

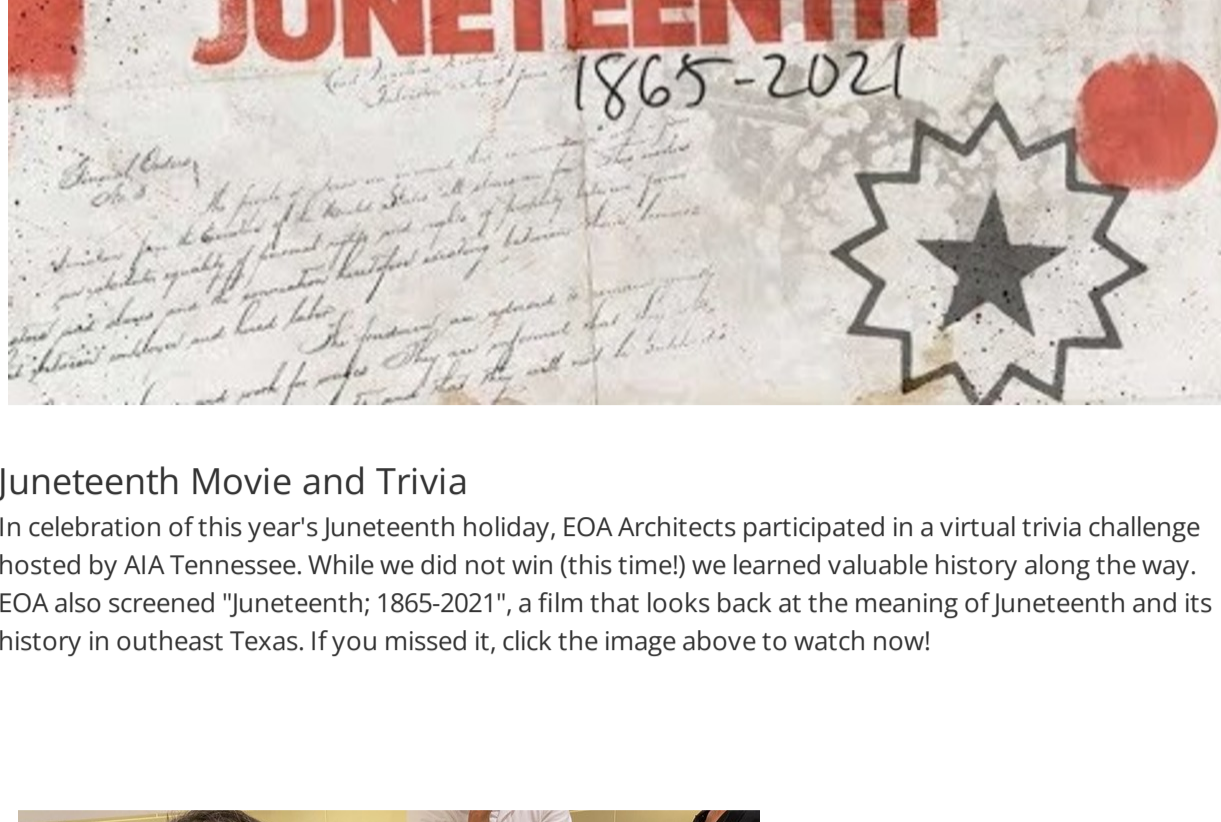
EOA is thrilled to share our 2022 Year-End Review JEDI newsletter! 2022 was filled with amazing local events and opportunities to provide community support and engagement. Here's a brief recap of our involvement as we look ahead to another great year in 2023!

A note to the entire EOA Family...

Thank you! We are so proud of the work you do (personally and professionally) and we would like to appreciate and acknowledge you all for your continued support and acts of selflessness as we all continue on this journey for justice, equity, diversity and inclusion in our profession and in the daily lives of our brothers and sisters of affected communities.

Again, thank you!

