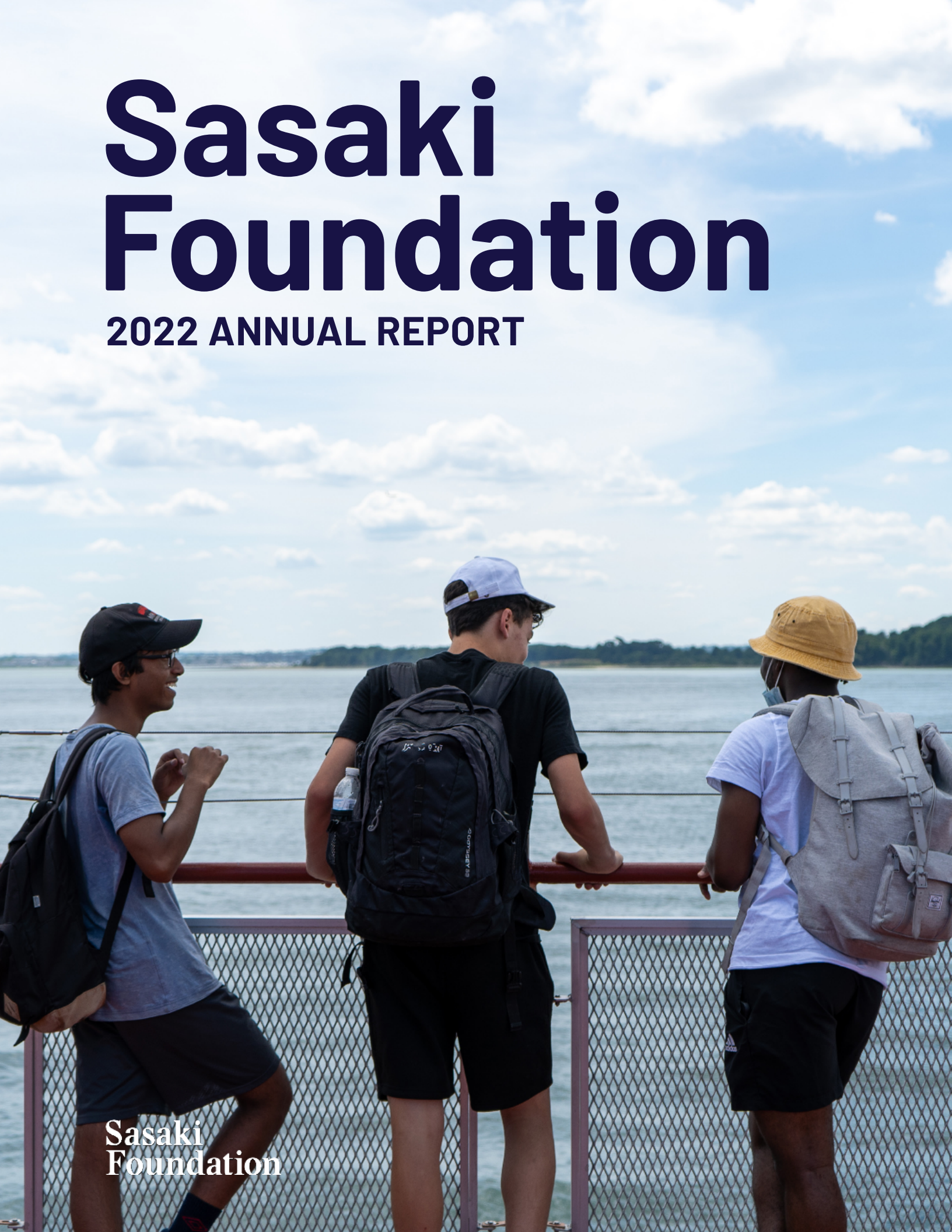
Sasaki Foundation

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Sasaki
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Sasaki
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Letter from the Executive Director



In early 2022, I joined the Sasaki Foundation with hopes of working with community experts towards solutions to challenges in their neighborhoods, learning from practitioners about equity in design and planning, and engaging young people in meaningful employment in the design industry. I am thrilled that this hope became reality as we transitioned back to in-person programming, moved downtown with Sasaki, and built new partnerships over the past year.

Amplifying the voices of community experts, our fourth cohort of Design Grants research teams were chosen by an esteemed panel of jurors, led by Board of Trustees Vice Chair Elaine Limmer. The winning teams are creating an accessible engagement strategy for an energy microgrid in Chinatown, making the case for the mutually beneficial coexistence of green roofs and affordable housing in Chelsea, redesigning an urban farm facing relocation due to encroaching development in Somerville, and supporting the care infrastructure around Mass. and Cass through listening and storytelling. Our Design Grants program is an outstanding body of work that continues to grow and flourish, often well beyond the grant period.

Through the lens of community learning, we continued to host virtual events that sparked conversations around community engagement, activism, representation in government, access to youth employment, and more. These programs brought more than 600 people together from around the country. It was powerful to listen to women leaders talk about their experiences in municipal government and to hear from youth leaders about what they want in a job. These gatherings have been influential to our growth and presence in the community, and will become even more so as we transition to in-person programming in our new home in downtown Boston.

Reflecting on design education, some of the most powerful and meaningful work we do is to support and hold space for young people to explore a career in design. Our Summer Exploratory Experience in Design (SEED) internship returned in person this year and we were reminded just how powerful it is to see each other face to face and to sketch together at one table. We are grateful for the meaningful experiences for all of our students, teaching assistants, and volunteer design professionals.

