


Transform 1012 N. Main Street

Fred Rouse Center and Museum for
Arts and Community Healing

11/17/2020

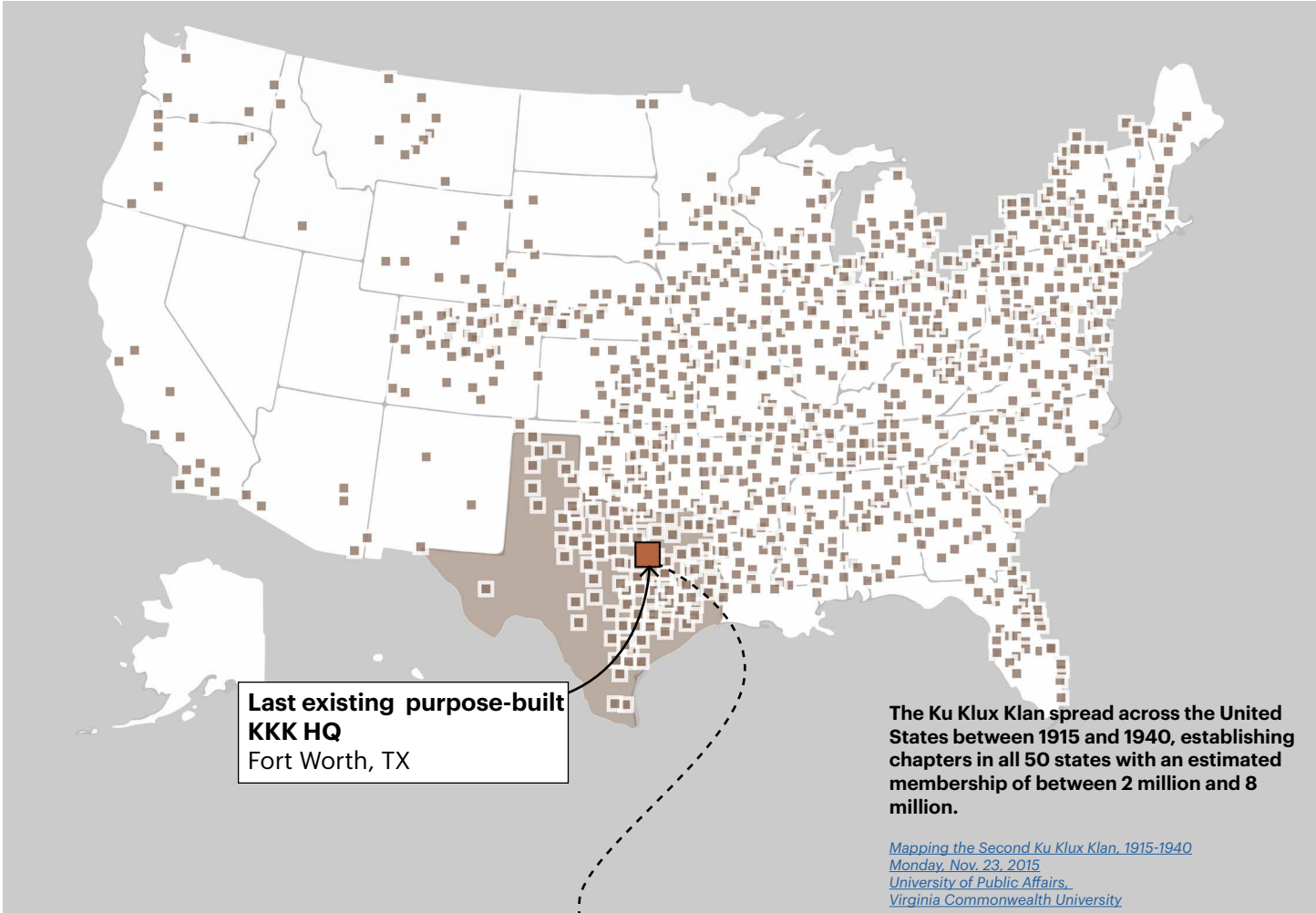




“History, despite its
wrenching pain, cannot
be unlived; but if faced
with courage, need not
be lived again.”

