Session #4
Community Engagement

Christopher Kelley
Leadership Development Program

January 7th, 2022
Third Degree Glass Factory
5200 Delmar Boulevard, St. Louis MO 63108
Community Engagement

Program Summary
Participants will be engaged in a series of presentations by local community leaders, who will share their unique points of view. Leaders of a local not-for-profit development company will share how they strategically secure funding and design for housing projects throughout St. Louis. A local not-for-profit founder will share his process of entrepreneurship and his dream for youth in St. Louis. A podcast host will shed light on the communities we are all a part of and how to creatively engage with these community. Finally, the director of a local maker space will share how the organization is bringing life back to Delmar Boulevard in an effort to create a community of makers focused on St. Louis.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the financing, planning, and design of community-focused housing developments.

2. Redefine the meaning of ‘community’ to better understand the role of the architect as community advocate in every aspect of life.

3. Discover strategies for building communities, both physically and culturally.

4. Become inspired by the power of connection as a tool for community building.
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12:00-12:20  Lunch Reception
Grace Meat + Three

12:20-12:30  Session Introduction
Haley Dougherty | M+H Architects
Aaron Bisch | Gensler

12:45-1:15  Third Degree Glass Factory Tour
Olivia Reim | Third Degree Glass Factory

1:15-2:00  Presentation
Colleen Hafner | RISE Community Development
Brian Hurd | RISE Community Development

2:00-2:45  Presentation
Michael Woods | Dream Builders 4 Equity

2:45-3:00  Break

3:00-3:45  Presentation
Doug Shapiro | OFS Brands

3:45-4:15  Delmar Maker District Introduction
Vince Schell | MADE STL

4:15-5:00  MADE STL Tour
Vince Schell | MADE STL

Happy Hour
Rooftop Twilight Room | Moonrise Hotel
6177 Delmar in The Loop, St. Louis, MO 63112
M+H Architects was founded in 1989 as Mitchell and Hugeback Architects – but the way we see it, our story has never been about us.

Our story is rooted in how we combine industry experience, creative architecture and advanced technology to build the future of our clients' businesses.

To make that happen, we have created a professional, collaborative culture that’s always driving our people forward. We are learners and explorers, working with clients and each other to uncover ways to bring goals and visions to life.

Justin Bruce
Principal
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Presentation:
RISE Community Development

Colleen Hafner | CDFI Director
RISE Community Development

Colleen is Rise’s CDFI Director, a role she began full-time in 2021. In this capacity, she guides the CDFI’s lending and capitalization strategy and directs the growth of its operations. Colleen joined Rise in 2018 as a Project Manager, where she helped coordinate the real estate development process for Rise and its partners. Prior to joining Rise, Colleen was Asset Manager – Compliance for St. Louis Equity Fund, and Vice President of its affiliate CDFI, Gateway Community Development Fund, Inc. She has over 14 years of experience in the housing and community development finance field.

She received both her Bachelors in Business Administration and Masters in Public Policy Administration from the University of Missouri – St. Louis, along with a Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management. Colleen has received her Low-Income Housing Tax Credit compliance certification from Novogradac.

Colleen is an active Board member for Tower Grove Neighborhoods CDC and a committee member for Northside Community Housing, Inc., two St. Louis area CDCs. She is also a former Director for the Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis, a position she held for 8 years.
Brian H. Hurd is Director of Community Planning and Implementation for Rise Community Development. Brian helps Rise bring together residents, nonprofits, banks, foundations, institutions, and government to make transforming neighborhoods possible. He received with the American Planning Association – St. Louis Metro Section’s 2020 Outstanding Planner of the Year Award for leading the development of the award-winning Gravois-Jefferson Historic Neighborhoods Plan. He received the award in large part because of the innovative approach to a robust community engagement effort.

In addition to Brian’s work at Rise, he is a field instructor for Washington University’s Brown School of Social Work and is also an adjunct professor at the university, where he teaches a course titled, Planning Sustainable and Racially Equitable Urban Communities in the University College’s Sustainability Program.

Brian serves on several boards and commissions, that include:
- Alpha Terrace Development Corporation
- East Side Aligned, Inc.
- Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority – St. Louis County
- STL VentureWorks, Inc.
- U.S. Green Building Council, Inc. – Missouri Gateway Chapter

Brian is also a best-selling author with his 2020 book release, Dream It! Plan It! Be It! A Playbook for Today’s Youth. The book addresses developing and inspiring young emerging leaders, calls to action by parents, community leaders, and policymakers, and his mission of creating youth-centered, healthy communities by aligning planning, investments, and partnerships.

Originally from Virginia Beach, Virginia, Brian is a graduate of Saint Augustine’s University, an Historically Black University in Raleigh, North Carolina. And he received his Master’s in Community and Regional Planning from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, where he just recently received the 2021 Outstanding Alumni Design Achievement Award presented by the Iowa State University College of Design.
Presentation:
Dream Builders 4 Equity

Michael Woods | Co-Founder & Executive Director
Dream Builders 4 Equity

Michael Woods, St. Louis native and North City resident, is a certified personal trainer, published author, entrepreneur, mentor, and co-founder of Dream Builders 4 Equity. Michael holds a Bachelors of Arts in Psychology from Lindenwood University.

Michael’s passion is unifying all communities towards creating a better future that is informed by the hopes and needs of those who are often forgotten.

Presentation:
Great Communication and Networking

Doug Shapiro
VP of Research and Insights & Podcast Host
OFS Brands

Doug Shapiro is the VP of Research and Insights at OFS and has over 15 years with the company. He has extensive experience developing products and collaborating with designers from all over the globe. Since April 2020, he’s hosted a weekly podcast called Imagine a Place – A podcast about people, places, and design to help you learn and grow. From 2015-2020 he served on the International Interior Design Association's board of directors and still remains heavily involved in their student outreach programs. He also serves on the advisory board for Kansas State University’s Interior Architecture and Industrial Design department.
Tour:
MADE STL

Vince Schell
Director of Operations
MADE STL

MADE is the place where St. Louis Makers, Artists, Designers, and Entrepreneurs create and collaborate. Our co-founders, Jim McKelvey and Doug Auer (the guys who brought you Third Degree Glass Factory), acted quickly when a makerspace chain went bankrupt in St. Louis, leaving over 500 local makers in the lurch. Our friends at Cortex gave Jim and Doug the tools they needed to get started, literally. We snagged all the machinery from the old place and hustled on out of there. After a year spent rehabbing a 100-year old brick bunker of a building on Delmar, we plugged in our gear, polished up the terrazzo floors, and opened our doors in November 2018.

There is work in this world only you can make. Your side hustle, your bright idea, your passion project. MADE is where it’s going to happen. From the ground up. With your own two hands.