We continue to focus on issues of equity in shaping our communities. This work requires collaboration. Our move to downtown Boston has already enabled us to build new partnerships, expand youth programming, and collaborate more effectively. We are well positioned to grow through our next strategic plan, currently in ideation by our Board of Trustees and staff, and I am excited to see what comes next. We are hopeful for the future of this work and are honored that you would come along the journey with us.



Jennifer Lawrence
Executive Director

2022 SEED outing with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

People

The Sasaki Foundation is governed by a board of trustees who provide strategic direction and oversight and bring a wide range of expertise in the fields of architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, youth engagement, and financial management. Sasaki Foundation staff are responsible for managing and supporting the organization's day-to-day work and programs, including program administration, fundraising and financial management, community engagement, and marketing and communications.

2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Mary Anne Ocampo
Chair, Sasaki



Elaine Minjy Limmer
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John Cinkala
Treasurer, US Treasury Department



Chris Sgarzi
Secretary, Sasaki



Meredith McCarthy
Sasaki



Tao Zhang
Sasaki

2022 STAFF



Jennifer Lawrence
Executive Director



Anna Scherling
Executive Assistant



Estefany Benitez
SEED Program Manager

2022 SEED TEACHING ASSISTANTS

The Summer Exploratory in Design (SEED) teaching assistants provide guidance and mentorship for the six-week SEED internship program.



Greggy Bazile
Cornell University



Shemar Stewart
UMass Amherst

2022 AMBASSADORS

The Sasaki Ambassadors volunteer their time and effort in all areas of our work. Our success relies on their commitment to and belief in our mission.

Raj Adi Raman | Armin Akhavan | Madelyn Albright | Isaac Andrade | Matthew Arielly | Diane Athaide | Sydney Bittinger | Emily Bresnahan | Philip Bruso | Gandong Cai | Julia Carlton MacKay | Nick Dyer | Joude El-Mabsout | Hana Estice | Timothy Gale | Diana Gallo | Mario Ghosn | Ken Goulding | Elango Govindan | Ming-Jen Hsueh | Lan Ying Ip | Gabe Jenkins | Felicia Jiang | Chetan Kulkarni | Annie Langlois | Carrie Latimer | Amanda Lennon | Dorothy MacAusland | Karen Mata Ortas | Yasmin Maura-Orihuela | Mytreyi Metta | Yixin Miao | David Morgan | Jason Ng | Jay Nothoff | Ivelisse Otero | Emily Parris | Scott Penman | Daniel Pryor | Tristan Rock | Sudeshna Sen | Taylor Tidwell | Lanmuzhi Yang | Eric Youngberg | Fangli Zhang | Ben Zunkeler

Mission Statement



Our work aims to amplify the voices of historically underrepresented communities, to sponsor community-based research and actionable projects in our Boston region, to create space for dialogues that highlight important topics that advance advocacy for social justice and resilience, and to provide design education opportunities to youth.

Reggie Wong Park Day, October 16, 2022 | Billy Chen of the Chinatown Project, courtesy Chinatown Energy Literacy Campaign

Priorities

We believe design has the power to address the most urgent challenges facing us, from social equity to environmental resilience. Design is an agent of change. And yet, access to design—for communities who need it the most—is often limited. From our unique position at the intersection of research, practice, and community, the Sasaki Foundation leverages design to tackle these challenges and more—especially for communities that are disproportionately vulnerable to them.

Making meaningful and lasting change requires designers to blur the boundaries that separate practice and research, academia and industry, the profession and the public. Making change requires designers to embrace vastly different points of view. Above all, making change requires collective impact. At the intersection of research, practice, and community, the Sasaki Foundation is committed to advancing the value of design, inviting diverse partners to co-create change.

The Sasaki Foundation's strategic objectives translate its vision into a more focused, actionable set of outcomes. We focus on the following three key priority areas: research and grants, community learning, and design education.

Our intent is to test new models and projects that can work within communities and then scale to other communities with similar characteristics. Our research agendas, public programming approaches, and design education objectives are all developed through the lens of equity in design.



The Hideo Sasaki Foundation is named for Hideo Sasaki, an internationally renowned landscape architect who was admired for his teaching, critical thinking, and interdisciplinary approach to design.

2022 SEED site visit, Boston Harbor Islands

RESEARCH AND GRANTS

Large-scale, complex challenges require cross-disciplinary thinking. That's why the Sasaki Foundation convenes experts and innovators from all backgrounds. Our research programs focus on bringing issues of inequity in design to the forefront. This means supporting active research projects that center on inclusion and collaboration with communities who have historically been removed from the design process. Advancing interdisciplinary design research is in service to building more equitable cities and communities.

COMMUNITY LEARNING

Informed and engaged residents are the central ingredients of a successful community. The Sasaki Foundation invests in ideas and strategies that engage community members in the design process—and contribute meaningfully to its outcomes. To that end, we work with civic leaders, educators, economists, and technologists to connect design and community-driven action through public programming.

DESIGN EDUCATION

A thriving design industry relies on a pipeline of diverse, talented, and passionate practitioners who infuse new ideas and disrupt established patterns. The Sasaki Foundation supports professional organizations and initiatives that prepare such future leaders. We also advocate for innovative design practice, seeking ways to cross discipline boundaries and amplify impact. Of special interest are educational programs that advance diversity and inclusivity in the next generation of design professionals.