-EOA JEDI Committee



Juneteenth Movie and Trivia

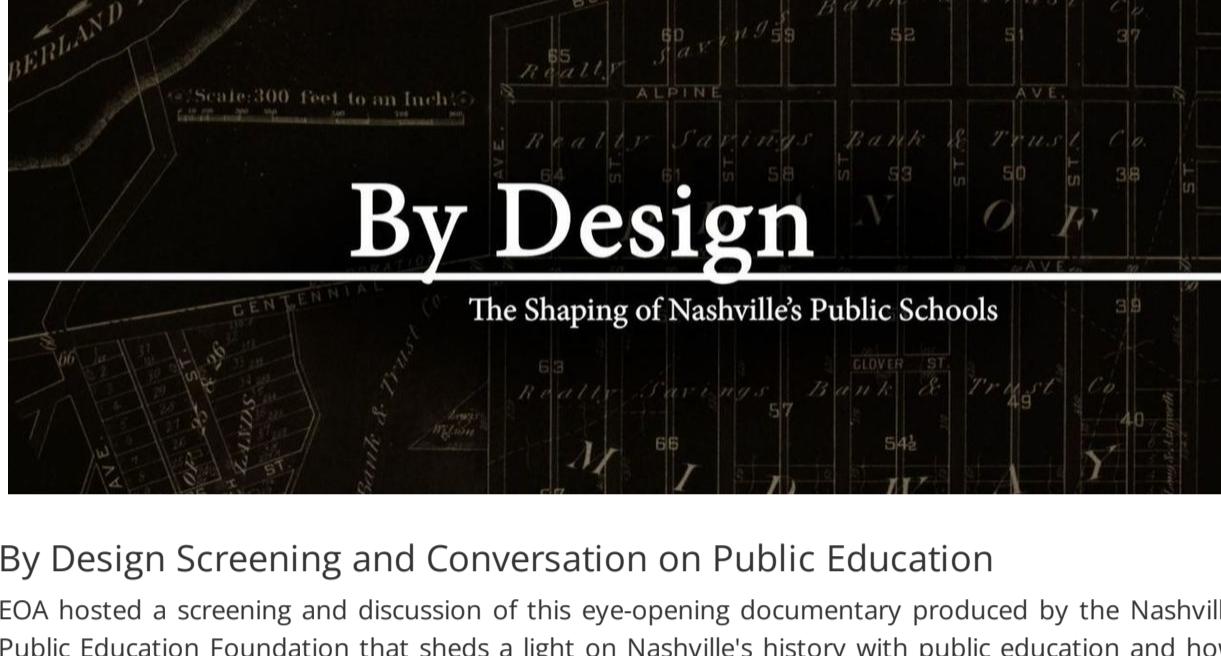
In celebration of this year's Juneteenth holiday, EOA Architects participated in a virtual trivia challenge hosted by AIA Tennessee. While we did not win (this time!) we learned valuable history along the way.

EOA also screened "Juneteenth; 1865-2021", a film that looks back at the meaning of Juneteenth and its history in outeast Texas. If you missed it, click the image above to watch now!



Hispanic Heritage Month

Arturo, our resident foodie, taught us how to make spicy (and not-so-spicy) salsa! We gathered in the kitchen and closely watched his process. He told us what to look for when picking out the ingredients, especially ripeness and quality. He made three types of salsa with varying levels of spice and flavor, and was kind enough to send out the recipes afterwards.



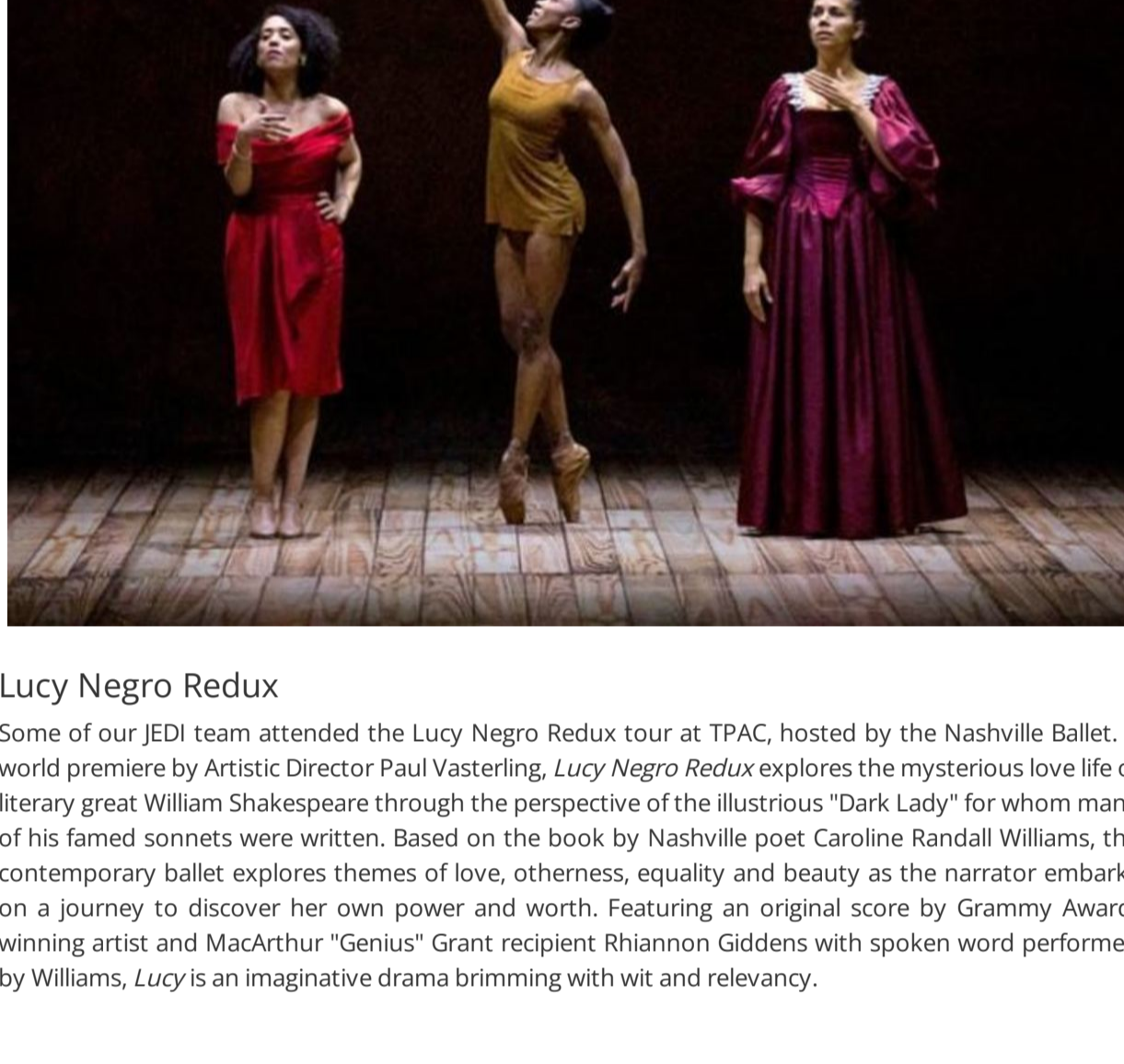
By Design Screening and Conversation on Public Education

