



[De-]Segregation by Design in Divided Cities

**Alchemy of [Un-]Dividing Divided Communities:
Art, Culture + Design as Reconciliation and Equity Building:
A 2025 Vision for East St. Louis / St Louis
Commemoration Sites of the 1917 Race Riot (Pogrom)
And other [De-]Segregation by Design Projects**

Exciting line-up of speakers: Poet Laureate of East St. Louis, Artists, Architects, Planners, Historians, Scholars, Students, Screen Play Writers and Documentary Filmmakers who have been working locally, nationally and internationally for social change and innovation will present, and share a kaleidoscope of initiatives and projects that have been in the works for the last 2.5+ years to the general public for discussion.

APRIL 29th, 2018 | 11:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm | CEL@Kranzberg Art Foundation 'Zack' 3224 Locust St., St. Louis Mo. 63103

www.creativeexchangelab.com/divided-cities/

The projects that will be presented were awarded:

National Endowment for the Arts: Reconciliation through Art, Culture + Design - A 2025 Vision for East St. Louis/ St. Louis for an Art and Cultural District,
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation: 'The Divided City', An Urban Humanities Initiative at Washington University in St. Louis
Project: ([De-]Segregation by Design Projects)

Special Thanks go to Nancy and Ken Kranzberg for sponsoring this public event at the **Kranzberg Arts Foundation 'Zack'**.

Katherine Dunham Museum, House of Miles [Davis] East St. Louis, The East St. Louis 1917 Centennial Commission and Cultural Initiative (CCCI), Jackie Joyner Kersee, City of East St. Louis, *I am East St. Louis the Magazine*, ESLACC

(East St. Louis Art and Culture Coalition), SIUE, Harris Stowe University, and Washington University, and St Louis University.

For Inquiries Please Contact CEL Center for Architecture + Design
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DAY's SCHEDULE and Bio's

29.April 2018

11:00 am to 12:30pm

Opening remarks of Poet Laureate of East St. Louis 'Eugene Redmond', will be followed by 'Lorenzo Savage' an architectural Designer and one of East ST. Louis City Planning Commissioners. Both Eugene and Lorenzo are commissioners of The **East St. Louis** 1917 Centennial Commission and Cultural Initiative (CCCI). They will share the history of the CCCI initiatives; it's mission and goals. Lorenzo who designed the Markers of some 20 plus 'Commemoration Sites' will share the history of these 'Sacred Sites' in East St. Louis that were designated after year long research by SIUE's Professor Andrew Theising PhD. (www.CreativeExchangeLab.com/ESTL/sacredsites)

1:00 to 2:30 pm

A proposal - A 2025 Divided Cities Vision (a strategic framework): to Celebrate 'House of Miles [Davis]', 'Katherine Dunham Museum', 'Jackie Joyner-Kersey', the Cahokia Mounds (to mention a few legends and historic sites) as a visitor's destination in an 'ESTL Art and Cultural District', and as an Art & Cultural asset to St. Louis and the Region.

The two-year effort started in 2015 thanks to a National Endowment for The Arts award to CEL (Creative Exchange Lab) and its partner organizations.

A project proposal by CEL and its' Arts and Cultural Anchor Institutions Partners in East St. Louis and it's community.

Presenters: Jasmin Aber (CEL) and partners Levene Backstrom President of Katherine Dunham Museum, Lauren Parks Executive Director of House of Miles [Davis] East St Louis, Rosalind Williams, Mark Abbott PhD., Lorenzo Savage (East St. Louis Council Member and Architectural Designer), Po-Jung Chen, Jung-Ah Young

2:45 – 4:00 pm

Washington University and HSSU Students with their associate professor Catalina Frexias and HSSU professor Mark Abbot PhD. will present various 'Divide Cities' student studio projects they have been working on for the past two years in various parts of the region, in mostly African American under-served neighborhoods and communities. Also, both associate professor Catalina Frexia and HSSU professor Dr. Mark Abbot are editors of a shortly to

be released book titled 'Segregation by which is a book of interviews and essay by Scholars, historians and practitioners on the topic of 'Segregation by Design in Divided Cities'.

4:00 to 5:00 pm

Award winning Documentary filmmaker Sandra Pfeifer:
East ST. Louis: "Where History, Courage, and Community Meet" Media and guided Discussion

5:15 to 7:00 pm

HSSU Performing Arts Professor Greg Carr's play; 'Tinderbox'

The play was first time presented at last summer's 1917 Race Riot / Pogrom conference at SIUE and received a standing ovation.

