

## EDUCATION

### Cornell University

College of Architecture Art + Planning

*Bachelor of Architecture, Minor in City + Regional Planning*

August 2007 - December 2011

## LICENSES

Registered Architect, State of New York

Registered Architect, State of Michigan

June 2019

September 2019

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### VISITING CRITIC

Florida A&M University Tallahassee, FL (Virtual)

August 2021 - December 2021

- Provided virtual in-class support to nine students for a mixed-use, opera house development in Montreal, Canada among three other visiting critics
- Supported lead professor in syllabus preparation, class scheduling, and cohesive design input from all professors
- Minimum of 4 hours of focused instruction per week in addition to course preparation and full time practice

### ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

University of Detroit Mercy Detroit, MI

January 2021 - May 2021

- Co-led a mixed-year design studio based on responding to the prompt of the 2021 NOMA Student Design Competition
- Advised students through the completion of design materials and to-scale-model required to submit for the competition
- Mentored and advised students as a project team with separate, individual roles
- Co-developed course materials, site visits, and core curricula with one other practicing architect and professor
- Minimum of 15 hours of focused instruction per week in addition to course preparation and full time work with Gensler

### ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

University of Detroit Mercy Detroit, MI

January 2018 - May 2018

- Led a second-year design studio of 14 students for a mixed-use, co-working/co-living development in Downtown Detroit
- Co-developed course materials, site visits, and core curricula as part of a team of two other second-year professors
- Minimum of 12 hours of focused instruction per week in addition to course preparation and full time work with Gensler

## FELLOWSHIPS + GRANTS

### EDITORIAL FELLOW

The Avery Review (Remote work in Detroit, MI)

September 2017 - October 2018

- First editorial fellow selected out of 40 applicants
- Established curatorial process for future fellows
- Researched histories and current status of Detroit Public Schools to write "The Architecture of Education"
- Commissioned, developed, and co-edited Ujjiji Davis's "The Bottom: The Emergence and Erasure of Black American Urban Landscapes", Tizziana Baldenebro's "Chicago Works?: Curating Value and Representation, Amanda Williams at the MCA", and Patrick Linder's "Seeking the Shalom of the City"

### RESEARCH TEAM LEADER

Gensler Research Institute (Remote work in Detroit, MI)

September 2020 - April 2021

- Assembled a team of 7 individuals across 4 offices within Gensler to conduct research focused on assessing building and zoning code violations in black communities
- Led bi-weekly meetings to discuss and track progress
- Conducted interviews with subject matter experts
- Created an interactive, comprehensive timeline of examples of injustice in the built environment to engage broader Gensler community and collect additional case stories

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **FOUNDER / PRINCIPAL**

January 2018 - Present

RVSN Studios, LLC Detroit, MI

- Independently worked directly with clients to design and document construction of spaces in the Detroit community
- Controlled design, operations, and management of projects and teams of several contracted designers, consultants, and contractors
- Develop business development and marketing strategies to reach a unique client base across multiple US cities
- Assure a timely project delivery and quality assurance under professional licensure for building permits and construction administration

### **ASSOCIATE**

December 2018 - May 2021

Gensler Detroit, MI

- Spearhead strategic community partnerships with the Detroit Mayor's Office of Workforce Development to reposition two career and technical education centers for skilled trades with a total project cost of \$20 million
- Lead and manage design teams for \$13.7 million mixed use residential development project in Detroit, Michigan, generating over \$400,000 in fees for firm
- Grow business development efforts in community and retail practices areas to give firm local presence on major retail corridors
- Collaborate with 22 hand-selected leaders as a part of the Global Race and Diversity Committee to increase the number of black professionals within Gensler, with specific focus on creating measurable goals through quantitative and qualitative metrics

### **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER**

May 2015 - December 2018

Gensler Detroit, MI

- Piloted various education-focused, pro-bono community impact endeavors to apply research findings to support dynamic learning settings in Detroit Public Schools
- Prepared and secured contracts and fee proposals for scaling, local company build-outs, supporting the use of local skilled tradespeople
- Led client relationship and design for two local non-profit charter schools
- Advised Regional Managing Principal on key diversity and inclusion strategies to develop and encourage information sharing across affinity groups

