

## AMPLIFY

am-plə-fī / (v.): to make stronger









Project 2

Apply

# Bring bold ideas... REALIZE BIG DREAMS.

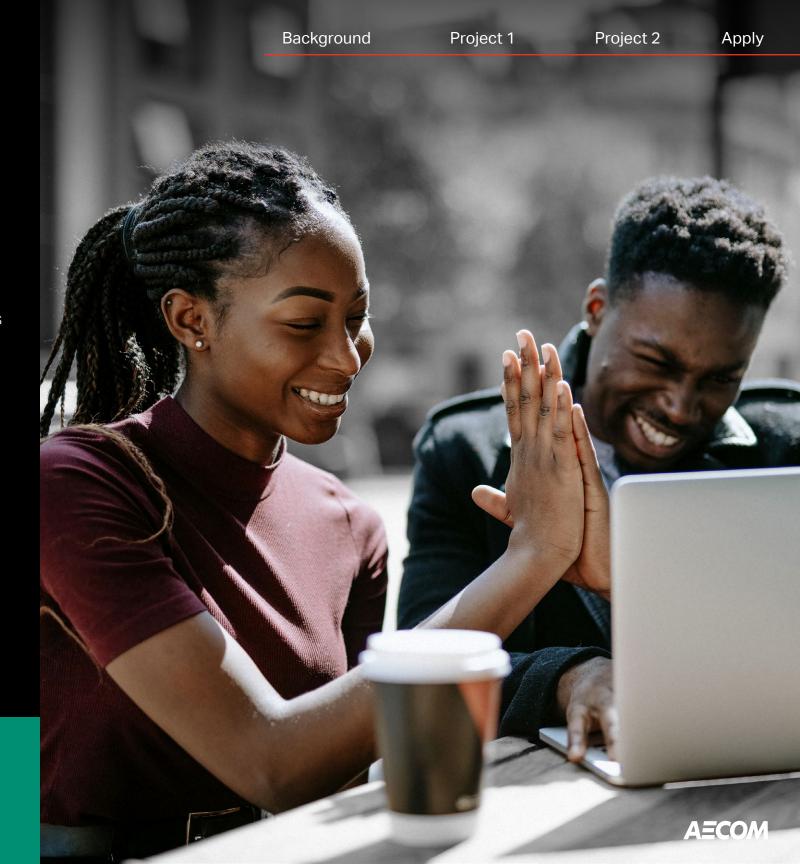
The AECOM HBCU Summer Design Fellowship is an opportunity for students and recent graduates to gain much needed experience in the setting of an architectural practice.

