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# KC METRO CONNECTION



American Planning Association  
Missouri Chapter | Kansas Chapter  
Kansas City Metro Section

*Making Great Communities Happen*


A Publication of the Kansas City Metro Section of the Missouri Chapter and  
Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association

Volume 7, Issue 3 - March 2016

## March Event: 8th Annual Planning Celebration

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**APA** Kansas City APA Presents the...  
**8th Annual Planning Celebration**

Please join the Kansas City Section of the American Planning Association for its 8th Annual Event. It's an opportunity for planning & design professionals to gather, socialize and network with one another.

Free for APA Members, Sponsors, and Center for Architecture & Design Members. \$10 for Non-APA Members. Guests Welcome!

**WELCOME TO**



Muehlebach Suite,  
Boulevard Brewing Co.  
2501 Southwest Boulevard  
Wednesday, March 23rd  
5:00-9:00 pm

Drinks and catering provided

## 2016 Board Members

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## Kansas City Design Week 2016: Start Here.

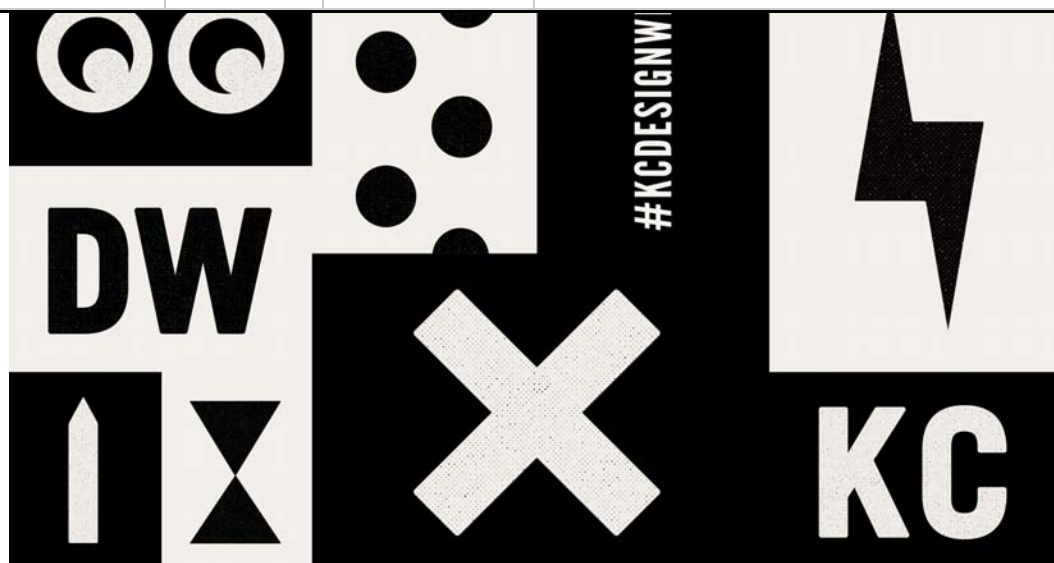
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We're a community constantly changing perceptions, sharing ideas, and coming together to make things beautiful and functional. Simply put, KC is a great place for creative businesses to get started. KCDW 2016 is all about planting your flag and being part of the design community shaping a unique KC creative culture.

Join us Apr. 7-16 to experience a week of exciting events that will inspire you to take the next step in your creative journey.

Learn more about KC Design Week and Register Today at [www.kcdesignweek.org](http://www.kcdesignweek.org)



## Member Highlight: Nicolette Wallis, UMKC Student

Nicolette is a junior at UMKC studying as a double major in the departments of Urban Planning + Design and Economics. In UMKC's urban design studio she uses her diverse background in planning, economics, and environmental studies to solve complex problems in a methodical, data-driven fashion. She specializes in the use of GIS and statistical analysis to make planning decisions. Recently she was involved in an environmental planning project lots in a high vacancy community east of Troost. She is looking forward to being involved in the later stages of this project in the future, including securing funding for implementation.



Currently, the UMKC junior design studio is conducting a semester-long urban design exercise in order to develop a series of design recommendations for the next UMKC campus master plan. Nicolette's work, as well as the work of her colleagues, can be viewed on a blog following the process at <http://info.umkc.edu/umkcspaces/>.

Nicolette is a GIS tech intern at Development Initiatives. She provides mapping services on projects related to infrastructure and looks forward to being involved in projects throughout the metro.

In her spare time, Nicolette is highly active in organizations on campus. She is particularly passionate about her work in UMKC's planning club, the Planning and Design Students

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Square, a group dedicated to improving the civility of political discourse by organizing community events where contentious national and local political topics are discussed in a civil and balanced format.

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## AICP Exam Fee Scholarship Available

Does that AICP exam and application fee sound like a lot? APA and AICP make one AICP Exam Fee Scholarship available to the Kansas Chapter each year. With the scholarship, the combined exam and application fee is only \$145 (combined \$70 application and \$75 exam fee) and previously approved AICP applicants receive the rate of \$75 (exam fee only). To apply for this scholarship, please send Professional Development Officer Bonnie Johnson a brief letter or note (email is fastest) by February 26 showing how you meet any of the following criteria: a) explanation of financial hardship (including financial hardship caused by a budget cutback in a firm or agency), b) otherwise unlikely to take the exam without the reduced fee, c) employer will not subsidize the exam fee, and/or d) member of an ethnic or racial minority. All applications and the scholarship recipient will remain confidential. In addition to your brief explanation, in your email please include your full name, APA ID number, and address.