PRESENTER'S BIO'S

Keynote speaker: Eugene B. Redmond – Poet Laureate of East St. Louis

Emeritus Professor of English, Founding Editor of Drumvoices Revue, and former Chairman of Creative Writing Committee at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. Eugene Redmond was names Poet Laureate of East St. Louis (Illinois) in 1976, the year Doubleday Publishing Co. releases his best selling book

Drumvoices: The mission of Afro-American Poetry. Earlier, he spent two years (1967-69) as Teacher-Counselor and Poet-in-Residence at Southern Illinois University's Experiment in Higher Education (ESL) where he taught with Katherine Dunham. (In 2006 he coordinated the International Memorial Celebration for Miss Dunham.) From 1970-85, he was Professor of English and Poet-in-Residence at California State University-Sacramento. During that time he won an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship, an Outstanding Faculty Research Award, a Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses, and served as a visiting professor at universities in the U.S., Africa, and Europe. In 1986, a year after he returned home to East St. Louis, local authors created the Eugene B. Redmond Writers Club in his honor.

Author/editor of 25 volumes of poetry, collections of diverse writings, plays for stage and TV, and posthumously published works of Henry Dumas, Redmond read a poem at Maya Angelou's 70th birthday gala (1998) hosted by Oprah Winfrey. (In April of 2008, his photo exhibit, "Eighty Moods of Maya," was featured at Angelou's 80th birthday party in Palm Beach, Florida.) The year 2008 also capped a long line of awards and accolades

when he received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from SIUE. Additionally, Redmond has won an American Book Award (for The Eye in the Ceiling), the Sterling Brown Award from ALA's African American Literature and Culture Association, a Staying the Course Award from ETA of Chicago and a the St. Louis American Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award

Lauren A. Parks, Executive Director House of Miles [Davis] East ST. Louis

Lauren A. Parks is President of House of Miles East St. Louis, a 501c3 which has been on a mission to renovate the East St. Louis childhood home of musician extraordinaire Miles Davis, which also provides educational enrichment programs and opportunities.

Her background in education assists in organizational skills, daily operations, event planning, program development and implementation. She has co-organized "Make a Difference Day", (as well as numerous other events/programs) in the East St. Louis/ Metro-East area which involved over 400 volunteers and which made a positive impact in the East St. Louis/ Metro- East Community.

After receiving her Bachelor of Science degree from Fisk University and her Master of Science degree (+30) from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, she has had over 20 successful years in education in East St. Louis, Edwardsville, Madison Illinois and Honolulu, Hawai'i. She has received many awards and recognitions for her educational and community involvement accomplishments.

Emeritus Professor of History Mark Abbott PhD. Harris Stowe University (HSSU)

Mark Abbott is a historian and urban planner. He is an emeritus professor of history and the former director of the Center for Neighborhood Affairs at Harris-Stowe State University. He has written several publications on various St. Louis topics and has a forthcoming book on residential segregation in St. Louis entitled ***Segregation by Design*** that he is co-authoring with Catalina Freixas at Washington University.

Jasmin Aber RA. RIBA i&ii, PhD. Candidate Urban Design, Executive Director CEL Center for Architecture + Design

Aber is a UK educated, Germany licensed architect (since 1998 Architektenkammer Hessen), academic researcher and educator (SEED Certified - Social, Economic, Environment Design). She is the president co-founder of CEL (Creative Exchange Lab) Center for Architecture + Design Stl,

(501c3). Aber leads and oversees CEL's Studio-Lab that provides architecture, planning design technical services to –amongst others -- under-served under-invested neighborhoods and organizations in collaboration with other professionals and professional design firms. She is a PhD candidate in urban and environmental planning.

Her interest in the wider socio-political aspects of impact of design on sustainability, equity, inclusion and [social]innovation have led her to build a unique set of skills as a recognized award winning practitioner (National Endowments for the Arts) and as an new media 'place-making expert, with published papers and books focusing on Art, Culture and Design not only as catalyst for sustainable development but more importantly, in promoting quality of life, equity and inclusion in divided racially informally segregated post-industrial cities.

