



# 100K

Residents supported in Flint Water Crisis response

Exhibit 3.2

# 2017

AIA National Young Architect Award Recipient

Exhibit 3.x

# 1,000+

Students taught throughout career as Professor of Practice

Exhibit 3.x

# 92+

Vacant lots redesigned with new housing guidelines

Exhibit 3.x



# Top 10

Global ranking out of 100+ architecture podcasts -Feedspot.com

Exhibit 3.x

# 50M+

In affordable housing projects throughout the Midwest

Exhibit 3.x

# 35+

Public Interest Design mission driven projects completed in service to community

Exhibit 3.x

# \$50K+

In grant funded research in economic development in underserved communities

Exhibit 3.x



# 15,000+

Podcast downloads from more than 90 countries globally

Exhibit 3.x

# 2018

40 Under 40 Award Recipient Building Design and Construction Magazine

Exhibit 3.x



# 9+

Students receiving recognition for outstanding work, including Metropolis Magazine's Future 100 List

Exhibit 3.x



## Professional Experience

**Urban Colab Architecture, L3.C.**  
Owner, Principal Architect - 2020 to Present  
Flint, Michigan

**The Coffee Sketch Podcast**  
Co-Founder - 2018 to Present  
Flint, Michigan / Austin, Texas

**Sedgewick + Ferweda Architects**  
Project Architect, 2012 - 2020  
Flint, Michigan

**MainStreet Design Build**  
Director of Architecture, 2010 - 2012  
Birmingham, Michigan

**OJMR Architects**  
Project Architect, 2007 - 2010  
Los Angeles, California

**Gruen Associates**  
Project Designer, 2005 - 2007  
Los Angeles, California

**Togawa & Smith Architects**  
Project Designer, 2003 - 2005  
Pasadena, California

## Mayoral Service Appointments

**City of Flint Building Board of Appeals**  
Mayoral Appointment, 2022 to Present

**City of Flint Building Historic District Commission**  
Vice Chair, Mayoral Appointment, 2018 to Present

## Education

**2015 Lawrence Technological University**  
Masters of Urban Design with Distinction

**2003 Columbia University**  
Post Professional, NY/Paris Program

**2003 University of Southern California**  
Bachelors of Architecture

## Teaching Experience

**Lawrence Technological University**  
College of Architecture and Design

**Assistant Professor of Practice**  
2022 to Present

**Instructor**  
2021 - 2022

**Adjunct Faculty**  
2020 - 2021

**University of Michigan, Flint Campus**  
Geography, Planning, and Environment  
Department

**Adjunct Faculty**  
2013 - 2019

Art and Art History Department

**Adjunct Faculty**  
2014 - 2015

## Student Recognition

**Metropolis Magazine**  
2025 Future 100 - Michael Gerace  
2024 Future 100 - Emily Bigelow

**Lawrence Technological University**  
2025 Deans Award

Maya Dandachli, Carlos Loya Miranda,  
Michael Gerace

2024 Deans Award

Shaikha Alkhazim, Kendall Hands, Kerry  
Greene

**2022 United States Green Building Council**  
Midwest Sustainable Design Competition

**1st Place:** Peter Arton

**2nd Place:** Daniel Kagan

**3rd Place:** Courtney Gadzik

**Honorable Mention:** Allyza Danica-Valino



## AIA National Leadership

**2019-2019**

### AIA Small Firm Exchange

*Board of Directors*

- The AIA Small Firm Exchange is a national member group of the AIA dedicated to advancing the interests and needs of architects practicing in small firms.

### 2017 AIA Practice Innovation Lab

*Invited Attendee*

- Kurt was one of 60 people competitively selected to attend this three-day summit at the 1776 startup incubator where he developed one of ten new business models for the profession.

### 2017 AIA/NCARB Experience Advisory Joint Committee, Co-Chair

- Kurt was appointed by President Thomas Vonier, FAIA. This committee plays a crucial role in evaluating the effectiveness and appropriateness of NCARB's experience-related policies and providing input for the development and implementation of the Architectural Experience Program (AXP).

**2014-2016**

### AIA National Resolutions Committee

*2016 Chair*

- Kurt was appointed by President Helene Dreiling, FAIA. National Resolutions Committee plays a vital role in the organization's governance, acting as a filter and facilitator for formal proposals from its members to the Board of Directors.

**2013-2016**

### AIA National Young Architects Forum

*Young Architect Regional Director*

- The YAF provides resources and opportunities for young architects to hone their skills and take on leadership roles within the profession and their communities.



Kurt Neiswender, AIA

## AIA Regional Leadership

**2026 AIA Michigan Secretary-Elect**

*Executive Committee, Board of Directors*

- Kurt was elected to become the 2026 Secretary to the AIA Michigan Board of Directors. This Executive Committee Position is the first on the ladder to 2029 AIA Michigan President.

