

# designing**EQUITY**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGED DESIGN CONVENING**

MAY 2016

Washington DC

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGED DESIGN CONVENING

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During this one-day session, we will push forward the conversation about community engaged design with the goal of gaining clarity about what exemplary practice, partnership, and funding looks like. We will focus on how architects, landscape architects, urban planners and designers are working in partnership with people and organizations from low income communities and low income communities of color to improve the quality of the built environment and to build local power and capacity. Throughout the day we'll raise questions like:

- What are the equity and justice issues that historically excluded communities confront and how does our work address these issues?
- What are the tools that designers use to build capacity and agency?
- How are effective partnerships structured between designers and communities?

By creating an environment for learning and exchange, all participants - whether designers, partners, funders or allies – will have the opportunity to engage with each other and walk away with expanded knowledge and a better sense of who's doing this work. By using direct and jargon-free language and hearing diverse voices present case studies and projects, we will update our understanding of how design fits within the broader range of practices that focus on social justice and impact goals.

**#DESIGNINGEQUITY**



Greetings convening attendees,

Welcome to DC and the National Endowment for the Arts! We are delighted you could join us for this day of questions, conversation, and engagement around the topic of community engaged design.

The National Endowment for the Arts is passionate about the way that creativity can connect people across fields and disciplines and across communities. Under-resourced communities all over America are improving their quality of life through the arts and design. Specifically, we know so many communities are benefiting from the design interventions you and your partners make possible. The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to be your partner and to support your work through grants and important conversations like today's event.

Thank you for your commitment and for being here today.

Sincerely,

Jane Chu  
Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts



**ART WORKS.**



Welcome to Designing Equity, an opportunity to examine our successes, acknowledge our shortcomings, and to affirm our shared commitment to infusing social justice into the practice of architecture, design and planning.

For too many years, low-income communities and communities of color have been excluded from discussions about the future of their own neighborhoods. More often than not, decisions about the shaping of their physical surroundings, and social and economic realities, are made without their participation.

Planning and development happen *to* them, not *with* them.

Surdna is challenging these top-down methods through its support of planning, design, and architectural processes that are guided by equity and democratic decision making. When design is informed through real engagement, it can be empowering and lead to greater equity within a community.

We know that despite the difficult, fragile nature of community engagement, without it, we cannot foster inclusive, sustainable communities. So thank you for taking this opportunity to learn from one another.

Sincerely,

Phillip Henderson  
President, Surdna Foundation



**Opening Reception** at Zaytinya on Sunday, May 8, 5:00 -7:00 pm (see map)

## Monday, May 9

8:00 am **Check-in & Breakfast**

9:00 am **Welcome**

**Opening Remarks:**

Jason Schupbach, NEA  
Judilee Reed, Surdna Foundation

**Overview of the Day:**

Toni L. Griffin, convening facilitator, Urban Planning for the American City

9:20 am **Session 1: Community Engaged Design in Context**

**Goals: to situate community engaged design within social, economic and political contexts; to reflect on the history of architects, designers and planners working in community contexts.**

**Session Introduction:**

Toni L. Griffin

**Opening Remarks: Design in the Context of Race, Class & Gender**

Assata-Nicole Richards, PhD, Sankofa Research Institute

**Opening Remarks: Indigenous Planner as Healer**

Ted Jojola, PhD, Indigenous Design & Planning Institute  
Michaela Paulette Shirley, MCRP, Indigenous Design & Planning Institute

**Moderated Dialogue between Session Presenters**

**Breakout Sessions**

10:45 am **Break & Snack**

11:00 am **Session 2: Design, Engagement & Partnership**

**Goals: to understand how and why partnerships between designers and other organizations are structured to address systemic challenges; to learn about engagement and design strategies for tackling such issues.**

**Session Overview:**

Barbara Brown Wilson, PhD, University of Virginia

**Project Presentation:**

Claudette Grant, Piedmont Housing Alliance  
Frank Groush, Piedmont Housing Alliance  
Liz Ogbu, Studio O

**Project Presentation:**

Brent Brown, bcWORKSHOP  
Juanita Valdez-Cox, LUPE  
John Henneberger, Texas Low Income Housing Information Service