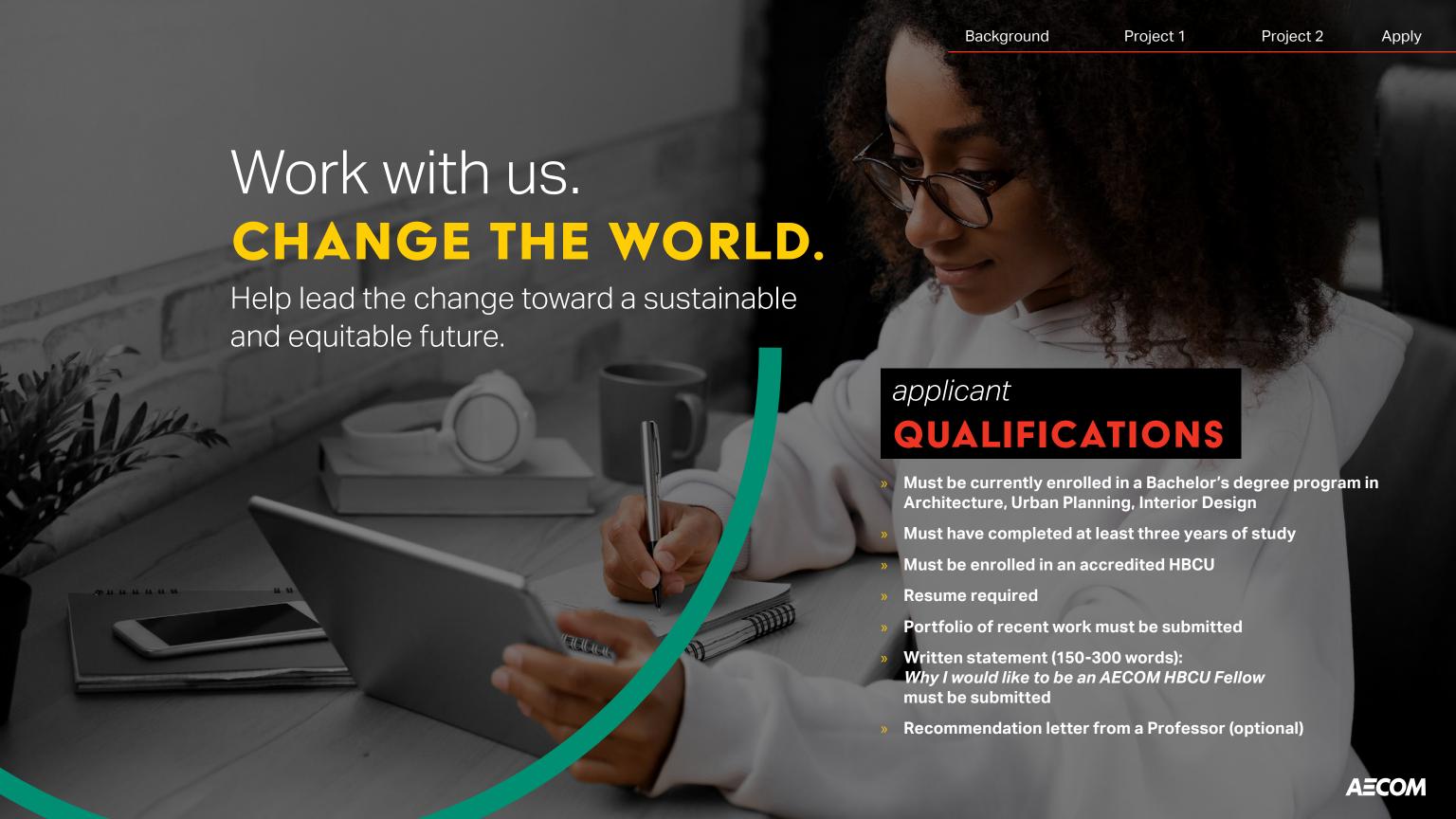
This is a highly competitive leadership, professional development and skill building opportunity open to current students and recent graduates of HBCUs interested in pursuing a career in architecture, urban planning and interior design.

The program is structured to allow Fellows to engage one of our community-based partner organizations in a focused effort to develop design solutions that might solve one of their pressing architectural problems.

