

# Graham Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Graham Foundation Announces 2021 Grants to Organizations

*\$471,500 awarded to organizations producing projects that encourage new conversations and explorations across architecture and design*

*Chicago, August 23, 2021*—Through its second major grant announcement this year, the Graham Foundation is pleased to announce the award of \$471,500 to organizations around the world. The 45 projects include exhibitions, publications, digital initiatives, and other public presentations led by organizations based in cities such as Atlanta, London, Los Angeles, Mexico City, New Orleans, and Chicago, where the Graham Foundation is based. Together, these organizations support the work of eminent and emerging architects, artists, designers, critics, curators, scholars, and others, to explore new possibilities for the field and engage practitioners and publics worldwide.

The wide-ranging projects include an exhibition focused on the United States–Mexico border, *A Country is not a House | Ronald Rael + Virginia San Fratello* at the **Arizona State University Art Museum**, and the first solo exhibition of DAAR (Decolonizing Architecture Art Research) in the United Kingdom at **The Mosaic Rooms**. Publications include *The Black Schoolhouse Manual*, a contemporary adaption of Tuskegee Institute’s 1915 *Negro Rural School* manual by **The Black School**, and architect trained artist Dara Birnbaum’s *Note(s): Work(ing) Process(es) Re: Concerns (That Take On / Deal With)*, published by **Primary Information**. Other projects include **LIGA–Space for Architecture**’s new online initiative that makes visible, activates, and promotes architectural archives in Mexico and Latin America; and two new fellowship programs that work to make opportunities for a broader constituency of architecture writers and critics by the **Association for Collegiate Schools of Architecture**’s JAE Fellowship program and **Urban Design Forum and the Architectural League of New York**’s two-year New City Critics program.

Of the funded projects are exhibitions opening this fall, including *Stephen Burks: Shelter in Place* at the **High Museum of Art**, Atlanta; and *Heather Hart: Afrostructure (Re)Collection* at the **University at Buffalo Art Galleries**, NY; as well as the recently opened *New Middles: 2021 Exhibit Columbus* in Columbus, IN; and *American Framing: US Pavilion, 17th International Architecture Exhibition* which opened earlier this summer in Venice, Italy.

The new grantees join a global network of individuals and organizations that the Graham Foundation has supported over the past 65 years. In that time, the Foundation has awarded more than 41 million dollars in direct support to over 4,800 projects by individuals and organizations.

The complete list of the 2021 organizational grantees follows and descriptions of the awarded projects begin on page 3. To learn more about the new grants, click on any grantee name below to visit their online project pages, or go to [grahamfoundation.org/grantees](http://grahamfoundation.org/grantees).

## LIST OF 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL GRANTEES (45 awards)

## EXHIBITIONS (16)

Arizona State University Art Museum  
 Center for Architecture  
 The Cooper Union for the Advancement of  
 Science and Art—Irwin S. Chanin  
 School of Architecture  
 The Drawing Center  
 Elmhurst Art Museum  
 High Museum of Art  
 Institute of Contemporary Arts  
 Landmark Columbus Foundation  
 LAXART  
 The Mosaic Rooms  
 The Museum of Modern Art  
 National Organization of Minority Architects  
 Projector  
 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
 The University at Buffalo Art Galleries  
 University of Illinois at Chicago—College of  
 Architecture, Design, and the Arts

## FILM, VIDEO, AND NEW MEDIA (2)

Design Trust Chicago  
 LIGA—Space for Architecture

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS (5)

Arizona State University—Indigenous Design  
 Collaborative  
 Association of Architecture Organizations  
 Harvard University—Graduate School of  
 Design—African American Student  
 Union  
 MAK Center for Art and Architecture, Los  
 Angeles, at the Schindler House  
 Materials & Applications

## PUBLICATIONS (16)

Anyone Corporation  
 Architectural League of New York  
 Association of Collegiate Schools of  
 Architecture  
 The Black School  
 e-flux Architecture  
 Goldsmiths, University of London—  
 Centre for Research Architecture  
 Lampo  
 MAS Context  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology—  
 School of Architecture and Planning  
 New York Review of Architecture  
 Northwest Architectural League  
 Places Journal  
 Primary Information  
 Terreform  
 Urban Design Forum and the Architectural  
 League of New York  
 Yale University Press

