

MELISSA ALEXANDER

Architect, Urbanist, Spatial Analyst

EDUCATION

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Master of Architecture in Urban
Design with Distinction, 2013

*Student Forum Alumni Relations Co-
Chair, 2011 - 2013*

*Student Advisory Council MAUD Class
Representative, 2011 - 2013*

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, COLLEGE OF ARCH & DESIGN

Bachelor of Architecture, Minor in
Studio Art, Magna Cum Laude, 2005

*Tau Sigma Delta Architectural Honor
Fraternity President, 2003; Member
2003 - 2005*

BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE

Certificate in Design Education, 2015

INFO

LICENSES

Registered Architect, TN
LEED Green Associate

CONTACT

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BOARDS & VOLUNTEER WORK

City of Seattle Design Review Board,
East District Co-chair, 2018 - Current

TECHNICAL SKILLS

VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Adobe Creative Suite, AfterEffects

AEC

AutoCAD, Rhino, Grasshopper

ANALYTICS & COMMUNICATION

ArcMap, ArcGIS Pro, GeoPlanner,
Business Analyst, PowerBI (DAX & M),
MS Office Suite

WEB/CODING

Wix Corvid (Javascript based)

PROFILE

Melissa has a passion for turning data and analysis into insights for design and planning.

She builds on her years of practice as an Architect and Urban Designer towards the generation of creative and implementable master plan concepts, thoughtful stakeholder engagement, and rigorous data analysis. Melissa leads her teams towards design excellence in all visual representations and champions the use of web-based, interactive project deliverables. She practices at all scales of design and analytics, from higher education to civic to healthcare and more.

EXPERIENCE

NBBJ, SEATTLE

Architect, Urban Designer, Spatial Analyst, Project Manager, 2013 - Current
Senior Associate and Digital Team Leader

Important Projects

Bunker Hill CC Master Plan & Space Analytics, Charlestown Campus (Boston), 2014/2020
Spatial Analyst

UCDavis Ambulatory Care Center Programming, Sacramento Campus, 2019
Project Manager, Digital Team Leader

Wilburton Commercial Area Plan, Bellevue (Washington), 2016
Urban Designer, Digital Team Leader

Emerson Hospital Feasibility & Location Analysis, Concord (Massachusetts), 2015
Spatial Analyst

DESIGN TRUST FOR PUBLIC SPACE, NEW YORK CITY

Program Associate, 2012 - 2013

Important Publications

Making Midtown: A New Vision for a 21st Century Garment District in NYC
Five Borough Farm: Seeding the Future of Urban Agriculture in NYC

CIVIC DESIGN CENTER, NASHVILLE

Design Fellow, 2010 - 2012

Important Publications

Nashville/Davidson County Public Art: Location Study & Typology Recommendations

MADE, BROOKLYN

Designer, 2007 - 2009

Important Projects and Publications

Madison Square Park Apartment, Manhattan, New York, Residential, 2008 - 2009
"The Main Event" Elle Decor Magazine, June 2010

INFORM STUDIO, DETROIT

Designer, 2005 - 2007

Important Projects and Awards

Traverwood Branch Library, Ann Arbor, MI, Institutional, 2006 - 2008
AIA Michigan Award for Innovative Design, 2009

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RESEARCH

RIDING THE RAILS

A Platform for Speculation on American Urbanization in the Age of High Speed Rail

In most of America, trains are nostalgic: a sepia-toned tourism rather than an efficient means of conveyance. Despite this quaint vision of trains, modern high-speed rail has been embraced around globe. This transportation mode has dramatic—and idiosyncratic—implications for the built environment. Using travel as a lens of inquiry, Riding the Rails explores the physical implications of the railroad in the past, present and future at several scales of intervention and in a variety of cultural contexts. Drawing from first-hand train passage throughout Europe, Asia, and America, the resulting body of research establishes a platform from which to speculate on new models of American urbanization in the age of high-speed rail.

www.ridingtherails.org

AWARDS

NBBJ Merit Award for Innovation, 2017
ESRI Geodesign Conference Lightening Talk Award, 2016
NBBJ Artist of Change, 2014
Druker Traveling Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Design, 2013
Alpha Rho Chi Bronze Medal for Leadership, Service, and Merit, 2005
SOM Traveling Fellowship Nominee, 2005
Tau Sigma Delta Bronze Medal Finalist, 2005
Faculty Letter of Excellence for Thesis Project, 2005
University of Tennessee Bicentennial Scholar, 2000 - 2005

PUBLICATIONS

NBBX: <http://meanstheworld.co/author/malexander>

Put A Lid On It!: Freeway Lids Can Right the Wrongs of Urban Renewal — If We Keep these Five Principles in Mind. 2016
#Engagement Is More Than A Hashtag: What Planners Should Know about Using Technology for Public Engagement. 2016
What Can Pedagogy Teach Us About Practice? Why Design Studio is the Ideal Model for the Classrooms of Tomorrow. 2014

“[Re] Working: Brooklyn’s Urban/Industrial Waterfront”
Elements of Urban Design Studio Publication, November 2012

MAKING MIDTOWN: A New Vision for a 21st Century Garment District in NYC
with the Design Trust for Public Space, October 2012

FIVE BOROUGH FARM: Seeding The Future Of Urban Agriculture In NYC
with the Design Trust for Public Space, July 2012

“On The Right Track” Nashville Lifestyles, July 2011

“HOMEGROWN” Nashville Arts Magazine, July 2011

“Southern Comfort” Nashville Scene, July 2011

“The Southern Design Concern” Modern Atlanta, May 2011

“Rocking Forward” Wilson Living Magazine, March/April 2011

“Made in the South Awards” Garden & Gun Magazine, December 2010

Nashville/Davidson County Public Art: Location Study & Typology Recommendations
with the Nashville Civic Design Center, December 2010

