

LOEB Fellowship

Announcing the 2013-2014 Class of Loeb Fellows

Baye Adofo-Wilson is a planner, lawyer and developer based in Newark, NJ, and co-founder of the Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District. He is leading a comprehensive effort to transform a low-income neighborhood in Newark into a sustainable cultural district that includes affordable housing and mixed-use developments, urban agriculture, music programming, historic restoration and workforce development projects. As a Loeb Fellow, Baye will examine opportunities and strategies for reimagining and rebuilding low-income black communities using sustainability, culture and local living economies.

Angelyn Chandler is an architect and the capital program manager for Freshkills Park at NYC Parks. Her work transforming what was once the world's largest landfill has greatly expanded New York City's greenspace and has made the city a model for landfill-to-park development. Most recently she has overseen the reconstruction of all of the city's swimming beaches following Hurricane Sandy. As a Loeb Fellow, Angelyn will study urban land reclamation.

Arana Hankin is the director of the Atlantic Yards Project for the state of New York. She also serves as the president of the Queens West Development Corporation and the state's project manager for the Columbia/Manhattanville Project in West Harlem. Arana has worked to bridge the gap between disgruntled communities and private developers ensuring that local communities are given a voice and private developers deliver what was promised. During her Fellowship year, Arana will study creative structures to finance cultural development and strategies that guarantee the delivery of economic and social benefits to local communities.

Alexandra Lange is an architecture and design critic based in New York City. She is the author of *Writing About Architecture: Mastering the Language of Buildings and Cities* (2012) and co-author, with Jane Thompson, of *Design Research: The Store That Brought Modern Living to American Homes* (2010). She is a featured writer on *Design Observer*, where she blogs weekly, and her work has appeared in the *Architect's Newspaper*, *Architectural Digest*, *Architectural Record*, *Domus*, *Dwell*, *Metropolis*, *Print*, *New York Magazine* and the *New York Times*. Her writings have influenced the dialogue about architecture, the built environment and architectural criticism. She plans to study the architectural image in the 20th and 21st century and how criticism - visual, verbal, digital - can be effective today.

Helen Lochhead is an Australian architect and urban designer with over 20 years' experience. Her career has focused on the inception, planning and delivery of complex multidisciplinary projects ranging from a 5-year city improvements program for the city of Sydney to major urban renewal and waterfront projects. In her current role as director of strategic developments for the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority she is leading a 30 year plan for the staged transformation of Sydney Cove. She combines practice with teaching as an adjunct professor at Sydney University. She will study design, policy and governance strategies that can deliver more sustainable climate-resilient coastal cities.

Matt Nohn is an independent expert for urban poverty reduction with a focus on self-managed organizations of the urban poor. He is based in Berlin, Germany, and has served as an advisor and on-the-ground consultant to slum dwellers' and informal workers' alliances, NGOs, governments, development agencies and funders in nearly 30 countries. During his Fellowship Matt plans to develop a flexible toolkit for designing comprehensive urban

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policies, laws and regulations that enable a society to tackle physical, social and economic rapid urban expansion challenges with inclusive process and sustainable results.

Florencia Rodriguez is an architect, critic and founder and editorial director at Piedra Papel & Tijera publishers in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Her main publication is *PLOT*, a platform for the dissemination of practices and critical thinking on contemporary architecture, which she views as an opportunity for cultural “agitation” to inspire the evolution of the discipline. Her editorial work is complemented by other development and dissemination activities – teaching, research, exhibits and exchange events (like the South America Project at the GSD) – all aimed at triggering issues, bringing people together and forging links that endure over time. While at the GSD she will explore the roles of theory and criticism today and in the future.

Eli Spevak is a developer of residential communities and the owner of Orange Splot LLC in Portland, Oregon. By conceiving and building new housing models, he is creating original and more affordable ways to live in community. In 6 years he has launched 5 new communities, each with a unique formulation of shared spaces, sustainably produced or salvaged building materials, ease of living car-free, preservation of landscape and existing structures and locally-produced artwork. His policy and advocacy work, now within Portland’s comprehensive planning process, are helping to revise the residential zoning code to remove barriers to affordable, community-oriented housing. During the coming year he will research models for community-enhancing infill housing and associated policy and zoning issues.

Alexie Torres-Fleming co-founded the Bronx River Alliance and the Southern Bronx River Watershed Alliance to support community residents of the South Bronx committed to the reclamation and restoration of the Bronx River. The organizations’ successes included the clean-up of an abandoned concrete plant and a manufactured gas plant, the expansion of the Bronx River bike and pedestrian greenway and development of green infrastructure to contain storm water and mitigate sewage overflow. However, her greatest pride is in the legacy of power and leadership assumed by youth and adult community residents. She is currently executive director of The Micah Institute of the New York Theological Society. During her Fellowship year she will explore models for planning practices for poor and marginalized communities.