### **JUNIOR ARCHITECT**

September 2013 - May 2015

Diller Scofidio + Renfro New York, NY

- Prepared design presentations for the third phase of The High Line public park with specific focus on "The Spur"
- Designed expansion of galleries and displays for the renovation of the historic Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum
- Produced drawings and documentation for the 60,000 square foot United States Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado Springs, CO
- Assisted design team in winning submission for Zaryadye Park project in Moscow, Russia

### **JUNIOR ARCHITECT**

September 2013 - May 2015

Robert Stern, New York, NY

- Prepared schematic design ideas for a 33-story, 384,000-square-foot building 312 rental apartment building in New York City
- Adapted historic buildings and alleyways in Amsterdam's civic center to accommodate new use for national retailer Primark
- Produced scale architectural models for design options through each phase of all projects

## WORKSHOPS

Buell Center: Green Reconstruction

July 2020

Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture | Columbia University

## DESIGN AWARDS + RECOGNITIONS

<b>Gensler Design Excellence Award</b> <i>Rising Designer Award</i>	June 2020
<b>Commerce Design Detroit</b> <i>Detroit Is The New Black</i>	May 2019
<b>Gensler Design Excellence Award</b> <i>City Year, Bethune Elementary</i>	June 2018
<b>Fitz Forward Facade Competition Winner - First Place</b> <i>Form Fitz Function</i>	May 2018
<b>American Institute of Architects [Detroit Chapter]</b> <i>Rivertown Warehouse District</i>	September 2017

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS *(LECTURES + PANELS)*

<b>2022 MLK Symposium - Coalition Building in the City: Policy, Mutual Aid, and Design Justice</b> <b>Taubman College   University of Michigan</b>	January 2022
<b>Structural Racism in the Built Environment (NORDIC TALK SESSION)</b> <b>Sustainable Societies for the Future: The Chicago Edit   EXPO CHICAGO</b>	October 2021
<b>Working With Equitable Partners, Community Members, &amp; Public Officials</b> <b>AIA National Conference</b>	July 2021
<b>Virtual Arts &amp; Architecture Student Exhibition</b> <b>Syracuse University</b>	May 2021
<b>Reimagine Schools Forum: Designing for Equity &amp; Inclusion</b> <b>Reimagine America's Schools   National Design Alliance</b>	August 2020
<b>The Time Is Now : Annual Conference</b> <b>Iowa Women in Architecture</b>	September 2020
<b>Beyond The Trend: Centering Racial Equity After The Media Has Moved On</b> <b>Community Development Advocates of Detroit</b>	July 2020
<b>Norma Merrick Sklarek: Redefining Public</b> <b>Princeton University</b>	March 2019
<b>AAP Alumni Virtual Forum Series   Effective Professional Communication</b> <b>Cornell University</b>	April 2019
<b>EMBRACE Diversity and Inclusion Conference</b> <b>Savannah College of Art and Design</b>	October 2018
<b>Why Does Black Art Matter Now?</b> <b>University of Pittsburgh</b>	December 2016

## LEADERSHIP ROLES

<b>National Membership Co-Chair - Empowerment Focus</b> <b>National Organization of Minority Architects</b>	December 2019 - Present
<b>Associate Board Member</b> <b>City Year Detroit</b>	March 2019 - Present
<b>Detroit Director</b> <b>American Institute of Architects [Detroit Chapter]</b>	December 2018 - Present
<b>Project Pipeline Chair</b> <b>National Organization of Minority Architects [Detroit Chapter]</b>	January 2017- January 2018

## PUBLICATIONS + PRESS

"Spending and Saving for Happiness" The Atlantic	December 2021
"Building a Centralized Equity Framework into Architecture" Architect Magazine	July 2020
"A Day with Gensler Detroit's Imani Day" Madame Architect	August 2020
"The Architecture of Education" The Avery Review	September 2019
"Let's Get Real about Diversity" Architect Magazine	July 2018
"Reflect, Reclaim, Redefine: Detroit's Imani Day Wants a More Diverse and Engaged Profession" ArchiteXX Magazine	February 2017
"Beautiful Granddaughters" People Magazine	April 2015

## TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

*Now What: Advocacy, Activism, and Alliances in American Architecture Since 1968*  
**ArchiteXX Curatorial Team** May 2018 - Present

- Shared architectural project collateral from Randolph Vocational School design work for display at: Boston Society of Architects, Kennesaw State University, Cornell University, Chicago Architecture Biennale, University of Buffalo, McGill University, California College of the Art, Pratt Institute, and Parson's School of Design