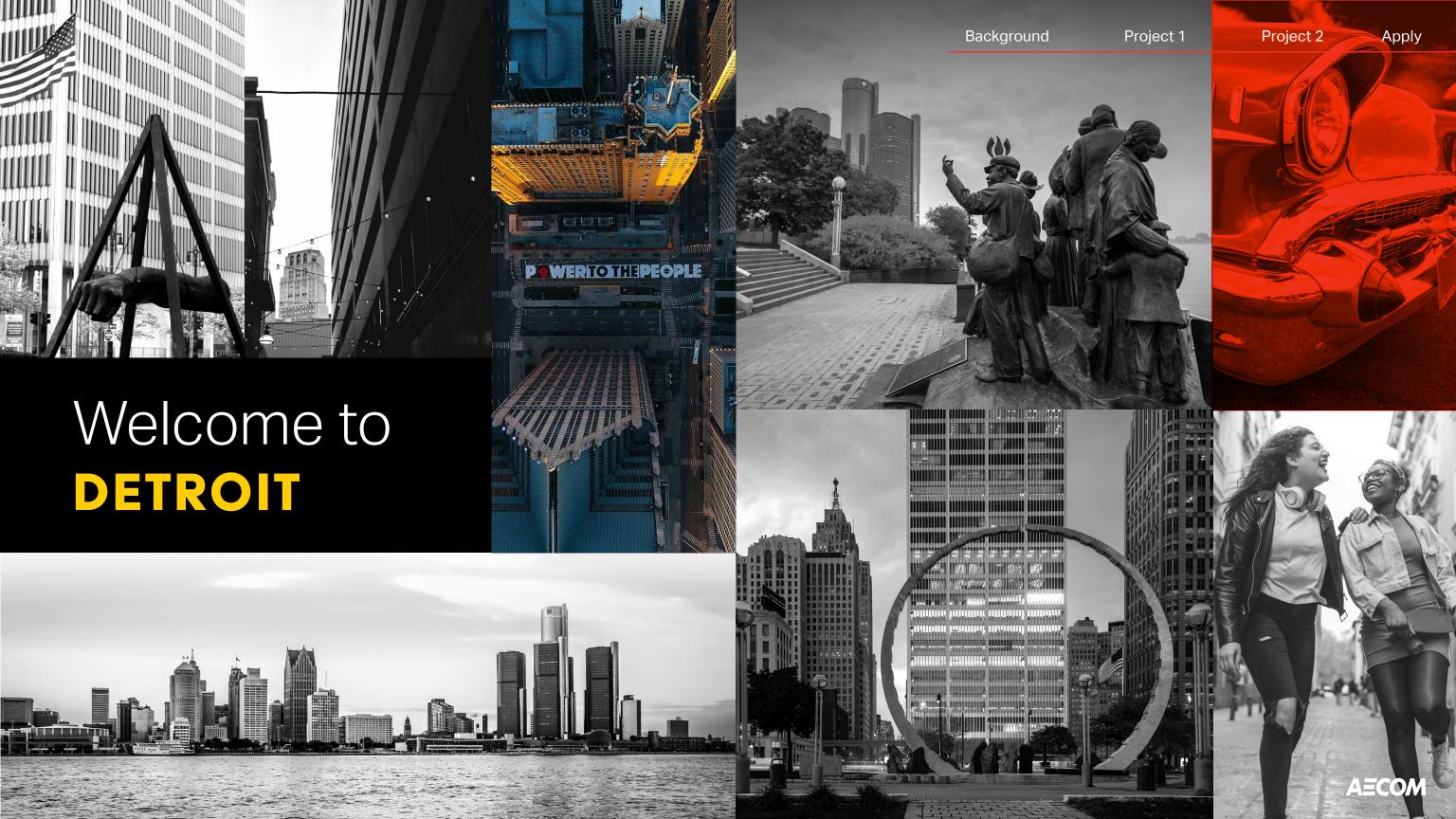
In addition to developing design skills, Fellows can volunteer with our partner organization and engage in their fulfilling community-based work. Through this engagement our Fellows will learn the importance of our role in the urban space both in and out of the office.

This year, AECOM is honored to partner with United Block Club Council and Brilliant Detroit.









Project 1

# The design challenge: REVIVE AND THRIVE

Step into the vibrant past of Detroit's Midwest-Tireman neighborhood. Initially established in the 1920s, this community was once a highly desirable location for automotive workers around the world, known for its well-maintained homes and thriving commercial corridors. Following the exodus of the automobile industry, banks and major economic contributors, the area faced challenges after the 1950s economic decline. An 82 percent decline in population has resulted in widespread poverty and empty homes.

The United Block Club Council (UBCC), in partnership with Christian Family Services (CFS), have purchased the neighborhood's historic St. Benedict the Moor Roman Catholic School to breathe new life into the neighborhood. Now, the UBCC is on a mission to revive the area by transforming the vacant school into a community center with amenities for both children and adults.

Join forces with AECOM to help UBCC/CFS craft a vision for the community center's interior and exterior. Unleash your imagination and creativity to design a facility for community engagement, transforming the large vacant property into a significant community benefit. Deliverables will include site documentation, community engagement and a conceptual design package.

It's not just about architecture; it's about reviving a community's heartbeat.















## **MEET OUR PARTNERS:** Helping our community thrive

Background

### **Christian Family Services Inc.**

Empower. Equip. Thrive. CFS is a non-profit organization created in 2013 as the vision of David Tanksley who was committed to changing lives through the gospel. Today CFS is a Christ-centered place of recreation and resources. Their mission echoes through the Tireman-Beechwood community, offering comprehensive support for seniors, adults and youth.