**Project Presentation:**

Deanna Van Buren, Designing Justice + Designing Spaces  
Kyle Rawlins, Designing Justice + Designing Spaces  
Steve Good, Five Keys Charter Schools

**Q&A**

**Breakout Sessions**

1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:45 pm **Session 3: Design at the Scale of Systemic Change**

**Goals: to present a case study illustrating how community engaged design can have broad city-wide impact; to describe the economic, social, human and political capital needs to sustain the work.**

**Session Overview:**

Jerry Maldonado, Ford Foundation

**Panel Discussion: Systems Change in Planning in New York City**

Isella Ramirez, Hester Street Collaborative  
Kevin Ryan, New York Foundation  
George Sarkissian, NYC Council's Economic and Community Development Division  
Sondra Youdelman, Community Voices Heard

**Q&A**

3:00 pm **Break**

3:15 pm **Closing**

**Summary of the Day:**

Toni L. Griffin

**Reflections from Convening Participants**

**Closing Remarks:**

Jason Schupbach, NEA  
Jessica Garz, Surdna Foundation

## Speaker Bios

**Brent A. Brown** is a Dallas architect, city planner, and urban designer working to balance social, economic, and environmental issues by deploying design and participatory planning to enhance livability for all citizens. Through his efforts across Texas, Brown is reenvisioning how people live, work, and play. In 2005, he founded the buildingcommunity WORKSHOP, a Texas nonprofit community-design resource seeking to improve the livability and viability of communities across the state through the practice of thoughtful design and making. He is also the founding director of the City of Dallas's Citydesign Studio, stewarding the urban design vision for Dallas. By engaging residents, landowners, business owners, investors, and community stakeholders, Brown deploys a community-led planning method building shared vision for the city's future. Winner of numerous local and national design awards, he is especially proud to have been selected as a 2013 Rudy Bruner Award Silver Medalist, recognizing innovative thinking about the built environment. Brown lives with his wife, Anne, and their son, Elliott, in the century-old Munger Place neighborhood of Old East Dallas.

**Jessica Garz** is a program officer in the Thriving Cultures program at the Surdna Foundation, a New York City-based family foundation with national grant-making programs organized around the mission of supporting just and sustainable communities. In this role, Garz collaborates with colleagues in philanthropy and those on the ground, to support artists, architects, and designers working toward imagining, and creating, more just and sustainable communities. Before joining the foundation, Garz completed a graduate degree in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. Her studies were primarily motivated by her experiences in New Orleans working with artists, planners, residents, and community-based organizations during the post-Katrina recovery process. From 2005 to 2010, Garz was a member of Transforma, a collective that supported artists and cultural practices shaping the social and physical environment. She also assisted with research projects at the Urban Institute, a policy think tank based in Washington, DC. Garz is generally interested in the intersection of, and tension between, the pragmatic and poetic aspects of cultural work, and is grateful that through her current role at Surdna, and her adjunct teaching position at Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia, she can continue to explore such interests.

**Steve Good** is executive director of the San Francisco Sheriff's Department's Five Keys Charter Schools, the first accredited charter high school in the nation to serve adult students inside county jails. Five Keys operates programs in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Solano County, with additional schools to open soon in San Bernardino and San Mateo Counties. Under Good's leadership, Five Keys has expanded into the community, partnering with more than fifty community-based centers to serve learners in economically isolated neighborhoods throughout California. Five Keys touches the lives of 10,000 students each year, delivering a culturally respectful and age-appropriate curriculum rooted in the principles of restorative justice. Good has consulted with the US Department of Education's Office of Vocation and Adult Education on their Correctional Education Reentry Program Model. He is a member of the Community Corrections Partnership of San Francisco; is a county commissioner in San Francisco's most disenfranchised neighborhood, Bayview-Hunters Point; and is responsible for bringing City College of San Francisco into the county jails, expanding the educational and future career opportunities for incarcerated students. In 2015, Five Keys won the prestigious Harvard University Innovations in American

Government Award; the Pioneer Institute for Public Policy and Research's Better Government Competition: Reducing Recidivism Through Education; and a Smart on Crime Award, presented by California Attorney General Kamala Harris. In 2014, Five Keys was named a Hart Vision Charter School of the Year.

