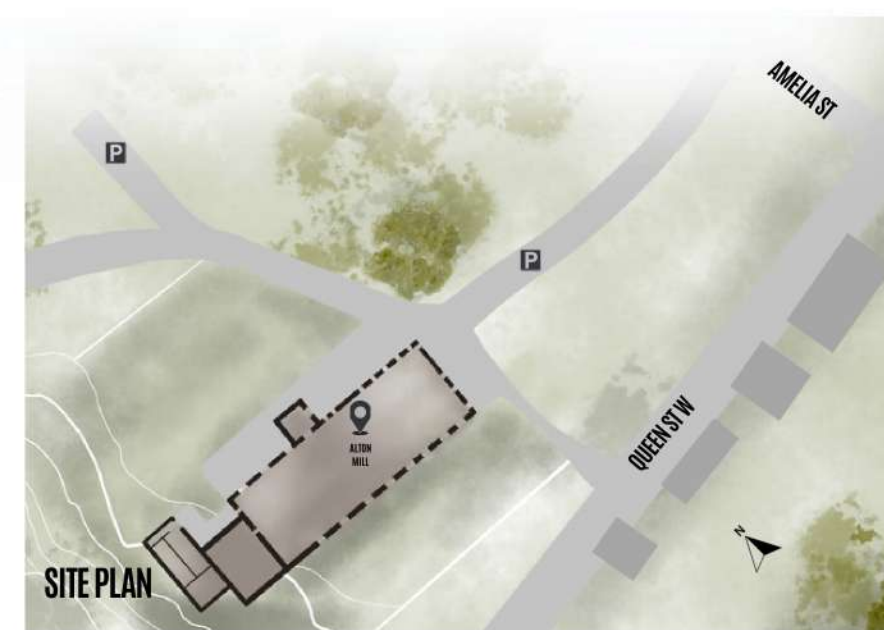
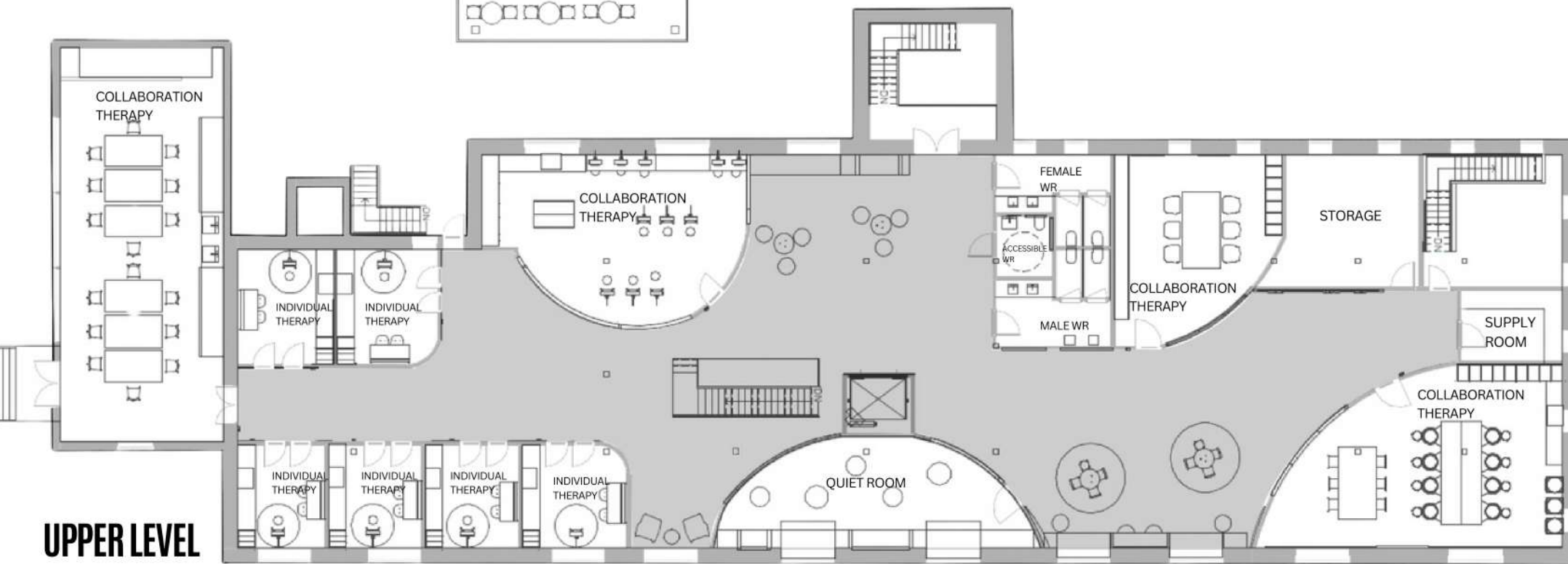