“Heart and Holler” Murfreesboro Magazine, October 2010

“The Main Event” Elle Decor Magazine, June 2010

“A New Ornament” 306090, Volume 10: Decoration, September 2006

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Comprehensive Planning Studio II, Teaching Fellow to Prof. Alex Krieger, Spring 2015
Career Discovery Program Urban Design Studio, Instructor, Summer 2013
Designing the American City: Civic Aspirations and Urban Form, Teaching Fellow to Prof. Alex Krieger, Spring 2013
Rethinking Manhattan's Grid: Score for Designing the Future, Teaching Assistant to Prof. Joan Busquets, Spring 2012
Elements of Urban Design Studio, Teaching Assistant to Prof. Rob Lane, Fall 2012

BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE

Visual Communication, Online Instructor, 2018 - Current
Visual Thinking, Lead Faculty, 2014 - 2016
"MAKINGSPACE" Advanced Comprehensive Studio, Instructor, Spring 2013

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

A New Music Building for the University of Tennessee Undergraduate Architecture Studio, Adjunct Lecturer, Fall 2010
Digital Fabrication in Architecture, Teaching Assistant to Prof. Edgar Stach and Prof. Jeff Wilkinson, Spring 2005
Computer Applications in Architecture, Teaching Assistant to Prof. Charles Debelius, Fall 2003 & 2004

INVITED JURIES

BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE

Advanced Comprehensive Studio, Prof. Aviva Rubin, Fall 2012
Advanced Comprehensive Studio, Prof. Dan Weissman and Prof. Aviva Rubin, Spring 2012

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Second Year Architecture Studio, Prof. Marleen K. Davis, University of Tennessee, Spring 2011
Advanced Presentation Design, Prof. Diane Fox, University of Tennessee, Spring 2011
Hnedak Bobo Group Design Competition, University of Tennessee, Fall 2010
Second Year Architecture Studio, Prof. Christina Geros, University of Tennessee, Spring 2009

RECENT CONFERENCES

SOCIETY FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY PLANNING (SCUP)

2019 National Conference Presentation: Assessing Learning Environments

HEALTHCARE DESIGN (HCD)

2019 Conference Presentation: Picture This! How to Use Data Visualization to Simplify Decision-Making

ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ESRI)

2019 National Geodesign Conference Presentation: Challenges in Practice [Video: shorturl.at/bnOPT](https://shorturl.at/bnOPT)
2016 National Geodesign Conference Presentation: Geodesign in Community Colleges

AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (APA)

2016 National Conference Panel Discussion Moderator: Civic Engagement and Technology

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PROJECT EXPERIENCE

SPATIAL ANALYTICS

Bunker Hill Space Planning & Utilization Study
Boston, MA / Spatial Analyst

University of Puget Sound Space Planning & Utilization Study
Tacoma, WA / Spatial Analyst

HIGHER EDUCATION

Bunker Hill Community College, Master Plan Update
Boston, MA / Urban Planner / Programmer

Quinsigamond Community College, Master Plan Update
Boston, MA / Urban Planner / Programmer

HEALTHCARE

UC Davis Health System Research Master Plan
Sacramento, CA / Urban Designer

UC Davis Health System ACC Programming
Sacramento, CA / Project Manager

UC Davis Health Replacement Bed Tower Programming
Sacramento, CA / Location Analyst

Massachusetts General Hospital, Cambridge Street Project
Boston, MA / Urban Designer

UC Davis Health System Ambulatory Clinic Master Plan
Sacramento, CA / Architect / Computational Designer

Jefferson University and Hospitals Master Plan
Philadelphia, PA / Urban Designer / Data Analyst

PeaceHealth 20-Year Master Facilities Plan Various
WA, OR, AK / Planner

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, New Clinical Building Master Plan
Boston, MA / Urban Designer

Valley Medical Center Master Plan
Renton, WA / Planner

Grady Health System Center for Advanced Surgical Services
Atlanta, GA Architect / Computational Designer

Swedish Health System Space Analytics and Visualization
Seattle, WA / Computational Designer

Emerson Hospital, Urgent Care, Primary Care, LAB/X-Ray Feasibility and Location Analysis
Concord, MA / Urban Planner

CIVIC/URBAN

Wilburton Commercial Area Plan
Bellevue, WA / Urban Designer / Scenario Modeler

Port of Vancouver Waterfront Conceptual Development Plan (Phase II)
Vancouver, WA / Urban Designer

Portsmouth Master Plan
Portsmouth, MA / Urban Designer

Beijing Sha River Waterfront Conceptual Urban Design
Beijing, China / Urban Designer

Fuyang City Zhongsha Island Urban Design Competition
Fuyang, Anhui, China / Urban Designer

Nanjing Hexi Fish Mouth Park
Nanjing, Jiangsu, China / Urban Designer

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RESIDENTIAL

Flat Iron Loft

New York, NY / Project Manager

West 8th Street Roof Garden

New York, NY / Designer

Traverwood Library

Ann Arbor, MI / Designer

Prudential Source One Headquarters

Murrells Inlet, SC / Designer

Peninsula Esmeralda

Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic / Designer

Corner House Condominium

Northville, MI / Designer

Hudson House Condominium

Royal Oak, MI / Designer

Berridge Place Affordable Housing

Flint, MI / Designer

Uptown Flats Workforce Housing

Nashville, TN / Designer

Cummins Station Community Garden

Nashville, TN / Designer