

INVITATION FOR COMMUNITY PROPOSALS

Submissions are due:
November 22nd, 2024



Partner with the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts through the Office for Socially Engaged Practice

OVERVIEW

The Summer Public Design Workshop invites community organizations, neighborhood groups, and nonprofits to submit project ideas for a summer 2025 collaboration with the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. This opportunity is for groups looking to advance their mission and vision through a design project.

The selected project will participate in a 3-week, full-time community design experience, led by the Office for Socially Engaged Practice. Up to ten architecture students, guided by a faculty mentor, will work directly with the selected partner to bring the proposal to life.

We are seeking community-driven, civic-minded project ideas. One project will be chosen for summer 2025, and a budget of approximately \$30,000 will be provided for its implementation.

Submissions are due by **November 22nd, 2024.**

To submit your idea, **scan the qr code or visit:**

<https://samfoxschool.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/81542>



Email questions to: samfox.engage@wustl.edu

About Us:

The Office for Socially Engaged Practice serves as a hub for collaborative, community-centered work in art, architecture, and design. We unite our faculty, students, and staff to engage with the St. Louis region and global communities. We are dedicated to building meaningful relationships, foster collaborative partnerships, and lead applied design projects that advance education, community outreach, and innovation in community-based art and design.

To learn more about the Office for Socially Engaged Practice visit [**samfoxschool.wustl.edu/engage**](https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/engage)

We are seeking partners with a vision for enhancing their communities' spaces and places in the St. Louis region. We can support ideas that are just starting and interested in developing a proof-of-concept or support projects that can benefit from a small design/build prototype.

We are open to working with partners of all sizes, from a single staff member to larger teams (please note that a full-time primary point of contact is required to apply). We are currently unable to support all-volunteer organizations or project teams. Joint applications from groups or organizations collaborating on a mutually beneficial project are also welcome.

Eligible community partners include: not-for-profit organizations, government entities or departments, public schools, for-profit organizations with a public mission, museums, civic groups, labor unions, or neighborhood associations.

Others may be considered if sufficient documentation is provided that demonstrates how their involvement fulfills a public mission or need in the St. Louis region. Priority will be given to community partners that elevate community priorities and address documented, pressing community goals and needs.

What can we offer?

Design Assistance: As a partner, you'll receive dedicated design assistance from the Office for Socially Engaged Practice. This includes access to a talented team of students and lead Faculty from the Sam Fox School's College of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Design.

Creative Energy: Your project will benefit from the fresh ideas and enthusiasm of 6-10 students, selected through a competitive application process. These undergraduate and graduate College of Architecture students will work full-time on your project for three weeks, guided by a faculty lead, adding creativity, design possibilities, and a dynamic spirit.

Community & Space: As a partner, we welcome you to join us at the Sam Fox School, where you can host related community meetings and project meetings in support of this project. The project team will also have access to our fabrication labs to develop and create project concepts.

Funding: The Office of Socially Engaged Practice will provide up to \$25,000 towards implementation of the project idea. In addition the project partner will receive a small honorarium and funding for community programming.

Project Management: The Office for Socially Engaged Practice will lead the administrative details, including managing the project schedule, budget, and partner agreements. Our goal is to make the process as smooth as possible, so you can focus on the impact of your project.

PROJECT TYPE:

PRE-DESIGN WORKSHOP

The “Pre-Design Workshop” is an early-stage collaborative process designed to co-generate ideas, develop designs, and validate concepts. **This track is ideal for partners** who have a broad design vision and need assistance with visualizations, guidance, and options before deciding on a specific design direction.

The primary goal of the workshop is to co-develop a range of ideas and design solutions that address the partner’s unique needs. Throughout the workshop, the student team will create design sketches, process documents, and visual representations to help partners better envision their ideas.

Partners can expect to receive conceptual designs supported by digital models, physical models, design process diagrams, photo collages, and/or renderings. These deliverables will provide a foundation for future project development. The final outcomes will depend on the project and will be determined with the partner before the workshop begins.

Partners interested in pursuing this opportunity should have a specific space in mind, leadership approval and if applicable, community stakeholder input, and a plan to continue the project after the workshop.

