



**BLACK** **i**n **DESIGN**  
Harvard GSD AASU

## ABOUT BLACK IN DESIGN

The Black in Design Conference, organized by the African American Student Union (AASU) at the Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD), seeks to simultaneously recognize the contributions of African descendants to the design fields and to broaden our definition of what it means to be a designer. We believe that initial steps towards addressing social injustice through design are to reclaim the histories of underrepresented groups in design pedagogy and to implicate designers as having a role in repairing our broken built environment.

Dedicated to the pursuit of just and equitable spaces across all scales, this conference will broach conversations in increasing orders of magnitude: the building, the neighborhood, the city, and the region. We hope that this conference will serve to ingrain compassion for human beings into the ethos of design more broadly, as well as to serve as a call to action for the GSD to instill, within each and every person who passes through its doors, the responsibility to build just and equitable spaces at every scale.

### COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Cara Michell + Courtney Sharpe

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Azzurra Cox, Blair Storie-Johnson, Dana McKinney, Katherine Curiel, Megan Echols, Shani Carter

## FRIDAY

**3 :00 - 6:00 pm**

**Registration**

**4:00 - 6:00 pm**

**Design Pedagogy Panel + Practice Workshop**

Amber Wiley, Dan D'Oca, Diane Davis, Sonja Dämpelmann, Toni Griffin  
Moderated by Michael Hays

Workshop featuring Phil Freelon, Women in Design, WorkingGSD

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**AASU Beer + Dogs**

## SATURDAY

**8:30 - 9:30 am**

**Registration**

**9:15 - 9:30 am**

**Opening Remarks by Cara Michell + Courtney Sharpe**

**9:30 - 10:30 am**

**Interlude One** | Maya Breuer

**Session One** | The Building  
Bryan Mason, Deanna Van Buren, Jeanine Hays, Mitch McEwen

**11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Session Two** | The Neighborhood  
Frank C. Lee, Kimberly Driggins, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Maurice Cox, Seitu Jones

**12:30 - 2:00 pm**

**Lunch** | Food Justice, Race + Design  
Cassandra Campbell, Euneika Rogers-Sipp, Fred Opie, Seitu Jones  
Meal curated by Bryant Terry & Didi Emmons

**2:00 - 3:00 pm**

**Session Three** | The City  
Justin Garrett Moore, Liz Ogbu, Sara Zewde, Sherri Franklin

**Interlude Two** | Jenesis Fonseca-Ledezma

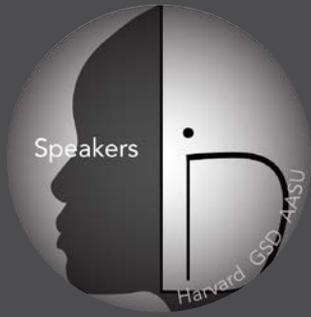
**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Panel Discussion** | The Region  
Brent Leggs, Craig L. Wilkins, Euneika Rogers-Sipp

**Interlude Three** | The Kuumba Singers of Harvard College

**5:00 - 6:00 pm**

**Keynote** | Black in Design  
Phil Freelon in conversation with Darhil Crooks



Amber Wiley



Brent Leggs



Kimberly Driggins



Kwame Owusu-Kesse



Liz Ogbu



Bryan Mason



Craig Wilkins



Dan D'Oca



Maurice Cox



Mitch McEwen



Phil Freelon



Darhil Crooks



Deanna Van Buren



Diane Davis



Sara Zewde



Seitu Jones



Sherri Franklin



Euneika Rogers-Sipp



Frank Lee



Fred Opie



Sonja Dümpelmann



Toni Griffin



Jeanine Hays



Justin Garrett Moore



K. Michael Hays

CHEFS



Bryant Terry



Cassandra Campbell



Didi Emmons

## DESIGN PEDAGOGY PANEL + PRACTICE WORKSHOP

TO WHAT DEGREE IS THE DESIGN ACADEMY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMBUING ITS STUDENTS WITH A PASSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF DESIGN'S IMPLICATIONS ON THE LIVES OF DIVERSE POPULATIONS? HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE THAT PASSION? WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DESIGN PRACTITIONERS TOWARDS EVENING OUT AN UNJUST LANDSCAPE?

**Amber Wiley** is an Assistant Professor of American Studies at Skidmore College. Her research interests are centered on the social aspects of design and how it affects urban communities. She focuses on the ways in which local and national bodies have laid claim to the dominating narrative and collective memory of cities through design, and examines how preservation and architecture contribute to the creation and maintenance of urban identity and "sense of place." Amber was awarded the 2014 Bishir Prize from the Vernacular Architecture Forum and the inaugural H. Allen Brooks Traveling Fellowship from the Society of Architectural Historians. She has contributed chapters to *Walking in Cities: Quotidian Mobility as Urban Theory, Method, and Practice* (forthcoming: Temple University Press, 2015); *Designing Schools: Space, Place and Pedagogy* (forthcoming: Routledge, 2016); and *Fifty Ideas for the Next Fifty Years of Historic Preservation in the United States* (under contract: University of Massachusetts Press). Amber holds a PhD in American Studies from George Washington University, a Master's in Architectural History and Certificate in Historic Preservation from the University of Virginia School of Architecture, and a BA in Architecture from Yale University. Amber is on the board of the Vernacular Architecture Forum and is a member of the National Park System Advisory Board Landmarks Committee.

