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The Boston Society for Architecture Announces Opening of *Now What?! Advocacy, Activism & Alliances in American Architecture Since 1968*

On view: March 10, 2022 – September 30, 2022

Today, the Boston Society for Architecture (BSA) is opening *Now What?! Advocacy, Activism & Alliances in American Architecture Since 1968*, a traveling exhibition highlighting the role architects and designers have played in advancing equity and civil rights within and beyond the architecture profession. In welcoming this exhibition to Boston, the BSA is partnering with [ArchiteXX](#), an organization which promotes gender equity in architecture.

“We are excited to welcome *Now What?!* to the BSA,” said Anda French AIA, president of the BSA. “We have watched as this incredible exhibition has traveled and gathered momentum, fostering meaningful conversation. The BSA has pledged to leverage the specific capacities of architecture to address systemic inequity in our communities. To do that, we can—and must—learn from work like this exhibition, which brings much-needed focus to architectural activism that has advanced equity in our society.”

“As we celebrate the trailblazers who leveraged architecture to drive social and political progress, we also look to the future and ask ‘now what?’ The BSA’s [new strategic vision](#) is an answer to that,” said BSA Foundation Chair Bennet Heart. “We are embarking on an effort to mobilize architects, designers, engineers, community organizers, and citizens to join together to build more equitable, sustainable communities.”

The interactive exhibition features a timeline of advocacy and activism, which wraps through the central core of the BSA gallery. This intersectional and interdisciplinary look at the history of design professions, which serves as one of the most comprehensive narratives of activism in U.S. architecture and design, spans multiple generations and disparate causes.

Through a series of interactive stations, visitors are invited to examine their own (design) practices and abilities to help shape a more equitable future.

After traveling to 11 cities in three countries since 2018, the exhibition at the BSA is specially designed and expanded for Boston and its local impact with a [section featuring Boston Changemakers](#). The content for this section is crowdsourced and will feature Boston-based designers, organizations, and projects whose work has made a lasting impact in and through the



built environment. *Now What?!* will be free and open to the public with a lineup of events forthcoming. A celebration of the exhibit featuring the curators will be held on May 5 – more information about programming, opening times, and the exhibition can be found [here](#) on www.architects.org.

Exhibition Credits:

NowWhat?! Boston is made possible through a partnership with ArchiteXX, a nonprofit organization promoting gender equity in architecture, transforming the profession by bridging the academy and practice

Curators: Lori A. Brown FAIA, Andrea J. Merrett PhD, Sarah Rafson, Roberta Washington FAIA

Exhibition Design: Jessie Rubenstein (Marks + Spaces), Mary Y. Yang (Open Rehearsal)

Exhibition Identity: Michele Gorman, Lisa J. Maione

Exhibition Management: Ilana Curtis, Kami Beckford, Kelli Laurel Mijares (Point Line Projects)

Editors: Nicole D'Angelo, Jenny Florence, Aleeza Furman, Kyleen Pickering, Candace Jane Opper

Research & Design Assistants: Maya Adachi, Natalie Bolton, Molly Burke, Ana Benfield Casanovas, Lin Sen Chai, Liz Cormack, Max Goldner, Matthew Gorab, Jennifer Gray, Diana Guo, Hannah Grace Levin, Shuyue Li, Xuan Liu, Ran Mei, Sahar Pasha, Sumayyah Sunmade Raji, Mariana Velasquez Sosa

Curatorial Advisors: S. Surface, Pascale Sablan FAIA

Printing and Installation: Advanced Imaging

Special thanks to KI for the in-kind furniture donation.

Graphic design was generously provided by Boston University College of Fine of Arts.

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About the Boston Society for Architecture

The Boston Society for Architecture is a partnership between the Boston Society of Architects (BSA/AIA) and the BSA Foundation (Foundation). As a member-led association, the BSA is one of the oldest and largest chapters of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in the United States. Comprised of world-renowned architects, designers, engineers, builders, and other industry professionals, the BSA benefits from a committed membership who are some of the leading thinkers and innovators in professional practice today.

The BSA operates as a convener, educator, and action leader to ensure that the power of design is fully employed in creating solutions to the equity and climate crises of our time. For more information, visit architects.org.