The Sasaki Foundation emphasizes resiliency, as it relates to challenges that adversely impact communities, including the following:

Creative Community Building
We support projects and organizations on themes of collective memory and community storytelling, investment in historic neighborhood fabric, and local business development. Designing and planning for our communities can extend beyond the concept of placemaking to include the idea of placekeeping—the preservation of local identity through strengthening social bonds, celebrating neighborhood history, and developing strategies for enhancing neighborhood retail, food, and health services.

New Models for Housing
We support strategies to improve housing affordability, promote a more diverse housing stock, and address gentrification and displacement. Housing shortages in Massachusetts cities require innovative approaches to planning and design. Displacement of families, caused by economic and environmental forces, is exacerbated by the limited supply of affordable, family-oriented housing units.

Innovation in Transit and Access to Mobility Choices
We support design strategies and solutions to address existing challenges to reliable transit; strengthen public-private partnerships in expanding transportation choices; and leverage technology to provide greater access to transportation options by eliminating barriers. In Massachusetts, local mobility networks and regional systems have tremendous potential to improve accessibility and safety for users. Methods for leveraging private-sector innovation to increase transportation access for all communities present a powerful opportunity.

Innovation in Health and Wellbeing
We support efforts to enhance community health through the built environment. Equitable access to outdoor spaces, creative reuse of the public realm, and innovative and inclusive programming are integral to our collective community health. Codesigning innovative solutions to challenges within our built environment can begin to positively affect our physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing in cities across Massachusetts.

Proactive Approaches to Climate Adaptation
We support responses that address the impacts of climate change, including extreme heat, stormwater and flash flooding, and coastal and river flooding. Challenges associated with climate change, especially related to the urban heat island effect and flooding, disproportionately impact communities of color and low-income communities.



Charles River Floating Wetland, summer 2021 | Charles River Conservancy

IMPACT: Research & Grants

The Sasaki Foundation issues an annual call for proposals seeking projects that engage with communities in Greater Boston, the Gateway Cities, and Metro West. Seeking interdisciplinary, creative approaches to test new design concepts in these communities, proposals are evaluated through the lens of our strategic focus areas—Creative Community Building, New Models for Housing, Innovation in Transit and Access to Mobility Choices, Innovation in Health and Wellbeing, and Proactive Approaches to Climate Adaptation—and based on the criteria of design, equity, inclusion, innovation, and impact. Grants include access to design expertise from professionals at Sasaki, a world-renowned design firm.

The Sasaki Foundation issued the Design Grants 2022 call for proposals under the theme of Shared Voices: Charting a Course for Community Action. This theme recognizes the need for interdisciplinary approaches, diverse community voices, and regional cooperation as key drivers to find shared solutions and create shared impact.

The 2022 Design Grants finalists pitched their ideas to a jury that represented design, transit, housing, and environmental organizations. The Sasaki Foundation selected the following four grant recipients who will complete their projects in June 2023.

- Chinatown Energy Literacy Campaign
- Combating Green Gentrification: Exploring Green Roofs on Affordable Housing
- Groundwork Somerville's New Urban Farm
- See You in the Future

Their complete reports will be available in the Sasaki Foundation 2022-2023 Design Grants Research publication available at sasakifoundation.org in fall 2023.

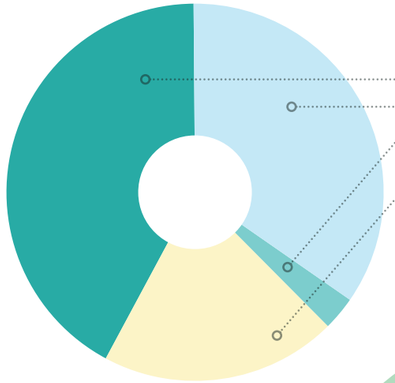
NOTE: In 2021, due to limited capacity in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the Sasaki Foundation's office move, we did not issue a 2021 call for proposals.



2022 Design Grants Pitch Night, Lamplighter CX, Cambridge, MA

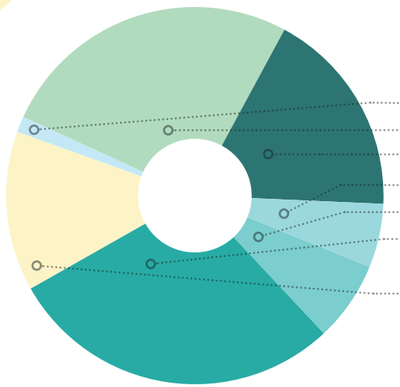
In 2022, we launched a call for proposals for our fourth annual Design Grants competition. We received a near record 20 applications representing 52 organizations and institutions, 9 Boston communities, 3 Greater Boston cities, and 5 Gateway Cities.