**2025-2026 AIA Michigan Director**

*Board of Directors*

- Kurt was elected to serve as Director for AIA Flint and AIA Mid-Michigan Components. Also, by Presidential Appointment to serve on the Strategic Plan and Archifusion Planning Committees

**2021-2022 AIA Michigan Director**

*Board of Directors*

- Kurt was elected to serve as Director for AIA Flint and AIA Mid-Michigan Components. Also, by Presidential Appointment to serve on the Strategic Plan

## AIA Component Leadership

**2020-2021 AIA Flint Past President**

*Board of Directors*

- Kurt led the component strategic plan during repositioning and board realignment.

**2018-2019 AIA Flint President**

*Board of Directors*

- Kurt led the component through national repositioning and board realignment.

**2016-2018 AIA Flint Vice President**

*Board of Directors*

**2012-2015 AIA Flint Emerging Professionals**

*Chair*



Since 2017, my projects have been supported by over **\$4.3 million in grant funding**, advancing affordable housing, adaptive reuse, workforce training, and community resilience. These investments create opportunities for minority trades, under-served neighborhoods, and youth training programs—turning design into measurable equity outcomes. In parallel, my jury service for AIA Michigan, New Jersey, and Iowa extends this commitment nationally, shaping recognition for young architects and educators while reinforcing a culture of equity-centered, service-driven practice across the profession.

## AIA Awards Juries

**2020**

**AIA Iowa**

*Juror*

- Kurt was invited to be a juror for the Young Architect Award and the Educator of the Year award for the Iowa State Component

**2019**

**AIA New Jersey**

*Juror*

- Kurt was invited to be a juror for the Young Architect Award, Associate Award, and Design Awards categories for the New Jersey Component.

**2016**

**AIA Michigan**

*Juror*

- As a past recipient of the AIA Michigan Young Architect Award, Kurt was invited to be a juror for the Young Architect Award and Associate Member Award categories.

**2015**

**Engineering Society of Detroit Future City Competition**

*Juror*

- *500 Michigan middle school student competition to explore STEM based design thinking to reimagine the world of tomorrow.*



Kurt Neiswender, AIA

## Projects Receiving Grant Funding

**\$125,000**, June 1, 2024

Communities First, Inc., ARPA

- In support of hiring local minority based tradespersons. affordable housing development

**\$315,000**, April 1, 2024

Urban Renaissance Center, C.S. Mott Foundation

- In support of readiness training through its Rebounding Force employment program

**\$3,500,000**, January 1, 2024

Communities First, Inc., C.S. Mott Foundation

- In support of adaptive reuse of the Historic Landmark Paterson Building

**\$300,000**, January 1, 2024

Communities First, Inc., C.S. Mott Foundation

- In support of affordable housing initiatives in undeserved neighborhoods

**\$100,000**, January 2022

Crossover Ministry, C.S. Mott Foundation

- In support of capital campaign for new food and clothing pantry building

**\$40,000**, January 2017

Urban Renaissance Center, C.S. Mott Foundation

- In support of community construction program training local under-served youths

# Equity Centered Public Practice

*Equity-Centered Practice is the throughline of my work: pairing design with policy and stewardship to expand access, trust, and agency. I deliver dignified housing, preservation, and neighborhood infrastructure while building tools others can use. Recent outcomes include 120+ affordable homes, 35+ community projects with mission-driven partners, and infill guidelines addressing a 47% vacancy challenge. During crisis, clear public information reached 100,000+ residents. The result is replicable models that move from pilot to policy to practice.*

## Public Interest Design Work

Through more than 35 public interest design projects in Flint, Kurt Neiswender has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to design justice and community revitalization. From city park masterplans, pavilions, and adaptive reuse of abandoned buildings, his work responds directly to the needs of individuals too often overlooked. This exemplifies a long-term leadership role in advancing community-centered design—redefining architecture for healing and empowerment in the city he calls home.



## Affordable Housing

Kurt Neiswender has recently led the design of over 120 units of affordable housing across Michigan, representing more than \$50 million in construction development. These projects, rooted in principles of equity and sustainability, address critical housing shortages while elevating design standards for low- and moderate-income communities. Kurt's work demonstrates a commitment to design justice that serves the public good—delivering dignified solutions that contribute to resilient neighborhoods and economic opportunity.



## Flint Water Crisis

During the Flint Water Crisis, Kurt Neiswender exemplified design justice by stepping beyond traditional architectural roles to serve as an advocate, educator, and communicator for his community. He used his expertise to translate complex public health and infrastructure issues into accessible visual public information resources. Working alongside city officials, community groups, and AIA Flint, he helped empower residents with knowledge—bridging gaps in trust, understanding, and access.