**Dan D'Oca** is an urban planner. He is Principal and Co-founder of the New York City-based architecture, planning, and research firm Interboro Partners, and Critic in Urban Planning and Design at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. At Harvard, Dan has taught interdisciplinary US-based studios about age-friendly design and planning, suburban poverty and segregation, and other contemporary problems of the American built environment. Prior to teaching at the GSD, Dan was Assistant Professor at the Maryland Institute College of Art, where he produced an award-winning exhibition on racial segregation in Baltimore. Dan has won many awards for Interboro's innovative projects, including the MoMA PS1 Young Architects Program, the Architectural League's Emerging Voices and Young Architects Awards, and the New Practices Award from the AIA New York Chapter. Most recently, Interboro was one of ten firms selected by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to work on its pioneering "Rebuild by Design" initiative. Interboro's *The Arsenal of Exclusion & Inclusion* will be published by Actar in 2015.

**Diane Davis**, Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design and Charles Dyer Norton Professor of Regional Planning and Urbanism at the GSD, is the author of *Urban Leviathan: Mexico City in the Twentieth Century* (Temple University Press 1994; Spanish translation 1999) and *Discipline and Development: Middle Classes and Prosperity in East Asia and Latin America* (Cambridge University Press, 2004), as well as co-editor of *Irregular Armed Forces and their Role in Politics and State Formation* (Cambridge University Press, 2003) and *Cities and Sovereignty: Identity Politics in Urban Spaces* (Indiana University Press, 2011). Diane's work examines the relations between urbanization and national development, comparative international development, the politics of urban development policy, and conflict cities. Her current research focuses on the transformation of cities of the global south, particularly the urban social, spatial, and political conflicts that have emerged in response to globalization, informality, and political or economic violence. A prior recipient of numerous research fellowships, Diane now coordinates a large-scale project, titled Urban Resilience in Conditions of Chronic Violence, funded by USAID. At the GSD, Diane directs a project funded by the Volvo Research and Educational Foundation titled "Transforming Urban Transport—The Role of Political Leadership" (TUT); is the co-PI for the project "Rethinking social housing in Mexico" (ReSHIM), and heads the "The Mexican Cities Initiative" (MCI).

**K. Michael Hays** is the Eliot Noyes Professor of Architectural Theory at the GSD, where he also serves as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. He has written on twentieth- and twenty-first-century architecture, focusing on ideological issues in the history of the avant-garde and current debates in architecture and critical theory. His books include *Modern Architecture and the Posthumanist Subject*, *Architecture Theory since 1968*, and *Architecture's Desire*.

**Phil Freelon** (for bio, see Keynote description)

**Sonja Dümpelmann** is Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at the GSD. She holds a PhD in Landscape Architecture from the University of the Arts, Berlin, and has held research fellowships at the German Historical Institute and at Dumbarton Oaks. She currently serves as Senior Fellow in Garden and Landscape Studies at the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, and as President of the Landscape History Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians. Her publications include *Flights of Imagination: Aviation, Landscape, Design* (University of Virginia Press, 2014); a book on the Italian landscape architect Maria Teresa Parpagliolo Shephard (VDG Weimar, 2004); the edited *Cultural History of Gardens in the Age of Empire* (Bloomsbury Publishers, 2013); and the co-edited *Women, Modernity, and Landscape Architecture* (Routledge, 2015), and *Greening the City: Urban Landscapes in the Twentieth Century* (University of Virginia Press, 2011).

**Toni L. Griffin** is a Professor of Architecture and founding Director of the J. Max Bond Center on Design for the Just City at the City College of New York's Spitzer School of Architecture, dedicated to the advancement of design practice, education, research, and advocacy in ways that build and sustain resilient and just communities, cities, and regions. She also maintains an active private practice, Urban Planning for the American City, and recently led the Detroit Future City project. Toni has held several public sector positions, including Director of Community Development for Newark, New Jersey; Vice President and Director of Design for the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation in Washington, DC; and Deputy Director for Revitalization and Neighborhood Planning for the DC Office of Planning. She began her career as an architect with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP in Chicago, where she became Associate Partner. Toni holds a BA in Architecture from the University of Notre Dame and a Loeb Fellowship from the Harvard GSD. She is a board member of the Regional Plan Association in New York City.

**Women in Design** is a forum to instigate dialogue and action advancing gender equity, diversity, inclusion, joint creativity, and collaborative practice in design. Led by women, but open to all, the group connects a network of students, faculty, staff, and alumni, working to shape a more open and equitable field in light of the historic underrepresentation of women in recognized leadership roles.