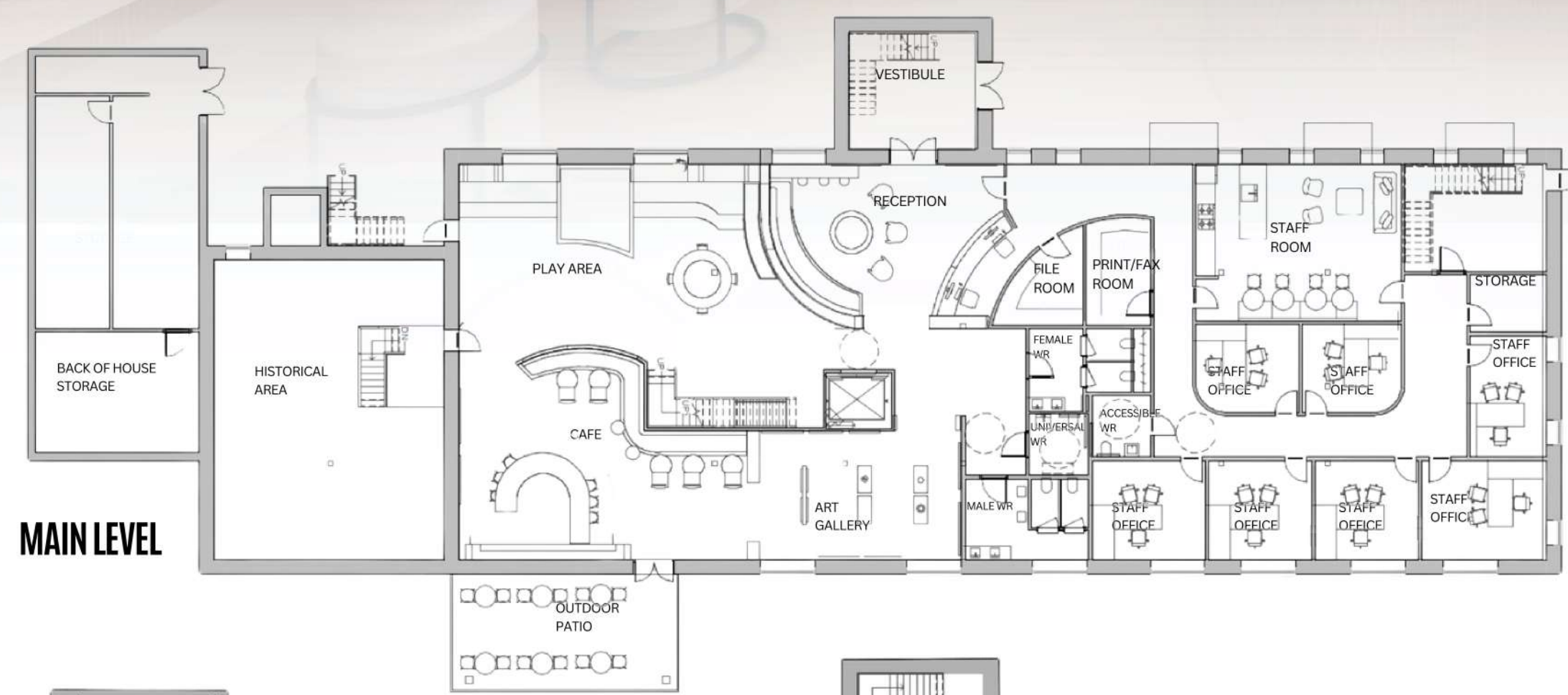
# ART THERAPY CENTER FOR CHILDREN WITH SELECTIVE MUTISM