## STUDENT-LED PUBLICATIONS (6)

Rice University—School of Architecture  
 The School of Architecture  
 Texas Tech University—College of  
 Architecture  
 University of California, Los Angeles—  
 Department of Architecture and  
 Urban Design  
 University of Illinois at Chicago—College of  
 Architecture, Design, and the Arts  
 University of Oklahoma—Gibbs College of  
 Architecture

## DESCRIPTIONS OF AWARDED PROJECTS—2021 GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS

## EXHIBITIONS (16 awards)

**Arizona State University Art Museum**

Tempe, AZ

*A Country is not a House | Ronald Rael + Virginia San Fratello*

This exhibition features design proposals by the architecture firm of Rael San Fratello that represent and amplify the consequences of the United States–Mexico border wall and offer new, imagined structures.

**Center for Architecture**

New York, NY

*Reset: Towards a New Commons*

An exhibition exploring architecture's role in envisioning new dynamics of living and community building with a focus on Universal Design and barrier-free environments.

**The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art—Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture**

New York, NY

*Vkhutemas: Laboratory of the Avant-Garde, 1920–1930*

Examining the radical educational model of Vkhutemas, a school active in Moscow in the 1920s, this exhibition aims to recast, after a century of obscurity, the formative pedagogical contributions of this Russian Bauhaus to modern art, design, and architecture.

**The Drawing Center**

New York, NY

*A New Grammar of Ornament*

This large-scale, historical, loan exhibition examines ornament, through the lens of drawing, as a form of communication: existing as information apart from that which it ornaments; escaping categories; and transgressing boundaries.

**Elmhurst Art Museum**

Elmhurst, IL

*Houses of Tomorrow*

In collaboration with artist Jan Tichy and scholar Robert Boyce, this exhibition explores the groundbreaking work of Keck & Keck, two architect brothers from Chicago—George Frederick Keck (1895–1980) and William Keck (1908–1995)—and follows how their innovative development of passive solar energy and other construction methods were early precursors to sustainable building practices.

**High Museum of Art**

Atlanta, GA

*Stephen Burks: Shelter in Place*

A survey of the last decade of the multi-faceted, craft-centered design practice of Stephen Burks at mid-career—including global craft projects, industrial design, and a speculative new work that investigates domesticity and invites radical participation.

**Institute of Contemporary Arts**

London, United Kingdom

*Christopher Kulendran Thomas: Another World*

This exhibition of work by the artist Christopher Kulendran Thomas in collaboration with Annika Kuhlmann and featuring Anankuperuntinaivarkal Inkaaleneraam tells the story of Manmahal, a female architect, and her role in the 1990s revolutionary struggle for Eelam—the homeland of the formerly self-governed Tamil people in Sri Lanka.

**Landmark Columbus Foundation**

Columbus, IN

*New Middles: From Main Street To Megalopolis, What Is The Future Of The Middle City?: 2021 Exhibition, Exhibit Columbus*

The third iteration of this biennial exhibition builds on the legacy of Columbus, Indiana as a laboratory for design as civic investment to explore the future of the center of the United States and the regions connected by the Mississippi watershed.

**LAXART**

Los Angeles, CA

*Nikita Gale*

A commission of Los Angeles-based sculptor Nikita Gale that connects the current gallery site with its former use as Radio Recorders studios by examining the Elvis Presley recording session of “Loving You”—done onsite in 1957— to investigate the somatic, sonic, and architectural relationships of live performance and recorded music, sound as a form of touch, and the commodification of culture.

**The Mosaic Rooms**

London, United Kingdom

*Stateless Heritage*

The first solo exhibition of Palestine-based DAAR (Decolonizing Architecture Art Residency) in the United Kingdom presents the latest chapter in the ongoing project *Refugee Heritage*, exploring research through a decolonial lens to reframe refugee history and discourse and western conceptions of heritage.

### **The Museum of Modern Art**

New York, NY

*Modern Architecture in South Asia: The Project of Decolonization (1947–1985)*

Highlighting the work of highly impactful—yet underrecognized—local architects as well as their interactions and exchanges with the global architecture community, this exhibition presents a long overdue historical account of architectural production in South Asia during the second half of the twentieth century in the post-independence period.