2022 CALL FOR PROPOSALS RESPONSES



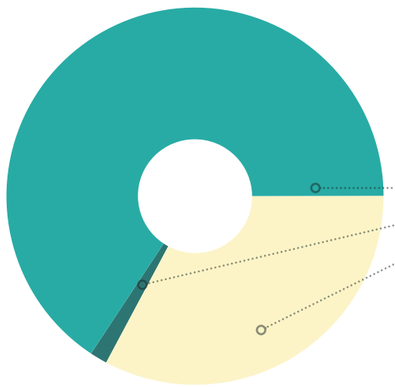
GENDER

42%	Cisgender Woman
35%	Cisgender Man
3%	Gender Queer/Non-conforming
0%	Not Listed
20%	Prefer not to answer



ETHNIC DIVERSITY

1%	American Indian, Alaska Native
28%	Asian
19%	Black, African American
6%	Hispanic, Latino, Spanish
7%	Middle Eastern, North African
30%	White
0%	Other
15%	Prefer not to answer



DISABILITIES

64%	No
1%	Yes
35%	Prefer not to answer



2022 Design Grants Pitch Night, Lamplighter CX, Cambridge, MA

PITCH NIGHT 2022

At Pitch Night 2022, which took place in person at Lamplighter CX in Cambridge, MA, the Sasaki Foundation Design Grants finalists pitched their ideas for projects that address creative community building, new models for housing, transit access, health and wellbeing, and climate adaptation. The nearly 70 attendees included designers, entrepreneurs, investors, civic leaders, and corporate and nonprofit leaders, and represented more than 38 organizations.

Thank you to our 2022 jurors for all their time and effort supporting the Design Grants program: Julian Agyeman of Tufts University, Alice Brown of Boston Harbor Now, Nicholas Kelly of the Boston Housing Authority, Allentza Michel of Powerful Pathways, and Cate Mingoya of Groundwork USA.

2022 Design Grants Pitch Night jury, Lamplighter CX, Cambridge, MA



Chinatown Energy Literacy Campaign

Jen Stevenson Zepeda, Sari Kayyali, Lydia Lowe, Franny Wu, Daphne Xu

This project proposed by Climable, the Chinatown Community Land Trust, and Chinatown Power, Inc., will create a multi-lingual clean energy literacy campaign that is tailored to Boston's Chinatown neighborhood and that complements ongoing work on a community-owned, clean energy microgrid. The project will also support the audio collection of community input on the topics of resilience, climate change, and a just transition to clean energy. The input gleaned will be made publicly-available via an interactive webpage that allows visitors to listen to interviews while exploring a map of Chinatown.



Combating Green Gentrification:
Exploring Green Roofs on Affordable Housing

Bianca Bowman, Caroline Ellenbird, Ana Vanegas

Comunidades Enraizadas is a community land trust created by a group of primarily Latina immigrants in Chelsea, MA, supported by GreenRoots, a community-based organization dedicated to engaging and empowering residents to fight for environmental justice and public health. GreenRoots and Comunidades Enraizadas are committed to building community land sovereignty in the face of gentrification. As Comunidades Enraizadas works to acquire and build new properties that will remain affordable housing, they are exploring opportunities to build green roofs on affordable housing units to reduce urban heat island effects and improve access to green space in their low-income, Latinx environmental justice community.



Groundwork Somerville's New Urban Farm

Juliana Soltys, Emily Reckard-Mota

Groundwork Somerville will design the the next critical phase of their strategic plan: a new farm, office, greenhouse, and marketspace for Groundwork Somerville. Somerville is gentrifying quickly, forcing this important urban oasis and valuable learning space to move locations. There are two viable options for their new space: one is above a city stormwater reservation tank and the other a vacant lot with an abandoned supermarket space. This project will be designed to provide a gathering space for the community to engage with the local food system, produce culturally relevant crops, and empower youth to become agents of social change.



See You in the Future

Melissa Teng, Sabrina Dorsainvil, George Halfkenny, Stephen Walter

Through community storytelling, public art, and place-based interventions, See You in the Future supports the care infrastructure around the intersection of Mass. and Cass. In collaboration with community members, they will share honest stories about the myriad of journeys that bring folks to this location. In gathering different groups in creative conversation, they will both nurture and tend to the caring future that is already rooted but often unseen. In their site-specific co-creative process, they will ask how this area's public spaces can affirm the inherent worth of unhoused and recovery communities and work to repair histories of disinvestment and policing.



Sasaki Foundation Design Grants include engagement with the Sasaki Foundation and access to design expertise from professionals at Sasaki, a world-renowned design firm. Grant winners have the opportunity to spend 10 months working at 110 Chauncy alongside designers and to participate in programming curated specifically for the cohort.

The 2022 Design Grants projects kicked off with our annual Cohort Welcome Reception in September, providing time and space for the grant teams to connect with each other as well as the Sasaki Foundation staff and board. The grant teams also had an opportunity in the fall to introduce their projects to the Sasaki community, highlighting their work in front of designers who could then volunteer to help advance the projects using their perspectives and skills.

Design Grants teams also participate in a monthly lunch and learn to benefit from Sasaki expertise. Topics are identified with grant team input and presented by Sasaki designers. Topics this grant period include Sasaki's in-house data and design tools, community engagement, Sasaki's Fabrication Studio, graphics, storytelling, public policy, and effective marketing. Design Grants finalists not selected for a grant are also invited to several of these lunch and learn events.

In January 2023, the 2022 Design Grants teams will also have the opportunity to collaborate on their projects with Sasaki designers through a day-long work session.



