

Intersections: Full Presenter Info

Friday, October 28, 2022

Keynote Panel

8:45-10:15AM

Session Description:

This panel represents voices from private, public and nonprofit sectors - architects, artists, activists, and advocates in conversation about what it means for an environment to be barrier free, and consider who may not experience it that way - from our homes and workplaces, to our civic and public spaces.

Moderator:

Lily Linke—Municipal Engagement Program Associate, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association

BIO: Lily Linke is an artist, educator, planner, and community organizer. After working as a performer and arts educator, she received her Masters in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University. She developed her Master's thesis on the intersection of walkability and race into a five episode podcast, [Foot Notes](#). Lily currently works for the Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) in their Municipal Engagement Initiative. In this role, she supports the creation of affordable housing coalitions in communities across the state. Lily believes strongly in the power of storytelling to create a better world, because if we can't imagine it, how can we build it?

Speakers:

Jeffrey Yasuo Mansfield—Principal, Deaf Space and Disability Justice Lab, MASS Design

BIO: Jeffrey Yasuo Mansfield is a principal at MASS Design Group and the director of MASS's Deaf Space and Disability Justice Lab, which focuses on uplifting the lived experience and cultural memory of Deaf and Disabled communities. Jeffrey is also an inaugural recipient of the Ford and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's Disability Futures fellowship and is a John W. Kluge Fellow at the Library of Congress. He has taught design studios at the University of Michigan and Harvard Graduate School of Design and co-authored *The Architecture of Health*, published by Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. His current research explores the formation of Deaf and Disability spaces as expressions of cultural resistance in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Jeffrey has been deaf since birth.

Patricia Mendez AIA, LEED AP BD+C—Director of Architectural Access, Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities

BIO: Patricia Mendez is the Director of Architectural Access for the Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities. In this role, she oversees accessibility and compliance of the built environment throughout the City of Boston. She provides technical assistance and code review for all new development in Boston, working closely with property owners, architects, consultants, and municipal agencies. Patricia currently serves as the vice-chair of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board, and participates in ongoing City initiatives.

Patricia has been a Registered Architect since 2001 and has worked in Boston-area architectural firms for 25 years on a wide range of project types, including corporate interiors, multifamily residential, commercial, higher education, athletic, historic, hospitality, and health care. She is a

graduate and former faculty member of the Boston Architectural College and a LEED Accredited Professional (BD + C). Patricia was recipient of the Employee Development Scholarship from the City of Boston and earned her masters degree in Leadership from Northeastern University. She is a native Peruvian, speaks Spanish and currently resides in Hyde Park with her husband and two sons.

Allentza Michel—Program Director, & Visiting Practitioner, Tufts / Founder, Principal & Creative Director, Powerful Pathways

BIO: Allentza Michel is an urban planner, artist, public policy advocate and researcher with a background in community organizing, youth development and human service. She has 22 years of diverse experience across community & economic development, education, food security, public health and transportation in local, national and international settings. Such experiences, both professional and personal, inform her current work in civic design, community and organizational development, and social equity.

Allentza is passionate about equitable and sustainable community development, inclusive co-designed processes, and social justice from coalition building and community planning to policy focused on mobility and neighborhood revitalization. She is the founder and creative director of Powerful Pathways, a civic design lab and social practice which leads urban- investigative projects with deep community involvement and media arts integration. Through community planning and placekeeping projects, Powerful Pathways has served over 2 million people across the nation, from Boston's Fairmount corridor, Southside Chicago, to Fresno, CA. She previously served as the Program Officer for Humanities, Arts and Culture with the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, where she is worked with a national arts commission developing research to promote quality access to arts education and the creative workforce policy. Prior to the Academy Allentza worked in local and state government, the Fairmount Indigo Corridor Network, at mytown Inc, Dudley St Neighborhood Initiative, the City School, as well as in the Boston and Cambridge Public School systems.

Ms. Michel has held several public leadership roles, including founding and co-founding non-profit organizations and civic initiatives. She has served on many boards, civic groups and coalitions including Boston's first Public Participatory Budgeting Project, the award-winning Beantown Society youth leadership program, the Network of Arts Administrators of Color Boston, and Boston's Arts Music and Soul Festival (BAMS Fest). Her activism and civic work have been recognized by Boston and Cambridge City Councils, the Princeton Prize in Race relations, and the Perez Prize in Civic Design and Public Art. Allentza Michel received a Masters in Public Policy from Tufts University's Department of Urban & Environmental Planning and Policy as a 2013 Neighborhood Fellow. She has training in Civic Media and Art Practice from Emerson College, and Design and Public Policy from Rhode Island School of Design. She has BAs in English and Social and Political Systems from Pine Manor College, and a graduate certificate in Non-profit Management from the Institute of Non-profit Practice. She was the inaugural fellow of the Association for Community Design, and 2016 fellow with National Arts Strategies. Ms. Michel is multi-lingual, speaking English (native), Haitian Creole (native), Spanish, moderate French, and conversational Japanese.

