CUP is seeking new board members

The Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP) is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement, particularly among historically under-represented communities.

CUP’s work addresses the needs of communities struggling to make sense of the complex public policies and decision-making processes that impact their lives, from affordable housing to labor rights. By collaborating directly with communities to create accessible and visual explanations on issues that are important to them, CUP provides individuals with the tools to claim their rights, advocate for their needs, and fight for social justice.

For more information, visit CUP at: http://welcometoCUP.org

Or visit our us on social media on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Join CUP’s Board!

We are seeking board members interested in and excited about our work, and who are committed to increasing the power and representation of historically marginalized communities in public policy, urban planning, and civic decision-making.

Our board members are strategic partners ensuring we continue to deliver on our mission and deepen the reach and impact of our work in meaningful ways.

CUP is committed to addressing issues of inequity and actively works to make sure our board reflects the communities our work serves. In particular, we strongly encourage people of color; women; LGBTQ+, GNC, and non-binary individuals; people with disabilities; immigrants; and formerly incarcerated people, or people who have been justice-involved to apply. We are also committed to age diversity, and encourage people both young and old (however you define that!) and in-between to apply. We also seek to add diversity to the personal and professional networks represented on our board, which is currently strongly rooted in the fields of architecture and affordable housing, and would benefit from the inclusion of other fields and sectors.

We hold many public events throughout the year. If you’d like to learn more about CUP, we encourage you to attend an event and hear about our work first hand. You can find current information on our website at the link above.

Board member responsibilities include:

- Advising the executive director as s/he develops and implements CUP’s strategic plan
- Hiring and conducting annual performance evaluation of the executive director
- Ensuring strong fiduciary oversight and financial management, including approving CUP’s annual budget, financial audit, and material business decisions
- Fundraising and resource development
- Approving and monitoring the organization’s programs and services, including reviewing outcomes and metrics created by CUP for evaluating its impact, and regularly measuring its performance and effectiveness using those metrics
- Acting as an ambassador for the organization and enhancing the organization’s public image
- Assessing its own performance as the governing body of the organization
- Identifying and recruiting new board members
Individual board members are expected to:

- Participate fully in at least one board committee
- Attend a minimum of 3 out of 4 quarterly board meetings
- Attend 4 CUP events each year, including the annual benefit
- Make a meaningful personal financial donation, and reach an annual minimum give/get of $2,500
- Serve a minimum of one term; CUP’s Board members serve a three-year term and are eligible for re-appointment for additional terms
- Actively engage their professional and personal networks in CUP’s work and mission
- Bring their experience and expertise to bear on the strategic challenges and opportunities CUP faces
- Be committed to social justice, and specifically to racial justice

Qualifications

Board membership is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about CUP’s mission. Board members have leadership accomplishments in business, government, philanthropy, or nonprofit sectors and they are committed to helping CUP see and overcome challenges as the organization grows and matures.

We seek to add board members who bring depth of experience in their field to CUP to support our continued growth and development. Currently, we have several openings and are prioritizing individuals with the following backgrounds, skills, and experience. (We expect individual board members to have background or experience in one of these areas, not all!)

- **Nonprofit management experience**
  We are seeking someone who, regardless of their current position, has a track record of 10 or more years of experience in nonprofit management or leadership. Ideally this person has an understanding of nonprofit finance, management, and leadership issues and can bring their expertise to helping CUP develop as an organization with strong practices.

- **Strategic partnership experience**
  As we carry out our current strategic plan, we see many opportunities for potentially transformative strategic partnerships with organizations in a range of sectors. We are seeking individuals with experience and expertise in creating, brokering, and structuring strategic partnerships, special initiatives, or other collaborations.

- **Financial management or business development experience**
  We are seeking someone with experience in finance and/or business development, who can help CUP as it expands its fee-for-service work and develops other business areas to create a more diversified and sustainable organization.

- **Philanthropy and/or fundraising expertise**
  We are seeking someone with 10 or more years of experience working in philanthropy or fundraising, who can help CUP think critically about its short- and long-term fundraising strategies.
How To Apply

If you are interested in the position and believe your experience aligns with one of the priority areas listed above, please apply! Your application should include (in this order):

- A cover letter, in which you address why you are interested in being on CUP’s board, how your experience qualifies you for it, and how you hope to contribute
- A current resume
- If you identify with a historically marginalized community or group, and are comfortable doing so, please let us know.

Please send all materials as a single PDF (max 5 MB) to apply@welcometoCUP.org by Monday, October 14th, at 5 pm Eastern. Include “Board Member” in the subject line.

No phone calls, please.