Site: Durant Tuuri Mott Target Area



## Vacant Lot Redevelopment

As a citizen architect deeply invested in Flint's future, Kurt Neiswender played a pivotal leadership role in the creation of the Durant Tuuri Mott Neighborhood Design Guidelines for Vacant Lot Redevelopment. (Leading the design of...) the Genesee County Land Bank Authority and a coalition of community partners, Kurt helped shape a visionary framework that responds to Flint's unique urban challenges—namely, a 47% vacancy rate and a fragmented neighborhood fabric. (italicized for report of book title) Presentations title in quotes and name of conference or publication in Italics)



## Eco-Kit Homes

Kurt Neiswender's expertise in sustainable design and innovative construction systems was nationally recognized when he was selected to design this 5,000 SF residence in Idaho using the EcoKit building system. His deep understanding of modular design and energy-efficient strategies was instrumental in navigating the complex permitting process and successfully translating this cutting-edge, net-zero prototype into a buildable reality. One of the first homes in the U.S. to deploy the EcoKit system.



## Historic and Adaptive Reuse

Kurt Neiswender has played a key role in preserving Flint's architectural heritage through the restoration of two of its most iconic landmark buildings—the Masonic Temple and the Paterson Building. His work on these historic structures honors their original grandeur while sensitively adapting them for contemporary use. His leadership in these preservation efforts reflects a deep respect for the city's cultural legacy and a belief that architectural history can be a catalyst for economic revitalization and civic pride.



## Small Business Grant Funding

Urban Colab Architecture, under Kurt Neiswender's leadership, was awarded a \$25,000 Micro Business Grant from the Flint & Genesee Small Business Hub... recognition that positions him as a civic leader in Flint's revitalization. This funding affirms his firm's role in shaping an inclusive, resilient future through socially driven design and entrepreneurial impact, reinforcing his leadership at the intersection of architecture, equity, and community development.



## Crossover Downtown Outreach Ministry

I'm proud to have designed the new Crossover Outreach building—a purpose-built, 7,500 sq ft hub that replaces their outdated facility to better deliver emergency food and clothing with dignity and efficiency. This expansion enables expanded pantry capacity, on-site programs, and flexible community spaces for health, job training, and literacy services. Together, our work strengthens equitable, compassionate service, enabling Crossover's faith-based mission to uplift Flint neighbors with greater reach and respect.



## Habitat for Humanity

I designed pavilion-style gathering spaces for Genesee County Habitat for Humanity and community partners in Flint, providing temporary, dignified recreation hubs to combat blight and support neighborhood cohesion. These modular structures serve as gathering points, activating underused sites with flexibility and human scale. Separately, I designed a public fitness installation in downtown Memorial Park featuring workout-station trails. Both interventions prioritize accessible, place-based infrastructure—promoting movement, resilience, and equitable community engagement in formerly neglected urban environments.



## Civic Responsibility

My community service includes mayoral appointments to the Flint Historic District Commission and the Building and Construction Board of Appeals, where my architectural expertise supports civic decision-making. On the Historic District Commission, I help balance preservation with practicality—working with property owners to rehabilitate structures while guiding difficult decisions on demolishing blighted historic buildings. On the Board of Appeals, I apply technical knowledge to ensure safety, fairness, and accessibility. Together, these roles advance stewardship, equity, and trust in civic governance.



## Park(ing) Day Pop-Ups

Through multiple Park(ing) Day installations in downtown Flint, I transformed metered parking spaces into micro urban parks—reframing historic buildings, modeling sustainable design, and testing material reuse. These temporary platforms sparked design conversations with residents, university collaborators (UM-Flint), Habitat for Humanity, and civic organizations, many of whom evolved into clients and partners. The projects demonstrate the power of active, tactical participation: urban design as invitation, building visibility by being present, and collaboration as organic, not passive.

# Broadcasting Design Podcast & Advocacy

*Broadcasting Design turns local lessons into national conversation. Through a Top-10 architecture podcast—**182+ episodes, 15,000+ downloads**—and regular appearances on allied platforms, I amplify equity-centered practice beyond single projects. Interviews, live sketching, and case-study storytelling translate technical ideas into accessible tools peers can apply tomorrow. Institute leadership and national conference sessions extend the signal, prompting practitioners and partners to launch initiatives, replicate policies, and adapt frameworks. The result is ripple: knowledge shared, models adopted, impact multiplied.*

## The Coffee Sketch Podcast

With over 185 episodes and more than 15,000 downloads, the podcast has built an international audience. Top ten out of 100 on Feedsport.com (define this more) list of top architecture podcasts, Kurt engages listeners across the globe in topics ranging from design justice to daily practice weaving in live sketching as a way to explore ideas in real time. Through this accessible and innovative format, Kurt extends his thought leadership far beyond traditional venues—amplifying architectural conversations that matter.



## National Thought Leadership

At the 2025 AIA National Conference on Architecture, Kurt Neiswender shared his expertise on entrepreneurial resilience through two (expand about both) well-received sessions focused on diversifying revenue streams and strengthening operational foundations for startup firms. Drawing from his experience leading an architecture practice structured as an L3C, Kurt offered actionable insights into sustainable business models that align with both mission and financial viability.



