**Project Architect:** Eric Philbrook

**Project Location:** Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine

**Project Narrative:** This project is an exploration of interstitial spaces and their uses in architecture. Visitors are asked to leave the busy urban environment and journey to a state of relaxation. The recessed courtyard provides the physical escape, while sounds of water and the traditions of a Japanese tea ceremony provide the mental escape. This project also recognizes the transitional phases of nature by embracing springtime blossoms, a cool mist opposing the summer heat, cascading red leaves from Japanese maples in fall, and the quiet stillness of winter.

**Category:** Student Project