Design Grants cohort October 2022 lunch and learn with the Sasaki Data and Design Tools team, 110 Chauncy, Boston, MA

Design Grants Cohort Welcome Reception, 110 Chauncy, Boston, MA

Charles River Floating Wetland

The Charles River Floating Wetland, a 2018 Design Grants winner, explores an ecological intervention to reduce harmful algal blooms in the Charles, which threaten the river's health and limit the feasibility of swimming. Reducing nutrient pollution remains a vital method for preventing blooms, but this approach depends on increasingly complex solutions. Ecological interventions, like the floating wetland, offer an alternative and complementary strategy. Experiments have shown that for water bodies like the Charles, algal blooms can be understood as a symptom of a broken food chain. The project aims to strengthen the missing link—zooplankton populations—by providing additional wetland habitat.

In June 2020, in partnership with MassDCR, the team installed the floating wetland in the Charles River in Cambridge downriver of the Longfellow Bridge. The team then spent the following two summers collecting data. At the end of 2022, team member Max Rome concluded research for the pilot stage of the project with his doctoral dissertation at Northeastern University. In March 2023,



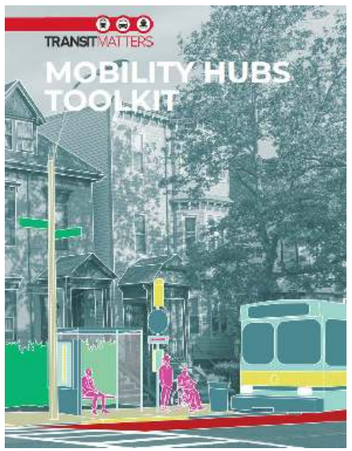
Charles River Floating Wetland, October 6, 2021 | Charles River Conservancy

the Charles River Conservancy will publicly share the results at an event co-hosted with the MIT Museum: an afternoon of activities for all ages followed by a program celebrating the success of the pilot project and sharing a vision for additional floating wetlands in the Charles River.

In addition to this research milestone, the team continued the project's public engagement and education efforts. In 2022, 14 kayak groups explored the floating wetland, and the team hosted educational events and distributed 170 floating wetland kits to sixth grade classrooms.

Learn more at thecharles.org/floating-wetlands.

East Boston Mobility Hubs



East Boston Mobility Hubs, a 2019 Community Grants winner, was seeking to address East Boston's unique mobility challenges by designing a prototype mobility hub: a place that connects different modes of transportation with accessible and user-friendly infrastructure and improves the transit experience, adding vibrancy, safety, and legibility to the public realm.

In January 2023, TransitMatters will release the Mobility Hubs Toolkit. This toolkit is targeted for community organizations and members, rather than planners and technical experts. It provides a description of each element of a mobility hub, as well as its benefits and any considerations, such as cost and equity. The toolkit intends to empower communities to implement relatively low-cost solutions that can be scaled to fit an individual community's needs.

The toolkit will be available at transitmatters.org/mobility-hubs.

Columbia Road Gender and Mobility Initiative

The Columbia Road Gender and Mobility Initiative, a 2020 Design Grants winner, sits at the intersection between research, advocacy, and design. This project sought to understand the mobility limitations that stem from gender inequities and gendered experiences on the streets. The team examined how gender-disaggregated data can reveal mobility and design factors that address female, non-binary, and trans people's needs and experiences.

In May 2022, the team released the booklet Gender Affirming and Inclusive Community Engagement Strategies, summarizing strategies the team learned over 18 months working on gender-inclusive community engagement. The document includes tips and lessons so we can all contribute to planning engagement processes that make people of any gender feel comfortable.

The booklet is available in both English and Spanish at gendermobility.com/resources

Gender affirming and inclusive community engagement strategies

G{Code}

G{Code}, a 2018 Design Grants winner, is working towards equity and social justice by providing young female and non-binary people of color interested in pursuing careers in tech with foundational needs such as housing, inclusive communities, quality education, and expanded access to economic opportunity. Boston is a city of great opportunity but also geographic and demographic inequity. This drastically impacts young female and non-binary people of color: while many programs benefit them during their high school years, post-high school options are limited. G{Code} empowers those who are aging out of other services to explore their next steps and pursue careers as change makers in the tech industry.

In 2022, G{Code} was granted 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, allowing the organization to expand their reach and range of intiatives. G{Code} also received $300,000 from the state-funded Community Empowerment and Reinvestment Grant Program as a community-led program building leadership, collaboration, and capacity at the local level.

In 2023, G{Code} will double the capacity of their Intro to Web Dev program, formerly known as Intro to G{Code}. The shift from two annual cohorts to four is in response to the community's overwhelming interest: they receive 500+ applications for 25 available seats in each cohort. G{Code} will also pilot a new Intro to Data Analytics program to provide foundational knowledge and practical skills in the field of data analytics.

At the G{Code} House, 2022 saw completion of the design plans for G{Code} Carriage House coworking space, the project's first phase, with permits and funding to move work forward in 2023.

Learn more and get involved at thegcodehouse.com.



Award acceptance ceremony for the 2022 Community Empowerment and Reinvestment Grant Program | G{Code}

IMPACT: Community Learning

The majority of Sasaki Foundation programs remained virtual in 2022, as we waited to move into our beautiful new space at 110 Chauncy with our partners at Sasaki. While we look forward to hosting more in-person events in 2023, we were able to leverage our virtual platform to expand our reach, with close to 400 attendees from Greater Boston, across the country, and beyond, watching programs on our YouTube channel.

