



NEWS RELEASE

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Enterprise Rose Fellowship Seeks Artists, For First Time, to Develop Creative Approaches to Improve Lives in Low-Income Communities

COLUMBIA, Md. – For the first time, beginning on February 4, community-engaged artists will be able to apply for an [Enterprise Rose Fellowship](#).

Called “one of the most important U.S. programs for emerging architects” by [The American Institute of Architects](#), the national fellowship—which partners community-based designers with local community development corporations (CDCs) to facilitate an inclusive approach that results in sustainable, healthy, affordable homes and neighborhoods—is expanding its scope to include artists beginning with the 2019-2021 class of fellows.

This expansion offers multiple benefits: host-CDCs will gain an infusion of creative capacity; artists will expand their skills in collaborating with community members; and [Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.](#) (Enterprise), which manages the fellowship, will learn and disseminate best practices for the field.

Successful artist-applicants will be partnered for two years with a local nonprofit organization in Austin, Texas; Los Angeles, California, or Salem, Massachusetts to develop and grow creative approaches for improving lives in low-income communities. Successful architect-applicants will join organizations in Boston; Mission, South Dakota; New York City; Providence, Rhode Island; or Wayne, West Virginia.

For its 2019-2021 class of Enterprise Rose Fellows, Enterprise seeks community-based designers with training in architecture and community-based artists in all disciplines, including but not limited to visual

and performing arts, traditional and folk arts, digital media, dance, theater, literary arts and multi-media. Fellows will leverage their existing skills in community development projects and within the organization overall. The host organizations and fellows will collaborate to build the capacity of community developers to leverage art, culture, creativity and design to advance their mission.

Embedding artists as staff at CDCs is part of a systemic shift taking place in the creative placemaking field, which is increasingly focused on equity and moving from project-based integration of arts to embedding artistic practices in long-term place-based collaborations with community members.

“The 18 years of the Rose Fellowship have provided a compelling demonstration of how well-designed homes and neighborhoods benefit residents – improving health, the economy and the environment,” said Laurel Blatchford, president, Enterprise Community Partners. “Adding artists to the program, and emphasizing equitable, creative placemaking, will strengthen our ability to create neighborhoods where everyone – no matter their race or income – can thrive.”

“For almost two decades, Enterprise has been a leader in partnering designers with community development organizations, and I am thrilled that they are now extending their work to also include artists. They have definitively demonstrated that when unlikely collaborators work together deeply and meaningfully, the results can be catalytic,” said Jamie Bennett of [ArtPlace America](#), a group of funders that, along with the Barr Foundation, is supporting this pilot group of artist fellowships.

Since 2000, the [Enterprise Rose Fellowship](#) has supported more than 75 emerging architects who have contributed to the design and development of more than 10,000 sustainable, affordable homes and community facilities through their work in 26 states and Puerto Rico.

See <http://www.rosefellowship.org> for more information and to access the online application.

Enterprise is a proven and powerful nonprofit that improves communities and people’s lives by making well-designed homes affordable. We bring together the nationwide know-how, partners, policy leadership and investments to multiply the impact of local affordable housing development. Over 35 years, Enterprise has created nearly 529,000 homes, invested \$36 billion and touched millions of lives and touched millions of lives. Join us at www.EnterpriseCommunity.org.

ArtPlace America (ArtPlace) is a ten-year collaboration of foundations, banks, and federal agencies that exists to position art and culture as a core sector of comprehensive community planning and development in order to help strengthen the social, physical, and economic fabric of communities. Visit www.artplaceamerica.org for more information.

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