Seeking: Architectural Designer – Rio Grande Valley, TX

The buildingcommunity WORKSHOP (bc) is a nonprofit community design center seeking to improve the livability and viability of communities through the practice of thoughtful design and making. bc has offices in Dallas, Brownsville, and Houston, TX and in Washington DC. bc is currently seeking a Design Associate to work in our Brownsville, TX office supporting projects locally and in other offices.

Position Title: Architectural Designer / Associate
Start Date: March 2020

MAIN PURPOSE AND FUNCTION
The work we do is impactful. It is fun. It is challenging. You will work with people in places where design services are typically not accessible and working with people who normally do not have access to design. You will be responsible for all aspects of project delivery from pre-design to completion of architecture and creative placemaking projects. This may include pre-design engagement activities, historical research, schematic design in a number of mediums (sketch, model, digital), design development/construction documentation, construction administration and project management under the supervision of a licensed architect.

This position requires the ability to apply a diverse set of skills to a diverse set of issues. You will be working in areas where resources are scarce and therefore must be resourceful. What that means is that you may work on the design of a building, a public space, go to a community meeting, develop budgets, or pursue funding on the same day. Other days you may just do one thing. The ability to manage your time effectively while remaining nimble and focused is essential.

Potential projects may include the design of modular/pre-fabricated disaster reconstruction housing prototypes, multi-family affordable housing, design and programming of a temporary installation, and bike/ped infrastructure. While the position is based in Brownsville, it will support work in all of our offices, with some travel required.

COMMITMENT
Position is full time salaried employment.

WE VALUE TEAM MEMBERS WHO:

- Are strong team players (of course!)
- Enjoy applying themselves creatively to Architectural and Urban Design challenges.
- Thrive when given independence in project management situations.
- Enthusiastically support the implementation of architectural and/or urban design initiatives. Some travel to project sites required.
- Enjoy supporting our clients and partner organizations.
- Enjoy being ingrained in their local community as well as supporting work in other geographies.
QUALIFICATIONS

- A commitment to people and place with a strong interest in public interest design.
- Degree in architecture (B arch, M arch).
- 2+ years’ experience: design, documentation, and construction administration.
- Progressing towards licensure.
- Experience in residential and light commercial typologies.
- Strong visual communication skills and graphic talent.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Experience with direct civic engagement a plus, including but not limited to: organizing a design charrette or workshop, hosting a community forum.
- Proficiency in Archicad, Revit, AutoCAD, Adobe Creative Suite.
- Eligible and authorized to work in the USA.
- Intermediate or Bilingual in Spanish.

BENEFITS

- Healthcare coverage paying 100% of the Blue Cross Blue Shield HSA Plan for you as an individual
- 100% Vision and Dental coverage for you as an individual
- Reimbursement not to exceed $500 annually for professional development
- 80 hours paid vacation
- 48 hours paid PTO/Sick
- Paid Holidays (Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Day After Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day)
- Paid summer Break (1 week, organization-determined)
- Paid winter Break (1 week, organization-determined)
- 1 paid floating Faith Holiday (Good Friday, Yom Kippur, Eid al-Fitr, etc)

buildingcommunityWORKSHOPS Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

At [bc], we work in and with communities that bear the legacies of racist practices, policies, and cultural norms. As leaders in public interest design, we believe that there is a better way forward, one where every human has the chance to live to their full potential.

Fundamental to our work is using design to strengthen neighborhoods through access to adequate housing, decent employment, a good education, and quality healthcare. We work to see the reversal of racist policies and practices like redlining and environmental racism so that all people, no matter their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or zip code have equal access to a good standard of living.

We strive to achieve diversity, equity, and inclusion both internally in our offices and externally in the communities we work with. To us, diversity means seeking out different voices and leveraging/celebrating the power that comes from that difference. Equity means providing the support — through internal policies and through our work — needed for everyone to be successful. And inclusion means valuing and respecting all people. We continue to work to achieve this through our hiring practices, our office culture, and by working with residents to achieve their hopes and dreams for their neighborhoods.

CONTACT

Please email one file containing an interest letter, resume, and work samples. (15 mb maximum file size) to: Kristy Ramirez (no phone calls please) at kristy@bcworkshop.org. Please reference “Architectural Designer - Brownsville” in the subject line of your email.

buildingcommunityWORKSHOP is an Equal Opportunity Employer