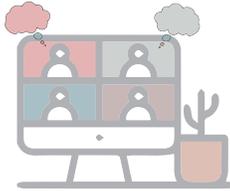




"The AIANY Civic Leadership Program (CLP) develops a class of emerging architectural professionals into civic leaders by refining the critical skills that design professionals need to better represent the people that they serve. We do this by increasing architects' connections to their communities [and] developing their advocacy capacities."

As we brainstormed the topic of our public event, the principles that guided our ideas stemmed from ways we can optimize positive effects on communities through our realm of work; architecture. We spoke to a myriad of people, from architects to designers to students to bring focus to what message / conversation we wanted to curate.



Over a dozen virtual meetings later our public event came to be formally titled; Actionable Pathways for Community-Focused Careers and we found some amazing and talented speakers to advocate for this base model through a spectrum of their personal approaches in their respective practices and work.

We created this guide to include the voices of those who were instrumental in our research. Their words and work helped guide us towards self reflection, realization and most of all shared with us ideas we can implement, all in the hopes of making community focused careers a viable option to all the civic leaders out there!



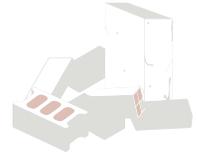
13.

Be intentional with who you collaborate with in the community you are serving. Tools for communication: engage with local creative initiatives and culture leaders as a creative process to engage everyone.



14.

Consider all aspects of design, specifically materials. Educate architects on healthy, safe, positively impactful materials by increasing transparency on extraction, creation and disposal of materials.



15.

There are many opportunities for young designers in the public, especially in NYC.

Agencies: Department of Design and Construction,  
Department of Parks  
Department of Transportation  
Department of City Planning

Some of these roles have a strong community engagement component.



2

7



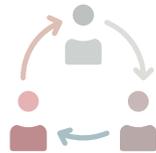
1.

When starting your firm, invite everyone within your network who inspires you out for coffee and let them know you are beginning your own practice.



2.

Seek out collaboration and expand boundaries of expertise:  
Communities,  
Interested Stakeholders,  
Experts  
Professionals



3.

Partner with a "local mayor" who can represent the group you are serving and can provide guidance on needs and priorities



4.

Seek mentorship and guidance in how to setup contracts and negotiate fees.



5.

Make ARE exams equitable.  
Make licensure equitable.  
How?  
-Reducing exam fees.  
-Having requirements about community or civic engagement related experience.  
-Provide financial support to those in smaller firms.



6.

Seek spaces for resources: Find support such as an incubator space to help provide business advice for emerging firms.



7.

Fabrication & Research: Establishing different branches within firms allows for cross pollination of information and funding streams.



8.

Self-start projects to address urban issues that may be overlooked.  
For funding, seek grants and submit for awards to raise awareness.



4

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