Healthy Aging by Design

10:30AM-12:00PM

1 LU available

Session Description

On the heels of releasing a three-year progress report on a statewide age-friendly action plan and with more than 200 communities joining the age- and dementia friendly movement on an individual basis, the momentum continues in creating cities, towns, and regions that support healthy aging.

The MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program awarded more than \$1 million for projects that focused on older adults and thanks to the collaborative work of planners, advocates and community-based organizations, cities and towns are working on reshaping public spaces to foster social engagement, connectivity, health and mobility – for people of all ages.

Join a presentation and discussion from the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative, and WalkBoston to explore examples of how community engagement and a statewide, cross-sector, and collective approach is helping communities design and plan with older adults in mind, including those living with dementia. The presentation will also include funding opportunities and partnerships that have led to built environment changes and improved mobility.

Speakers:

James Fuccione—Senior Director, Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative

BIO: James Fuccione leads the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative (MHAC), which is a cross-sector and statewide network committed to advancing inclusive age- and dementia friendly communities. More than 200 communities are engaged in the work to create age/dementia friendly action plans based off local feedback that support and promote healthy aging for all. MHAC also supports implementation of a statewide age/dementia friendly initiative called ReiMAGine Aging.

Wendy Landman—Senior Policy Advisor, WalkBoston

BIO: Wendy Landman is Senior Policy Advisor at WalkBoston. She served as Executive Director of WalkBoston from 2004-2019 where she led the organization's growth into a statewide advocacy presence with leaders in state and municipal government, the non-profit community, and community-based organizations. Key programs underway address Vision Zero, Age Friendly Communities, rural walking and multi-modal transportation policies. Wendy currently serves as Board Vice President of America Walks.

Gender Equity in Mobility Planning: Learnings from the Gender and Mobility Initiative

1:30PM-2:45PM

1.5 LU available

Session Description:

This presentation will have a hybrid format, with one presenter on a screen and the other in the room. The talk will show some of the findings and learnings from the Gender + Mobility Initiative, an

interdisciplinary project that seeks to understand the mobility limitations that stem from gender inequities and gendered experiences on the streets of Boston.

Through the presentation, we will build on how to make data collection and participation more inclusive for all genders. We will also share what type of infrastructures and spaces make mobility more inclusive for different genders and will talk about how participatory mapping can be a crucial informative strategy to start a design process and discuss improving mobility.

Finally, we will discuss how designing spaces and mobility choices for different genders and intersectional identities is designing cities that secure equity for all. After presenting, the participants will discuss how to apply this to their everyday lives with the moderation of our presenter in the room.

Speakers:

María de la Luz Lobos Martínez—Lecturer at Universidad de Chile + Urban Advisory Architect at the Rencá's Communal Planning Secretariat (Chile)

BIO: Luli is an Architecture Studio Guest Lecturer at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of Universidad de Chile and an Urban Advisory Architect at the Rencá's Communal Planning Secretariat in Chile while she continues to be a researcher for the Gender and Mobility Initiative, a project that she started two years ago in Boston along with Rebecca Shakespeare and LivableStreets Alliance. Her work focuses on resilient urban planning strategies, both through research and design practice. In the past, she was the Mobility and Environmental Systems Analyst at LivableStreets Alliance where she actively engaged community members and fostered the environmental justice role of Boston's greenways network. She has an Architecture degree from the Universidad de Chile and a Master's in Landscape Architecture from Harvard Graduate School of Design. She is a designer who focuses on creating spaces that assure people's quality of life while helping the environment thrive—Luli advocates for social equity, ecological resilience, and gender justice in the design of cities.

Rebecca Shakespeare PhD—Lecturer, Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning, Tufts University

BIO: Rebecca Shakespeare is a lecturer at the department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University where she teaches GIS (Geographic Information Systems & Science), qualitative GIS, and urban history. Her research interests are in how people understand, encounter, and are impacted by the cities in which they live. Her NSF-funded dissertation research focused on urban housing, neighborhood changes, broad concepts of affordability, and understanding why people move (or don't move) within cities. She applies qualitative and GIS approaches to understand how urban residents perceive, impact, and are impacted by the places they live, work, and travel through. Her research and fieldwork have focused on New York City, Beijing, and Chicago, using a variety of approaches including sketch maps, GPS tracking, interviews, and policy analysis to understand affordability, social mix, and environmental exposure. She holds a Ph.D. in Geography and GIS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, an M.A. in International Communication from American University, and a B.A. in History from Indiana University Bloomington. Previously, she was a Presidential Management Fellow and lead digital media analyst at the Broadcasting Board of Governors (now USAGM).