**WorkingGSD** advocates for financial diversity and affordability at the GSD, labor rights in the design professions, and economic justice as primary in the design process. To these ends, we collect and publish information on financial well-being at the school; host lectures and discussions on design, the economy, and labor; and hold regular workshops that offer positive and practical solutions to our school's affordability.

## SESSION ONE | THE BUILDING

COMING FROM SUCH DIVERSE PRACTICES, HOW DO YOU ENGAGE BOTH PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES AT THE SCALE OF THE BUILDING? HOW DOES YOUR PRACTICE AT THIS SCALE INTERACT WITH MATERIALITY, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, ESPECIALLY AS THEY RELATE TO BLACK COMMUNITIES?

**Bryan Mason** is the Co-founder of AphroChic and the Managing Editor of About.com Interior Decorating. An academic by training, he is a graduate of Drexel University, the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, and has a Master's in African Diaspora Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. In his first year at About.com Interior Decorating, Bryan increased the readership by over one thousand percent, bringing the audience to over one million readers a month and turning the site into one of the premiere home decor destinations on the web. Bryan has presented at the University of California African Studies Multi-Campus Research Group and the African Studies Association Conference in Philadelphia, as well as contributed to *The Diaspora*, *Apartment Therapy*, *Lonny*, *The Examiner*, *Nesting Newbies*, and the AphroChic blog. He is Co-author of *REMIX: Decorating with Culture, Objects and Soul* (Random House, 2013).

**Deanna Van Buren** is an architect and global thought leader researching, formulating, and advocating for restorative justice centers, and a radical transformation of justice architecture. She currently sits on the national board of Architects, Designers, and Planning for Social Responsibility and is founding Partner of FOURM Design Studio, a firm creating spaces for peacemaking and restorative justice. Recent work in her practice includes the Syracuse Peacemaking Center in New York, the first of its kind in the United States, and Strategic Action for Justice, which is providing technical assistance to cities seeking to develop restorative paradigms for justice architecture. Deanna is also conducting the first design studios with incarcerated men and women and is a recent awardee of the Rauschenberg Artist as Activist grant to develop a prototype mobile resource village. Deanna received her BS in Architecture from the University of Virginia, a Master's in Architecture from Columbia University and has recently completed the Loeb Fellowship at the GSD.

**Jeanine Hays**, a former policy attorney, is the voice of the AphroChic brand, from the company's popular interior design blog that blends modern design with cultural style, to its designer pop-up spaces and collection of globally-inspired home decor products by Guildery. In addition to the AphroChic blog, Jeanine is the Editor-in-Chief of About.com Interior Decorating, one of the fastest growing home decor sites on the web. As a design expert she contributes regularly to HGTV, *Apartment Therapy*, *Lonny*, and *Refinery29*. With her experience in interior design, Jeanine has been a guest pinner for the White House, Visit Philly, and has been a sponsored blogger for High Point Market. Jeanine and her husband Bryan Mason are the authors of *REMIX: Decorating with Culture, Objects and Soul* (Random House, 2013).

**Mitch McEwen**, Partner at A(n) Office and Principal of McEwen Studio, works in architectural and urban design. Before co-founding A(n) Office, Mitch worked as an urban designer in the office of Bernard Tschumi Architects and New York City's Department of City Planning. Her work has been published in *Architectural Record* magazine, the *New York Times*, and the New Museum, as well as exhibited at P! gallery, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, Storefront for Art & Architecture, and internationally. ArtNews named her a designer to watch in 2011. The Akademie Schloss Solitude granted Mitch an architecture fellowship in Stuttgart, Germany in 2012, and her projects have received awards from the Graham and Knight Foundations. Since 2014 she has been Assistant Professor of Architecture at Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning at University of Michigan, after teaching previously as Charles Moore Visiting Professor of Urban Design and Adjunct Assistant Professor at Columbia's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Mitch holds a Master's in Architecture from Columbia GSAPP and a AB in Social Studies from Harvard.

## STUDENT MODERATORS

**Blair Storie-Johnson** is a third-year Master's in Architecture student at the GSD. She is interested in finding creative solutions to leverage equity for design by establishing mutually beneficial relationships between cities, corporations, and local stakeholders with architects, planners, and artists. Upon graduation, she plans to move to New Orleans and help develop strategies to ensure that gentrification occurs in a manner in which residents can afford to participate in and enjoy the increase of local market value. Blair holds an AB in Architecture and a Certificate in French Language and Culture from Princeton University.

**Dana McKinney** is a fourth-year Master's in Architecture and Urban Planning concurrent degree student at the GSD. Last summer she worked for Pei Cobb Freed & Partners where she participated in an international design competition for a skyscraper in Mumbai, India. Previously she worked for William Rawn Associates and Goody Clancy Associates, where she contributed to the design and construction of university dormitories, affordable housing, and institutional facilities. Upon graduation, she intends to pursue both architecture and urban planning licenses to design and construct mixed-income housing and public institutional spaces to engage an equitable design practice. Dana holds an AB in Architecture with Certificates in Urban Studies and Spanish from Princeton University.