**Claudette Grant** is a community organizer with Piedmont Housing Alliance. In this role, she designs, organizes, and sustains a framework for resident participation in the planning for redevelopment of Friendship Court, a low-income housing development in Charlottesville, Virginia. Grant has nearly thirty years of experience working in housing, neighborhoods, and community development. She has held the position of senior planner with both Albemarle County and the city of Charlottesville, and the positions of housing counselor, loan assistant, and multifamily housing representative with Housing Opportunities Made Equal and HUD. She also taught a short course on block-grant funding to undergraduate and graduate students in the Department of Urban and Environmental Planning at the University of Virginia's School of Architecture. Grant earned a bachelor of arts in urban studies from the University of Connecticut and a master of planning with a concentration in urban development from the University of Virginia.

**Toni L. Griffin**, an architect and urban planner, is founder of Urban Planning for the American City, based in New York City. Through the practice, Griffin served as project director for the Detroit Works Project Long Term Planning initiative and released Detroit Future City, a comprehensive citywide framework for urban transformation. Current clients include the cities of Memphis, Milwaukee, and Pittsburgh. Griffin was recently appointed a professor in practice of urban planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where she will both teach and develop values-based planning methodologies through the Just City Lab. Griffin received a bachelor of architecture from the University of Notre Dame and a Loeb Fellowship from the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

**Frank Grosch** is the CEO of Piedmont Housing Alliance, a not-for-profit developer of affordable housing in Charlottesville, Virginia, a position he has held since January 2014. Before joining Piedmont Housing, Grosch worked for over twenty years in the private sector, developing market-rate and affordable housing on the East Coast and in the Midwest. For nearly ten years prior to that, he worked in not-for-profit affordable housing development in Rochester and Buffalo, New York. Grosch is an honors graduate of the University of Rochester and holds an MBA in finance from the Crummer Graduate School of Business at Rollins College.

**John Henneberger** is one of Texas's leading experts on low-income housing issues, a nationally renowned advocate for fair and affordable housing, and a 2014 MacArthur Fellow. He is recognized for his steadfast commitment to social justice, helping low-income people advance model solutions to housing issues in their communities and forging common-ground solutions from diverse housing interests. Henneberger is a past board member of the National Low Income Housing Coalition. His advocacy work won TxLIHIS, the Texas Low Income Housing Information Service, the Texas Outstanding Public Service Award from his public interest colleagues. Henneberger has a bachelor of arts in history from the University of Texas at Austin, where he has served as an adjunct instructor in disaster recovery housing in the School of Architecture.

**Theodore (Ted) Jojola, PhD**, is a distinguished professor and regents' professor in the Community and Regional Planning Program at the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of New Mexico. He is the founder and director of the university's Indigenous Design + Planning Institute, which works with tribal communities throughout the Southwest and internationally by facilitating culturally informed approaches to community development. Jojola is actively involved in major research projects on Indian education, indigenous community development, and architecture. He is coeditor of two books - *How It Is: The Native American Philosophy of V.F. Cordova* (University of Arizona Press, 2007) and *Reclaiming Indigenous Planning* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013) - and is working on a third, *Contemporary Indigenous Architecture: Local Traditions, Global Winds* (working title, University of New Mexico Press). In addition, he has published numerous articles and chapters on topics relating to indigenous design and planning, stereotyping, and economic development. He is an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Isleta.

**Jerry Maldonado** is a senior program manager on the Equitable Development team at the Ford Foundation. His grant making has concentrated on integrated regional strategies for building stronger communities by improving access for low-income families to permanently affordable housing, reducing blight, improving transit choices, and strengthening decent work opportunities. In his work with the foundation, he has overseen post-Katrina Gulf Coast transformation efforts. Previously, he was a visiting scholar at Cornell University's Global Labor Institute and a codirector of the Carnegie Council's Global Policy Innovations program. He has also served as a consultant with numerous international development and philanthropic institutions, including the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. He has organized several international development conferences and symposia on issues from globalization and inequality to human rights and economic development, and is a coauthor of the 2005 report *The Americas at a Crossroads: Putting Decent Work Back on the International Development Agenda*. Maldonado has a master's degree in public policy and international affairs from Columbia University and a bachelor's degree from Brown University, where he concentrated in international relations with a minor in urban studies.