ANGELICA SPANO



THIS ART THERAPY CENTER PROVIDES AN ANXIETY-FREE SPACE WHERE CHILDREN WITH SELECTIVE MUTISM CAN FREELY EXPRESS THEMSELVES ARTISTICALLY, WITHOUT VERBALLY COMMUNICATING THEIR FEELINGS, AS THEIR VOICE IS BEING HEARD THROUGH THEIR ARTWORK.

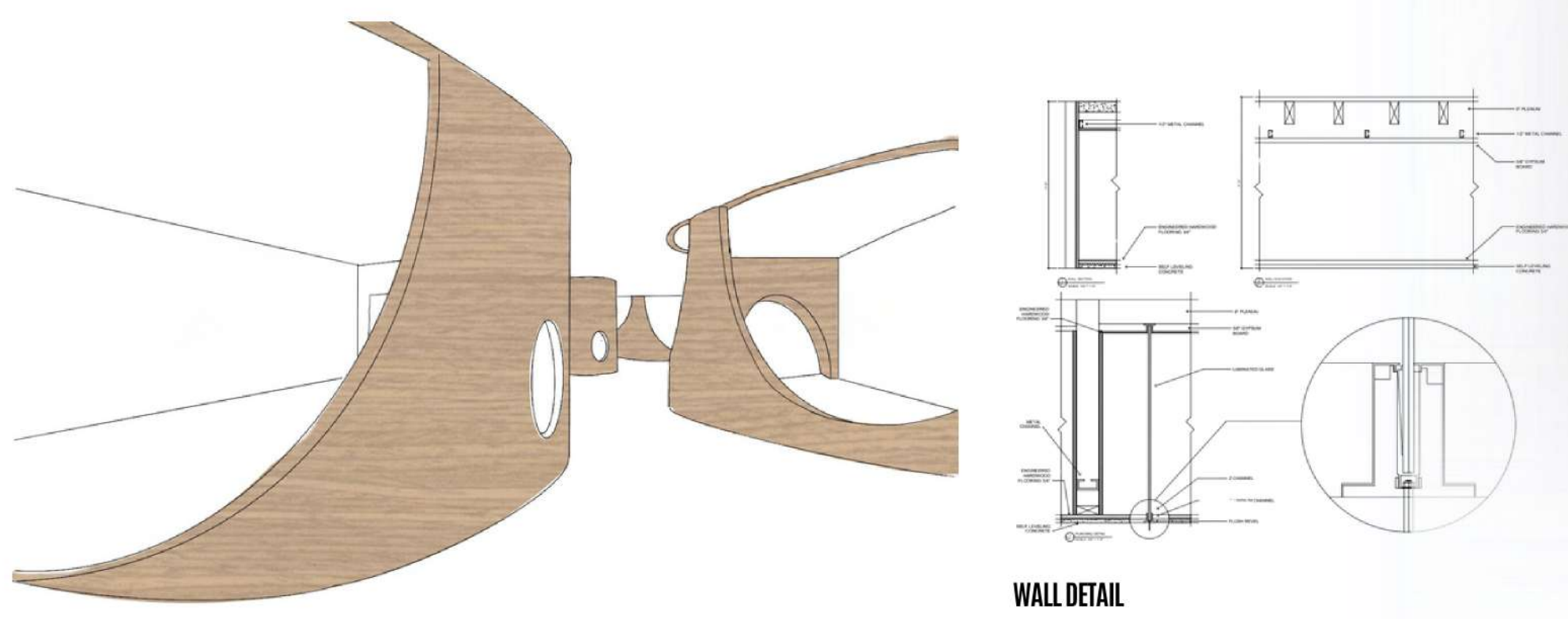
THE DESIGN CONCEPT IS ROOTED AROUND AN EMPOWERING ENVIRONMENT SPECIFICALLY FOR CHILDREN WITH SELECTIVE MUTISM, WHERE ART BECOMES THEIR WAY OF COMMUNICATION AND SELF-EXPRESSION. WITHIN THIS SPACE, THE FREE-FLOWING DESIGN AMPLIFIES THE VOICE OF EACH CHILD, FOSTERING A PROFOUND SENSE OF IDENTITY, BELONGING, AND CONFIDENCE.



