2021 City of Design Challenge - Virtual Guest Speakers Wanted

Are you passionate about civic tech and community engagement? Design Core is seeking virtual "guest speakers" to make short videos sharing their knowledge, experience, and perspectives on how to reimagine access to public services in neighborhoods. The videos will be shared as part of the open source database of information for the 2021 City of Design Challenge.

ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

The City of Design Challenge is a program that invites designers, residents, policymakers and others to collaborate around ideas that make life better for more people in Detroit and cities everywhere. By providing learning opportunities, community, and access to a wide array of resources, the City of Design Challenge aims to help people create goods, services, and places for everyone.

The 2021 theme "Community Tech Hubs" invites participants to imagine new ways to access public services in Detroit, a UNESCO CIty of Design. Selected teams will be invited to develop their concept with a grant and other resources over the summer and present a virtual model during Digital Inclusion Week in October 2021. A small group of teams will be awarded an additional grant to further test their idea and document their inclusive process.

This challenge is hosted by Design Core in partnership with the City of Detroit Office of Digital Inclusion and College for Creative Studies with support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. You can learn more about Detroit's UNESCO City of Design Designation and our vision, values, and Action Plan [here].

SEEKING VIRTUAL EXPERT SPEAKERS

We are looking for a well-rounded group of virtual guest speakers who are knowledgeable about community tech and civic engagement in cities. Selected speakers will create short videos that set the stage for the 2021 Challenge, helping potential applicants understand the issue in both a local and global context. Ideal speakers are:
- in tune with issues, ideas, and trends related to civic tech on a local and global scale
- working or volunteering in civic tech related initiatives in Detroit or another city

- knowledgeable in one or many related fields including design, civic tech, education, community development, architecture, planning and policy.
- willing to make a short video and participate in a virtual dinner with other speakers
- NOT interested in forming/joining a team to apply for the Challenge

COMPENSATION

Selected speakers will receive a $500 honorarium personally or for their organization. Speakers can choose to "pass it on" and donate their fee to pay another speaker. Video makers will also be asked to participate in March dinners to launch the open call.

INTERESTED IN BEING A VIRTUAL GUEST SPEAKER?

If you would like to cover one of these topics or propose an idea, please email competitions@designcore.org with your name and a brief description of what you'd like to talk about. Submissions will be accepted through February 19, 2021.

There are many other ways to participate in the challenge, from applying, to offering expertise or facilitation. If you are interested in other opportunities to get involved or have questions in general, contact competitions@designcore.org to learn more.