Design for Aging in Historic Spaces

3:00PM-4:30PM

1.5 LU/HSW available

Session Description

This panel discussion focuses on the unique relationship between cherished historic buildings and active senior communities. Using project case studies, the panel will discuss the opportunities for Aging-In-Place only made possible by Historic Places; and how senior housing can play a crucial role preserving historic fabric.

Moderator:

Genevieve Frank, AIA LEED AP BD+C—Project Architect, ICON Architecture

BIO:

Speakers:

Alisa Augenstein—Senior Architectural Historian, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

BIO: Alisa Augenstein is a Senior Architectural Historian with over 13 years of professional experience in cultural resource management and historic preservation planning. She has special expertise in the utilization of state and federal rehabilitation investment tax credits throughout the Northeast and has managed dozens of historic tax credit projects for private and non-profit developers. Her work has included the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of historic schools, offices, banks, department stores, apartment buildings, and mill complexes, as well as public housing developments and courthouses.

Wendy Cohen—President & Managing Member, New Seasons Development

BIO: Wendy Cohen is the President and Managing Member of New Seasons Development LLC (NSD). She is a graduate of Oberlin College with a B.A. in Economics and Women's Studies and a Master of Public Policy degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Wendy started out in her career as a permanent lender at Massachusetts Housing Partnership Fund ("MHP"), a quasi-public state agency that funds affordable and mixed income housing projects, including Chapter 40B projects. MHP is an issuer of project eligibility letters. She was a member of MHP's lending team for over 11 years, in a progression of roles from lending assistant, to loan officer, to senior lender, and finally to Deputy Director of Lending. She is knowledgeable and experienced in all aspects of multi-family housing finance and lending.

Wendy was a developer in two periods, as a project manager at CASCAP, Inc. in Cambridge in the late 1990's after graduating from the John F. Kennedy School, and as Director of Housing Development for the Allston Brighton CDC after leaving MHP as the Deputy Director of Lending in 2007.

In 2008, Wendy took the position of Director of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), where she was responsible for the allocation of 9% and 4% LIHTCs. She oversaw program compliance for over

40,000 tax credit units in the MA portfolio. Wendy also managed the allocation and disbursement of funds under the Tax Credit Assistance Program and the Section 1602/"Tax Credit Exchange" Program and oversaw the asset management of the 32 projects that were assisted under these American Recovery and Reinvestment Act programs. She remained in this position and underwrote and assisted hundreds of affordable housing projects in this capacity, until 2014 when she launched New Seasons. While at DHCD, Wendy also participated as a representative of DHCD on the interagency committee in which many Chapter 40B policy matters faced by one or all of the state subsidizing agencies are discussed. She is familiar with the Chapter 40B rental housing cost certification guidelines (LIHTC and non-LIHTC) as well as the Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit Guidelines and standards for economic feasibility. In addition to site eligibility application review, she has reviewed final approval requests and 40B cost certifications in her capacity as LIHTC Director.

Since starting New Seasons Development LLC in 2014, Wendy has focused her development consulting work on helping both non-profit and for-profit developer clients in the preservation and production of both family and elderly housing projects located in several neighborhoods of Boston, and in Arlington, Brockton, Chicopee, Lawrence, Lowell, Merrimac, Peabody, Salem, Salisbury, and Taunton, among other communities.

New Seasons Development LLC is a woman-owned business enterprise certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Supplier Diversity Office.

Bethany Moody AIA—Project Manager, ICON Architecture

BIO: Since joining ICON 8 years ago, Bethany Moody AIA has been part of a team bringing new life to greater Boston's existing buildings including occupied rehab and adaptive reuse through historic tax credits. Since day one, she was immediately immersed in the preservation culture of ICON's RENEW practice, and since then has contributed to renewal projects such as The Coady School Residences, Smith House, Arlington Point Mill, and more. Bethany earned her Bachelor of Architecture from Penn State University.

Ilene Vogel—Director of Real Estate, North Shore CDC

BIO: Ilene has been at North Shore CDC since 2012 and now serves as its first Director of Real Estate. Prior to joining NSCDC, she worked in real estate for KIPP Academy Charter School and Boston Community Capital (now BlueHub) and has an MBA from New York University. At the CDC Ilene is responsible for finding possible new projects, pulling together and overseeing all the components of the project from funding to permanent loan closing, and oversees the real estate team. Ilene is inspired by the belief that everyone has the right to affordable, safe, and attractive housing.

