

SYMPOSIUM ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Presented by The Dallas Architecture Forum and

UTA College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs (CAPPA)

Saturday, February 18, 2017, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Check-in: 2:00 – 2:30 pm; Program starts at 2:30 pm

Horchow Auditorium, Dallas Museum of Art

Free Admission as a Community Outreach of The Forum and UTA CAPPA,
No Reservations Needed

Join The Dallas Architecture Forum for an afternoon focused on the planning concepts, design practices and community outreach efforts that are necessary to create inviting, affordable housing to communities which need to be revitalized and renewed rather than ignored and wasted. These issues will be discussed by four experts in the field of collaborative engagement in helping communities in need of affordable, practical and appealing housing.

Attendees will have the privilege of hearing from four highly regarded practitioners in their fields share insights and lead inspiring discussion on this intriguing topic. Alex Henderson, of Rural Studio in Tuscaloosa, Alabama will share insights from their famed design-build architecture program from Auburn University. **Rural Studio** is known for its hands-on, live-amongst approach to engaging a community and making life better for its residents. Emilie Taylor Welty of New Orleans, currently works at the Albert and Tina Small **Center for Collaborative Design** as a Design/Build expert. She will share from her experiences in community outreach creating design solutions through a collaborative model. Omar Hakeem is the Design Director of **bcWORKSHOP**, a local non-profit community design studio which works to improve the livability and viability of communities. In addition, Bang Dang and Brad McCorkle from the Design + Build program at UTA CAPPA will discuss their new **Parallel Construction** initiative. Each of these experts will share from their broad base of experience and also dialogue together in a panel discussion moderated by Brad Bell,

Director of Architecture at the College of Architecture Planning and Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Arlington.

About The Symposium

The Symposium On Community Engagement / Affordable Housing is a collaboration between The Dallas Architecture Forum and the College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington. It is offered as an additional symposium in celebration of the Forum's 20th Anniversary Season. The Symposium initiates ongoing conversations across professional arenas and personal interests, creating new networks and spurring community involvement in discussions about the built and creative environment. This Symposium, featuring architects Alex Henderson, Emilie Taylor Welty, Bang Dang, Brad McCorkle, Omar Hakeem and Brad Bell will offer insights and increased understanding into the community involvement, the process of design for specific neighborhoods, and the creation of safe, comfortable and affordable housing

Symposium Participants:

ALEX HENDERSON

Instructor & Construction Coordinator
Auburn University - Rural Studio
Alabama

Henderson Images [HERE](#)

Alex Henderson is an alumnus of Auburn University's Rural Studio. As a student, he worked with teammates to design and build a landscape and rainwater management plan for Lions Park, a 40 acre public park in Greensboro, Alabama. After completion of the project, Alex began his present position as an instructor for the Rural Studio 3rd Year program. In this role has worked on multiple 20K Homes, exhibitions and civic projects. Henderson has also repaired and maintained existing Rural Studio homes and other buildings, worked on the Rural Studio campus infrastructure and farm, presented at numerous conferences, and served as an integral part of the studio's overall operational team.

Rural Studio is an off-campus design-build program of Auburn University. The program, established in 1993 by D.K. Ruth and Samuel Mockbee, gives architecture students a more hands-on educational experience while assisting an underserved population in West Alabama's Black Belt region. The Rural Studio philosophy suggests that everyone,

both rich and poor, deserves the benefit of good design. To fulfill this ethic, the Studio works on community-oriented projects which have become multi-year, multi-phase efforts traveling across three counties. The students work within the community to define solutions, fundraise, design and, ultimately, build remarkable projects. The Studio continually questions what should be built, rather than what can be built, both for the performance and operation of the projects. To date, Rural Studio has built more than 170 projects and educated more than 800 "Citizen Architects."

EMILIE TAYLOR WELTY

Professor of Practice

Design/Build Manager, Albert and Tina Small Center for Collaborative Design

Tulane University, New Orleans

Welty Images [HERE](#)

Emilie works at the Tulane School of Architecture as a Professor of Practice and as Design Build Manager at the Albert Jr. and Tina Small City Center for Collaborative Design. Through the Small City Center Emilie is able to work on projects and community partnerships that provide opportunities for faculty and students to engage real issues in the community through design. She is actively involved in university design|build and advocates for the engagement of such programs with the local community. Welty's recent design build studios include Grow Dat Farm, LOOP, and Community Youth Center.

OMAR HAKEEM

Design Director

bcWORKSHOP, Dallas

Hakeem / bc Images [HERE](#)

Omar Hakeem, AIA, is the Design Director at [bc]. a local non-profit community design resource seeking to improve the livability and viability of communities through the practice of thoughtful design and making. By engaging residents, landowners, business owners, investors and community stakeholders, bcWORKSHOP deploys a community-led planning method building shared vision for the city's future. Omar is working to build an organizational wide design practice. He is based in Washington D.C. working to bring greater social and environmental equality through thoughtful design and planning. From 2013 - 2015, Omar lead the Rio Grande Valley office focusing on a geographical, social cultural frontier by addressing the systemic poverty, health and resilience issue that plague the region. Through these efforts he has completed award winning affordable housing, rapid response disaster housing prototypes, urban bike and pedestrian infrastructure, regional drainage improvements and community based rural planning initiatives.

Omar's passion for design has taken him from the cloud forests of Costa Rica to the ravaged communities of the Gulf Coast and many places in between. His professional practice has also included supporting large arts and cultural projects at Skidmore Owings & Merrill in DC, and prefabricated modular buildings at Alchemy Architects in Minnesota.

BANG DANG and BRAD MC CORKLE

UTA - College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs (CAPPA)
Presenters

Dang and McCorkle Images [HERE](#)

Bang Dang is a partner in the award winning firm Far+Dang. As an Adjunct Professor at College of Architecture Planning and Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Arlington, Bang has provided important leadership for the new Design Build program entitled Parallel Construction. Now entering its second year, the studio is engaging in deployable micro housing strategies for the North Texas Region.

Brad McCorkle co-directs the Parallel Construction Design Build initiative at UTA with Bang Dang.