Aber has worked 20+ years as an architect/urbanist with major multinational architecture planning design firms in London (UK), Frankfurt (Germany), San Francisco, Berkeley (California/USA) and St. Louis (Missouri/USA), as well as non-profit organizations. Jasmin's work moves continually along the spectrum between theory, policy and practice. She has been a regular lecturer and invited graduate studio critic, and speaker, at, Federal Reserve Bank, at UC Berkeley California, Washington University St. Louis, curated architecture and Design Exhibition shows at Cambridge University UK and St. Louis Mo., to mention a few with a TEDx talk on 'Architecture of Creative Collisions, and [Social] Innovation.

Leverne Eilene Backstrom, Executive Director of Katherine Dunham Museum:

Ms. Backstrom is a retired Language Arts Teacher and devotes much of her time to The Trinity United Methodist Church (formerly Wesley-Bethel United Methodist Church) where she has been a member since 1960 and where she serves in many capacities: The Chairman of The Worship Committee and The Staff Parish/Pastor Relations Committee; a member of the Voices of Trinity Choir and The Finance Committee and is The Communications Coordinator for The United Methodist Women and a Worship Leader. She is a Certified Lay Servant and is asked to bring the sermon for the pastor from time to time.

She is President of The Mississippi River District United Methodist Women's Organization, The East Saint Louis Planning Commission, The Olivette Park Neighborhood Association and The Katherine Dunham Centers for Arts and Humanities Board of Directors; The Newsletter Editor for The Scooba Reunion, Incorporated and a member of The Denverside Development Board of Directors, Top Ladies of Distinction, The Lighthouse Community Development Corporation, The Westbrook-Green Concert Choir and The 100th

Anniversary Commemorative Committee of the 1917 East Saint Louis Race Riot. She is a Life Member of Black Methodists for Church Renewal – Chicago Chapter and a Silver Subscribing Life Member of The NAACP and is employed part-time as an Administrative Executive for The Officer Funeral Home, P. C. in East Saint Louis. Leverne is a 1963 graduate of the former Lincoln Senior High School (graduating #5 in a class of 147 members) and received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Kansas Wesleyan University; Salina, Kansas in 1967.

Greg S. Carr, instructor, Play-writer and director of the play, 'Tinderbox'

Gregory S. Carr is an instructor of Speech and Theatre at Harris-Stowe State University. His essay "Top Brass: Theatricality, Themes, and Theology in James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombones* appears in *Theatre Symposium Volume 21: Ritual, Religion and Theatre*. Gregory's newest play is titled *Tinderbox*, which focuses on the events leading up and following the devastating East St. Louis Race Riots of 1917. Two of his latest essays, "Weathering the Winds of Change: The Sustainability of the St. Louis Black Repertory Company" and "A Brand New Day on Broadway: Remembering Geoffrey Holder's Culturally Relevant Costumes for *The Wiz* and the Messages of the African Diaspora" are scheduled to be published in the *Routledge Companion to African American Theatre* and *Theatre Symposium 26* respectively. He is also working on a novel titled *Murmuration*, which addresses the cruel treatment of enslaved African Americans and how the ghost of unatoned sins for American slavery continues to haunt America today.

Niesha Clark (Recently Graduated HSSU Student)

Ms. Clark graduated from HSSU recently graduated from Harris Stowe State University, with a degree in Urban Affairs and is now a Social Service Case Manager at the Salvation Army, where she provides case management services to financially stricken residents of East Saint Louis and other surrounding St. Clair County communities. I Currently, I am working towards entering the MSW degree program at Mizzou and serve on the social justice committee at St. Nicholas Catholic Church in St. Louis.

Maeve Elder – Master of Architecture

Maeve Elder is a recent graduate of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis where she received her Master of Architecture degree. Maeve was awarded a Provost Grant through the

Ferguson Seed Fund to serve as the primary research assistant for Catalina Freixas and Mark Abbott for the development of the Segregation by Design curriculum and served as Teaching Assistant for the Fall 2016 Segregation by Design seminar. She served as the design mentor for the student team working in the Dutchtown neighborhood during the Spring 2017 Segregation by Design seminar. Most recently Maeve has assisted Catalina and Mark as research assistant for their upcoming book *Segregation by Design: Conversations and Calls for Action in St. Louis*.