## AIA National Service

Kurt's service to the American Institute of Architects has been recognized for his leadership most notably with the prestigious 2017 AIA Young Architect Award. This honor celebrated his early and ongoing commitment to advancing the profession through advocacy, education, and innovative practice. As a former Chair of the Resolutions Committee and an active contributor to other (how many) committees, Kurt has championed the voices of emerging professionals while promoting alternative, socially driven practice models. (this is an important part emphasized in bold or something).



Kurt Neiswender, AIA



## Regional Thought Leadership

Kurt Neiswender has established himself as a regional thought leader that spans (or something else) emerging technologies, housing innovation, and sustainable design. He has co-presented groundbreaking work on AI-assisted architectural practice. His contributions to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) Building Michigan Communities Conference in both 2024 and 2025 showcased innovative strategies for addressing housing affordability in Flint, including the integration of prefab construction and mixed-use missing middle housing models.



## Flint Flat Lot Competition

Kurt led the competition committee which raised over \$55,000 dollars in funding for the construction of a temporary outdoor pavilion. The competition grew into an internationally recognized event that received over 200 entries from more than 30 countries. Kurt served as the Architect of Record for the winning international competition team. The final construction served as the backdrop for thousands of visitors to Flint during the summer of 2013 series of events.



## A Guide to Flint Architecture

The *Guide to Flint Architecture* is an accessible, map-based resource that opens the city's architectural story to residents, students, and visitors. Funded by arts and architecture grants, it pairs concise building histories with clear walking routes and layperson language. The guide expands preservation literacy, supports cultural tourism, and helps teachers integrate place-based learning. By translating professional knowledge into a public tool, it strengthens appreciation, participation, and stewardship—advancing equity-centered practice through shared understanding of heritage and place.



## Podcast Appearances

Across dozens of invited podcast appearances—including Practice Disrupted, Archispeak, Archinect Sessions, EntreArchitect, Young Architect, and E3: Energy, Environment with Emily—I translate equity-centered practice, small-firm entrepreneurship, and policy tools into accessible stories and checklists. These conversations extend my classroom and project work to national audiences, prompting peers to pilot pop-up retail policies, adopt vacant-lot infill frameworks, and test AI/energy-modeling workflows. Crossover episodes create dialogue, surface diverse voices, and turn lessons learned into replicable actions.

# Practice Based Education & Mentorship

*Practice-Based Education & Mentorship equips civic architects to deliver impact now. As Professor of Practice, I structure studios around real clients—refugee housing, missing-middle infill, adaptive reuse—so proposals become implementable. Students earn scholarships, placements, and swept a regional sustainability competition (1st, 2nd, 3rd, Honorable Mention). Guided research and peer-reviewed work (EDRA, ACADIA) propagate methods widely, while ongoing advising and juries build confidence, ethics, and craft. The result: a multiplying pipeline of practitioners prepared to serve communities.*

## Community-Engaged Design Studio

As lead instructor for the studio, Kurt Neiswender has guided student teams through immersive, community-based design experiences rooted in service and impact. Partnering with real-world clients and stakeholders in Flint, Michigan, the studio challenges students to address pressing social and environmental needs through thoughtful architectural solutions. This hands-on pedagogy advances the professional development of emerging architects and reinforces architecture's role as a tool for meaningful civic engagement.



## Building Systems Integration

Kurt Neiswender's influence as an educator and mentor was powerfully demonstrated when his students swept the USGBC Detroit Region's 2021–2022 Student Design Competition. Kurt guided multiple student teams through the integration of LEED v4 standards, sustainable systems thinking, and innovative urban design strategies. Under his leadership his students secured first, second, and third place awards, as well as an honorable mention—beating out four other peer institutions across the state. (regional count of schools)



## Economic Development Grant Funded Research

Through a multi-phase grant project at the University of Michigan-Flint, Kurt led a faculty-student research team that integrated GIS data, zoning analysis, and interviews with practitioners to identify underutilized commercial zones and propose inclusive development strategies. His work culminated in draft zoning ordinance recommendations for the City of Flint to recognize pop-up retail as an "as-of-right" use—lowering barriers for small entrepreneurs and fostering neighborhood revitalization.



Kurt Neiswender, AIA



## Mentorship, Thesis Advising, & Professional Development

One-on-one mentorship and thesis advising cultivate durable professional habits—scoping, ethics, and communication. Students built award-winning portfolios (regional sustainability competition sweep: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Honorable Mention), earned scholarships, and secured roles in mission-driven practices. Advising continues post-graduation through reviews, references, and portfolio refreshes; national juries widen networks and expectations. The replicable “playbook” (brief templates, interview prep, recommendation timing, outreach scripts) makes advancement transparent and repeatable, turning individual support into a scalable pipeline for civic architects.