Our continued strong partnership with Sasaki, a world-renowned design firm, ensures that a valuable design perspective is present in all our conversations. Sasaki design professionals often serve as moderators for our panel discussions, bringing together experts from our extended network of academic, professional, and community partners. Sasaki ambassadors, who volunteer their time and expertise to support our programming, are integral to the Sasaki Foundation's impact.

In late summer 2022 the Sasaki Foundation moved downtown with Sasaki. This partnership allows us to expand our impact, reaching even more young designers and engaging meaningfully with community partners. The central and easily accessible location provides space to bring together perspectives and communities through our research initiatives, public programming, and design education, allowing both Sasaki and the Sasaki Foundation to work with our neighbors to co-create change.



2022 Sasaki Foundation volunteer appreciation event, 110 Chauncy, Boston, MA

PROGRAM SPEAKERS

Flor Amaya, City of Chelsea
Cleidi Argueta-Flores, NOAH *(not pictured)*
Kate Bennett, Boston Housing Authority
Tiffany Chu, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu's Office
Iram Farooq, City of Cambridge
Jennifer Lawrence, Sasaki Foundation
Ashley Carolina Martinez, NOAH *(not pictured)*
Meredith McCarthy, Sasaki & Sasaki Foundation
Jennifer Palencia Ngan, Groundwork Somerville *(not pictured)*
Tati Ollivierre, Groundwork Somerville
Emily Parris, Sasaki
Arianna Perdomo, GreenRoots
Roxana Portillo, GreenRoots
Nayeli Rodriguez, Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics
Sarah Marie Saydun, GreenRoots
Shemar Stewart, Sasaki Foundation
Melinda Vega, NOAH



SPONSORED EVENTS

In addition to hosting events, the Sasaki Foundation sponsored events hosted by our partners.

Charles River Conservancy's City Splash
June 2022
The Charles River Conservancy's City Splash is a community event raising awareness to bring river swimming back to Boston. This annual state-sanctioned swim, with over 300 participants in its sixth year, allows the public the rare opportunity to experience the joy of swimming in the Charles River.

Pao Arts Center's Experience Chinatown Art Festival
September 2022
Pao Arts Center's Experience Chinatown Festival is an extended celebration of arts and culture, featuring a multitude of collaborations with local artists and neighborhood organizations. In its fifth year, nearly 2,000 visitors and community members joined the weekly live performances, while thousands more experienced the vibrant window murals that adorned Chinatown restaurants and organizations from August to October.



Wah Lum Academy performing at Experience Chinatown 2022, September 24, 2022 | Lee-Daniel Tran courtesy Pao Arts Center

February 23, 2022

Meet the New Executive Director: A Conversation with Jennifer Lawrence



In January 2022, the Sasaki Foundation announced Jennifer Lawrence, formerly of the City of Cambridge, as our new executive director. In a virtual fireside chat, Jen shared about the work she has done leading up to her joining the Sasaki Foundation, and what she hopes to bring to the table.

March 31, 2022

Women in Municipal Leadership: Representation for Shared Impact



In honor of Women's History Month, the Sasaki Foundation hosted a panel discussion with women in municipal leadership in Massachusetts. Leaders from Greater Boston and the Gateway Cities spoke to the importance of representation in municipal leadership, and their work in community building, climate adaptation, housing strategies, transit and mobility, and health and wellbeing.

April 22, 2022

Invest in our Future: Youth Engagement in Design and Sustainability



The Sasaki Foundation celebrated Earth Day under the 2022 theme, Invest in our Planet. At the Sasaki Foundation, we believe that one of the most powerful ways to invest in our planet is to invest in the future — our young people. At this engaging panel discussion, youth leaders and adult facilitators shared about the importance of ensuring that young people have a voice in design, meaningful jobs in sustainability fields, and leadership in the environmental movement.

May 25, 2022

Design Grants Pitch Night



Sasaki Foundation Design Grants finalists pitched their ideas for projects that address proactive approaches to climate adaptation, new models for housing, innovation in transit and access to mobility choices, creative community building, and innovation in health and wellbeing.

IMPACT: Design Education

In summer 2022, the Sasaki Foundation hosted our fifth annual Summer Exploratory Experience in Design (SEED) program. SEED is a six-week paid internship for high school students from the Boston area. With the help of teaching assistants, Sasaki design mentors, and partner organizations, the students learn about careers in the design field and develop their own projects.

In 2022, we welcomed eleven high school students from neighborhoods across Greater Boston, including Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Mattapan, Roxbury, Belmont, and Cambridge. After two years of running the program remotely, we had the pleasure of being able to once again host this summer's internship program at the Sasaki office. It was refreshing to see the design process and collaboration happen in person.

Each week, as part of the design coursework, students attended project presentations and introductory workshops with Sasaki staff to learn about different aspects of the design field. Each week students also had the opportunity to interview a Sasaki principal and were free to ask the leaders anything. Each principal specializes in a different discipline and collectively provided broad and valuable insight on the educational and career pathways they took, the design industry, and impactful projects that Sasaki has spearheaded.

SEED students were also able to explore Boston's natural and cultural resources. Through the National Park Service they visited the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, and toured Spectacle Island with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. Students learned about growing food in an urban environment at the Urban Farming Institute in Mattapan, where they also learned about the role of crop diversity in soil and plant health. Students visited the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway to learn about the Big Dig and the sustainable horticulture practices that allow the Greenway to thrive in an urban environment. This year's curriculum also included several project site visits with the Boston Planning and Redevelopment Agency, DREAM Collaborative, and Toole Design Group, and a visit to Alison Croney Moses's studio.