## SESSION TWO | THE NEIGHBORHOOD

COMING FROM SUCH DIVERSE PRACTICES, HOW DO YOU ENGAGE BOTH PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES AT THE SCALE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD? HOW DOES YOUR PRACTICE AT THIS SCALE INTERACT WITH MATERIALITY, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, ESPECIALLY AS THEY RELATE TO BLACK COMMUNITIES?

**Frank C. Lee's** architectural practice has focused on an inclusive approach to designs that help to rebuild social structure and enhance life in challenged urban communities. From infill housing to community centers and from banks to community colleges, Frank's designs promote positive social interaction and instill a sense of community pride along with raised design expectations. His planning efforts have translated the needs and desires of all parties, residents, developers and government officials into viable designs that reflect multiple perspectives and produce viable mixed-income neighborhoods. Prior to co-founding Johnson & Lee, Ltd. with Phillip Craig Johnson, Frank worked for Murphy/Jahn and O'Donnell, Wicklund, Pigozzi. He has been a visiting professor, critic and lecturer at Virginia Tech; Cornell; Tulane University; University of Michigan; University of Virginia; School of the Art Institute of Chicago; University of Illinois, Chicago; University of Detroit, Mercy; and Tuskegee University. He has lectured widely, and his work has been featured in *Architectural Record*, *Progressive Architecture*, *Inland Architect*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun Times*, *Midwest Construction* and the Newsletter of Chicago AIA. Projects to which he has contributed have been honored by the Chicago AIA, Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, the Congress for New Urbanism, and the Chicago Athenaeum.

**Kimberly C. Driggins** has been the associate director for citywide planning in the District of Columbia's Office of Planning for the past seven years. She established the Citywide Planning Division and was responsible for managing planning projects across housing, economic development, transportation, creative placemaking, and capital improvement and master facilities planning. She oversaw the development and implementation of numerous studies and initiatives including the Retail Action Strategy, the Vibrant Retail Streets Toolkit, the Creative DC Agenda, the Live Near Your Work employer-assisted housing pilot program, streetcar land use studies, and master facilities plans for select District government agencies. She also served as the project manager for OP's nationally recognized Temporary Urbanism Initiative, with catalytic projects like LUMEN8Anacosita, the Central 14th Street ArtPlace project, and the Nerds in NoMa Third Place Project. Under Kimberly's leadership, the DC Office of Planning has won over \$1.2 million in national grants for creative placemaking projects. Prior to the Office of Planning, Kimberly worked in the Office of the City Administrator/Deputy Mayor, where she served as senior advisor on capital budget and finance issues. She began her career consulting on real estate, affordable housing, and neighborhood revitalization projects in the private and nonprofit sectors. Kimberly holds a Master's in Public Policy from the University of Chicago and a BA with highest honors from Hampton University. She is currently a Loeb Fellow at the GSD, exploring the intersection of design, civic engagement, and creative placemaking, with a focus on equity and inclusion.

**Kwame Owusu-Kesse**, Chief Operating Officer, first joined the Harlem Children's Zone in August 2008. He previously served as a Senior Manager for Promise Academy Afterschool Programs and Special Assistant to the CEO responsible for agency-wide special projects. Before coming to HCZ, he served as an Investment Banking Analyst at Morgan Stanley in New York City. Kwame holds an AB and a Master's in Business Administration from Harvard as well as a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

**Maurice Cox**, newly appointed Planning Director for the City of Detroit, is an urban designer, architectural educator and former mayor of the City of Charlottesville, VA. He most recently served as Associate Dean for Community Engagement at Tulane University's School of Architecture, and Director of the Tulane City Center, a university-affiliated practice operating at the intersection of design, urban research, and civic engagement throughout the New Orleans community. Cox has taught at Syracuse University, the University of Virginia, and the GSD. His experience merging architecture, politics, and design education led to his being named one of "20 Masters of Design" in 2004 by Fast Company Business Magazine. He served as Design Director of the National Endowment for the Arts from 2007–2010, where he led the NEA's Your Town Rural Institute, the Governor's Institute on Community Design, the Mayor's Institute on City Design, and oversaw direct grants to the design community across the US. In 2013, Cox was named one of the Most Admired Design Educators in America in the annual ranking of Design Intelligence.

