SUMMER 2021 PROGRAM STAFF

Design Educators

Hadley Beacham, Design Educator
Hadley is an artist and educator who is passionate about arts education for kids. She was previously a full-time staff member in the Center for Architecture’s K-12 Education Department for three years, leading and coordinating After-School, Family, Vacation, and Summer Programs, before moving to the west coast. She has also taught at Friends of the High Line, The Intrepid Museum, and now runs her own business teaching art and photography to young people.

Jessica Castillo, Design Educator
Jessica has been a freelance Design Educator at the Center for Architecture since 2013. She previously worked as a Senior Explainer at the New York Hall of Science for 8 years, where she managed educational experiences for exhibition visitors. Jessica received her Master’s Degree in Historic Preservation from Pratt Institute, where she wrote her thesis on the relationship between historic house museums and their local communities. She earned her Bachelor of Technology in Architectural Technology from the New York City College of Technology, CUNY.

Jane Cowan, Design Educator
Jane has been a freelance design educator with the Center for Architecture since 2000. She has created, implemented, and taught original architectural and New York history curricula for 300+ school-based residencies in tri-state area classrooms for grades K-12. In addition to her work at the Center, she has developed and taught education programs at Village Preservation, Young Audiences NY, Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts, and the Weeksville Heritage Center. She has a B.A. in The Growth and Structure of Cities, an M.S. in Historic Preservation from Columbia University, and an MS Ed in School Counseling from Brooklyn College. As she is a licensed school counselor in New York State, during the school year, Jane works as a school counselor in an independent school.

Breanna Katsman, Design Educator
Breanna has been teaching with the Center for Architecture since 2015, when she started as a Summer Programs volunteer. She has blossomed into an environmentally motivated design educator working within the Center’s Learning by Design:NY, After-School, Vacation, and Summer Programs. Breanna attended Pratt where she studied architecture and interior design and spent some time working in production design for TV and comedy shows. In her free time, she enjoys nature, sketching, and is active in the city's greenmarket system.

Eli King, Design Educator
Eli has been a freelance Design Educator with the Center for Architecture since 2011, leading freehand drawing classes for teens and adults in our summer and school year programs. Eli has a Master of Architecture from Columbia University, and worked extensively in construction and in several architectural firms including I.M. Pei prior to opening his own practice King-Posel Architects. He has taught at the New York Institute of Technology, City College, and FIT and is currently an architecture professor at Blair Academy in New Jersey.

Emily Long, Design Educator
Emily Long is a visual artist and art educator based in New York City. She graduated from the Fashion Institute of Technology with an Associate in Fine Arts and a Bachelor of Science in Art History and Museum Professions. Following graduation, Emily followed her passion for art education. She was originally a part-time staff member at the Center of Architecture and transitioned to the education team in the summer 2019. Working as an art educator is her way of helping ensure a creative future for the next generation.
Lee McMahon, Design Educator
Lee is an architectural designer and educator who teaches digital design programs with the Center for Architecture. He has also taught architectural drawing at The New School, animation with Magic Box Productions, and visual art/animation with the 92Y. Lee received his Master of Architecture degree from Wentworth Institute of Technology in 2009. Lee has designed at various scales working with Ryall Porter Sheridan Architects on Passive House building projects and rebuilds for homes destroyed during Hurricane Sandy through the NYC Build it back program with Cycle Architecture + Planning. He currently manages his own design practice in Connecticut.

Howard Stern, Design Educator
Howard has been a freelance Design Educator with the Center for Architecture since 1997, helping to develop the program’s hands-on, inquiry-based approach to design education. He currently teaches in our Learning By Design:NY, Summer, Vacation, and After-School programs, specializing in digital design programs for middle and high school students, as well as design-build projects where students develop and implement improvements to their school environment. He previously taught architecture classes for youth at the Abrons Arts Center and the Queens Museum of Art. Howard is a licensed architect with over 18 years of experience as a practicing architect with a focus on affordable housing and institutional buildings. He has a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the New York Institute of Technology.

