

Service Learning and Civic Engagement through Higher Education

## ANTHONY MONICA & PETER AYLSWORTH | BELMONT UNIVERSITY

## THE LINK: DESIGN THINKING THROUGH SERVICE-LEARNING

## ABSTRACT:

In the Fall of 2023, faculty at Belmont University coordinated collaborative partnerships between multiple design professionals, a local developer, and an urban design advocacy organization, to develop a uniquely impactful, interdisciplinary Service-Learning design project. This presentation will use this course as a framework for illustrating an approach for using Service-Learning and collaborative design thinking to teach our students the importance of community engagement and service-based learning.

### THEMATIC FOCUS: PLAYING AROUND | SURPRISING COLLABORATIONS | LISTENING CLOSELY

# BIO(S):

#### ANTHONY MONICA

Anthony Monica is a teacher and architect with deep experience in professional practice. His professional work has allowed him to push boundaries in the contemporary norms of practice. Having led the design, management, and execution of thoughtful, highly-crafted and complex projects, Anthony brings rich experience to the classroom from every facet of the profession. With a passion for community involvement, he has developed community-centric initiatives in firms and Service Learning opportunities for his students in the classroom. Anthony is a graduate of Virginia Tech, where he received a Bachelor of Architecture and a Master of Building Construction Science and Management.

#### PETER AYLSWORTH

Assistant Professor of Interior Design at the O'More College of Architecture and Design, Belmont University