**Seitu Jones**, working on his own or in collaboration with other artists or communities, has created over thirty large-scale public artworks. He uses environmental art and horticulture as tools for community development in his Frogtown neighborhood and other St. Paul/Minneapolis neighborhoods. He's been awarded a Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowship, a McKnight Visual Artist Fellowship, a Bush Artist Fellowship, a Bush Leadership Fellowship, and a National Endowment for the Arts/Theater Communication Group (NEA/TCG) Designer Fellowship. Seitu was awarded a Loeb Fellowship at the GSD to research cultural landscapes and was also the artist-in-residence in Harvard's Ceramic Program. A 2013 Joyce Award, from Chicago's Joyce Foundation allowed Seitu to develop CREATE: The Community Meal, a dinner for 2000 people at a half-mile-long table that focused on access to healthy food. In addition, he is working with members of his neighborhood to create a 5-acre farm in a new city park in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul, Minnesota. Seitu holds a BS in Landscape Design and a MLS in Environmental History from the University of Minnesota.

## STUDENT MODERATORS

**Cara Michell** is a second-year Master's in Urban Planning student at the GSD. Last summer she worked in the city of Chicago alongside Theaster Gates on several projects associated with the Rebuild Foundation and the Place Lab in the University of Chicago's Department of Arts and Public Life. Most notably, she was able to contribute to the master planning for Theaster Gates's Stony Island Arts Bank and redesigning outreach efforts for the Rebuilt Foundation. Cara is interested in exploring the impact that subtle art interventions can have on disrupting racist and unjust systems within the built environment. Cara holds an AB in Art and Archaeology and a Certificate in Urban Studies from Princeton University.

**Megan Echols** is a second-year Master's in Urban Planning student at the GSD. Last summer she helped the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority develop the first Resilience Strategy for the City of New Orleans under the 100 Resilient Cities Rockefeller Foundation Network. Prior to the GSD, Megan was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research in Colombia, where she focused on social urbanism, integrated urban projects, and transportation in Medellín. She has interned at various organizations in coastal Louisiana, helping to develop resiliency techniques. Megan holds a Bachelor's of Architecture from Howard University.

## LUNCH | ALTERNATIVE NARRATIVES ABOUT FOOD IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

**Cassandra Campbell** is Co-owner and Founder of Fresh Food Generation, a farm-to-plate food truck and catering business that serves low-income neighborhoods healthy, affordable, cooked foods. The company is committed to sourcing foods from local farms and providing job training and employment opportunities for young adults in the communities they serve. Cassandra developed the idea for Fresh Food Generation because she wanted to find healthier food options in her hometown neighborhood of Roxbury in Boston. She became a food justice advocate while working as a teen, and later, an adult at the Food Project, a nationally-recognized model for youth development and sustainable agriculture. In 2007, Cassandra earned a BA in Economics from Swarthmore College. Eager to learn how cities can best help communities access resources, she pursued a degree in Urban Planning at MIT. After graduating, she worked in affordable housing and development at Preservation of Affordable Housing, Inc. She returned to the world of food and started Fresh Food Generation in 2012.

**Euneika Rogers-Sipp** began her design career in 1990 as part of a group of apparel industry activists called No Logo in London, England, where she was a student studying Fashion Design. Returning to the United States in 1993, she launched the non-profit social enterprise, Refashion Network, in Atlanta, Georgia, and the for-profit recycled clothing company, CARE-WEAR, investing its profits into sustainable apparel production, education, and advocacy. In the more than twenty years of working across film, fashion, fine art, and music, Euneika's works have been seen on MTV, BET, and Entertainment Weekly, as well as in magazines such as *Vibe*, *Trace*, *Source*, and *Rolling Stone*. Her current practice aims to end persistent poverty in African American rural towns by way of sustainable community and economic development. As the Founder of Sustainable Rural Regenerative Enterprises for Families (SURREF) and Sustainable Enterprise Development at the Black Belt Community Based Tourism Network (BBCBTN), Euneika uses unconventional community engagement platforms to connect families to regenerative forms of development, agricultural design, and rural land use planning in the Black Belt of the southern United States—a historically oppressed region where the majority of residents have been disproportionately subjected to toxins, environmental degradation, land loss and residential segregation. She leads design development efforts that reflect local cultural production and vernacular traditions, preserve healthy land use, and reduce family vulnerability. Euneika is a 2015–16 Harvard Graduate School of Design Loeb Fellow; she holds a joint fellowship (2015) with the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE) and a Certificate of Community and Regional Development from the University of California, Davis. She is currently working on her first book, a memoir of stories and insights from two decades of personal experience in social responsibility and design activism in America.

**Frederick Douglass Opie** is a Professor of History and Foodways at Babson College. He edits the blog [foodsalens.com](http://foodsalens.com) and is a contributor on the national radio show *The Splendid Table*. His most recent book is *Zora Neale Hurston on Florida Food: Recipes, Remedies and Simple Pleasures*.

**Seitu Jones** (for bio, see Session Two: The Neighborhood description)

## CHEFS

**Bryant Terry** is a 2015 James Beard Foundation Leadership Award-winning chef, educator, and author renowned for his activism to create a healthy, just, and sustainable food system. Bryant's fourth book, *Afro Vegan: Farm-Fresh African, Caribbean, and Southern Flavors Remixed* was published by Ten Speed Press/Random House April 2014. He is currently Chef-in-Residence at the Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD) in San Francisco where he creates programming that celebrates the intersection of food, farming, health, activism, art, culture, and the African Diaspora. As an exclusive speaker signed with the Lavin Agency, Bryant presents frequently around the country as a keynote speaker at community events and colleges, including Brown, Columbia, NYU, Smith, Stanford, and Yale.