### **National Organization of Minority Architects**

Washington, DC

*SAY IT LOUD—The National Organization of Minority Architecture (NOMA) 50th Anniversary Exhibition*

Presented by the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, this exhibition honors 50 years of excellence and support of equity in architecture and design since the founding of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) in 1971 in Detroit.

### **Proyector**

Mexico City, Mexico

*Casa Manifiesto*

An exhibition that establishes a material dialogue based on the physical reconstruction and spatial confrontation of the two houses he built for himself by Mexican architect Juan O’Gorman (1905–1982).

### **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**

San Francisco, CA

*Nature X Humanity: Oxman Architects*

The exhibition presents visionary architecture by Neri Oxman, whose practice is guided by an understanding that the built environment can no longer fight against nature, and instead needs to embrace and nurture it by adapting a collaborative design technique with the environment.

### **The University at Buffalo Art Galleries**

Buffalo, NY

*Heather Hart: Afroecture (Re)Collection*

Looking at the balcony of the Lorraine Motel where Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee as a point of reference, Heather Hart’s new exhibition offers physical engagement with a space of reconstruction and reflections on a collective, ground-up building of history through architecture.

**University of Illinois at Chicago—College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts**

Chicago, IL

*American Framing: US Pavilion, 17th International Architecture Exhibition*

For the 17th International Architecture Exhibition of the Venice Biennale, *American Framing*, commissioned by architects Paul Andersen and Paul Preissner, transforms the 1930s Palladian-style US Pavilion and argues that a profound and powerful future for design can be conceived from the American tradition of the often-anonymous building technique of the wood framed house.

## FILM, VIDEO, AND NEW MEDIA PROJECTS (2 awards)

**Design Trust Chicago**

Chicago, IL

*Chicago Design Database Network*

A public web platform that creates resources for communities to advance their design and planning initiatives by mapping ideas, projects, people, plans, and organizations, to increase visibility to design efforts in all communities across the City of Chicago.

**LIGA—Space for Architecture**

Mexico City, Mexico

*LIGA—Archivos*

This online initiative makes visible, activates, and promotes architectural archives managed and safeguarded by families or small foundations in Mexico and Latin America.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS (5 awards)

**Arizona State University—Indigenous Design Collaborative**

Phoenix, AZ

*Indigenous ways of being, knowing, doing, and connecting in architecture, 2021–22 lecture series*

Bringing greater visibility to the values and principles of Indigenous design thinking and place keeping, this lecture series builds bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous designers.

**Association of Architecture Organizations**

Chicago, IL

*2021 Design Matters Conference*

This virtual two-day networking and professional development event for staff of nonprofit architecture organizations—and interested individuals—includes a keynote by Germane Barnes and explores conceptual and practical issues of public engagement related to architecture and design.

**Harvard University—Graduate School of Design—African American Student Union**

Cambridge, MA

*Black Matter: Celebrating Black Spatial Practices from the Magical to the Mundane, Black in Design Conference 2021*

The 2021 conference amplifies a dialogue on the power of design to connect histories, places, and people across the diaspora to build futures that honor diversity within the Black experience.

**MAK Center for Art and Architecture, Los Angeles, at the Schindler House**

Los Angeles, CA

*Schindler House 1922–2022: an anthology of existences*

A new research-based initiative and public program series by MAK Center for Art and Architecture that seeks to open the institution and its historic home to questions of legacy as they relate to power, authority, and value.

**Materials & Applications**

Los Angeles, CA

*A Program of Complete Disordering*

Through partnership with Indigenous curators, designers, and artists, this multifaceted program examines the impact of the recognition of the Indigenous right to unceded territory on the continually evolving practice for architectural institutions and individuals alike.

## PUBLICATIONS (16 awards)

**Anyone Corporation**

New York, NY

*Log 50, 53, 54, 55*

Thematic issue *Log 50, Model Behavior*, considers the socioeconomic and political models that drive architectural models and *Log 53–55* responds to the question *Perché l'Italia Oggi?* (*Why Italy Today?*) to explore twenty-first century architectural education and production.

**Architectural League of New York**

New York, NY

*Cleaning Up?*

A multimedia and interdisciplinary investigation of what it means to live in, build on, and design for a city of pervasive toxicity.

**Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture**

Washington, DC

*JAE Fellows*

A new online platform through the *Journal of Architectural Education (JAE)* that publishes writing and design work by Black, Indigenous, and other authors of color selected for a yearlong fellowship to address underrepresentation in disciplinary scholarship.