Kimberly Tate, Design Educator
Kimberly is a multi-disciplinary artist, designer and educator based in Brooklyn, who joined the Center for Architecture in 2017. In addition to teaching with the Center for Architecture, she is also a Part-time Assistant Professor at Parsons the New School for Design. In practice, she has been a project manager and designer at CDR Studio Architects, Formactiv Architecture Design and Technology, and Arch Productions & Design, working on retail, residential, public interest and custom design fabrication projects at various scales and phases from schematic design to construction/installation. As part of the Empowerhouse Collaborative, she developed, built and exhibited a solar-powered home built to Passive House standards for the 2011 Solar Decathlon, which placed first in Affordability. Kimberly earned her Master’s in Architecture from Parsons School of Design and BA Cum Laude from the University of Missouri - Columbia.

Summer Assistants

Aerin Chavez, In-Person Summer Programs Assistant
Aerin is currently a third-year student at The Cooper Union studying architecture. She has worked with youth as a volunteer math, reading and writing tutor at GO Project, as an arts assistant in after-school classes at P.S.116, and at Family Day programs at the Center for Architecture. This summer, she will be assisting the Center for Architecture’s in-person programs for grades 3-5.

Leanna Humphrey, Online Summer Programs Assistant
Leanna is a licensed architect joining the Center for Architecture after years of practice in Chicago. She is currently pursuing a post-professional degree in advanced architectural design at Cornell University with a focus on digital technologies in the design process. She has been a teaching assistant or mentor for various architectural drawing, design, construction, and studio courses since 2016 and enjoys working with students to develop their confidence and sense of agency in the urban environment.

Kelsey Jackson, In-Person Summer Programs Assistant
Kelsey is an educator and designer that advocates for diversity and spatial justice in architecture and design. Kelsey received her B.A. in Interior Design and has nearly a decade of experience mentoring and teaching students of all ages both in the U.S. and in Spain. In 2020, Kelsey co-founded a creative placekeeping organization that integrates the arts, design, and education to promote cultural preservation in Newark, NJ. Kelsey will begin her Master of Architecture studies at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation in fall 2021.

Evee Sarkissian, Online Summer Programs Assistant
Evee is currently going into her fourth year at the Pennsylvania State University, majoring in Landscape Architecture. Evee has been a Teaching Assistant for PSU’s landscape contracting program, as well as a youth programs instructor for their summer programs for elementary students. Evee has a strong background in art and design and loves being able to incorporate these into her work in architecture and the environment.
Education Staff

Tim Hayduk, Lead Design Educator
Tim teaches in all of the Center for Architecture’s K-12 programs, with special expertise in high school programs and those focusing on NYC’s history. He works with the Center’s tour program for adult audiences and conducts walking tours. Tim studied architecture at Pratt Institute and began teaching at the Center for Architecture in 2003. His devotion to modern architecture informs his interest in traveling, architectural publications, and photography. He dedicates spare time to organizations preserving modernism.

Nadya Kim, School Programs Coordinator
Nadya coordinates and teaches the Center’s K-12 Student Day school programs; she also assists with the administration and teaching of the Center’s other youth and family programs when school is not in session. She earned her BA in Visual Arts and History of Art and Architecture from Brown University. Before joining the Center for Architecture, she was an assistant educator at Cooper Hewitt’s Design Prep Summer Intensive for high school students and an Education Fellow at the Brooklyn Museum. Her experience teaching art and design to youth in a variety of learning settings supports her passion for arts education and commitment to nurturing students’ understanding and appreciation for the built environment.

Mary Lib Schmidt, Youth Programs Manager
Mary Lib oversees the Center for Architecture’s Youth Programs including Family Days, After School, Vacation Programs, and Summer Programs. She received her BA from the University of Virginia and her MA in Art History from Columbia University. She joined the CFA K-12 Education Team in 2017 and previously worked in the Education Departments of the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Jewish Museum.

Catherine Teegarden, Director of Education
Catherine manages the Center for Architecture’s K-12 education programs, which include school, family, and youth workshops. She has a Master of Architecture degree from Columbia University and is a licensed elementary school teacher. Catherine helped establish the Center’s K-12 education programs in 1990 as a founding member of the Learning By Design:NY program. She served as the LBD:NY program’s first director from 1996-2001, returning to the Center’s Education Department in 2009 after taking time off to be with her children.