## K-12 Pipeline Talks

Pathway to Architecture is a multi-year K–12 outreach series that demystifies the profession for middle and high school students, including first-generation and underrepresented learners. Sessions walk through design thinking, studio culture, licensure, and real project stories, then translate curiosity into next steps—portfolio tips, scholarships, and shadowing opportunities. Students leave with a roadmap and confidence that architecture is attainable. Teachers reuse handouts and slides, extending impact beyond the visit and strengthening the pipeline into civic-minded practice.

## Practice/Academic Crossover Talks

AI-Assisted Design & GEN-AI Energy Modeling is a practice-to-classroom loop that makes performance analysis fast, teachable, and equitable. Workshops and symposium modules introduce simple workflows for early EUI targets, envelope tuning, and HVAC implications using accessible tools and AI prompts. Students prototype options in minutes, then communicate results with one-page operations cards. Practitioners adapt the same scripts in firms and chapter trainings, accelerating iteration and understanding. The outcome: climate-responsive decisions embedded in everyday design practice.

## Academic Research

Across EDRA, ACADIA, ARCC, and ACSA, I publish and present practice-transferable research linking classroom, community, and office. Topics include AI-assisted energy modeling, XR to visualize building systems, large-scale 3D-printed housing for resilient, low-carbon futures, and equity-centered studio methods. Each paper or talk is paired with studio pilots and practitioner workshops, producing usable tools—checklists, one-page operations cards, simple protocols—that students and firms adopt immediately. This research-to-teaching loop strengthens curricula, accelerates professional learning, and normalizes public-interest practice.



Kurt Neiswender, AIA



## The American Institute of Architects

### AIA Awards

#### 2018 - AIA Flint Honor Award

Sustainable Design Award for the Satori Haus in Manistique, Michigan

#### 2017 - AIA National Young Architect Award

The Young Architect Award honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the architecture profession early in their careers.

#### 2015 - AIA Michigan Young Architect Award

To recognize proficiency and exceptional accomplishments in, and contributions to the profession by an architect

#### 2013 - AIA Flint Honor Award

Honor award for urban design pop-up installation in Downtown Flint

### Additional Recognition

#### 2018 - Building Design + Construction Magazine 40 Under 40 "Flint Crusader"

#### 2018 - Flint Economic Alliance

Art of Achievement Award  
Young Professional of the Year Award

#### 2016 - Green Light Flint

Business Plan Competition  
Finalist

### International Juried Competitions

#### 2024 - Constructing Futures, Hybrid Landscapes UNESCO Detroit Month of Design

#### 2023 - Hybrid Landscapes 01

Buckham Gallery, Small Works Exhibit

### Business Grant Awards

**2025 - Flint and Genesee Economic Alliance**  
\$10,000 Small Business Hub Grant

**2024 - General Motors Moving Flint Forward**  
\$5,000 Round 2 grant award used to expand XR/VR design equipment

**2023 - General Motors Moving Flint Forward**  
\$10,000 Round 1 grant award used to purchase 3D Printing and XR/VR equipment

### Projects Receiving Grant Funding

**2020 - Digital Guide to Flint Architecture**  
\$2,000 Greater Flint Arts Council, Share Arts

**2019 - A Guide to Flint Architecture**  
\$2,000 Greater Flint Arts Council, Share Arts

**2019 - Pop-Up Retail Mapping Research**  
\$10,000 UM-Flint Provost Applied Research Fund

**2018 - Pop-Up Retail Cookbook Research**  
\$10,000 UM-Flint Provost Applied Research Fund

**2018 - Neighborhood Design Support**  
\$1,000 UM-Flint Healthy Flint Research Center

**2017 - Urban Renaissance Center**  
\$40,000 C.S. Mott Foundation Capacity Building

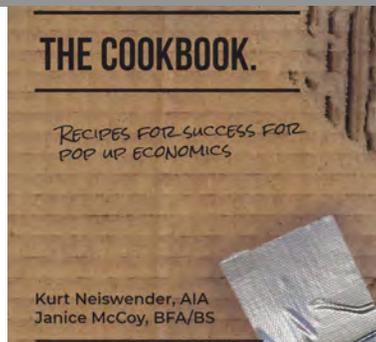
**2017 - Pop-Up Retail Development Research**  
\$20,000 UM-Flint Provost Applied Research Fund

**2016 - A Guide to Flint Architecture**  
\$4,500 Michigan Architectural Foundation

**2013 - Flint Flat Lot Competition**  
\$55,000 Flint Public Art Project

**BUILDING DESIGN**  
+  
**CONSTRUCTION**





*My work has been widely published and cited, extending its impact beyond built projects. I have authored peer-reviewed papers and guides advancing equity-centered practice and sustainable design education. My projects have been featured in outlets such as **USA Today**, **ArchDaily**, **DesignBoom**, **Bustler**, and local/regional press, highlighting affordable housing, adaptive reuse, and community-driven frameworks. These publications and media features amplify my practice nationally, positioning local initiatives as replicable models and reinforcing architecture's role in advancing social equity.*