Associate Professor Catalina Freixas RA, LEED AP (BD+C), Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, Washington University St. Louis

Catalina Freixas has more than fifteen years of experience in teaching design studios and seminars, and has focused her research on sustainable design. Through her writings, she advocates a shift from conventional planning goals of economic and population growth to environmental sustainability and increased quality of life. Through her research, Freixas attempts to create a new set of metrics to evaluate shrinking cities through the lens of the “Three Pillars” of sustainability: Economic Development, Environmental Protection and Social Equity. Freixas is also a two-time recipient of The Divided City – A Mellon-Funded Urban

Humanities Initiative, which have allowed her to research issues of segregation in post-industrial cities, such as St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Detroit, through the lens of sustainability, inclusion and community resiliency. Freixas is the co-author of *Segregation by Design: Conversations and Calls for Action in St. Louis* (forthcoming) . She continues to devote herself to promoting sustainability via her research, teaching and practice.

In 2001 Aber was one of 7 visiting scholars at UC Berkeley California that spearheaded an International comparative research looking at causes, effects and mitigation strategies of urban decline in developed post-industrial countries around the world (Shrinking Cities International Research) under the wings of IURD (Institute of Urban and Regional development).

Her forthcoming contributing essay is titled: *Reconciliation through Art, Culture and Planning: Designing the Equitable, Inclusive, and Sustainable City for the Twenty-first Century* as part of ‘*Segregation by Design*’ book edited Catalina Freixas and Dr. Abbott PhD: *Conversations and Calls for Action in St. Louis* is expected in summer 2018. In a 2015 she contributed a chapter titled ‘*Emerging Regeneration strategies in US, Europe and Japan*’ in a new book entitled ‘*Shrinking Cities: International Perspectives and Policy Implications*’ (Routledge).

Tiabi Gill Haqq – HSSU Urban Affairs

Tiabi Gill Haqq is an HSSU Urban Affairs major and 2017 honors graduate. Tiabi is married and the mother of 4 small children. Tiabi is a passionate advocate for low income housing development and community farming. Tiabi recently received her 501C3 and is eager bring "Umi's House" to fruition. Umi's house is a low-income housing and resource center for young males and families that will service the St. Louis metropolitan area in the very near future.

Sandra Pfeifer – Filmmaker

Pfeifer is a social issue documentary filmmaker living in rural Southern Illinois.

Graduate of the Cinema and Photography Department at Southern Illinois University with a BA in film production, and is working on an MFA in the same field.

Pfeifer's films have centered on women, race and social justice issues. She has won multiple awards at film festivals across the country and her films have aired on regional PBS stations.

Pfeifer believes that in order to go forward as a people, we must know who we are and where we have been so that we can face the global community with our nationality intact. By honestly observing all that we are and have been we can enable ourselves to make a positive difference in the world around us.

Julia Phillips – Master of Architecture candidate

Julia is a St. Louis native, receiving her Master's of Architecture in the Fall from Washington University in St. Louis. She took Segregation by Design, led by Catalina Freixas and Mark Abbott, in the spring of 2016. With the help of Jasmin Albers as their mentor, Julia's group consisting of Harris-Stowe State University and Washington University in St. Louis students explored the neighborhood of Emerson Park in East St. Louis. Segregation by Design became a catalyst for the importance of socially-engaged design in St. Louis, and similar cities. Upon graduation, Julia plans to stay in St. Louis and complete her licensure for architecture, while working at a firm that prioritizes community-based design.

Lorenzo Savage on the board of the East St. Louis 1917 Centennial Commission (1917 CCCI)

Director of Swedish Company BIM branch in Saint Louis, Missouri, a resident and council member of East St. Louis 1917 CCCI. He holds a graduated degree in Architecture.

Rosalind F. Williams MUP, Urban Planner

is an urban planner with 40 years of experience creating healthy, sustainable, and equitable communities and the founding board president of WITH. She is a former Director of Planning and Development for the City of Ferguson, Missouri. She initiated Missouri's PACE legislation, created downtown form-based coding, and advocated for a Social Compact Drilldown in North St. Louis County. As planning director in Kirkwood, MO., Ms. Williams was responsible for the Meacham Park TIF Redevelopment Project, one of the first in the state to use the commercial portion of the project as the economic engine to redevelop a disinvested residential neighborhood. In Berkeley, Missouri she administered community development programs, including Urban Homesteading and acquisition/rehab/resell of HUD properties. She began her planning career in Ithaca, New York, where she helped create the first small-city Neighborhood Housing Services organization in the country.

Po-Jung Chen– Master of Architecture and Computer Science

Po-Jung is an observer and designer in architectural profession. He graduated from Washington university in Saint Louis in 2016. And currently He works as a Junior Architect in New York.