**Didi Emmons** developed a knack for combining ingredients during her college years by reading gourmet magazines instead of studying. At age twenty-seven she completed a one-year stage (apprenticeship) at La Varenne École de Cuisine in Paris, France. Didi has since become a serial restaurant opener and chef. Her track record is four for four—four successful restaurants in twelve years. Didi is now doing what she loves best in her catering business—recipe development and employing those who face job barriers. She has spent the last five years engineering recipes that are memorable and affordable for organizations like Project Bread, the Boston Public Health Commission, and Boston Public Schools, as well as senior housing developments. She has worked with a wide array of flavors and cultures. Healthy, yet affordable, is something in which she believes and excels. Her restaurants include The DeLux in Boston's South end, Pho République in Central Square, Veggie Planet (previously in Harvard Square), and Haley House Bakery Café. Haley House is a non-profit CORI-friendly café in Roxbury, Massachusetts that opened in 2005. She occasionally teaches cooking at Haley House to inner-city youth, helping to combat health disparities.

## A NOTE FROM BRYANT CONCERNING TODAY'S MEAL:

We all eat, and we should all be concerned about the way that multinational food corporations are ruining our health and degrading the very foundations of a healthy food system—clean soil, air, and water. African Americans should be especially concerned: we suffer from some of the highest rates of preventable diet-related illnesses, and many working-class and working-poor African American communities face economic, physical, and geographic barriers to accessing healthy, safe, affordable, and culturally appropriate food. Given this, we should take the lead in owning and driving the solutions to this public health crisis. I strive to harness the sensual pleasures of the table to shift habits, attitudes, and politics in regard to food. My guiding mantra for over a decade has been “start with the visceral, move to the cerebral, and end at the political.” I consider my recipes to be organizing and base-building tools for the food justice movement—because building community around the table and strengthening the food justice movement go hand in hand. When we consider that educating, strategizing, and organizing for many modern social movements took place in people's homes, it seems appropriate that the food revolution will find its spark in home kitchens. I see my work as empowering people and communities of African descent to prepare and cook our ancestral foods and share meals as a revolutionary first step towards food justice.

## SESSION THREE | THE CITY

COMING FROM SUCH DIVERSE PRACTICES, HOW DO YOU ENGAGE BOTH PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES AT THE SCALE OF THE CITY? HOW DOES YOUR PRACTICE AT THIS SCALE INTERACT WITH MATERIALITY, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, ESPECIALLY AS THEY RELATE TO BLACK COMMUNITIES?

**Justin Garrett Moore** is a Senior Urban Designer for the NYC Department of City Planning, where he has been responsible for conducting complex urban design plans and studies of the physical design and utilization of sites including infrastructure, public spaces, land use patterns, and neighborhood character for over a decade. His projects have included the Greenpoint and Williamsburg Waterfront, Hunter's Point South, the Coney Island Plan, and the Brooklyn Cultural District. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, the Forum and Institute for Urban Design, and is a Next City Vanguard. Justin holds degrees in both Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, where he is now an Adjunct Associate Professor of Architecture in the Urban Design and Urban Planning Programs. He is also the Co-founder of Urban Patch, a social enterprise that focuses on community development and design in American inner cities, and serves as a board member for ioby (In Our Back Yards), and Mary Miss / City as Living Laboratory.

**Liz Ogbu**, a designer, urbanist, and social innovator, is an expert on disruptive innovation in challenged urban environments. From designing shelters for immigrant day laborers in the US, to a water and health social enterprise for low-income Kenyans, Liz has long worked with communities in need to leverage the power of design to deliver social impact. She is Founder and Principal of Studio O, a multidisciplinary design and innovation firm, as well as on faculty at University of California, Berkeley. Her previous roles include first-ever Scholar-in-Residence at the Center for Art & Public Life at California College of the Arts, Innovator-in-Residence through the inaugural IDEO.org Fellowship, and Design Director at the nonprofit, Public Architecture. Her projects have been widely exhibited and recognized both in the US and internationally. Named as one of Public Interest Design's Top 100, she is also a 2014 Aspen Ideas Scholar and a Senior Fellow of the Design Futures Council. Liz holds architecture degrees from Wellesley College and the GSD.

**Sara Zewde** is a designer at Gustafson Guthrie Nichol. She writes and lectures on the discourses of landscape architecture and urbanism and was named the 2014 National Olmsted Scholar by the Landscape Architecture Foundation. She is the recipient of a number of awards, including the Silberberg Memorial Award for Urban Design and the Hebbert Award for Contribution to the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. Concurrent to working at Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, she continues independent design work in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Houston, Texas; and New Orleans, Louisiana. She finds that by considering the relationship between ecology and culture, there are often many powerful departure points for design. Sara holds a Master's in Landscape Architecture from the GSD, a Master's in City Planning from MIT, and a BA in Sociology and Statistics from Boston University.