## Publications Authored by Nominee

### **The Coffee Sketch Podcast**

185+ Episodes, Co-Founder, Co-Host,  
2018 to Present

### **"Starting Your Own Firm"**

Interviewed by Justin Lee, University of  
Southern California, November 19, 2024

### **Vacant Lot Cookbook**

C.S. Mott Foundation, UM-Flint Economic  
Development Authority, September 30, 2018

### **A Guide to Flint Architecture**

AIA Flint, Michigan Architectural Foundation,  
May 1, 2018

### **"Riverbank Park Demolished"**

*The Cultural Landscape Foundation*,  
April 20, 2018

### **"A Great Lakes Water Problem"**

*YAF Connection*, Young Architects Forum,  
February 2, 2016

### **"Interview: Donna Sink, AIA"**

*YAF Connection*, Young Architects Forum,  
February 2, 2016

### **"Passive House Part Deux"**

*YAF Connection*, Young Architects Forum,  
November 10, 2014

### **"Passive House The Craft of the Next Gen Residential Technology"**

*YAF Connection*, Young Architects Forum,  
January 5, 2014

## Academic Peer Reviewed

### **"Advancing Sustainable Housing: Evaluating Large-Scale 3D Concrete Printing for Resilient and Low-Carbon Construction"**

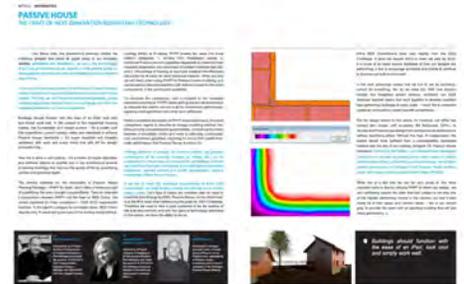
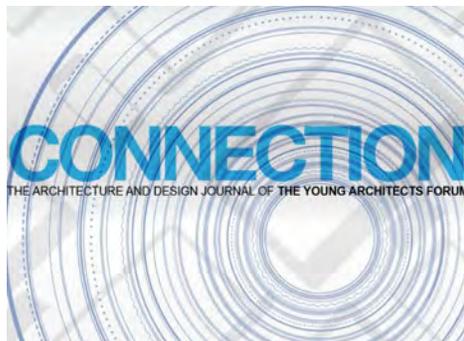
*EDRA 56: Halifax*, Environmental Design  
Research Association, February, 14 2025

### **"Leveraging Energy Modeling and AI to Design Resilient, Affordable, Climate-Responsive Communities"** co-authored

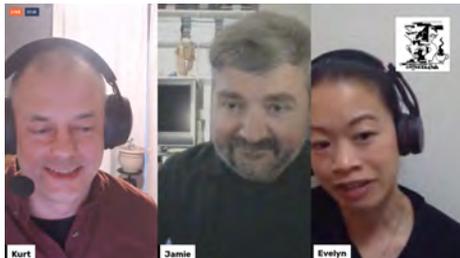
*EDRA 56: Halifax*, Environmental Design  
Research Association, February 14, 2025

### **"Implementing Reality Capture and Extended Reality to Visualize Spatial Implications of HVAC System Design"**

*CAAD Futures 2025 Hong Kong*, ACADIA,  
November 24, 2024



## Invited Podcast Appearances



### “Service to Society”

*The EntreArchitect Podcast*, Episode #XXX  
September 24, 2025

“Ask Me Anything (AMA) with Coffee Sketch Podcast” Practice Disrupted with Evelyn Lee, FAIA, Episode 144, February 15, 2024

### “Developing Projects in Flint”

*Empty Lots Podcast*, Episode #5  
October 4, 2021

### “The End of Disposability”

*E3: Energy, Environment, with Emily Podcast*, Season 3 Episode #26, July 6, 2021