EOA hosted a screening and discussion of this eye-opening documentary produced by the Nashville Public Education Foundation that sheds a light on Nashville's history with public education and how public policy and urban renewal have impacted a system intended to create a level playing field for all children. Starting in the 1820s and bringing the story to current day, this film exposes some of the hard truths about our city's struggle to integrate public schools. A true history lesson and a great starting point for anyone hoping to learn more about Nashville. We invite anyone reading this to watch the film and join in the discussion on how learning this history can help us engage with the story and strive for an equitable system where all students thrive in school. Click the image above to learn more!



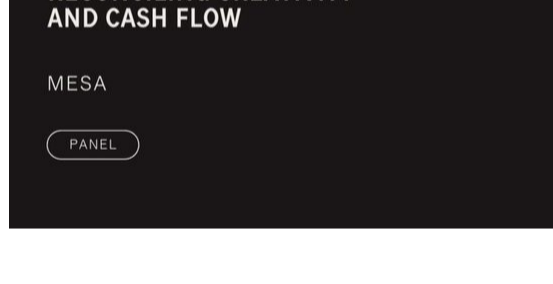
Service Project at Lonnie's House

Our lovely custodian of 20 years lost his battle to COVID in June 2020. Last summer, our office banded together to help his family with some home rehab projects and to simply spread a little joy and hope around the anniversary of his passing.



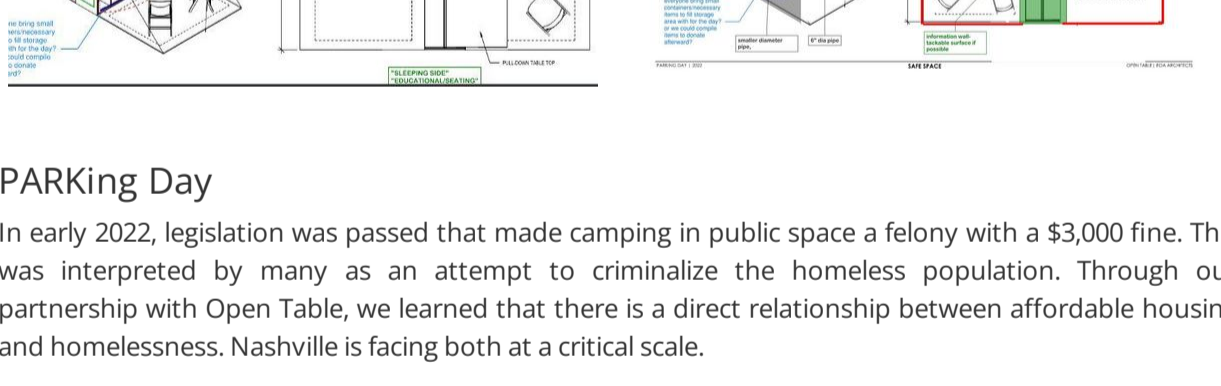
Lucy Negro Redux

Some of our JEDI team attended the Lucy Negro Redux tour at TPAC, hosted by the Nashville Ballet. A world premiere by Artistic Director Paul Vasterling, *Lucy Negro Redux* explores the mysterious love life of literary great William Shakespeare through the perspective of the illustrious "Dark Lady" for whom many of his famed sonnets were written. Based on the book by Nashville poet Caroline Randall Williams, the contemporary ballet explores themes of love, otherness, equality and beauty as the narrator embarks on a journey to discover her own power and worth. Featuring an original score by Grammy Award-winning artist and MacArthur "Genius" Grant recipient Rhiannon Giddens with spoken word performed by Williams, *Lucy* is an imaginative drama brimming with wit and relevancy.