Partners can expect a design process similar to the one outlined below for a Pre-Design workshop:

- 1 DEFINITION AND COLLECTION**
Gather information about the partners’ needs and goals, which may include background research, site analysis, and identifying constraints and opportunities
- 2 COLLABORATIVE DESIGN**
Facilitate interactive design workshops with project partners and stakeholders, to generate and discuss design ideas. These sessions may involve group discussions and sketching exercises over multiple meetings.
- 3 CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT**
Create conceptual drawings, illustrations, and preliminary models based on the ideas from the collaborative design workshops. These visuals help partners evaluate the merits of the design options.
- 4 REVIEW AND FEEDBACK**
Present concepts to partners and stakeholders for review. This step is essential for refining ideas and ensuring they meet the partners’ needs and goals.



Conceptual development for a outside pavilion structure. Developed by Wyly Brown's fall 2022 course *Materials of Memory* Peace Park in collaboration with Green City Coalition and Peace Park partners.



Pre-design concepts to identify design options for the Scott Joplin House's expansion. Developed as part of a partnership with Missouri Forest ReLeaf and the Scott Joplin House. The course , *Architecture for Non-Architects*, was instructed by Catalina Freixas in Spring 2023.



Public installations developed to showcase the potential for public placemaking and place keeping to future funders and businesses. Design ideas were developed in the spring of 2022 through Matthew Bernstine's course, *Community Design Sprints* with partners Delmar Main Street, the Maker's District, and Kingsway Development.

PROJECT TYPE:

DESIGN / BUILD

The “Design/Build” project type is a hands-on, practical approach where the project team and partner co-design and build a physical installation.

Installations can be permanent or semi-permanent features that are publicly accessible and/or publicly visible. This could include architectural structures like pavilions, artistic elements such as public sculptures, interactive installations, or functional objects like seating or shelters. If your goal is to make a noticeable impact with a physical installation that incorporates both aesthetic and practical elements, this is the right project type for you.

Design/Build is ideal for partners who have a clear concept and either own or have permission to use the property for the installation.

This project type requires more planning due to the workshop’s time frame and the need for material procurement. If selected, we will work closely with the partner in the months leading up to the summer to define a project size and scope that can be realistically implemented. Please note that the community partner will be responsible for developing a plan for maintaining or removing the installation after its completion.

Partners can expect a design process similar to the one outlined below for a design/build project:

- 1 CONSULTATION AND PLANNING**
We will work with the selected partner to understand their vision, needs, and the context of the space. This includes discussing aesthetic preferences, functional requirements, and site-specific considerations. Together, we will also create a maintenance and/or removal plan for the completed installation.
- 2 DESIGN PHASE**
We will develop detailed design concepts and construction plans, which may include sketches, implementation drawings, material selections, and site layouts.
- 3 CONSTRUCTION PHASE**
Once the design is finalized, the project team will move forward with fabrication, assembly, and installation of the design in the designated space.
- 4 IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW**
We will oversee the installation process with the partner to ensure it meets the design expectations. After installation, we will conduct a project review with the partner to assess its success and overall satisfaction.



Micah Stanek's spring 2018 course *Research in the Landscape: Methods and Practices* designed and installed the Enright Butterfly Garden.



Kelley Van Dyck Murphy's spring 2024 course *Fields and Frames* designed a sculptural piece using 3-D printed terracotta.



Chandler Ahren's spring 2016 undergraduate design-build studio created iconic seating and shade structure for the Nahed Chapman New American Academy.