**Sherri Franklin** is the Founder of Urban Design Center (UDC), a planning, project management, resource development, and capacity building consultancy specializing in the development and financing of affordable housing, community, recreational and open space facilities, infrastructure projects, and economic development ventures. As a staunch fiduciary for community change, Sherri's primary life mission is to build the capacity of leaders and organizations to serve their dynamic communities on a long-term basis. She has the requisite expertise and tactical knowledge to provide insight and leadership on effective strategies to help her clients build both physical and human capital infrastructure and utilize myriad of economic reinvestment incentives and public policy initiatives to bring their revitalization visions to reality. She has spearheaded the development of projects and contracts for non-profit organizations, the City of Los Angeles, and the design firm Jenkins, Gales & Martinez. Sherri has guided her clients through the community plan approval, entitlement, and development process while helping them procure funding to complete their projects and strategically position their organizations as a leader and stakeholder in the communities they serve. To date, Sherri has garnered over \$140 million for various client projects and contracts. She served as Vice Chair on the City of Los Angeles Board of Zoning Appeals, as President of the Transportation Commission, and on the board of the Los Angeles Housing Department's Rent Stabilization Commission. Sherri holds a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles in Cultural Anthropology and is a licensed real estate broker in the State of California.

## STUDENT MODERATORS

**Azzurra Cox** is a third-year Master's in Landscape Architecture student at the GSD. Last summer Azzurra was awarded the Penny White Project Fellowship, which allowed her to travel to La Paz, Bolivia to conduct research on altitude and the built environment. Prior to GSD, she worked at The New Press, Museum of Modern Art, and Carnegie Corporation of New York. She is interested in exploring the role of landscape architecture in revealing and challenging power structures in the built environment. Azzurra holds an AB in Social Studies from Harvard College.

**Shani Carter** is a second-year Master's in Urban Planning student at the GSD. Last summer Shani joined HR&A's New York office as a Summer Fellow working on developing real estate and economic development strategies for several public and private clients. Prior to returning to school, she worked in asset management for three years. Shani is interested in finding innovative methods for community engagement and financing equitable development in US cities and abroad. Shani received her BA in Business Administration from Howard University.

## PANEL DISCUSSION | THE REGION

COMING FROM SUCH DIVERSE PRACTICES, HOW DO YOU ENGAGE BOTH PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES AT THE REGIONAL SCALE? HOW DOES YOUR PRACTICE AT THIS SCALE INTERACT WITH MATERIALITY, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, ESPECIALLY AS THEY RELATE TO BLACK COMMUNITIES?

**Brent Leggs**, a national thought leader in the field of historic preservation, is a Harvard Loeb Fellow and senior field officer at the National Trust for Historic Preservation based in Washington, DC. Dedicated to preserving historic places that represent the diverse heritage of our nation, Brent is author of the book, *Preserving African-American Historic Places*, which provides tools for protecting some of the most important landmarks in African American history. His latest publication entitled *Envisioning Villa Lewaro's Future*, highlights conceptual and economically viable reuse concepts for preserving the historic estate. Brent is the project manager for five National Treasure projects across the country including Madam C. J. Walker's Villa Lewaro, Joe Frazier's Gym, Lincoln University, and the A. G. Gaston Motel. These multi-million dollar preservation projects showcase the breadth of cultural assets in African American history. Leggs is also an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland's School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation.

**Craig L. Wilkins**, architect, activist, and author, serves on the faculty of both the Architecture and Urban Planning departments at the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Recognized as a leading scholar on African Americans in the study and practice of architecture, Craig is also the former director of the Detroit Community Design Center. His hip hop architecture theorist's work explores the various social, cultural, political, historical, and aesthetic contributions of people of color in the field.

**Euneika Rogers-Sipp** (for bio, see Lunch description)

## STUDENT MODERATORS

**Courtney Sharpe** is a second-year Master's in Urban Planning student at the GSD. Last summer Courtney was an Ash Center Fellow in Innovation at the Mayor's Office of Philadelphia helping to define the organizing structure for the continuation of the My Brother's Keeper initiative through a mayoral transition. Prior to the GSD Courtney lived in Washington, DC where she was an assistant to the CFO and OCFO Chief of Staff. She has served as an AmeriCorps Fellow at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and participated in a social entrepreneurship fellowship that enabled her to develop a business plan addressing negative externalities for residents of food deserts. She also taught English in a rural Sahara village in Morocco with the Peace Corps. Courtney holds a BA in International Studies and Religion from Northwestern University.

