

BRUNER•LOEB forum



Call for Proposals 2014 Bruner-Loeb Forum

Deadline April 4, 2014

The Bruner Foundation and Loeb Fellowship are seeking proposals from qualified individuals, organizations and collaborative teams to serve as our local host and partner for the 2014 Bruner-Loeb Forum.

The [Bruner-Loeb Forum](#) is a partnership between the [Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence](#) and the [Loeb Fellowship](#) that brings together distinguished practitioners from across the country to advance creative thinking about placemaking in American cities. Hosted in partnership with organizations working in cities across the country, these annual forums are designed to initiate local and national dialogue, share resources, and foster new approaches to issues related to the design and planning of the built environment.

Forums are invitation-only, bringing together a diverse, interdisciplinary group of about 100 people working in the local host community and elsewhere across the country for 1 to 1-1/2 days of energetic discussion and exchanges of ideas. The typical format includes presentations by national speakers, facilitated roundtable discussions, and tours of the host community and local initiatives. Events are designed to encourage creative thinking and candid conversation about real-world opportunities and challenges, and generate ideas that can be applied by participants that are working on the ground in cities. The Bruner-Loeb Forum is not intended to be a platform for traditional academic, research or policy-driven discussions.

Recent events include last year's [Legacy City Design](#) forum in Detroit hosted in partnership with the J. Max Bond Center for the Just City, American Assembly and Detroit Collaborative Design Center, and the 2012 *Art of Placemaking* forum in Chicago, hosted in partnership with the [Rebuild Foundation](#) with support from University of Chicago Office of Civic Engagement and Arts and Public Life Initiative. To learn more about the Bruner-Loeb Forum and other events visit www.brunerloeb.org.

2014 Forum Theme

Proposals for the 2014 Bruner Loeb Forum should focus on the theme of “urban equity” – how cities are addressing economic and social equity through design and planning. We are seeking to identify and promote conversation about innovative approaches that address this theme. The forum may focus on topics such as housing, education, infrastructure, transportation, public space, arts and culture, environmental resiliency, and technology.

Bruner-Loeb Team will provide:

- Assistance with strategic planning and event coordination
- Access to national expertise and speakers, including Loeb Fellows and Rudy Bruner Award winners
- Up to \$20,000 to cover speaker travel and honoraria and other selected expenses

Local Host/Team Qualifications:

- Articulate key issues and questions to explore, desired expertise and criteria, and key outcomes, including their connection to the theme of urban equity
- Organize and produce a 1- to 1-1/2-day event for approximately 100 participants
- Engage participants from the local community, including residents, businesses, institutions, funders and the public sector
- Secure additional funding to support costs associated with the event (past events have cost \$30,000-\$60,000 including Bruner-Loeb funding, depending on scope and scale of program)
- Prior experience with the Bruner Foundation and/or Loeb Fellowship is desirable but not required

Submission Requirements:

Submit a brief (3 page maximum) **Letter of Interest** that addresses the following:

- Overview of host/team, including relevant experience and qualifications that demonstrate capacity to produce the event
- Brief descriptions of key participants, including other local/national partners and respective roles
- Examples of potential speakers and local initiatives/projects to be featured
- Sources of additional funding (funding need not be secured at time of proposal)
- Goals for the forum, including issues and questions to be explored
- Desired expertise and input from speakers and other resources
- Outcomes, including how this forum will support broader strategies and ongoing work
- Proposed follow-up and/or documentation of the event and its outcomes (report, video, website, etc.)

Schedule

April 4, 2014	Letter of Interest Deadline
April 2014	Submission Review and Follow-up, Selection and Notification of Local Host/Team
May-October 2014	Event Planning & Coordination
November 2014	Host Forum

Letters of Interest are to be submitted via email to info@brunerloeb.org or mail to Bruner Foundation, 130 Prospect Street, Cambridge, MA 02139. Proposals for an event may be submitted at any time, but must be received by April 4, 2014 to be considered for the 2014 event. Please contact us at info@brunerloeb.org if you have questions or would like to discuss your ideas for a potential proposal.

Additional Information:

Bruner-Loeb Forum

The **Bruner-Loeb Forum** is a partnership between the **Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence** and the **Loeb Fellowship Program** that brings together distinguished practitioners from across the country to advance creative thinking about placemaking in American cities. Hosted in partnership with organizations working in cities across the country, Forums are designed to initiate local and national dialogue, share resources, and foster new approaches to issues facing the urban environment.

Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence

Founded in 1987 by the Bruner Foundation, the **Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence** celebrates urban places that are distinguished by quality design and their social and economic contributions to our nation's cities. Winners offer creative placemaking solutions that transcend the boundaries between architecture, urban design and planning and showcase innovative thinking about American cities.

Loeb Fellowship

The **Loeb Fellowship Program**, established in 1970 at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design offers a sabbatical year to practitioners working to improve the built and natural environment. Fellows are drawn from many of the design professions including architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning and design journalism, the arts and community development. Its founder, John Loeb, believed that a core group of committed professionals could have a significant impact far beyond their numbers on American cities.

To learn more about the Bruner-Loeb Forum, please visit us at www.brunerloeb.org. For more information about the Rudy Bruner Award and the Loeb Fellowship Program, please visit us at: www.brunerfoundation.org/rba and www.gsd.harvard.edu/loeb-fellowship.