Nashville Design Week

Our own Tracey Ford spoke on a panel titled, *Scaling Your Creativity*. She and four other business owners discussed running creative businesses, especially how they reconciled creativity and cash flow. They covered where to start, how to scale up (or not), and what their endgames were.



PARKing Day

In early 2022, legislation was passed that made camping in public space a felony with a \$3,000 fine. This was interpreted by many as an attempt to criminalize the homeless population. Through our partnership with Open Table, we learned that there is a direct relationship between affordable housing and homelessness. Nashville is facing both at a critical scale.

Traditionally, PARKing day is a protest for public space; design teams build a "parklet" for the day that enhances the pedestrian experience. This year, design teams partnered with experts in the field of affordable housing and homelessness to inform the public, create design solutions, or pass the mic to their expert to raise awareness. We wanted to avoid parklets going into a landfill at the end of the day, and EOA committed to finding a second life for our design.

With our incredible friends at MCR Contractors, we built a parklet over the course of 2 weeks using only site-salvaged materials. The entire team joined in design and build sessions, constructing a collapsible/storable sleeping shelter that could be kept in a private parking lot. This avoids punitive action, while also making use of some of the 138 privately-owned surface parking lots in downtown Nashville. Our friends at MCR diligently guided the design to be water-resistant, and fully mobile for transportation. It now lives at the Green Street Church, being used to shelter individuals in need.

Our Parklet won the "Most Innovative" Award! Click the group photo above to view our recommended screening of "Tent City, USA".



TAK 2022 Christmas Parade

TAK (Tennessee Alliance for Kids) partnered with Tennessee Department of Children's Services Davidson County and the Mid-Cumberland region to host the 3rd Annual Very Merry Christmas Parade on Dec. 4th serving approximately 200 children. It was such a special day celebrating the holiday season by giving back to foster families and EOA was proud to support such a deserving group!



NOMA Unplugged 2022: 51st Annual NOMA National Conference

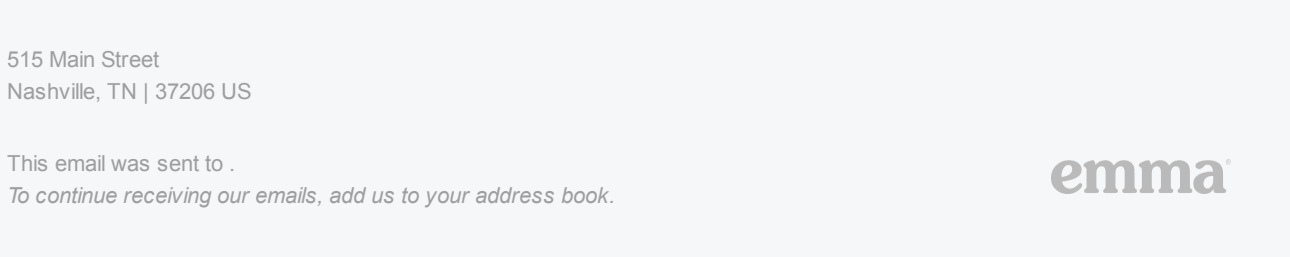
EOA was honored to be a participant and sponsor for the sold-out 51st annual NOMA conference in our hometown of Nashville, from October 26th-30th! Last year's conference, "Unplugged" hosted over 1,000 professional designers from across the nation. Fifty-one years ago, NOMA was founded by twelve African-American architects who saw the need to advocate for the Architecture and Design industry to be more inclusive, cultivate emerging talent that is often overlooked, and create more equitable communities. Designers, planners, innovators, and thought leaders gathered together in Nashville to discover the latest in design, innovation, current events, and culture; to honor the achievements of its members, to learn from industry peers and depart with a clear commitment and renewed energy to support the diversification of the architecture profession. Click the photo above to check out NOMA's event recap video!

In the Community

EOA supports several organizations in our community, here are a few that we would like to highlight from 2022: Dinners at Dismas House, Meals and Hike for Safe Haven Family Shelter, NOMAnash Project Pipeline, ULI Urban Plan, PENCIL with Cane Ridge High School and ACE with Stratford High School.

Moving Forward

The JEDI Committee will continue to make a difference in our workplace and beyond in the ACE industry through intentional actions and engagement with the community. In order to educate ourselves to act purposefully, the JEDI Committee of EOA has taken two topics into focus for 2023 - 1. Affordable Housing and 2. Education.



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