Coalition of Community College Architecture Programs
2022 Student Design Competition JURY

Young-Tack "YT" Oh
Adjunct Instructor - Department of Architecture, University of Buffalo

Young-Tack "YT" Oh is an architectural designer and founding member of Archipleasure. His speculative research explicates on the marginal and overlooked occurrences in contemporary urbanism— how seemingly inconsequential things form the basis of major movements and systems— and from which subversive and more playful interventions are generated. The work consistently seeks renewed interpretations of architecture that cast more inclusive ambitions and exuberant prospects for the built environment.

His fellowship project is inspired by two concepts— Modernologio, a form of urban ethnography as set forth by Kon Wajirō and the infraordinary which Georges Perec defines as everyday occurrences, "the banal, the quotidian, the obvious, the common, the ordinary...the habitual." Employing anthropological fieldwork methods, the project will compile an archive of some of the overlooked, neglected, or forgotten forces that make up the fabric of Buffalo.

YT received his B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis and his M. Arch at University of Michigan. He was the Michigan Mellon Fellow in Egalitarianism and the Metropolis at Taubman College from 2018-2021. He has taught at University of Michigan and has also led ArcPrep, a program that introduces Detroit Public School students to architecture, urbanism, and design-related fields. The program aims to empower the next generation of Detroit leaders by offering rigorous design education in a studio environment, directly engaging students with inspiring artists and creative practitioners, and offering pathways to postsecondary education in professions related to the built environment.

Erkin Özay
Assistant Professor - Department of Architecture, University of Buffalo

Erkin Özay is a registered architect and an urbanist with a research focus on urban asset distribution practices and their spatial impacts on the city, with a specific concentration on the design of educational environments. An Aga Khan Fellow from 2011 to 2013 at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, he has also been working on the issues of urban conservation, territorial expansion, and transportation infrastructure of the city of Istanbul.
He is the principal of the independent design practice, the Özay Office. He previously practiced in various architecture and urban design firms, focusing on educational, residential, and urban development projects, most notably with Foster and Partners, Hashim Sarkis Studios, and Peter Rose and Partners. He has won numerous design awards as a collaborator and with his own practice. His award-winning proposal for a post-Katrina high-density housing development in New Orleans was exhibited in the 2006 Venice Architecture Biennale. In 2012, he led a design team for an invited urban design competition for a major transportation center located in Istanbul’s historic peninsula, in collaboration with Hashim Sarkis and Han Tumertekin. Özay previously taught as a lecturer and design critic at the Harvard GSD, University of Toronto, and Northeastern University. As a research associate with the New Educational Environments at the Harvard GSD, he coordinated research on spaces of public education. A registered architect in Massachusetts and Turkey, Özay received his B.Arch. degree from Middle East Technical University in Ankara and his M. Arch II degree from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design.

Any Sirota
Associate Dean for Academic Initiatives
Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Michigan

Any Sirota is an architectural designer, Associate Professor, Associate Dean of Academic Initiatives at the University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. She is also founding principal of Akoaki. Her work, situated at the intersection of architecture and urban design, explores how a distinct synthesis of aesthetics, social enterprise, and cultural programming can offer contemporary and multi-disciplinary strategies for urban transformation. Her ongoing research and design efforts have received international recognition with recent projects featured at the Vitra Design Museum, the Brussels Design Museum, the Centro Pecci Prato, the Saint Etienne Design Biennale, and the Chicago Cultural Center. She is the recipient of the Architectural League Prize (2018), the ACSA Faculty Design Award (2016), the SXSW Eco Place by Design Award (2015), and the R+D Award from Architect Magazine (2013), and other honors. Sirota regularly contributes to international lectures, panels, workshops, and expositions addressing socially driven architectural practice and its impact on cities. Sirota earned her Master in Architecture from Harvard’s Graduate School of Design, where she was awarded the Araldo Cossutta Prize for Design Excellence. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern Culture and Media from Brown University. One of her recent projects is: Detroit Cultivator, a master plan for a six-acre urban farm, a multi-disciplinary effort to transform the six-acre Oakland Avenue Urban Farm into an experimental urban prototype for equitable regeneration.