- Maya Angelou

The Project



“We cannot undo what has been done.
We can learn from it.”

Opal Lee, Founder
Juneteenth Museum, Fort Worth, TX

What if, instead of destroying the building, we could transform this monument to hate into a beacon of truth-telling, reconciliation, and healing?

This building is a spatial manifestation of our national legacy of violence and racial terror. As the United States moves towards dismantling systems of oppression, this project is an opportunity to declare our collective agency in designing a just future for all.

We are the 1012 Coalition, a group of six local organizations in Fort Worth, TX.

We represent groups of people in Fort Worth who are often systematically siloed and separate, specifically Black, Catholic, Hispanic, Immigrant, Jewish, and LGBTQQ2SPIAA+ populations.

We hope to use the process of radically transforming this building into an international center and museum for arts and community healing as an opportunity for reparative justice. The 1012 Leadership Coalition models a pluricultural and shared leadership approach to acquiring, managing, and programming the center. This Coalition ensures that the building will be led and programmed by

representatives of the cultural groups that were targeted by the Ku Klux Klan in this region. This adaptive re-use project returns resources to the communities who suffered at the hands of the KKK and who continue to be targeted for systemic racism and oppression.

We invite you to join us on this journey of truth-telling and healing. The project’s success depends on your participation in the process of transformation. We are making public our process of building an intentional, co-created leadership culture in the hopes that it will inspire other local and national projects.

The Building



Photo credit: Daniel Banks

History & Context

In 1921, construction began on Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101's auditorium as a monument to hate and terror. Then—as well as now—members of targeted cultural groups needed to pass the building to access the North Side and surrounding areas when traveling to and from downtown Fort Worth.

The building was a daily reminder of power and politics; the looming edifice was yet another form of policing behavior, movement, culture, and proving again how architecture is capable of violence.