### “What is a Passive House”

*Talking Home Renovations with the House Maven*, Episode #20, July 5, 2020

### “The Power of Sketching”

*The EntreArchitect Podcast*, Episode #283,  
August 9, 2019

### “Flint Water Crisis”

*AIA Small Firm Exchange*, Episode #2,  
May 15, 2019

### “Planting Your Roots in a New City”

*The Young Architect Podcast*, Episode #32  
September 29, 2017

### “Dispatch from Flint”

*Archinect Sessions Podcast*, Episode #54  
February 22, 2016

## Professional Project Citations

### “Communities First Considers Downsizing Plan for Live-Work Development Downtown”

*The Flushing View*, Lania Rocha, July 10, 2025

### “Flint’s Immigrant Communities”

*Stateside with April Baer*, April Baer, Michigan Public, July 8, 2025

### “Communities First to Host Job Fairs for Flint Housing Project”

*Flint Beat*, Ramona Watson, April 26, 2025

### “Good Laundry: A Flint Church’s Answer to Hygiene Poverty”

*C.S. Mott Foundation*, web, September 9, 2024

### “Bridging the gap between community and culture with Queens' Provisions”

*Flintside*, Xzavier Simon, August 28, 2024

### “Genesee Co. Housing Project to Receive Grant Funding to Clean Up Property”

*WNEW Channel 5*, Emily Keinath, June 14, 2024

### “Queens' Provisions offers wine and cheese for Flint-area residents”

*WEYI*, Sydney Broadnax, May 7, 2024

### “Crossover Outreach reopens for client services in their new facility”

*ABC 12 News*, April 24, 2024

### “\$25M Apartment Developments Break ground in Flint-Area”

*MidMichigan NOW*, April 11, 2024

### “Project Underway for 74 Unit Apartment Complex in Flint”

*WNEW Channel 5*, Emily Keinath, April 10, 2024

### “Communities First, Inc. Breaks Ground on \$25M Apartment Developments in Flint Area”

*MLive*, Fuad Shalhout, April 9, 2024

### “Crossover Outreach in Flint gives community opportunity to tour new facility”

*Mid-Michigan NOW*, April 9, 2024



Communities First, Inc. breaks ground on \$25M apartment developments in Flint area

Updated: Apr. 08, 2024, 11:08 p.m. / Published: Apr. 08, 2024, 4:30 p.m.



Kurt Neiswender, AIA



## Professional Project Citations

**"Crossover Outreach reopens in new building in Flint's Grand Traverse District"**

*East Village Magazine*, Canisha Bell, April 9, 2024

**"Crossover Outreach reopens for client services, donations in new facility"**

*MLive*, Jake May, April 6, 2024

**"Crossover Outreach Fully Open In New Building on Court Street"** *FLINT Our Community, Our Voice*,

Tiffany Sommers, April 1, 2024

**"Addressing the Affordable Housing Crisis in Flint and Genesee County"**

*AND Magazine*, Beth McKenna, March 11, 2024

**"Communities First receives grant money to renovate two Flint buildings"**

*MLive*, Kevin Craft, January 2, 2024

**"Queen's Provisions opens new wine, charcuterie shop in Flint"**

*ABC 12 News*, Ryan Jeltema, September 8, 2023

**"New business offers charcuterie, wine and board games at Flint's historic Berridge Hotel"**

*MLive*, Fuad Shalhout, August 4, 2023

**"Communities First Holds Groundbreaking for \$16M Mixed-Use Development"**

*MLive*, Fuad Shalhout, July 26, 2022

**"Crossover Outreach breaks ground on new building in Flint to better serve residents"**

*Flint Beat*, June 18, 2022

**"Crossover Outreach breaks ground in Flint to celebrate an exciting future"**

*MLive*, Jennifer Veloso, June 16, 2022

**"Several historic homes in Flint's Carriage Town district get a new lease on life"**

*ABC 12 News*, Kevin Goff, March 5, 2022

**"Urban Renaissance Center A Vision for the Future"**

*My City Magazine*, Peter Hinterman, November 1, 2019

**"25 Must See Buildings in Michigan: The Capitol Theater"**

*USA Today*, December 8, 2018

**"Flint Flat Lot's Floating House Draws Criticism"**

*The Architect's Newspaper*, Chris Bentley, September 25, 2013

**"Two Islands Wins Inaugural Flint Flat Lot Competition"**

*Arch Daily*, Karissa Rosenfield, May 9, 2013

**"Flint's Flat Lot Competition Winners Announced / Two Islands to Build Summer Pavilion"**

*eVolo.us*, Marija Bojovic, April 28, 2013

**"Flat Lot Competition Winners Get Ready to Come to Flint from London and Madrid"**

*MLive*, Scott Atkinson, April 4, 2013

**"Floating House Wins Flat Lot Competition in Michigan"**

*Interior Design*, Jennifer Nalawicki, April 2, 2013

**"Two Islands' Floating House Wins Flat Lot Competition"**

*designboom.com*, Danny Hudson, March 24, 2013

**"Flint, Michigan Flat Lot Winners Announced, Floating House Arrives in June"** *The Architect's Newspaper*,

Chris Bentley, March 21, 2013

**"Flint Flat Lot Competition Has Its Inaugural Winner"** *Archinect.com*,

Alexander Walter, March 21, 2013

**"Crossover Outreach reopens for client services, donations in new facility"**

*MLive*, Jake May, April 6, 2024

Communities First receives grant money to renovate two Flint buildings

By Kevin Craft, Jan 2, 2024



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*I share equity-centered practice through numerous speaking engagements, from local classrooms and community forums to national conferences and AIA platforms. These talks inspire students and emerging architects while equipping peers with tools shaped in practice—vacant lot guidelines, housing frameworks, AI-assisted design methods—that originated in Flint and now ripple outward. Whether mentoring the next generation or presenting at EDRA, AIA, or ACADIA, I use speaking as a way to translate local lessons into national impact and shared models.*