Throughout the six-week internship, SEED students worked in three small teams to design outdoor

In 2022, the 11 SEED interns came from 6 different high schools across Greater Boston: Belmont High School, Boston Latin School, Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, Excel Academy Charter High School, John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science, and TechBoston Academy.

2022 SEED outing with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

garden classrooms for Boston Public Schools, for use both by Boston Public School students and by their local communities. The project was based on a major initiative by the City of Boston focused on food justice and equitable access within many Boston neighborhoods in an effort to bring food closer to those with the greatest need. SEED focused on how small scale neighborhood interventions can begin to change the level of access for all of Boston's residents, leading to a healthier, more supported and equitable city.

After careful site analysis, students selected David A. Ellis Elementary School in Roxbury, Mattahunt Elementary School in Mattapan, and the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science in Roxbury for their garden classroom projects. Each week's topic supported the students' design process, culminating in a final presentation of their project designs to their Sasaki design mentors, Sasaki principals, and other staff. It was truly inspiring to see how much work, attention to detail, and dedication they had put into each project.

The students greatly benefited from each experience, and everything they learned from each mentor, principal, tour, and site visit was interwoven in the design of their projects and delivery of their presentations.

The 2023 SEED final presentations are available for viewing on the Sasaki Foundation YouTube page.

Thanks to the 2022 Sasaki design mentors:

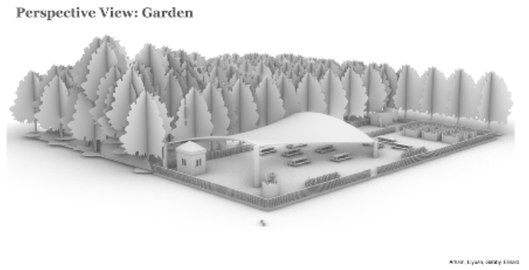
Isaac Andrade, Gandong Cai, Nick Dyer, Diana Gallo, Mario Ghosn, Gabe Jenkins, Felicia Jiang, Carrie Latimer, Amanda Lennon, Joude El-Mabsout, Karen Mata Ortas, Yasmin Maura-Orihuela, Mytreyi Metta, Yixin Miao, Emily Parris, Daniel Pryor, and Fangli Zhang, as well as the Sasaki principals who took part in the weekly interviews, and all of the additional Sasaki staff who introduced the students to Sasaki's various disciplines and a variety of projects.

Thanks to all of our partners for the time they spent introducing students to their projects and expertise:

- Alison Croney Moses
- Boston Planning and Development Agency
- Boston Society for Architecture
- Cambridge Savings Bank
- DREAM Collaborative
- National Park Service (Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site)
- Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy
- Save the Harbor/Save the Bay
- Toole Design Group
- Urban Farming Institute



2022 SEED construction site tour with DREAM Collaborative, Parcel P3, Roxbury. MA



2022 SEED final classroom garden design at Mattahunt Elementary School



2022 SEED final classroom garden design at the David A. Ellis Elementary School



2022 SEED final classroom garden design at the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science



2022 SEED final classroom garden design at the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science

2022 SEED INTERNS

Cathal, rising sophomore from Cambridge
Elinald, graduated senior from Mattapan
Gabriella, rising junior from East Boston
Jaana, rising sophomore from Cambridge
Jayden, rising junior from Dorchester
Jazmin, rising senior from Roxbury
Liyuan, rising junior from Charlestown
Merina, rising junior from Belmont
Mohammed, rising junior from Cambridge
Mubarak, rising senior from Cambridge
Quyen, rising junior from Dorchester



GROWING SEED

SEED, the Sasaki Foundation's primary design education program, is an annual six-week paid internship structured holistically around introducing high school students to the world of design.

Since SEED's launch in 2018, the program has received 143 applicants from students reperesenting 43 communities and 42 schools. SEED has grown from 2 interns in 2018 to 11 interns in 2022, and from 2 Sasaki design mentors to 17. In 2022 we also expanded the program to provide an even broader set of experiences through partnerships with 10 additional organizations. Students gained a wider perspective of potential careers in design while exploring the city.

In 2023, SEED will continue to grow. The Sasaki Foundation plans to hire 40 interns and is adding an advanced track for students with previous design experience. To support this expanded cohort, we plan to hire 8 teaching assistants, introduce the new position of summer youth manager, and increase our number of partners.

If you are interested in building a partnership with our SEED program, please reach out.



Shemar Stewart first joined the Sasaki Foundation's SEED program as an intern in 2018, and has served as a teaching assistant every summer since. The SEED program inspired him to switch his major to architecture, and he has used his experience to guide more students through the program. Shemar graduated from UMass Amherst in December 2022 and in early 2023 will move from the Sasaki Foundation to a year-long design internship at Sasaki.

32

SEED INTERNS SINCE 2018

50

DESIGN MENTORS SINCE 2018

A thriving design industry requires a pipeline of diverse, talented, and passionate practitioners who infuse new ideas and disrupt established patterns. Preparing such future leaders requires collaboration.

To this end, the Sasaki Foundation continues to pursue design education partnerships that advance diversity and inclusivity in the next generation of design professionals. We are part of a growing coalition connecting young students with design practitioners through deep and meaningful experiences. This work is an investment in a more equitable design industry, to the benefit of all.

