**Drywall + Dumping**

(An impllosion: a deep dive into the hidden connections between drywall, the “building boom,” and dumping in Philadelphia.

*Drawings and design by: Shari Hersh and Gamar Markarian
Nic Esposito, Molly Greenberg, Terrill Haigler, Shari Hersh, Amanda Kaminsky, Gamar Markarian, Daphne More, Kermit O, Kaitlin Pomerantz, Maurice Sampson, Kyla van Buren, and Ron Whyte

**Implosion team:** Aminata Sandra Calhoun, Billy Dufala, Researcher and copy editor: Emily Cooper Moore

**Aerial View:**

- **Material:**
  - 21 million tons produced a year
  - **Unnecessary Additives:**
    - Black + Brown + Non-Metallics
    - Non-metals: paper, glass, wood
  - **Cleaner & Greener Recycling:**
    - **Sulfate leaching:** from landfilled drywall

- **Labor:**
  - **Unjust burden & underpaid & unpaid labor:**
  - **Vulnerable Workers:**
  - **Disposal:**
    - Landfill
    - Low wages for non-union & residential installers
  - **Disposal:**
    - **C&D waste hauling:**
      - 10K lbs haulers: non-regulated waste hauling
      - 10-17K+ lbs haulers: regulated waste hauling
  - **Disposal:**
    - **Sulfur capture:**

- **Context:**
  - **Design more efficiently:**
  - **Redoassembly & reuse:**
  - **Architects:**

- **Jobsites:**
  - **Deconstruct, don't demolish!**
  - **Redoassembly & reusing:**
  - **Litter requires collection by heavy machinery or a team:**

- **Step Up, Philly!**
  - **Trash Academy:**
  - **Check out back of poster:**

**Existing & Proposed Solutions**

- **Shrink the boom:**
  - **Cost is high on the people, planet, and shake our city:**
  - **Competition & marketing tactics:**
    - Rock & roll tactics:
      - Water-resistant, fire-resistant, from acceptable sources
    - Black + Brown + Non-Metallics

**DUMPING IN PHILADELPHIA & CLUES TO SOLUTIONS**

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Drawings and design by Shari Hersh and Gamar Markarian. Implosion team: Aminta Sandra Calhoun, Billy Dufala, Nic Esposito, Molly Greenberg, Terrill Haigler, Shari Hersh, Amanda Kaminsky, Camer Markarian, Daphne More, Kermit O, Kaitlin Pomerantz, Maurice Sampson, Kyla van Buren, and Ron Whyte. Researcher and copy editor: Emily Cooper Moore.

This work is made through a residency at RAIR.
**Glossary**

**Adaptive reuse** The process of making existing structures or materials fit for a new use, usually involving minor structural changes.

**Bulky trash** Large items of solid waste such as furniture, appliances, and construction materials that are too large to be transported in regular garbage bags.

**C&D (Construction & Demolition)** Waste generated during the construction, renovation, or demolition of buildings. It includes materials such as concrete, metal, and wood.

**Composting** The process of decomposing organic matter such as food scraps and yard waste into a nutrient-rich soil conditioner.

**CST (Construction Sustainability Team)** A group of professionals who work to integrate sustainability into construction projects.

**Demolition** The process of breaking down a building into smaller pieces or structures, often using tools like hammers and saws.

**Demo boom** The practice of systematically dismantling building components for reuse or recycling.

**Deconstruction** A process of dismantling structures systematically to recover materials, as opposed to demolition, which destroys the structure.

**Drywall** A type of interior wall covering made of a gypsum core sandwiched between paper facing layers.

**FGD** Flue gas desulfurization, a process used to remove sulfur dioxide from the exhaust of coal-fired power plants.

**Gain** The economic benefit realized from reusing salvaged building materials.

**Implosion** A method of building demolition where the structure is brought down by controlled explosion.

**ISO** International Organization for Standardization, a group that develops global standards for various industries.

**Landfill** A site where solid waste is buried, often creating methane gas and groundwater contamination.

**Nuisance abatement** Legal actions taken to enforce regulations and control nuisances such as littering and illegal dumping.

**Prevention** Measures taken to stop dumping before it occurs, such as education, outreach, and enforcement.

**Recovery** Process of salvaging materials from a demolition or construction site.

**Remodeling** Activities that involve altering an existing building's design, style, or layout to improve its function or appearance.

**Renovation** The process of restoring the condition of a building or piece of equipment to a state of like new.

**Recycling** The process of converting waste materials into new products, preventing waste and reducing the need for raw materials.

**Tipping fee** The fee paid to a landfill or waste management facility for the disposal of waste.

**Trash Academy** A transformative education program that focuses on deconstruction as an economic and environmental strategy.

**Zero waste** A goal where all waste is eliminated through recycling, reusing, or reducing.

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**Community groups taking action in Kensington**

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<th>Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kensington Environment Coalition (KENC)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kensington CDC (Community Development Corporation)</td>
<td>Education, Advocacy, and Community Engagement</td>
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**Drywall + Demolition Implosion**

1. **PREVENTION**
   - **Residency**
   - **Implosion**
   - **Design & Research**
   - **Feedback**
   - **Implosion Poster**

2. **JUMPING START**
   - **Community Campaign**
   - **Implosion**
   - **Prevention**
   - **Design & Research**

3. **JOINT ACTION**
   - **Community Action**
   - **Implosion**
   - **Prevention**
   - **Design & Research**

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**For citations and resources, please scan this QR code**

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**Clean Philadelphia NOW! A campaign to stop the dumping**

- **Take the survey or sign the letter to join.**
  - Go to [www.trashacademy.org](http://www.trashacademy.org) or scan the QR code

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**Solutions need to be a part of a citywide strategy**

- **Education & Awareness**
- **Prevention & Regulations**
- **Abatement & Enforcement**