**Liz Ogbu** is a designer, urbanist, and social innovator who works on understanding and creating social and spatial innovation in challenged urban environments globally. Whether designing shelters for immigrant day laborers in the United States or a water-and-health social enterprise for low-income Kenyans, Ogbu has a long history of working with communities in need to leverage the power of design to deliver equitable social impact. She is founder and principal of Studio O, a multidisciplinary design and innovation firm, and an adjunct at the College of Environmental Design at the University of California, Berkeley, and at Stanford University's d.school. Most recently, she served as an inaugural Expert-in-Residence at Tulane University's Taylor Center for Social Innovation and Design Thinking. She was previously the first scholar in residence at the Center for Art and Public Life at California College of the Arts, an inaugural innovator in residence through the IDEO.org Global Fellowship Program, and design director at the nonprofit Public Architecture. Her projects have been featured in museum exhibitions and have received numerous design awards globally. Ogbu has written for and been profiled in publications including the *Boston Globe*, *Metropolis*, *Core 77*, and the *Journal of Urban Design*. Her honors include Aspen Ideas Festival Scholar, Next City Vanguard, and senior fellow of the Design Futures Council, and she was named one of the "Public Interest Design 100." She earned architecture degrees from Wellesley College and Harvard University.

**Isella Ramirez** is a project manager with Hester Street Collaborative (HSC) in New York. She grew up in the city of Commerce, a community overburdened with industrial pollution a few miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. For seven years she worked with East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, a community-based organization working to promote a healthy and safe environment in Commerce, East Los Angeles, and Long Beach. There she also held the role of co-executive director, where she managed the organizational work plan and led organizing and leadership development. Before her time at HSC, she worked with Ironbound Community Corporation in Newark, New Jersey, as an environmental justice program manager, where she developed an extensive leadership-training program for local leaders. She is passionate about environmental justice and is interested in identifying and implementing participatory planning practices, tools, and frameworks to more effectively be an agent of change in underserved communities. She holds a bachelor of arts in Latin American and Latina(o) studies from Vassar College and a master's in urban and regional planning from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. She makes amazing pico de gallo and has a fun earring collection.

**Kyle Rawlins** is a co-founder of Designing Justice + Designing Spaces, a nonprofit harnessing the power of design and development to transform people and communities. He is responsible for its real estate development activities. For over fifteen years, Rawlins has been active in the analysis, financing, design, construction, and management of real estate in North and South America. His interest in finding equity within society has often pointed to affordable housing. As director of corporate development for Atlântica Residencial, a portfolio company of Prudential Real Estate Investors, he was part of a management team responsible for the construction of 4,000 affordable residential units in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, Brazil. Closer to home, Rawlins has consulted for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) in the development of a solution to create an economic development model to empower unemployed, unbanked, credit-challenged "NYCHApreneurs" to build sustainable, livable-wage-producing businesses. Rawlins holds a bachelor of science in architecture from the University of Virginia and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

**Judilee Reed** is the director of the Thriving Cultures program at the Surdna Foundation. Since joining the foundation in 2011, Reed has relaunched the Thriving Cultures program with a focus on social justice and cultural equity through its four funding areas: Artists Engaging in Social Change, Community Engaged Design, Artists and Economic Development, and Teens' Artistic and Cultural Advancement. Before joining the foundation, Reed was the executive director of Leveraging Investments in Creativity (LINC), where she led successful projects focusing on strengthening community-centered arts organizations, improving artists' access to information about America's changing health care policies, and generating awareness of the increasingly diverse demographics of communities around the country. Reed's career in arts and culture focuses on artists, communities, and the systems supporting them. Her work spans over two decades and includes roles at local, regional, and national scales in governmental and private organizations. Reed has traveled throughout the United States and internationally. She holds a bachelor of arts in art history and a BFA in painting from the University of New Hampshire, as well as alumna status at Harvard Business School.