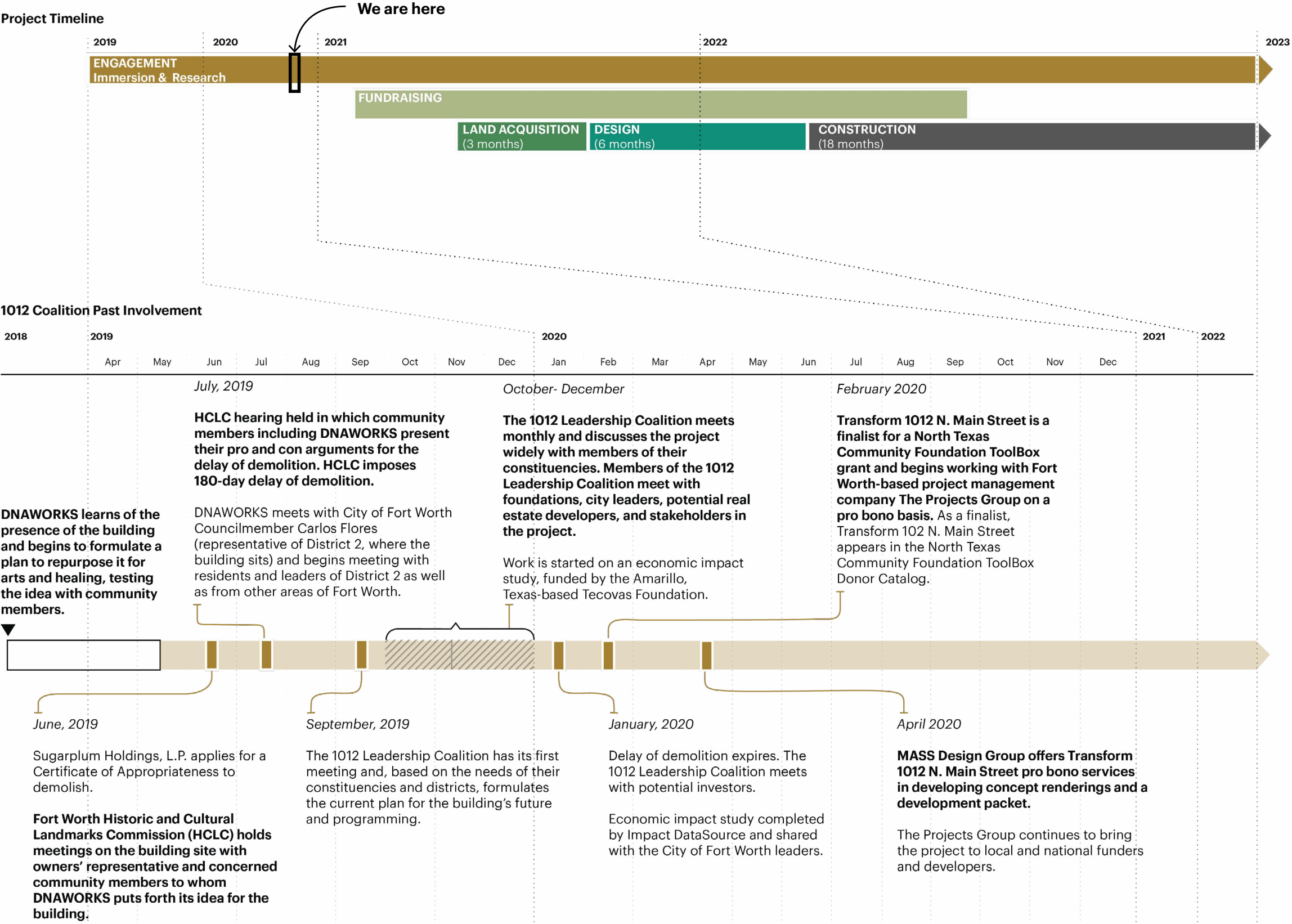
Timeline

- 1921**
Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101 begins construction on site (then known as 1006 N. Main Street) an auditorium with a seating capacity of 2000 people. The building was designed by Earl Glasgow and destroyed by fire when it was either bombed or suffered an electrical fire.
- 1924**
Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101 rebuilds the damaged building with five tall windows on the front facade and a scenery fly loft in the rear for theatrical performances, including racist, sexist, and anti-immigrant minstrel shows.
- 1931**
The building was sold to Leonard Brothers Department Store and was subsequently used as a concert hall, a wrestling arena, and a shelling and packaging warehouse space for Ellis Pecan Company.
- 2004**
The building was purchased by Sugarplum Holdings, L.P., a group of private investors, to be used as the rehearsal studios for Texas Ballet Theatre.

The Process

“This facility can and should be transformed as a means of pride, empowerment and as a catalyst for positive change to highlight progress in the African American Community.”

Estella Williams, President
Fort Worth Tarrant County Branch, NAACP



The project has received over one hundred declarations of support including from Fort Worth and Texas chapters of the NAACP, Congressman Marc Veasey (D-TX), National Trust for Historic Preservation, City of Fort Worth Council members Carlos Flores, Kelly Allen Gray, Dennis Shingleton, and Ann Zadeh, local acclaimed journalist and community leader Bob Ray Sanders, local clergy, local theatre and dance companies, faculty leaders from Texas Christian University and the University of Texas-Arlington, President of Minnesota College of Art and Design, Curator of Jewish Museum of Milwaukee, and the International Coalition for Sites of Conscience.

The project has been featured in Fort Worth Star-Telegram, D-Magazine, Christian Science Monitor, NPR, NBC 5, and through AP Wire.

The 1012 Leadership Coalition continues to speak and listen about the project among its constituency members, the larger Fort Worth community, nationally, and internationally.

Why now?