### **Church of Christ,**

Active since 1949, this community pillar breathes life into the area through food giveaways in partnership with Forgotten Harvest, holiday gift giveaways for families in need, a community garden and various support services for Sampson Webber School.

#### **United Block Club Council**

Founded in 2021, UBCC unites residents in the 48210 and 48204 zip codes. Their mission? Bring resources to residents, help reduce crime and build a healthy and vibrant community. Be part of the transformation.



Project 2

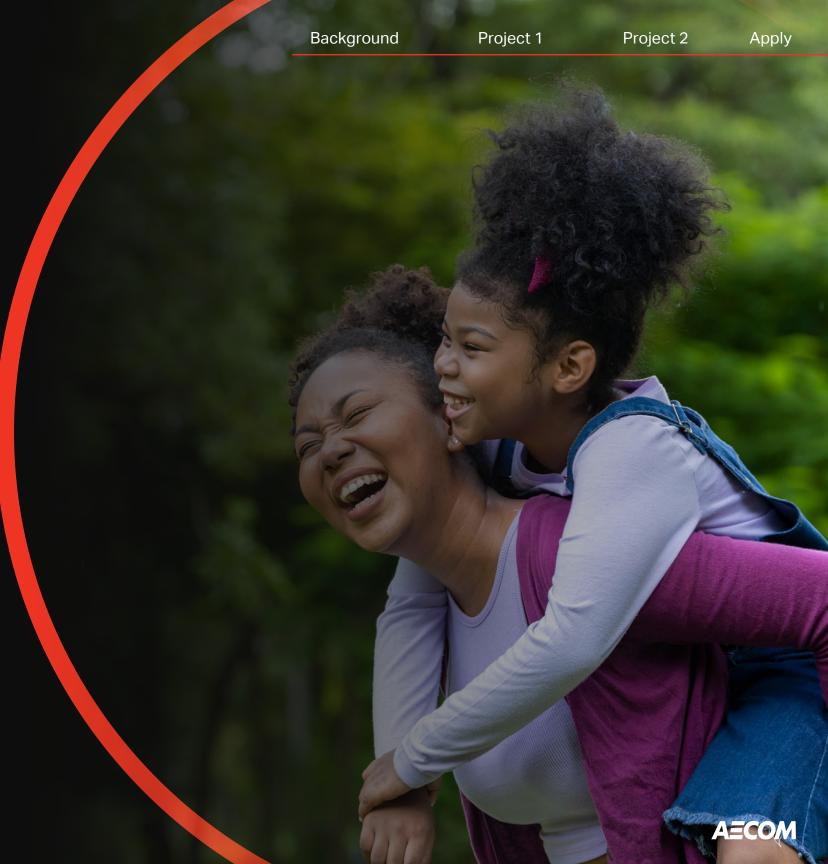
## The design challenge: A PLACE TO PLAY

Brilliant Detroit transforms abandoned houses into havens for early childhood development where families with young children can access coordinated, holistic and research-based programs to improve education, health and family stability. With 15 hubs across 18 neighborhoods and plans to grow to 24 in the next two years, each is a testament to the power of community. Each hub is designed in partnership with the surrounding community and some feature kid success pocket parks in side lots with amenities such as playscapes, pavilions, seating and gardens tailored to amplify the services of the hub it supports.

The McDougall-Hunt hub, opened in 2022, is at the heart of the neighborhood's resurgence providing wellness, education and family support services. Located less than a mile from downtown, the McDougall-Hunt community has recently seen a resurgence of life with gardens, housing and community amenities reclaiming the neighborhood's vacant lots. AECOM will support Brilliant Detroit's mission by creating a custom outdoor recreational space that will aid the organization's mission to positively impact lives at every level.

Collaborate with AECOM, Brilliant Detroit and the community to create a conceptual design package for a new outdoor space for the McDougall-Hunt hub. Unleash your creativity to design a hub for community engagement and revitalization while honing your technical design and documentation skills.

This isn't just a project; it's a blueprint for community revitalization.