THE ONLINE APPLICATION REQUESTS PROJECT PARTNERS RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING:

- **Organization Name**
- **Point of Contact** (Last, First Name), Email, and Phone Number
- **Entity / Organization Description** (Share your entity's status mission, vision, and primary constituents)
- **Project name** (If available, please provide the name of the project for which you are requesting assistance)
- **Project Description** (Describe the project proposal idea you are seeking assistance with. If applicable, please include any prior planning or coalition building.)
- **Project Type** (Select the project type you are seeking assistance with)
 - **Pre-Design Workshop:** The "Pre-Design Workshop" is an early-stage collaborative process aimed at co-generating ideas, designs, and/or validating concepts.
 - **Design / Build:** The "Design/Build" project type is a hands-on, practical approach to creating physical installations that enhance or transform a space.
- **Project Support** (Please describe the resources your organization could provide to support this project. These can include financial support, in-kind technical or administrative support, local knowledge, etc.)
- **What does a successful project and engagement look like?** (Describe how this engagement will benefit your organization and your capacity to sustain the project after this engagement)
- **Organizational Status** (Please provide a copy of your organization's official status. (e.g. 501c3, neighborhood organization, institutional entity, etc...))
- **Applicants will be asked to provide at least 1 reference.** References will be accepted up to 3 days after the program deadline. Recommender's will be allowed to enter text or upload PDF files.
- **Additional relevant materials** for the selection committee to consider including: previous design exercises, engagements, community ideas, surveys, concepts, etc...)

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SUBMITTED PROJECTS WILL BE EVALUATED BASED ON:

TOP-LEVEL SUPPORT: Projects should demonstrate approval for the project from senior organizational leadership and/or strong community support, as much as possible

COMMUNITY-INFORMED COMPONENT: If applicable, provide details on meaningful community involvement and input in shaping the project.

IMPACT: How this project will benefit your organization, stakeholders, and clients, and how it will create or support lasting outcomes.

FEASIBILITY: The project scope will be reviewed to ensure the timeline and goals of the Summer Public Design Workshop align with the project’s needs.

EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORT: Projects with strong investment and backing from the local community and relevant stakeholders will be prioritized.

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN INTENT: Projects are strongly encouraged to follow sustainable design practices, reflecting the Sam Fox School’s commitment to environmental justice and resilient design solutions.



EXPECTATIONS FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Active Collaboration: Partners will be asked to engage with the workshop team by participating in goal-setting meetings, providing feedback on designs, and collaborating during the design/build phase.

Clear Goals + Objectives: Partners will be asked to share their organization's mission, vision, and specific needs for the project to help the team understand how the design solutions can support your objectives.

Availability for Meetings: Be available for scheduled meetings and reviews with faculty and students to keep the project on track..

Feedback and Input: Provide constructive feedback on preliminary designs and prototypes to help refine the final deliverable.

Support for Students and Faculty: Offer necessary support to the project team, such as access to the project site, materials, or organizational information

Commitment to Timeline: Adhere to the project timeline by participating in workshops and meetings as scheduled to ensure timely completion.

Acceptance of Final Deliverable: Review and accept the final design solution and be prepared to integrate it into your organization or community.



Conceptual project idea completed by Rebecca Shin as part of the *BEELINE* undergraduate studio taught by Jacqueline Margetts.

PUBLIC DESIGN WORKSHOP TIMELINE

October 18, 2024: Call for projects opens

November 22, 2024: Interest applications due

December, 2024: Jury convenes to select a project partner

January 2025: Selected Applicant is notified

January-March 2025: Project development
(Partner & Sam Fox faculty develop project plan)

March/April, 2025: Agreement & Project Plan Confirmation

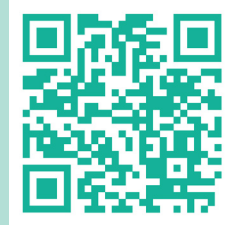
Late May/June, 2025: 3-week Summer Workshop launches

July, 2025: Project Wrap-up and summary documentation

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Thank you for your interest in working with the faculty, staff, and students of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis. We are a community of architects, artists, and designers committed to applying the tools of our fields towards positive social change. Working with partners and collaborators in the community, particularly in the St. Louis region, is an essential part of our research, teaching, and practice.

Collaborations between students, faculty, and the community occur most frequently through classes or independent projects, which may be formatted in the following ways.

You can examples of see recent initiatives here:

<https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/the-school/news?filter=4#main>

To learn more about the Office for Socially Engaged Practice, visit: **samfoxschool.wustl.edu/engage**



Student designed sculptural installation developed in Kelley Van Dyck Murphy's *Fields and Frames* course