

ICFAD Roundtable Proposal
ICFAD Annual Conference
Richmond, VA
October 7th, 2021

Title:

Renovating Brutalist Buildings for The Arts

Abstract: (250 words)

Many concrete buildings of the 60's and 70's built in the "Brutalist" style were created for academic arts uses. Many of those buildings are now nearing the end of the initial useful life requiring serious evaluation. Their inflexibility, acoustics, and poor lighting make them unpopular among students and faculty alike, but their inherent value in their structure and often-notable design authors make it impossible to demolish. Looking at a number of case studies of renovation of arts buildings of this era, we explore successful techniques for transforming them into 21st century assets for their campuses. The primary case study will be the recently renovated Fine Arts Center at UMass Amherst completed in 1974 by architect Kevin Roche. Additional examples from the arts wing of the Community College of Rhode Island, Northeastern University, and UMass Dartmouth will be included.



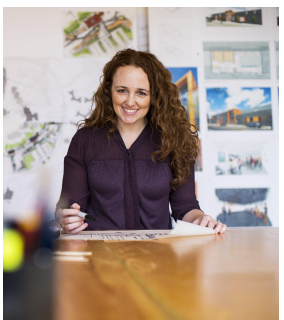
Presenters:



Joe Bartolomeo, Associate Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies: After earning his BA from Georgetown University and his MA and PhD from Harvard University, Joseph Bartolomeo joined the UMass Amherst Department of English in 1986. From 2007 to 2013, he served as chair of the department, and from 2013 to 2020, as Associate Dean for Operations and Planning in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. In his current post, Professor Bartolomeo is responsible for overseeing academic programs that are not located in a single college. These include the University Without Walls degree completion program in Interdisciplinary Studies, the Bachelor's Degree with Individual Concentration, and the Exploratory Pathways Program. Professor Bartolomeo was the primary faculty representative during the recently completed renovation of the UMass Fine Arts center "Bridge" renovation.



Sam Batchelor: Sam Batchelor AIA a partner at designLAB architects, and served as principal in charge for the renovation of the Fine Arts Center Renovation and the CCRI Knight Campus Arts Wing renovation. Sam works primarily with educational and non-profit institutions with a focus on sustainability, education, and the arts. Sam also founded and led the MassArt Community/Build Studio, and served as President of the Board of the Community Design Resource Center of Boston. He received his Masters of Architecture from The University of Washington, and his BA from Yale University.



Kelly Haigh: Kelly Haigh AIA IIDA is an educator, architect, and partner at designLAB architects in Boston, Massachusetts. She works primarily with academic institutions in the programming and design of arts education environments. She has also taught at numerous universities throughout New England and in her home state of Florida. Kelly is a national voice on the topic of Interior Architecture, having served as AIA Interior Architecture Knowledge Committee Chair for three years. Additionally, she has served as the Leadership Co-Chair of the Boston Society of Architects' Women-In-Design Committee. In 2018, Kelly was awarded an AIA Young Architects Award, a national award which honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the profession early in their careers. Kelly holds a Bachelors of Design, M. Arch, and Masters of Science in Architecture Pedagogy from the University of Florida