**The Black School**

New Orleans, LA

*The Black Schoolhouse Manual*

A contemporary adaption of Tuskegee Institute's 1915 *Negro Rural School* manual that provides a blueprint for community organizers around the country and beyond to construct low-cost, independent Black spaces in the context of historical precedents and in conversation with contemporary social architecture technologies.

**e-flux Architecture**

New York, NY

*Accumulation: The Art, Architecture, and Media of Climate Change*

Edited by Nick Axel, Daniel A. Barber, Nikolaus Hirsch, and Anton Vidokle, this book from University of Minnesota Press explores of the role of media in encountering the changing dynamics of climate and culture.

**Goldsmiths, University of London—Centre for Research Architecture**

London, United Kingdom

*Research Architecture: Provocations, Practices, and Propositions*

A new series dedicated to the innovative practice-based research that emerged from the Centre for Research Architecture (CRA), these publications present the unique modes of political engagement and spatial methodologies developed and respond to contemporary urgencies in the fields of conflicts, media, ecology, and human rights.

**Lampo**

Chicago, IL

*Lampo Folio*

A collection of commissioned, text-based scores from ten interdisciplinary artists engaged with sound and language that enable new methods for participation and collaboration, including intimate performances at home or synchronous performances by others.

**MAS Context**

Chicago, IL

*Radical Logic: On the Work of Ensemble Studio*

The first publication on the work of the award-winning architecture office Ensemble Studio led by Antón García-Abril and Débora Mesa between Madrid and Boston.

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology—School of Architecture and Planning**

Cambridge, MA

*Thresholds 50: Before After*

This milestone 50th issue of the journal directs attention toward the uncertainties of the current moment of overlapping crises by gathering essays and projects with historical and critical views of approaching ends, new beginnings, and, of course, thresholds.

**New York Review of Architecture**

New York, NY

*The New York Review of Architecture, 2021*

A monthly print publication serving the public as a timely perspective on the built environment.

**Northwest Architectural League**

Seattle, WA

*ARCADE, Issue 39.1: Refraction*

A collaboration between the design magazine *ARCADE* and the University of Washington architecture student zine *Cræft*, this fall 2021 issue offers new insights into the potential of cocreation in design.

**Places Journal**

San Francisco, CA

*Repair Manual*

This new series explores the profound sociotechnical transformation now poised to reshape the design disciplines—the paradigm shift from building the world to repairing the world.

**Primary Information**

New York, NY

Dara Birnbaum's *Note(s): Work(ing) Process(es) Re: Concerns (That Take On / Deal With)*

A collection of diagrams, photographs, sketches, and writings from architect-trained Dara Birnbaum's 1970s video and multimedia installation pieces, representing the significant but under-recognized influence of this body of work on conceptual, feminist, and video art, and the Pictures Generation.

**Terreform**

New York, NY

*South Side Stories*

This publication investigates wide-ranging and sustained activism of architects, artists, and designers seeking to introduce new paradigms for living and creating innovative, equitable, and sustainable urban spaces on the South Side of Chicago.

**Urban Design Forum and the Architectural League of New York**

New York, NY

*New City Critics*

This two-year fellowship program supports four critics, writers, and producers of color from underrepresented backgrounds to launch two editorial projects on issues of architecture, planning, and development in the physical city.

**Yale University Press**

New Haven, CT

*Gego: Weaving the Space In-Between. Art, Architecture, Design, and Craft at the Edge of Modernity*

Written by Monica Amor, this is the first monograph dedicated to Venezuelan modern artist Gego (1912–1994) and offers unprecedented insight into the social and political context of her life, as well as understanding of her innovative mode of sculpture that engaged contemporaries working across the diverse fields of art, architecture, and design.

## STUDENT-LED PUBLICATIONS (6 awards)

**Rice University—School of Architecture**

Houston, TX

*PLAT 11.0*

A platform that addresses and advances a compelling issue in architecture today by featuring design projects, historical and theoretical research, and interviews.

**The School of Architecture**

Arcosanti, AZ

*WASH Magazine*

An independent magazine and website run by graduate students of The School of Architecture founded by Frank Lloyd Wright as the Taliesin fellowship in 1932.