Left to Right:
"An image of George Floyd is projected on the statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee in Richmond, Virginia." (Image: John McDonnell) *The Washington Post*, June 17, 2020

Protests swell across America
(Image: Loic Venance/AFP v—Getty Images)

"Left half of the image: Between 200,000 and 500,000 demonstrators march down Constitution Avenue during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Washington D.C., Aug. 28, 1963; Right half of the image: Protesters gather in Harlem to protest the recent death of George Floyd on May 30, 2020 in New York City." (Image: Hulton Archive/Getty Images; David 'Dee' Delgado—Getty Images)

TIME, June 4, 2020

“As public recognition grows of under-told chapters of American history, particularly of white supremacy and systemic racism, more and more cities are grappling with how to interpret places that tell often ugly and dark stories of our nation’s past. A number of public-interest groups are finding creative ways to use such sites as agents of reinterpretation and reconciliation.”

Rob Nieweg, Vice President
Preservation Services & Outreach Department
National Trust for Historic Preservation

The Program

The building will house programs that support:

Truth-telling and restoration:

- > CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM + GALLERY dedicated 3,000 SF
to racial, gender, sexuality, and economic
justices, to work in concert with local school
districts’ curricula and programming.
- > MEETING SPACES for racial equity and 3,000 SF
leadership trainings.

Storytelling and Personal + Community
Response:

- > THEATER AND EVENT SPACE for local and 14,500 SF
touring culturally-specific and social justice-
oriented artists and groups.
- > DANCE STUDIO AND REHEARSAL ROOM 6,500 SF
purpose built to provide training for
underserved youth and early career
performing artists.
- > STORYBOOTHs in the lobby and museum 1,000 SF
for visitors to tell their own accounts of Fort
Worth and the region, to be broadcast on
monitors throughout the building.
- > AMPHITHEATER AND PUBLIC PARK to increase Exterior
transparency and shift the perception of
the building from exclusivity and secrecy to
civility and community.

Economic development to support under-
resourced areas in the city, especially serving
Black, Hispanic, and immigrant communities and
businesses:

- > AFFORDABLE LIVE/WORK SPACE for 7,500 SF
economically challenged artists, artisans, and
entrepreneurs with potential for mixed-income
housing and permanent supportive housing.
- > TOOL LIBRARY + MAKERSPACE to provide..... 2,000 SF
local residents with equitable access to DIY
equipment and workspace.
- > MARKETPLACE to help alleviate North Side 2,000 SF
food desserts while providing small business
incubator services to local farmers, artisans,
and micro-enterprises. + Exterior

Ancillary Spaces

- > WAREHOUSE SPACE + STORAGE + OFFICES, + 16,500 SF
KITCHEN + REST ROOMS

Services

- > CIRCULATION + MECHANICAL 17,000 SF
(Approximately 30% of above subtotal, i.e.
56,000SF)

73,000 SF

“As a Fort Worth native, an African-American man, and as an elected representative for many of the African-American residents of Fort Worth, I believe that it is vital that we preserve these types of spaces so that future generations understand our history. The strong light of truth can help prevent the repetition of the dark episode in our history.”

Congressman Marc Veasey (TX-33)



Early Vision: Exterior

Pictured here is the former “back” of the building that housed a proscenium stage, intended to be viewed from the veiled secrecy of the main hall. This new space is opened for outdoor community gatherings and performances. A terraced landscape of seating to the south allows for multiple, simultaneous performances, defining a new, public gathering space.

“This is an opportunity to connect the past and present, interpret history through the power of place, engage the public in programs that stimulate dialogue on pressing social issues, share opportunities for public action on the issues raised at the site, and promote universal cultures of human rights.”

Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director
International Coalition of Sites of Conscience



AMPHITHEATER + PARK

Extending the building’s facade to blend formal and informal programming.

RESTORATIVE FACADES

Restoring the building’s exterior wall with activist art and projections to reflect the plurality of Fort Worth’s voices.

POP UP EVENT SPACE

Reclaiming the streetscape with a temporary stage extension and audience seating.

Early Vision: Interior

New distinct spaces for the arts and performance will be inserted inside the existing building, creating the opportunity to acknowledge the past while in conversation with the future.



MUSEUM AND EXHIBIT SPACE

As part of the main circulation, the civil rights museum and exhibit space will be dedicated to multiple forms of social justice.

