

Dear Steve,

I'm thrilled to announce the inaugural group of <u>Knight Public Spaces Fellows</u>, seven outstanding leaders with exemplary records of crafting great public spaces that transform communities.

From connecting cultures through a food market in Philadelphia, to bridging the worlds of public art and community development in San Jose, and much more in between, each of the fellows are making a new and important mark on how we consider and use public space. While each has a different approach, skill set, and point of view, their goal is the same: to redefine how residents connect with community through public space.

Now is a critical time for cities across the country to harness the power of great public spaces to enable more engaged and vibrant communities. We are sure this group will help lead the way.

Meet the Knight Public Spaces Fellows

Each of the fellows will receive \$150,000 in in flexible funding, providing them with the space and freedom to unleash their creativity. They will also have opportunities to work with and learn from each other, and to share their work and lessons learned with the wider field.

The fellows are:

- Anuj Gupta (Philadelphia): General Manager, Reading Terminal Market
- Chelina Odbert (Los Angeles): Co-Founder and Executive Director,
 Kounkuey Design Initiative
- Eric Klinenberg (New York): Helen Gould Shepard Professor of Social Science and Director of the Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University
- Erin Salazar (San Jose, California): Executive Director and Founder,

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Exhibition District

- Kathryn Ott Lovell (Philadelphia): Commissioner, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
- Robert Hammond (New York): Co-Founder and Executive Director, Friends of the High Line
- Walter Hood (Oakland, California): Creative Director and Founder, Hood Design

The Knight Public Spaces Fellowship aims to advance the creation of public spaces that transform communities by recognizing and supporting leaders in the field. It aligns with Knight's ongoing support of public spaces as a means to connect communities, drawing people out of their homes and encouraging them to meet, play and discuss important issues, while finding common ground.

Warm regards,

Sam Gill
VP/Communities and Impact
Knight Foundation

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