**Assata-Nicole Richards**, PhD is the director of the Sankofa Research Institute (SRI) in Houston, a nonprofit with a mission to “create knowledge to build community” that employs community-based participatory research to inform social change. SRI’s collaborators include CHRISTUS Health Foundation, the Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, the Southeast Houston Transformation Alliance, and St. Anne’s Catholic Church. Richards earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Houston and master’s and doctoral degrees from Pennsylvania State University. After serving on the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh, she returned to Houston to work with Project Row Houses, a public arts organization utilizing art to revitalize economically depressed urban communities. Richards is an adjunct professor at the University of Houston and teaches in the Department of Sociology and the Arts Leadership program. She has been an invited presenter at the Living Walls Conference in Atlanta; the Rice Design Alliance Civic Forum at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Second International Forum on Crime Prevention and Social Innovation in Tijuana, Mexico; the Beyond Practice into Action Work Conference at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and the Development Without Displacement Workshop at MIT.

**Kevin Ryan** is program director at the New York Foundation, where he has worked since 2002. He manages a portfolio of grants for start-up and established organizations focusing on community organizing and advocacy, and oversees the foundation’s Capacity Building Program, which offers workshops, small grants, and individual technical assistance. In addition to his foundation responsibilities, Ryan is an advisory committee member for Black Organizing for Leadership and Dignity, co-chair of the New York State Grantmakers for Community Engagement, a steering committee member of the Working Group on Place-Based Community Change at Neighborhood Funders Group, and chair of the youth board at the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development. He also served on the board of directors of Green Worker Cooperatives and Interfaith Funders. Before his work at the New York Foundation, Ryan was the executive director of the Community Training and Resource Center, a housing preservation organization where he provided leadership to a staff of tenant organizers working to improve housing conditions for low-income New Yorkers. Ryan holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and a master of urban planning from the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University.

**George Sarkissian** is the deputy director of the New York City Council’s Economic and Community Development Division, where he works to support and advise council members and their communities on a variety of neighborhood planning and community development projects. Working on behalf of Melissa Mark-Viverito, speaker of the City Council, Sarkissian helped support and coordinate community stakeholders and public workshops to facilitate the development of a neighborhood plan in East Harlem. Previously, Sarkissian was the district manager of Community Board 11 (East Harlem), a local government agency made up of volunteer community stakeholders who advise city agencies and elected officials on planning, development, and quality-of-life matters. He also serves as the chair of the board of trustees for the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation in East Harlem. Sarkissian has a master’s degree in urban policy and management from the New School and a bachelor’s degree in urban and public policy from the University at Buffalo.

**Jason Schupbach** is the director of design programs for the National Endowment for the Arts, where he oversees all design and creative placemaking partnerships and grant making, including the Our Town and Art Works grants, the Mayors’

Institute on City Design, the Citizens’ Institute on Rural Design, and the NEA’s involvement in the Rebuild by Design competition sponsored by HUD’s Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force. Previously, Schupbach served as the creative economy director for the administration of Governor Deval Patrick of Massachusetts, tasked with growing creative businesses in the state. He is a former director of ArtistLink, a Ford Foundation–funded initiative to stabilize and revitalize communities through the creation of affordable space and innovative environments for creatives. He has also worked for the mayor of Chicago and New York City’s Department of Cultural Affairs.

**Michaela Paulette Shirley**, MCRP, is Water Edge clan, born for Bitter Water clan, her maternal grandpa is Salt clan, and her paternal grandpa is Coyote Pass clan. She is the daughter of Dolly Mae and Paul Shirley. Shirley grew up in Kin Dah Lichii (Red House) in northeastern Arizona on the Navajo reservation. Several of her summers were spent at sheep camp in the mountains with her paternal grandma, Isabelle Shirley. During her time spent there she contemplated the importance of sheep, family, community, the land, and higher education. She received her bachelor’s in urban planning from Arizona State University in 2011 and a master’s in community and regional planning from the University of New Mexico in 2015. She is a program specialist for the Indigenous Design and Planning Institute at UNM, where she is being mentored for a program specialist position. At the moment, Shirley is looking for a PhD program to advance indigenous planning scholarship, focusing on the role of schools in indigenous communities.