**Katherine Curiel** is a Master's in Urban Planning candidate at the GSD and a Master's in Business Administration candidate at MIT's Sloan School of Management. Last summer she worked at WinnDevelopment in Boston, helping the firm complete affordable housing project deals in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Jersey. Prior to returning to school she worked as an investment analyst, funding public finance projects in the US. She also has experience in government, real estate development, and private equity. After graduation, she is interested in returning to private equity to fund infrastructure and clean energy projects across the world. Katherine holds a BS in Finance and International Business from Marquette University.

## KEYNOTE | WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE BLACK IN DESIGN? A CONVERSATION WITH PHIL FREELON AND DARHIL CROOKS

**Darhil Crooks** is Creative Director of *The Atlantic*. In this role, Crooks oversees the art direction of *The Atlantic* across its platforms in print, online, and on mobile and tablet devices. Before joining *The Atlantic*, Crooks worked as Creative Director of *Ebony* magazine, where he oversaw the first cover-to-cover redesign in the title's then sixty-six-year history. Working closely with editors, photographers, and illustrators, he helped to redefine the magazine's visual identity. Prior to that, Crooks served as the Art Director of *Esquire* magazine, developing design concepts and layouts; conceptualizing, commissioning, and directing photo shoots; and editing photography. He also helped develop and design *Esquire*'s iPad app, which was named a finalist for best mobile edition by the American Society of Magazine Editors in 2011. Before joining *Esquire*, Crooks was the Associate Art Director at *Complex* and *Men's Journal*. He began his design career at *The Source*. Crooks studied Graphic Design at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

**Phil Freelon** is the Founder and President of The Freelon Group, Inc. In 2014, Freelon joined forces with global architecture and design firm Perkins+Will. As the Managing and Design Director of the North Carolina practice, he leads both Perkins+Will North Carolina offices, in Raleigh-Durham and Charlotte, and has joined the Board of Directors. Freelon has led multi-faceted design teams on museum projects in Washington, DC; Baltimore, MD; San Francisco, CA; Philadelphia, PA; Atlanta and Augusta, GA; and Greensboro and Charlotte, NC. Library projects include facilities in Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA; Washington, DC; and Durham, NC. The team of Freelon Adjaye Bond / SmithGroup is leading the design for the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, currently under construction on the National Mall. Freelon's work has been published in national professional journals including *Architect*, *Progressive Architecture*, *Architectural Record*, and *Contract* magazine, where he was named Designer of the Year for 2008. *Metropolis* and *Metropolitan Home* magazines and the *New York Times* have also featured Freelon and his firm's work.

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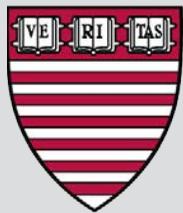
The **Dean's Diversity Initiative (DDI)** serves as the committee arm of the GSD's ongoing efforts to increase the number of underrepresented minorities within our community and maintaining an inclusive environment that encourages an active and effective exchange of views.

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The **Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University** is connected to national and international networks as we investigate and illuminate housing's critical role in the economy and in communities. We foster strong academic ties with schools, faculty and students from across the University community, and engage with new initiatives on global urbanism, sustainability, and other critical topics for the twenty-first century.

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**Design\*Sponge** is a design blog run by Grace Bonney. Launched in August of 2004, the site updates three to five times per day and was declared a "Martha Stewart Living for the Millennials" by the *New York Times*. Design\*Sponge attracts a diverse group of devoted readers across the globe and currently reaches over one million readers per day.



The **Hutchins Center** for African and African American Research supports research on the history and culture of people of African descent the world over and provides a forum for collaboration and the ongoing exchange of ideas. It seeks to stimulate scholarly engagement in African and African American studies both at Harvard and beyond, and to increase public awareness and understanding of this vital field of study.



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The mission of the **Office of the Assistant to the President for Institutional Diversity and Equity (H-OAP)**, originally established in July 1971, is to lead a sustained University-wide effort and to develop, coordinate, and advance inclusive excellence, diversity, and equal opportunity (EO) initiatives, programs, and policies at Harvard University.

# IDEO

**IDEO** is an award-winning global design firm that takes a human-centered, design-based approach to helping organizations in the public and private sectors innovate and grow. We identify new ways to serve and support people by uncovering latent needs, behaviors, and desires. We envision new companies and brands, and we design the products, services, spaces, and interactive experiences that bring them to life.

# BSA

**BSA Space** is Boston's leading center for architecture and design, and is home to the Boston Society of Architects and the BSA Foundation. BSA Space hosts exhibitions on design and architecture, architecture cruises and walking tours, and other programs and events that foster exchange between design and construction, the profession and the public, and encourage collaboration across the city and world.

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## THE BLACK IN DESIGN COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR HELP IN PLANNING AND ORGANIZING THE CONFERENCE:

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Racquel Davey, President, BosNOMA

### LOGO DESIGN

James Kendall, MArch I '18  
Jeremy Hartley, MLA '17  
Keith Scott, MLA '17  
Keisha Hartley

All who helped Bryant, Cassandra, and Didi in preparing the meals for the conference.



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