### MEET OUR PARTNER:

Background

Empowering and improving our community

#### **Brilliant Detroit**

Founded in 2015, Brilliant Detroit provides a radically new approach to kindergarten readiness in neighborhoods. The idea was to create a unique delivery model in the approach to early childhood development by using underutilized housing stock to create early child and family centers in neighborhoods. Their model, designed with and for neighbors, creates kid success neighborhoods.

Today, Brilliant Detroit homes provide holistic services for kids 0-8 predicated on evidence-based programs around health, family support and education. Neighbors come together for fellowship, activities and learning to assure school readiness, and provide needed support for families. They do this by providing proven programming and support year-round out of Brilliant Detroit homes in high-need neighborhoods.

Find more information on Brilliant Detroit here: brilliantdetroit.org











### Our Fellows + Brilliant Detroit IN THE COMMUNITY

Background

Let's ignite change together! Brilliant Detroit will invite our Fellows to dive into exciting volunteer opportunities.

#### **Spark connections: Monthly friendraiser**

Join the vibe! Brilliant Detroit lights up with monthly friendraisers. Connect with a small, passionate group (10-15 people), tour our home-based hubs and discover the magic of building "Kid Success Neighborhoods" across Detroit hosted by CEO and Co-Founder Cindy Eggleton. This is your chance to engage, ask questions and find your path to involvement.

#### **Literacy luminaries:** Be a volunteer literacy tutor

Shine a light on futures! Become a Literacy Tutor. We're calling on you to guide young minds (ages 5-8) through personalized literacy curricula. Be the beacon of change, one-on-one, as you ignite a love for learning. It's not just tutoring; it's sculpting a brighter tomorrow.



# The design process: FOUR ELEMENTS OF ENGAGEMENT

The challenge will follow the typical structure of a client engagement during the preliminary design phase of the project, culminating in a final Concept Design Package that the client might use to further their vision. Fellows will work in a collaborative team of four. There are four main elements of the engagement, of which the Fellows will lead with the support of the experienced AECOM design team, as illustrated below.



#### **Visioning**

Alongside AECOM, Fellows will lead and participate in several workshops and charrettes with United Block Club Council and Brilliant Detroit stakeholders to determine the need. During this phase we will define the goals of the project and a design approach appropriate for the neighborhood.



#### **Programming**

Fellows will work with AECOM to synthesize intel gathered during the visioning phase, which will inform iterations of a formal space program. Fellows will work with UBCC and Brilliant Detroit to refine and finalize the space program.



#### **Planning**

Under the direction of AECOM Design
Leadership, Fellows will develop planning
iterations in alignment with the finalized
space program. This will include planning
the interior and exterior space of the
community center for UBCC/CFS and
creating an outdoor space for the
McDougall-Hunt hub for Brilliant Detroit.
Fellows will work with UBCC and Brilliant
Detroit to refine and finalize the space and
interior plan.



#### **Concept Design**

Under the direction of AECOM Design Leadership, Fellows will redefine the design direction for the projects. Fellows will define the presence of the space in the building, identify opportunities and use case. Deliverables will take the form of physical models, renderings and diagrams.







#### **Dates of the Fellowship**

Applications open: Dec. 3, 2023

Applications close: Feb. 10, 2024, 11:59 PM

Virtual interviews: Feb. 10-23, 2024

Selection of Fellows and notification: Last week of February 2024

The Fellowship will span approximately 8-9 weeks

Fellowship begins: TBD (Early June 2024)

Fellowship ends: TBD (Early August 2024)

#### Location

This is a physical attendance Fellowship based in Detroit (not virtual). Fellows are expected to be in Detroit for the duration of the Fellowship.

#### **Stipend**

Each Fellow will receive a stipend at a rate comparative to the market. In addition, travel expenses to and from Detroit will be covered.

#### **Number of Fellows**

This program is open to up to four Fellows.

#### **AECOM Fellowship Committee**

Katie Johnson

Meron Kebede

Jalen Davis

Liz Stanfel

Denise Gardner

United Block Club Council

Christian

Family Services

Church of

Christ, Westside

**Brilliant Detroit** 



