**Proactive Community Engaged Design
Learning Modules**

The trainings developed by the OAC have been informed by over 15 years of field experience from our international network of volunteers designers. Our diverse cohort of advisors and organizational partners have collaborated closely on the development of these modules. While these subjects are derived from community engaged design practice they are all beneficial to the leadership development and personal and professional skills of any designer.

Depending on your firm's pre-engagement survey subject matter might include:

Privilege Reflection and Spectrum of Spectrums
Know thyself and what you bring to the table.
> This course will have participants confronting their own privilege by learning about many aspects of the subject, and sharing with others. This is an introduction to modeling vulnerability which can be helpful in establishing trust and building empathy.

Active Listening
How to animate your listening and the importance of being heard
> Marginalized communities have often been ignored for generations by any decision making power. The importance of listening has stages and can spur many reactions from community members. This course will help strengthen our listening skills and cover ways to anticipate challenging responses.

Implicit and Explicit Communications
Verbal, and physical communications identification and reflection
> There is much we say when we remain quiet. There are many perceptions that a triggered by the way we dress, walk, and talk. Going deep to understand the nuances in how we communicate during, and prepare for, community projects is imperative to establishing trust and creating a more equitable atmosphere out of and in the office.

Facilitation
Working in a group and arriving at collaborative decisions
> All design starts with conversation. While many designers are able to participate in or lead a charette there are many aspects to facilitating a project or event where everyone feels a sense of fulfilment and contribution takes additional skills.

Power Dynamics
Navigating power dynamics when engaging systemically marginalized communities.
> In this course we will discuss both personal power dynamics inherent when you walk and a room as well as contextual power dynamics of a neighborhood and community. We will review power mapping tools, historical research methodologies, and collaborative healing activities for which design can play a part.

Project Management for Community Projects
Volunteer management and working effectively with community members
> Managing employees, consultants, and even professional volunteers can help in managing community members for a collaborative project, however additional knowledge is required to ensure people have the necessary support to participate with clear expectations.

Engagement Tactics and Empathy Building
Tactics for outreach and learning from your local community
> Community engagement and organizing is very difficult and will require the trusted experience of an expert, however we will share tactics and basic values that can guide a process of tailoring the most appropriate process for each project.

Effective Partnerships
How to engage in and establish mutually beneficial partnerships
> The work of creating an equitable space or city is only done in collaboration. However setting up a successful partnership built on trust that is mutually beneficial is very difficult. We will share tools, template and examples of how to start.

Building Community Capacity
Working in the open and coworking to share knowledge and access

The most important aspect of community design is sharing your knowledge and connections. This topic will cover how to help not only open doors but give someone the keys and share your knowledge of codes and policies to enable others to take ownership of their own spaces.

Storytelling
Amplifying voices, sharing experiences and the power of a good story
You have access to networks that others don't, you can use your channels to help amplify voices and share your efforts to inspire others to build bridges and support one another. Storytelling is a power but challenging tool to mast.

Effective Community Driven Placemaking
Defining the ecosystem of a place and the process of involvement to make it special
Interdisciplinary teams are necessary for successful shared spaces. We will cover case studies, and other fields that can help support our work using design to bring people together to have pride in a co-created public space.

Research for Social Action
Collecting the right information can push any agenda forward
Conducting appropriate information to prepare for an engagement is one necessary form of research, making and supporting an argument for systemic change is another form, one which will come in handy for community work.

Fundraising
Identifying methods of raising funds and relevant writing techniques
Sometimes people need help securing funds for their projects. You might be able to contribute, we will share various methods and approaches to building financial capital.

Legal and Insurance Matters
Navigating the legal and insurance world while in pursuit of innovative practice
Developing new methods of design practices is not without risks. We will engage subject matter experts to discuss liabilities and means of ensuing safe practice.

Business Modeling for Community Practice
Paths to sustainability. How to take calculated risks and learn from others.
While we all know community engaged practice is good, we also know it's difficult to finance. This session will review some existing models and theoretical strategies.

Measuring Impact

Showing success is imperative for any new practice to become sustainable.
Learning from the past and establishing best practices for measuring the impact of the a process is the only way we will know how to move forward. In general architecture is not measured, this is an opportunity to establish baselines for the industry while orienting people to look at the qualities of life of others.