Located at 8th and Tatnall Streets, The Rock Lot opened on August 30th 2017, after months of community engagement. The space was the first implementation of WRC’s Vacant to Vibrant plan, which consists of reimagining and remaking vacant spaces in the Creative District. The Rock Lot and 7th & West Streets Park, which are connected to one another by Catawba Street Alleyway, are currently in various stages of repurposing. For this West Center City neighborhood, the Rock Lot was the first creative, active outdoor gathering space with programs for residents. This placemaking project has set the bar for leveraging the power of arts, culture and creativity.

Now in its third season of successful programming, the Rock Lot makes it clear that the community welcomes this kind of opportunity for green space and community gatherings. The Rock Lot’s summer programming is now an anticipated part of community life.

The space features an open lawn area, trees and outdoor seating. The onsite shed that houses the open lending library and community bulletin board also allows for onsite storage that can accommodate pop-up events all season long, and

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with a variety of partners. This flexible green space accommodates events such as a weekly Drumming Circle, Capoeira instruction and Jazz Nights. This season, residents will be able to join a farm share program, with pick up at the Rock Lot. We hope to grow this program into a farmers’ market in the future. The Rock Lot is also appreciated by residents for being a green oasis in an urban setting.

Development and construction of the Rock Lot was possible thanks to the National Endowment for the Arts, the Delaware State Legislature, the Delaware Department of Justice, the Delaware Economic Development Office and Nemours. Our programs are supported by the Delaware Division of the Arts.