**Texas Tech University—College of Architecture**

Lubbock, TX

*CROP 09: Shed*

The ninth edition of this publication collects essays, interviews, and design work reflecting the college's architectural production and the diverse cultural geography of its two campuses—one on the Llano Estacado and on other on the United States and Mexico border.

**University of California, Los Angeles—Department of Architecture and Urban Design**

Los Angeles, CA

*POOL*, Issue No. 07

The annual print edition of the publication is driven by an interest in an expanding definition of architectural work that, in a culture of high-volume content exchange, considers curation as a primary form of cultural production.

**University of Illinois at Chicago—College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts**

Chicago, IL

*Fresh Meat 13: Isolated / Collective*

This issue collects explorations and reflections on the architectural opportunities of isolated collectives and the built spaces they occupy.

**University of Oklahoma—Gibbs College of Architecture**

Norman, OK

*Telesis*, Volume IV: *Habitation* and Volume V: *Adaptive Practice*

These imaginative volumes explore new ways of being—for the living and non-living—as well as the design processes needed to make such coproduced habitation possible.

## ABOUT THE GRAHAM FOUNDATION

Founded in 1956, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts fosters the development and exchange of diverse and challenging ideas about architecture and its role in the arts, culture and society. The Graham realizes this vision through making project-based grants to individuals and organizations, and by producing exhibitions, events and publications.

The Graham Foundation was created by a bequest from Ernest R. Graham (1866–1936), a prominent Chicago architect and protégé of Daniel Burnham.

## UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

2022 Grants to Individuals inquiry form deadline: September 15, 2021

2022 Carter Manny Award: November 15, 2021; application available: September 15

## MEDIA CONTACTS

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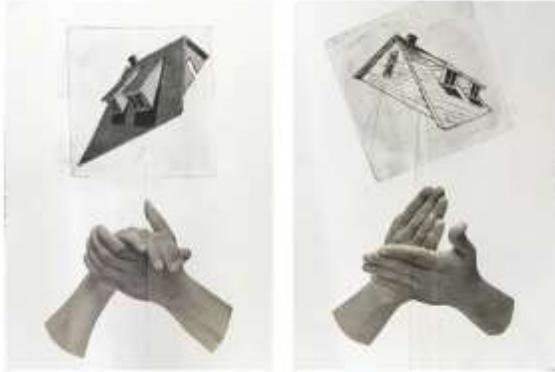
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In addition to the high-resolution images that are available on the press section of our website, please let us know if you are interested in any of the images from the grantee profile pages. To access our [website's press section](#) or to request any other images, email [abarrett@grahamfoundation.org](mailto:abarrett@grahamfoundation.org) for the login information.



Heather Hart, *Oracular Rooftops (Believe, Stop)*, 2014. Etching, aquatint, embossment, and chine collé on paper, 15 x 11 inches each. Courtesy the artist and Davidson Gallery. From the 2021 organizational grant to the University at Buffalo Art Galleries for *Heather Hart: Afroecture (Re)Collection*



Pavilion of the United States at the 17th International Exhibition of Architecture La Biennale di Venezia, 2021. Courtesy: American Framing. From the 2021 organizational grant to University of Illinois at Chicago—College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts for *American Framing: US Pavilion, 17th International Architecture Exhibition*



Nadezhda Kolpakova, "Color Solution for Architectural Volume," 1928. Student exercise for Color course taught by Gustav Klutssis at Vkhutemas, 1928–29. Courtesy Museum of the Moscow Architectural Institute, Moscow. From the 2021 organizational grant to The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art—Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture for *Vkhutemas: Laboratory of the Avant-Garde, 1920–1930*



Postcard rendering of the Keck & Keck House of Tomorrow, built 1933. Courtesy Indiana Landmarks and Collection of Steven R. Shook. From the 2021 organizational grant to Elmhurst Art Museum for *Houses of Tomorrow*



Daniel A. Barber, *Images of Accumulation: Art, Architecture, and the Media of Climate Change*, 2017. Digital image. From the 2021 organizational grant to e-flux Architecture for *Accumulation: The Art, Architecture, and the Media of Climate Change*



Ensamble Studio, *Structures of Landscape*, 2019. Tippet Rise Art Center, Montana. Photo: James Florio. From the 2021 organizational grant to MAS Context for *Radical Logic: On the Work of Ensamble Studio*