**Courtney Spearman** joined the National Endowment for the Arts as a design specialist in 2014, managing the Art Works grant program to support the field of design and design projects nationwide. Trained as a landscape architect and architectural historian, Spearman came to the NEA after working for the Cultural Landscape Foundation, a Washington, DC-based nonprofit (and NEA grantee) focused on raising awareness about design landscapes. She has also worked in practice at EDAW/AECOM in Alexandria, Virginia. Before returning to graduate school, Spearman worked for a small tech start-up in Houston and London, doing project management and development, and for several Houston museums and art galleries. She has master’s degrees in landscape architecture and architectural history from the University of Virginia and bachelors degrees in history and art and art history from Rice University.

**Juanita Valdez-Cox** grew up in a farmworker family and began working in the fields at an early age. The family traveled across the country, from Florida to Idaho and dozens of places in between. To help her family, she left school after tenth grade and began working at whatever jobs were available. As a young woman, she began a career in early childhood development. Soon after marrying, she earned a GED, then enrolled in the early childhood development program at the University of Texas-Pan American, where she earned an associate’s degree and later continued her education as a part-time student in Mexican-American studies and sociology. In late 1980, Valdez-Cox became a full-time volunteer with the United Farm Workers, helping farmworkers and other low-income families to build a society that respects their contributions and honors their labor. In 2000, she was elected to the UFW National Executive Board. In 2003, the Texas UFW staff was transferred from UFW to LUPE. Late in 2007, Valdez-Cox was appointed as executive director. At LUPE she continues working to build momentum for fundamental social change. Valdez-Cox is the mother of two sons and the proud grandmother to three beautiful grandchildren.

**Deanna Van Buren** is one of the national leaders researching, formulating, and advocating for restorative justice centers, a radical transformation of the criminal justice system. She sits on the national board of Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility and is a founding partner of FOURM design studio and Designing Justice + Designing Spaces, an architecture and development firm seeking to address structural inequity and to end mass incarceration. Van Buren's professional career spans sixteen years as a design lead and project manager in the offices of Eric R. Kuhne & Associates London, the Buchan Group Sydney, Michelle Kaufmann Designs, and Perkins+Will on urban design, domestic, institutional, and education projects in the San Francisco Bay Area, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Recent work with her practice includes the Syracuse Peacemaking Center in New York, the first of its kind in the United States, and Restore, a multi-use hub for restorative justice and workforce development in East Oakland. Van Buren is currently 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. Van Buren received a bachelor of science in architecture from the University of Virginia and a master of architecture from Columbia University, and is an alumnus of the Loeb Fellowship at Harvard's Graduate School of Design.

**Barbara Brown Wilson** is an assistant professor of urban and environmental planning at the University of Virginia. Wilson's research and teaching focus on community-engaged design and development, especially in economically and/or environmentally vulnerable communities, and on the history of urban social movements. She writes on a range of issues for academic and mainstream publications. With Steven A. Moore, she is co-author of *Questioning Architectural Judgment: The Problem of Codes in the United States* (Routledge, 2013), about the values implicitly coded into the built world by way of market-driven regulation or grassroots organization. Her research is often change-oriented, meaning she collaborates with real community partners to identify opportunities for engaged and integrated sustainable development that furthers goals in the realms of research and practice. Wilson has been fortunate to participate in the founding of several educational and practical organizations in the community-engaged design sphere, including the Public Interest Design Program at the University of Texas at Austin, the Design Futures Student Leadership Forum, and the Austin Community Design and Development Center. Wilson has won numerous local and national awards for her community-engaged design efforts and is recognized as one of the "Top 100 Leaders in Public Interest Design."

**Sondra Youdelman** is executive director of the New York-based Community Voices Heard (CVH); she was previously its director of public policy and research. Youdelman has worked in the United States and abroad to achieve social and economic justice through organizing. She has over twenty years of experience as an organizer and activist with grassroots groups and a variety of low-income constituencies. While at CVH, she has focused extensively on welfare and workforce development policy, public housing improvement and preservation, and civic engagement and participatory democracy. She has researched and written numerous reports and has grown CVH from a one-city, one-issue shop into a multi-chapter, multi-issue organization. CVH has established an affiliated 501c4 organization, CVH Power Inc., to take its political work to the next level. Youdelman's work at CVH has recently intersected with that of designers in two particular projects: Participatory Budgeting NYC and the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan process. CVH was the lead group focusing on community engagement in both of these bottom-up, community-driven participatory decision-making processes. Youdelman has a master's degree in public and international affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and a bachelor of arts in American studies focusing on oppression and revolution from Wesleyan University.