In 2022, the Sasaki Foundation participated in two Architecture + Design Thinking Weeks as well as the inaugural Designing the Future of Boston: Exploring Careers in Planning at the BPDA. Through these programs, professional designers connect with diverse groups of local students and provide hands-on experience with the design process and design thinking. This encounter with the field of design comes at a critical point in the students' career exploration. Students come away with a greater awareness of career opportunities in design as well as direct connections to further explore their interests.

"Teaching design to high school students is endlessly rewarding. They always bring so much energy and excitement to the design process. I can only hope that the program was as enriching for them as it was for me."

Scott Penman, Sasaki Design Technologist and Architecture + Design Thinking Week Design Mentor

ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN THINKING WEEK

Architecture + Design Thinking Week is an annual partnership with the Boston Society for Architecture, Boston Private Industry Council, the Sasaki Foundation and Sasaki, Finegold Alexander Architects, Goody Clancy, and HMFH Architects. With the goal of introducing students to careers in design, the week-long career awareness initiative engages Boston Public Schools students in designing their ideal learning environment after teaching them the basics of design, model making, drawing, and presenting. In 2022, this program was held virtually and engaged 40 high school students over February and April school vacation weeks.

Through the course of the week, students spent time with professionals from different design firms to familiarize themselves with design thinking. In teams and individually, students designed learning spaces through hands-on activities, while also having conversations with the designers about career pathways, education, and experiences as a professional in the industry.

The program serves as a pipeline to nonprofit design programs such as SEED at the Sasaki Foundation, the Designery at YouthBuild Boston, and Digital Ready, as well as internships at local design firms. Upon completion, students have gained valuable exposure to various career pathways within the design industry.

In 2022, the 40 Architecture + Design Thinking Week students came from 12 different high schools in the Boston Public School system: Boston Arts Academy, Boston Community Leadership Academy, Boston Day and Evening Academy, Boston Green Academy, Dearborn STEM Academy, Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers, English High School, Excel Academy East Boston, Jeremiah E. Burke High School, Josiah Quincy Upper School, Margarita Muniz Academy, and New Mission High School.

DESIGNING THE FUTURE OF BOSTON: EXPLORING CAREERS IN PLANNING AT THE BPDA



Sasaki Foundation student programming

In 2022, the Sasaki Foundation participated in Designing the Future of Boston: Exploring Careers in Planning at the BPDA, the inaugural collaboration between the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) and Boston Public Schools to introduce 30 high school students to careers in planning.

Over the course of a morning in April, students virtually explored their favorite places in Boston while learning how planning for a changing climate, multimodal transportation, affordable housing, and economic development affects those places in the City of Boston. Students then broke out into small conversations with representatives from the Sasaki Foundation, ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston, Digital Ready, and YouthBuild Boston to understand how their organizations engage in planning processes and to learn about internship opportunities.

Support

Thank you to our donors, industry partners, and sponsors who have joined us in our efforts to advance the value of design and co-create change to shape the built environment. Your support continues to help us fund grants, underwrite programming, and explore innovations in the design field.

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US Green Building Council
WalkBoston
Wentworth Institute of Technology

The Sasaki Foundation thrives because of our 75+ partnerships with academia, industry and civic leaders, community organizations, and other nonprofits. The value of these relationships is made visible through our programming, events, and perhaps most importantly, through the co-creation of positive change in the communities in which we work.

A Look Ahead

The Sasaki Foundation has had a significant year of transition with our exciting move to our downtown Boston studio, new leadership with our Executive Director Jennifer Lawrence, and a continued dedication to local impact through active community-based research, public programming, and design education. With these changes, we have been resetting the foundation for our work serving the communities of Boston and beyond.

In Jen's first year as executive director at the Sasaki Foundation, she fully utilized her background in planning and design and her experience in both the civic and nonprofit sectors to pursue our vision: a future in which the power of community-based planning and design is fully realized for the benefit of the public good. Under her leadership, our call for proposals reached a growing number of community organizations, we hosted several meaningful public conversations, and our design education offerings expanded to provide students with an even broader experience in the world of design.

We are excited to see what our current Design Grants cohort will have accomplished when they wrap up their projects in June, as they work on a just transition to clean energy in Chinatown, improved access to both green space and affordable housing in Chelsea, food justice in Somerville, and care infrastructure at the intersection of Mass. and Cass in Boston. We continue to champion the ongoing work of many of our Design Grants alumni teams, which extends their community impact well beyond the conclusion of their grants. And we anticipate the exciting new research we will find through our next call.

We look forward to fostering important conversations on equity and resilience. We are currently planning an exciting lineup of public events for 2023, including convening a discussion with Chinatown organizations on cultural preservation, exploring Boston's equity vision with Diana Fernandez Bibeau, the Deputy Chief of Urban Design, and learning Indigenous perspectives in design. We hope you will join us at 110 Chauncy or online.

In 2022, we had a taste of how our new downtown location offers new opportunities to build partnerships and expand our reach through our design education programs, empowering the next generation through design thinking. In 2023 we are expanding our youth programming, providing even more opportunities for even more students to explore a career in design.

We continue to set ambitious goals and generate a meaningful agenda of research, programs, and partnerships that grow our impact in communities throughout Greater Boston. We hope you will join us as we continue this important work.



Mary Anne Ocampo
Board of Trustees Chair

2022 Design Grants cohort collaborating at 110 Chauncy, Boston, MA

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