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How we're engaging all of Charlotte in the 2040 Plan

Charles Thomas, Knight Foundation [web@knightfoundation.org]

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 1:48 PM

To: Steve Johnston

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KNIGHT FOUNDATION

COMMUNITIES

Dear Steve,

I'm excited to share some updates and opportunities from Knight Foundation: from a historic investment in strengthening journalism to a new fellowship program for public space leaders.

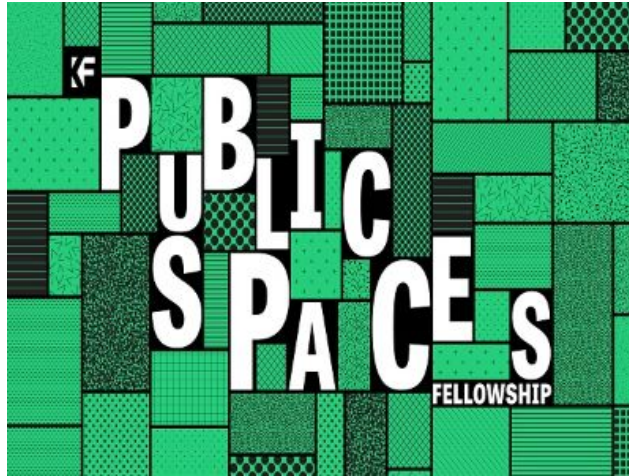
Check out the news, ways you can get involved and upcoming local events:

Strengthening local journalism

Knight Foundation made a historic [\\$300 million investment](#) to secure the future of local news, but it's just the beginning. Rebuilding local news, a cornerstone of democracy, requires support from everyone. Get involved: kf.org/localnews. Use #lovelocalnews on social media to spread the word.

Knight Public Spaces Fellowship

Knight is inviting nominations for its inaugural [Knight Public Spaces Fellowship](#), recognizing civic innovators with exemplary track records of crafting public spaces that create opportunities for connection and civic engagement. A small group of fellows will receive a share of up to \$1 million in resources to continue their work. Nominate yourself or someone you know by March 22 [here](#). If you have questions about the application, RSVP for an [informational webinar](#) happening this Thursday, March 14.



Creating Charlotte's 2040 Comprehensive Plan

As Charlotte embarks on creating its first comprehensive growth plan in 45 years, a new \$250,000 investment from Knight Foundation will help [ensure residents from all neighborhoods will have a seat at the table](#). The funding will enhance community outreach in all neighborhoods, with a specific focus on engaging neighborhoods in the Historic West End and West Charlotte, to help create a plan to shape Charlotte's future that includes input from residents across the city. Learn more [here](#). To attend one of the Charlotte Future 2040 Vision & Values Workshops, register [here](#).

Check out these upcoming events to advance a more livable, equitable and people-centered Charlotte.

Upcoming Events

- **Now – March 31:** Charlotte Mecklenburg Library hosts its big, exciting, community-wide book club known as Community Read. Everyone in the community can participate: read a book, share perspectives, attend a program and build a stronger community together. [More info here](#).
- **March 12:** Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte will hold its 4th Annual "[Building Futures](#)" event, a symposium on affordable housing.
- **March 13:** At Sustain Charlotte's latest [Grow Smart CLT event](#), the Charlotte Area Transit System will share how it plans to meet the transportation needs of a growing population.
- **March 14-15:** The North Carolina Humanities Council and Queens University will hold the forum, "Can We Talk? It is possible for us to disagree with grace again." Register [here](#).
- **March 14-16:** An all-female congregation of esteemed instrumentalists will "bring the swing" during Jazz Arts Initiative's [Women in Jazz](#) event.
- **March 26:** Charlotte Center City Partners and the City of Charlotte host their latest Building Community event, "Neighborhoods With More Neighbors." Click [here](#) for registration and more information.

Save the Date

- **April 1-3:** Registration is now open for [Net Inclusion 2019](#). The conference

facilitates discussion on digital inclusion best practices, programs and policies.

- **April 26-28:** Attend [BOOM Festival 2019](#), Charlotte's annual showcase of contemporary and experimental art created on the fringes of popular culture.
- **April 28:** [Open Streets 704](#) temporarily closes streets to automobile traffic so that people may use them for walking, bicycling, dancing, playing and meeting their neighbors.

Thanks for staying connected with Knight Foundation. We look forward to meeting with you at events across Charlotte and continuing to work together to ignite positive change in our city.

Charles Thomas
Knight Foundation
Program Director for Charlotte
[@cthomasclt](#)

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