## Attendees



**Aaron Bartley**  
co-founder  
PUSH Buffalo



**Shani Carter**  
2016 masters candidate  
Harvard GSD



**Hilary (Dita) Beard**  
2016 masters candidate  
University of Virginia



**Ariella Cohen**  
editor-in-chief  
Next City



**Tiarra Bell**  
high school senior  
Public Workshop



**Elena Conte**  
director, Policy  
Pratt Center



**Jamie Blosser**  
executive director  
Santa Fe Art Institute



**Lyz Crane**  
deputy director  
ArtPlace America



**Kofi Boone**  
professor, Landscape Architecture  
ASLA & NC State University



**Teddy Cruz**  
professor, Visual Arts  
UC San Diego



**Katherine Bray-Simons**  
consultant



**DeAnna Cummings**  
CEO & co-founder  
Juxtaposition Arts



**Brent Brown**  
founder and director  
BC Workshop



**Dayna Cunningham**  
executive director  
MIT/Community Innovators Lab



**Jeremy Brownlee**  
membership director  
NACEDA



**Lee Davis**  
co-director  
Center for Social Design, MICA



**Joan Byron**  
program director  
Neighborhoods First Fund



**Julia Day**  
project manager  
Gehl Studio



**Katryna Carter**  
design consultant  
NEA



**Dan D'Oca**  
principal and co-founder  
Interboro



**Lakita Edwards**  
Arts Education Specialist  
NEA



**Betsy Fader**  
vice president, Programs  
Surdna Foundation



**Fonna Forman**  
professor, Political Theory  
UC San Diego



**Elizabeth Garlow**  
community solutions fellow  
Office of Management & Budget



**Jessica Garz**  
program officer  
Surdna Foundation



**Christine Gaspar**  
executive director  
Center for Urban Pedagogy



**Rahwa Ghirmatzion**  
deputy director  
PUSH Buffalo



**Alex Gilliam**  
founder and director  
Public Workshop



**Steven Good**  
executive director  
Five Keys Charter School



**Anna Gordon**  
outreach coordinator  
Living Cully



**Claudette Grant**  
community organizer  
Piedmont Housing Alliance



**Toni Griffin**  
founder  
Urban Planning for the American City



**Frank Groush**  
CEO  
Piedmont Housing Alliance



**Omar Hakeem**  
associate director  
BC Workshop



**Maggie Hansen**  
interim director  
Tulane City Center



**John Henneberger**  
co-director  
TxLHIS



**Daniel Hernandez**  
deputy commissioner  
City of New York - HPD



**Jen Hughes**  
community solutions specialist  
NEA



**Theresa Hwang**  
founder  
Dept of Places



**Briony Hynson**  
Deputy Director  
Neighborhood Design Center



**Diane Ives**  
fund advisor  
Kendeda Fund



**Maria Rosario Jackson**  
senior advisor & council member  
Kresge Foundation & NEA



**Garrett Jacobs**  
executive director  
Open Architecture Collaborative



**Diamond James**  
2016 masters candidate  
MICA



**Ted Jojola**  
founder & director  
Indigenous Design & Planning Institute



**Marjona Jones**  
program officer  
Veatch Program



**Kevin Kalman**  
general manager  
Desert Recreation District



**Suzanna Wight Kelley**  
managing director  
AIA National



**James Kendall**  
2018 masters candidate  
Harvard GSD



**Scott Kratz**  
director  
11th Street Park



**Joseph Kunkel**  
executive director  
SNCC



**Bryan Lee**  
director, Place + Civic Design  
Arts Council of New Orleans



**Steven Lewis**  
director, Urban Design  
City of Detroit



**Betsy MacLean**  
executive director  
Hester Street Collaborative



**Jerry Maldonado**  
senior program officer  
Ford Foundation



**Shawn McCaney**  
program director  
William Penn Foundation



**Lynne McCormack**  
director, Creative Placemaking  
LISC National Program



**Elizabeth Méndez Berry**  
program officer  
Surdna Foundation



**Gilad Meron**  
co-founder  
Blue House



**Sue Mobley**  
manager, Community Engagement  
Tulane City Center



**Amoretta Morris**  
senior associate  
Annie E Casey Foundation



**Rayya Newman**  
Outreach Director  
Inscape Publico



**Chelina Odbert**  
co-founder & executive director  
Kounkuey Design Initiative



**Liz Ogbu**  
founder and principal  
Studio O



**Shin Otake**  
program associate  
Surdna Foundation