THE FOCAL AREA OF THE BUILDING, SITUATED ALONG THE UPPER-LEVEL CORRIDOR, STANDS OUT AS THE CENTRAL ELEMENT IN THE SPACE. WITH ITS HALF-OPEN WALLS, ALLOWING VISIBILITY INTO EACH ROOM FROM ANY POINT WITHIN THE HALL, IT NOT ONLY CREATES A SENSE OF INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND SAFETY BUT ALSO FACILITATES EASIER NAVIGATION FOR THE CHILDREN. THIS DESIGN CHOICE ENCOURAGES A FEELING OF INCLUSIVITY AND SUPPORT, REINFORCING THE IDEA THAT EACH CHILD'S VOICE AND EXPRESSION ARE VALUED AND SEEN WITHIN THE SPACE.



IN THE THERAPY SPACES, THE DESIGN FEATURES FOUR COLLABORATION ART THERAPY ROOMS, EACH DEDICATED TO A UNIQUE MEDIUM SUCH AS POTTERY, KNITTING, PAINTING, AND MIXED ART, FOSTERING CONNECTIONS AMONG CHILDREN WITH SELECTIVE MUTISM AND THEIR PEERS BY ENCOURAGING COLLABORATIVE CREATION WITHOUT VERBAL COMMUNICATION. THE DESIGN ALSO INCLUDES SIX INDIVIDUAL ART THERAPY ROOMS, THAT PROVIDE A SAFE AND NURTURING ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN TO EXPRESS THEIR THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, AND EXPERIENCES THROUGH VARIOUS CREATIVE MEDIUMS WITH THEIR THERAPIST.



POTTERY ROOM

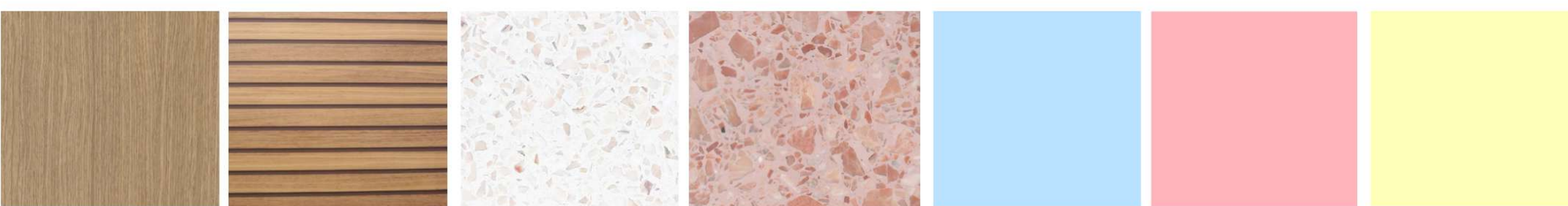
## THERAPY SPACES



PAINTING ROOM



INDIVIDUAL THERAPY ROOM



WOOD SERVES AS THE PRIMARY MATERIAL IN THE DESIGN, WITH A TRANQUIL AMBIANCE FOR CHILDREN, COMPLEMENTED BY SOOTHING PASTEL TONES TO ALLEVIATE ANXIETY, FOSTERING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE CHILDREN WITH SELECTIVE MUTISM CAN COMFORTABLY EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

## USER EXPERIENCES



ART GALLERY



PLAY AREA



ART GALLERY AND CAFE ELEVATION



PLAYROOM ELEVATION



SUITE



CAFE

THE DESIGN OF THE SPACE INCORPORATES USER EXPERIENCES, INCLUDING A PLAY AREA THAT ACTS AS A SAFE AND FAMILIAR SPACE WHERE CHILDREN FEEL MORE AT EASE, HELPING TO REDUCE THEIR ANXIETY LEVELS. ADDITIONALLY, A CAFE IS AVAILABLE FOR KIDS AND PARENTS TO VISIT, AS WELL AS AN ART GALLERY DISPLAYING THE CHILDREN'S ARTWORK, WHICH BOOSTS THEIR SELF-ESTEEM AND CONTRIBUTES TO THEIR OVERALL CONFIDENCE. SUITES ARE AVAILABLE FOR KIDS AND PARENTS TO STAY OVERNIGHT IF THEY ARE TRAVELING FROM AFAR.



SOUTH SECTION