THEATRE

The theatre's operable facade can become transparent or opaque to allow for visual connectivity to the public realm from the museum and exhibit space.

MAKERSPACE

Demonstration of back of house processes of performances.

The Team

We are bringing together leaders in building design and social justice programming to catalyze transformational civic engagement and community partnerships.



DNAWORKS

Daniel Banks and Adam W. McKinney, Co-Founders, Co-Directors - an arts and service organization with a fifteen-year history of working in thirty-seven states and seventeen countries to bring people closer together through dance, theatre, film, and community storycircles, focusing on identity, heritage, culture, and genealogy.



SOL BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

Freddy Cantú, Co-Founder and Director and Román Ramírez, Co-Founder - an award-winning cultural dance and leadership training program for youth of all ages from the North Side of Fort Worth; performs for over 10,000 people annually at churches, schools, children’s hospitals, and city festivals locally, nationally, and internationally.



THE WELMAN PROJECT

Vanessa Barker and Taylor Willis, Co-Founders, Co-Executive Directors - a creative reuse venture focused on reimagining business waste to provide North Texas students and not-for-profits with equitable access to hands-on educational resources; seeking to open a community tool library and makerspace.



THE PROJECTS GROUP

The Projects Group, based in Fort Worth, is widely recognized around North America as a premier project management firm, specializing in cultural and performing-arts facilities. Our projects are unique, architecturally significant, and highly technical in their operational function. We lead projects that ensure all are welcome and able to learn and grow in community.

1012 ADVISORY CIRCLE

Leaders and influencers from around the world in and across multiple sectors.



JUNETEENTH MUSEUM

Opal Lee, Founder - a private collection commemorating the abolition of enslavement in Texas, which occurred more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Ms. Lee also founded Opal’s Farm, a community farm that employs formerly incarcerated people.



TARRANT COUNTY COALITION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

A non-profit truth and reconciliation team founded in 2018 that designs collaborative education to increase recollection, promote reflection, and encourage reconsideration of the significance of racial terror violence in U.S. History.

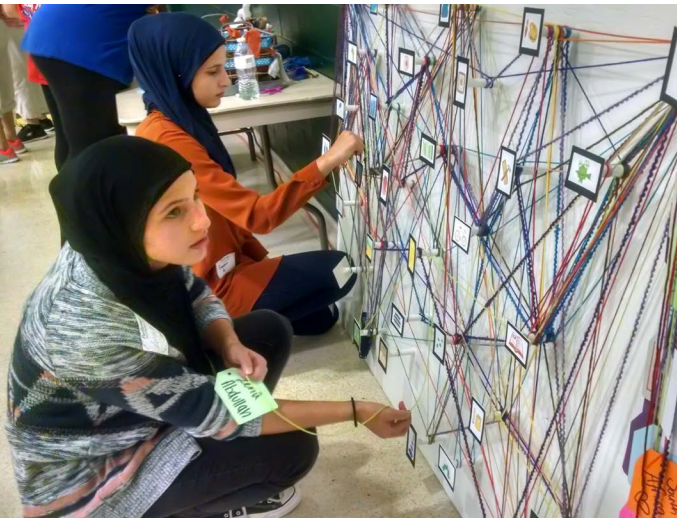


WINDOW TO YOUR WORLD

Ayesha Ganguly, Founder - specializes in program design and implementation, community outreach, group facilitation for non-profit organizations, and capacity building for youth; encourages civic engagement and dialogue among different groups, including their voices in decision-making and the growth of their communities.

MASS. MASS DESIGN GROUP

MASS Design Group is a non-profit organization with a mission to research, build, and advocate for architecture that promotes justice and human dignity. MASS does this through engaging with the communities in which they work to understand project opportunities, challenges, and inspiration in order to create systemic change.



Join us

We invite you to join us on this journey of truth-telling and healing. The project’s success depends on your participation in the process of transformation.

At this stage in the process, we are seeking mission-aligned sponsors interested in partnering with us to acquire the land and make this a reality. We welcome introductions or suggestions.

For more information visit www.transform1012.org or contact us at info@transform1012.org