



JADE Symposium
Justice Alliance for
Design Education - Philadelphia

1st Annual JADE-PHL Symposium “City as Classroom” Studio Jawn

Overview

The JADE-PHL City as Classroom Symposium will feature a facilitated collaboration of stakeholders from across the city to develop the first ever City-Wide Design Studio. The symposium will feature a facilitated collaboration with stakeholders from Philadelphia area architecture schools, guest speakers, nonprofits leaders, community leaders and students, with the goal of building new pedagogy for community engaged design studios. The Symposium will pose a series of questions designed to create a platform of innovation:

- What would it look like if all Philadelphia Area design schools collaborated to envision and deliver an intentional engagement model that creates an equitable relationship between academia and local communities?
- How might we work together to coordinate our efforts to move from a transactional engagement model to an integrated model of community based design that provides more value for community members?
- What new studio pedagogy approaches could be developed to elevate the student and professor's experience to be more reflective and ultimately more beneficial?
- What forms of infrastructure and capacity are needed to achieve such a studio?
- What kinds of partnerships, including CDC's, government offices, and informal groups need to be established?
- What are the financial and other tactical needs required to support a new model of engagement?

May 19th, 2022

9:00AM - 5:00PM

(Happy hour to follow)

Focus: Design of the
Spring 2023 City Wide
Design Studio

Location: Center for
Architecture and
Design, Philadelphia &
Zoom

RSVP:

<https://aiaphiladelphia.org/event/jade-phl-classroom-in-a-city-1st-annual-symposium> by May 1, 2022



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Premise

We, the members of JADE-PHL, along with many design educators, generally share a common belief or perception that community engaged design studios offer a wealth of benefits for our students, most importantly in widening the conversation about bias and differences in race, gender and class. There is no doubt that students often gain valuable insights and inspirations from community members that allow for growing their perceptions of what architecture can be in a diverse world.

Given that more and more professors are moving to a community engaged model, a deeper, more reflective look may reveal some less than desirable outcomes of the experiences. For example, are some design studios reinforcing race, gender, and class differences? Are professors prepared to handle difficult and/or uncomfortable discussions and experiences that may arise from community interactions? What training and experience do professors have that might help or hurt the situation?

Addressing Community Fatigue

Furthermore, as design educators, we acknowledge the transactional nature of community engaged design studios. There is a shared admission that the current model, while well intentioned, offers limited benefit to community members and may even be causing harm in the very communities that we seek to assist. Specifically, community engaged studios rarely offer financial remuneration for the community members and leaders who are engaged. According to some sources, there is a general sense of exhaustion at the numerous requests by studio professors to meet with community leaders and residents. Inherent in community fatigue is the underlying sense that the professors and students lack the cultural humility and empathetic understanding of what residents and community leaders really care about.

Bringing Philadelphia Area design students together

A City-Wide Design Studio offers the rare opportunity to join design students together from across all the schools for a common purpose. This will create a greater sense of community for design students and could yield unexpected positive results. By bringing the students

Attendees: Local community leaders, residents, students, alums, professors, and administrators from area design schools. Guest speakers including local community members, and academics with experience in alternative models have been invited.

Schedule:

Arrival: 8:30 - 9:00
Welcome: 9:00 - 9:15
Session 1: 9:15 - 10:30
Break: 10:30 - 10:45
Session 2: 10:45 - 12:00
Lunch: 12:00 - 1:00
Session 3: 1:00 - 2:30
Break: 2:30 - 2:45
Session 4: 2:45 - 4:45
Happy Hour 5:00 - ?

Why you should attend:

- A chance to work on something we all agree is important
- A chance to meet colleagues from other schools in the area
- A chance to hear first hand from community leaders about their experiences with



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together, the professors from each school are also connected in new ways, which could also offer opportunities for other forms of collaboration.

community based
studios

- A chance to co-create a new studio model
- A professional development opportunity
- Its free

Detailed Schedule:

Morning Sessions: All stakeholders

Morning Session: Community Leaders Panelists and Participants

Jim Burnett, Vested-in

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jim-burnett-aa450b3/>

Veronica Ayala Flores, Citizen's Planning Institute,

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ver%C3%B3nica-ayala-flores-b1797594/>

Maya L. Thomas, Save Dox Thrash House, North Philly Peace Park, Mural Arts

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/maya-l-thomas-2725291b/>

Jesse Blitzstein, Enterprise Center

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jesse-blitzstein-8a26774/>



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Session 1:

Community leaders Panel 1

Problem/Opportunity Discovery: Understanding and defining the problem we are trying to solve

Listening to local leaders who have experience with university design studios

Sharing of issues and opportunities by all stakeholders

Consensus process to finalize the problem/opportunity statement

Session 2:

Problem/Opportunity Definition: Goal Setting

Goals for community

Goals for Academia: Learning Objectives

Consensus process on draft learning objectives

Afternoon Sessions:

Faculty and Administrators only

Afternoon Session: Academic Panelists and Participants

Craig Wilkins, Associate Professor, Taubman College, University of Michigan

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/craig-wilkins-153b18b/>

Rashina Ng, Presidential Associate Professor, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rashida-ng-2b25268/>

Maria Villalobos Hernandez, Assistant Professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology



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<https://www.iit.edu/directory/people/maria-hernandez>

Session 3:

Community engagement studio professors panel

Ideation

Cocreate strategic approach to meeting the community goals and learning objectives

Consensus process to finalize the problem/opportunity statement

Session 4:

Implementation

Co-creation of tactical approaches to delivering the City-Wide Studio

Consensus process on Tactics

Site Selection, format, deliverables, etc

Process for Communities to request a studio

FAQ

Should I attend, even if I have not attended regular JADE Meetings?

- You should attend if you are interested in participating in the creation of this unique educational model but please be mindful of the momentum already created for this initiative.

How much does the event cost?

- Thanks to the donations from the JADE-PHL Partners, this event is free.

Can I attend just the morning or afternoon session?

- Yes

If I have questions, who should I contact:

- Rob Fleming - Flemrob@design.upenn.edu
- Tya Winn - tya@cdesignc.org



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