## National Speaking Engagements

**“Launch, Build, and Thrive: Starting Your Own Firm”**, AIA25 AIA National Conference, Panelist, June 5, 2025

**“AIA Trust: Starting and Operating Your Own Firm”**, AIA25 AIA National Conference, Panelist, June 4, 2025

**“In Conversation with Evelyn Lee, FAIA”**  
*Design x Technology Lawrence Technological University*, Interviewer, February 11, 2025

**“Design Challenges for Net Zero Building Principles”** *Net Zero Build Summit*, Panelist  
September 28, 2020

**“The Art of Execution”**  
*Texas Society of Architects Annual Convention*,  
October 24, 2019

**“Incremental Design for Flint Housing”**  
*Incremental Development Alliance*, Design Advisor,  
November 13, 2018

**“Public Interest Design: Brennan Park Masterplan”**, *ARCC Structures for Inclusion Conference*, April 12, 2015

**“Net Zero Community Design”**  
*ARCC Spring Research Conference*,  
April 10, 2011

## Regional Speaking Engagements

**“New Housing Opportunities in Flint”**  
*Building Michigan Communities Conference*,  
May 15, 2025

**“AI Assisted Design Practice”**  
*Archifusion*, AIA Michigan Regional Conference,  
November 7, 2024

**“GEN AI: Using Vitras AI for Energy Modeling”**  
*Lawrence Technological University Symposium*,  
September 16, 2024

**“Using Prefab to Optimize Schedule and Build Accurately”**, *Building Michigan Communities Conference*, May 14, 2024

**“AIA Flint in Experience”**  
*Regional Leadership Conference*, AIA Michigan,  
October 10, 2019

**“Pop-Up Retail in Emerging Markets”**  
*Michigan Regional Economic Development Authority*, UM-Flint EDA Center, October 4, 2019

**“Pop-Up Retail Cookbook”**  
*Michigan Regional Economic Development Authority*, UM-Flint EDA Center, October 30, 2018

**“Community Design Charrette”**  
*Detroit Design Festival*, Design Core Detroit,  
September 18, 2018



Kurt Neiswender, AIA



## Regional Speaking Engagements

### “The Power of People and Place”

*Michigan Regional Economic Development Authority, UM-Flint EDA Center, October 24, 2017*

### “New Vision: Mott Park Recreation Area”

*Regional Planning Conference, Michigan Association of Planning, February 12, 2016*

**“Strengthening Community Through Urban Design”,** *Regional Planning Conference, Michigan Association of Planning, February 14, 2015*

### “Emerging Professionals in Architecture”

*Regional Leadership Conference, AIA Michigan, January 10, 2014*

### “Building Systems Integration”

*ARE Prep Seminar, AIA Michigan, June 19, 2013*



## Local Speaking Engagements

### “LTU Integrated Design Studio Report”

*International Center of Greater Flint, January 21, 2025*

### “Historic Lansing Architects”

*Community Forum, St. David’s Episcopal Church, November 17, 2024*

### “Running Your Own Practice”

*Fireside Chats, AIA Detroit Emerging Professionals, November 9, 2024*

### “The Journey to Becoming an Architect”

*Career Fair, Richfield Academy, November 11, 2019*

### “The Pathway to Becoming an Architect”

*Career Fair, Powers Catholic High School, October 19, 2019*



Kurt Neiswender, AIA

### “Computational Design in Architecture”

*Tech Meetup, Factory Two Flint, September 9, 2019*

### “Principles of Passive House Design”

*Science on Tap, UM-Flint, November 8, 2018*

### “Principles of Net Zero Energy Buildings”

*Guest Lecture, UM-Flint, Randall Repic, PhD., October 16, 2018*

### “The Case for Incremental Housing in Flint”

*Flint SOUP, Community Forum, May 10, 2016*

### “The Pathway to Becoming an Architect”

*Career Fair, Davison High School, April 27, 2016*

### “The Pathway to Becoming an Architect”

*Career Fair, Davison Middle School, January 22, 2016*

### “Urban Design, Resilience, and Legacy Cities”

*Guest Lecture, UM-Flint, Victoria Morckel, PhD., November 3, 2015*

### “The Business Model of L.3.C.”

*Arts, Tech, Biz MashUp, UM-Flint, July 31, 2015*

### “What is an EP?”

*Young Architects Forum, SmithGroup, June 2, 2015*

### “Flint Flat Lot Competition”

*Downtown Flint Optimists, May 6, 2013*

### “The Future of the Profession”

*Panel Discussion with Mickey Jacob, FAIA, AIA Michigan, April 9, 2013*