2022 Women in Design Award of Excellence Ceremony + Happy Hour

4:30PM-6:30PM

BSA Space

The 2022 Women in Design Award of Excellence is presented in recognition of a person who has built one's own life around design, whose work exemplifies the best of process and product, and who uses a position of achievement to give back to the world of design and to the community at large.

2022 Honorees:

Caryn J. Brause

Founder and Principal, SiteLAB Architecture

Natasha Espada AIA

Principal, Studio Enée

Saturday, October 29, 2022

A Walk Audit with the Allston Brighton Health Collaborative

10:00AM-12:00PM

Allston

Session Description

The Allston Brighton Health Collaborative's Transportation and Mobility Committee (TMC) is a group of neighborhood residents and local organizations who work together to improve how we all safely, affordably and efficiently walk, roll, bike, drive, and ride around Allston-Brighton. Since 2016, we have worked together with the City and the State to improve barriers to safe, reliable and accessible transportation and mobility. At this site visit, TMC members will lead you on a Mobility Audit of Union Square in Allston. This busy and wide intersection hosts a school, fire house, multiple restaurants and businesses, a dedicated bus lane, and 18 (!!) lanes of traffic. The school is slated to be redeveloped and offers an opportunity to redesign a safe and accessible square.

As described by the AARP in their [Walk Audit Tool Kit](#), "Too many communities in the United States are designed exclusively or almost exclusively for automobile travel, with very little consideration given to the needs of pedestrians. A scarcity of sidewalks, multilane roadways that are unsafe to cross, and a lack of street maintenance are all factors that discourage or outright prevent people from walking. You can help make your community more walkable by conducting a walk audit to identify the roads and intersections that are dangerous for pedestrians but can and should be safely walkable and crossable." The Transportation Committee has employed this walk audit model and expanded it to incorporate all mobility uses and needs. We have conducted three audits that have led to safety and accessibility improvements.

At this Mobility Audit site visit, committee members will describe the process, map out the route, and lead you on a walk/roll to collect information and observations within a defined area. This will include documenting conflict points between cyclists and cars, ADA accessibility of sidewalk curbs, daylighting, as well as brainstorming ways to redesign the space for optimal safe use. Using photos, videos and notes collected, committee members will then craft a presentation for our partners in the City transportation and planning departments, which we will also share with any site walk participants. We will work with city staff to strategize short, medium and long-term improvements to address the needs outlined.

This process will help planners consider how to design the built environment both with and for all users, notice conflict points and opportunities for improvement. It's also an opportunity to learn how to use a simple tool to engage community members as experts, think and solve issues collectively, and align values and build relationships across differences.

Meet up details: We will meet in front of the Jackson/Mann K-8 School. The walk will explore the area around this intersection.

Led by

Anna Leslie, Director, Allston Brighton Health Collaborative + members of the community

The Allston Brighton Health Collaborative's Transportation and Mobility Committee (TMC) is a group of community members and local organizations who work to improve how we all safely, reliably and

affordably walk, roll, bike, drive, and ride around Allston-Brighton. Since 2016, we have worked together with the City and the Commonwealth to improve safe, reliable and affordable transportation and mobility.

Louis A. DePasquale Universal Design Playground at Danehy Park

1:00PM-3:00PM

Cambridge

Session Description

Or, "How Cambridge's First Universal Design Playground Creates Accessible and Artful Fun"

As journalist Anthony Cammalleri wrote in the Boston Globe earlier this year: "At Cambridge's first and only playground that follows the concept of universal design a 20-foot-wide wooden tower rises into the air. Children can enter the tower in several ways, including up a ladder, via a climbing wall, or over a bridge wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair. Located within Danehy Park in West Cambridge, the space was conceived to offer diverse play options to kids of all abilities. The equipment and other structures follow universal design principles — a term coined and defined by a team of researchers, designers, and engineers at NC State University — that prioritize equity and accessibility."

Designed by Weston & Sampson, the 30,000-square-foot Louis A. DePasquale Universal Design Playground opened one year ago. Join us as we explore.... and play!Kids and families are welcome!

Led by

Cheri Ruane, FASLA, Landscape Architecture Design Discipline Leader & Vice President, Weston & Sampson

Cheri Ruane, FASLA, is a 2020 recipient of the BSA Women in Design Award of Excellence.

Read more about the Louis A. DePasquale Universal Design Playground in the [Boston GlobeCity of Cambridge](#) and at [Weston & Sampson](#). Here's a link to a PDF of the May 13, 2022 [Boston Globe article](#).

Meet up details: we will meet at the main entrance to the playground, near the parking lot.

**Any additional details or weather notes will be emailed to all ticket holders. If you're joining both tours, they're easily accessible by MBTA bus, bicycle, or car.