**Philip Pannell**  
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Designing Justice + Designing Spaces



**Barbara Brown Wilson**  
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University of Virginia



**Sondra Youdelman**  
executive director  
Community Voices Heard



- ① **NEA Offices, Constitution Center**, 400 7th St SW, Washington, DC 20506
- ② **Holiday Inn Capitol**, 550 C St SW, Washington, DC 20024
- ③a **L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station**, 7th St SW and Maryland Ave SW
- ③b **L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station**, 7th St SW and D St SW
- ④ **Zaytinya**, 701 9th St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- ⑤ **Gallery Place-Chinatown Metro Station**, 7th St NW and H St NW
- ⑥ **National Mall**, Washington, DC
- ⑦ **United States Capitol**, East Capitol St NE & First St SE, Washington, DC 20004

## Logistics

### Hotel

NEA and Surdna have secured a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Capitol (<http://www.hicapitoldc.com/>), 550 C Street SW, just a few blocks from the NEA offices in the Constitution Center. Their phone number is 202.479.4000.

The hotel does not have a shuttle service, but it's an easy trip on the metro (L'Enfant Plaza is the nearest metro station, on the yellow/green and blue/orange/silver lines). Over the weekend, use the metro exit at 3a on the map, 7th St SW and Maryland Ave SW. The exit at 3b on the map is closed on weekends.

Amenities include free wi-fi, a restaurant and Starbucks in the lobby, and a 24-hour business center and fitness center.

### Reception

Join us Sunday evening, May 8th, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for a reception at Zaytinya (<http://www.zaytinya.com/>), 701 9th St NW. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and soft drinks. The nearest metro station is Gallery Place-Chinatown on the yellow/green and red lines.

### May 9th Convening

The convening will take place at the Constitution Center, 400 7th Street SW, on the ground floor in the conference area of the building.

Please plan to arrive no later than 8:30, though you're welcome to join us for breakfast starting at 8:00. **The building has significant security, so please allow time to sign in and go through security screening, including a metal detector.**

The building has two entrances – one on D Street and one on 7th Street:

If you are staying at the Holiday Inn, simply exit the hotel onto 6th Street and go left under the railway bridge, across Virginia Avenue, then right on D Street. The building is right there – enter from D Street.

If you are arriving via metro, look for the D & 7th streets exit at 3b on the map. You will see a waving astronaut dog (William Wegman Weimaraner!) against a black background at the exit. (There is another astronaut dog against a white background elsewhere in the station; you want the dog with the black background.) Go through the exit gates and walk under the dog to the exit escalator. Take the escalator to the top and you'll see the entrance to the Constitution Center on your left.

If you being dropped off by a car, you will likely enter from 7th Street.

### Special Accommodations/Help!

If you run into any problems or just have questions, please contact Courtney Spearman at 202.631.2688 or [spearmanc@arts.gov](mailto:spearmanc@arts.gov).

### Wifi

NEA Guest Access, pw is GuestNEA12345#

## About the National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts and the agency is celebrating this milestone with events and activities through December 2016.

## About the Surdna Foundation

The Surdna Foundation seeks to foster sustainable communities in the United States -- communities guided by principles of social justice and distinguished by healthy environments, strong local economies, and thriving cultures.

The Community Engaged Design program at the foundation has the primary focus of supporting designers, architects, and artists as resource allies to low-income communities and communities of color to improve the quality of the built environment and to build local power and capacity.