Please email Bonnie with your application or any questions at [bojojoh@ku.edu](mailto:bojojoh@ku.edu).

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## Volunteer Opportunities Needed

The Urban Planning + Design Students at UMKC are currently seeking volunteer opportunities on public and private planning initiatives throughout the metropolitan area. PDS students have experience with GIS, Adobe and other software platforms. The student led organization (PDS) would appreciate the opportunity to be more involved on projects within the metropolitan area. If you have any questions, please contact:

**Camila S. Rivera**

PDS President

3rd Year Planning + Design Student

[Cs26b@mail.umkc.edu](mailto:Cs26b@mail.umkc.edu)

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## Sponsor Highlight: BNIM

# BNIM

Established in 1970, BNIM emerged as an early pioneer in sustainable design and continues to shape the national and global agenda for responsible architecture and design excellence. With offices in Kansas City, Des Moines, Houston, Los Angeles and San Diego, the firm is recognized nationally as a leading resource for established methodologies, innovative technologies and cutting-edge research in architecture, planning, landscape and workplace design. Areas of expertise include sustainable design and community redevelopment, urban planning and design, educational facilities, campus master planning, residential and corporate office spaces. BNIM's work has evolved to embody the concept of restorative design, which aims to maximize human potential, productivity and health while minimizing the consumption of resources and the production of waste and pollution.

Recognized for holistic planning practices, BNIM believes in a vision for our communities and campuses that is founded on the lessons of the past, acknowledges the goals of the present, and promotes the dreams and possibilities of the future. Our planning services include community planning, urban design, sustainable community consulting, master planning, regional planning, environmental planning and urban revitalization.

## APA Partners with HUD on Solutions for Local Prosperity



Last week Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro [launched a new](#)

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working with APA, HUD will convene a series of meetings around the country to identify local best practices and policy innovations designed to promote economic mobility, access to opportunity, and inclusive growth. The work will lead to a new digital toolkit for local officials and planners scheduled for release this fall.

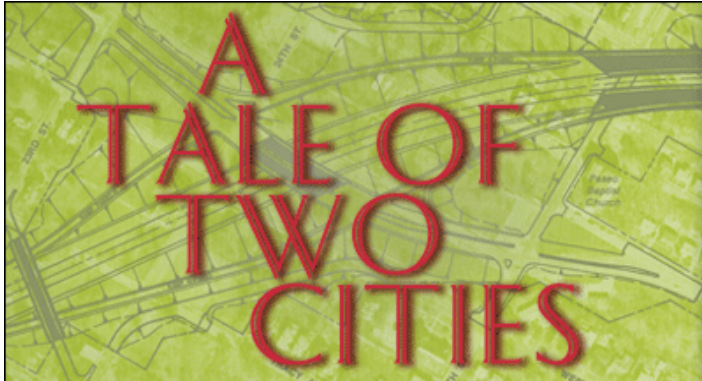
The meeting in Kansas City was the first of five events that are designed to gather regional leaders to talk about strategies and policies for addressing challenges related to affordable housing, community development, social equity and access to access to opportunity-rich neighborhoods, education, and jobs. The work comes as HUD is beginning to work with communities on the implementation of the new Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule (AFFH). In addition to Kansas City, regional meetings are scheduled for Atlanta, Denver, Minneapolis, and San Francisco.

Joined by Kansas City Mayor Sly James, U.S. Rep. Emanuel Cleaver and a host of regional elected officials and planners, Secretary Castro said that the Prosperity Playbook was part of efforts to make HUD a “department of opportunity.” He said the effort would forge a blueprint to assist local leaders in creating opportunity throughout regions and identify a set of best practices to create more affordable housing.

The goal of the work, he added, is to identify tools to both spur investment in distressed neighborhoods and ensure that all residents have access to critical resources and the chance to participate in a region’s economic growth and prosperity.

[Click here for the entire blog post from APA Policy News.](#)

## A Tale of Two Cities: Urban Renewal Claims and Realities in Kansas City



The University of Kansas' **Marie-Alice L'Heureux** discusses efforts after World War II to combat urban blight in Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri – often at a cost to established neighborhoods, architectural landmarks, and sense of community.

**Sunday, March 20, 2016**  
 Program: **2 p.m.**  
**Central Library, 14 W. 10th St.**

Efforts to combat blight and “renew” Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri, took off after the end of World War II, but the results were mixed. Visionary ideas often came at the expense of established neighborhoods, architectural landmarks, and a sense of community. Adding to the difficulty, the two cities had been always tied at the hip. Although the interests of the bordering municipalities aligned, their municipal, county, and state political structures divided them. **Marie-Alice L'Heureux** tells this “tale of two cities,” how the urban renewal efforts undertaken in the 1950s and 1960s played out. She focuses on the ways federal programs removed “blight” but also transformed social and cultural relationships and the fabric of the Kansas City metro area.

A registered architect, Marie-Alice L'Heureux also holds a doctorate in architecture from the University of California, Berkeley. She teaches at the University of Kansas, School of Architecture, Design & Planning, where she is especially interested in the politics of the built

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## Job Opportunities

The following jobs have been recently posted to the KC APA's website. [Click here](#) to view the current openings.

### Job Opportunities

- Cedar County Economic Developer
- KCMO Deputy Director

[Please Visit Our Site at www.kc-apa.org](http://www.kc-apa.org)

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