

SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF GSD DESIGNERS



HARVARD
UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE
SCHOOL

OF
DESIGN



ANNUAL GIVING AT THE GSD

For over 85 years, the Harvard Graduate School of Design has been shaping tomorrow's design leaders. From urban planning to architecture, landscape architecture to real estate, the GSD assembles a global community of scholars who leverage design as a catalyst for a more sustainable and equitable world.

To ensure the continued impact of the GSD means to enhance the student experience for a new generation of designers. Your annual gift to the GSD is the simplest way to support students in pursuit of their degrees. Annual giving helps bring the student experience to life, and we're excited to share stories of students, projects, and studios—all of which have been made possible, in part, by the generosity of our alumni and friends.

The continued support from our community is essential to the enduring legacy of the GSD as a force for positive change, as graduates prepare to tackle unprecedented challenges through design.

Support the next generation of GSD designers—today.



gsd.harvard.edu/give



RACIAL EQUITY AND ANTI-RACISM (REA) FUND



The Racial Equity and Anti-Racism (REA) Fund at the GSD was founded in 2020 in the wake of George Floyd’s tragic murder. Each semester since its inception, the fund has provided grants for select student and faculty projects that analyze the historical complicity of design in constructing systems of inequality, thereby helping shift the paradigm toward dismantling these systems.

FEATURED FUNDS



GSD FUND FOR FINANCIAL AID



The GSD Fund for Financial Aid directly supports students by alleviating some of the financial burden of attending graduate school. This vital support assists students across degree programs, ensuring that the best and brightest minds around the world have access to a GSD education.



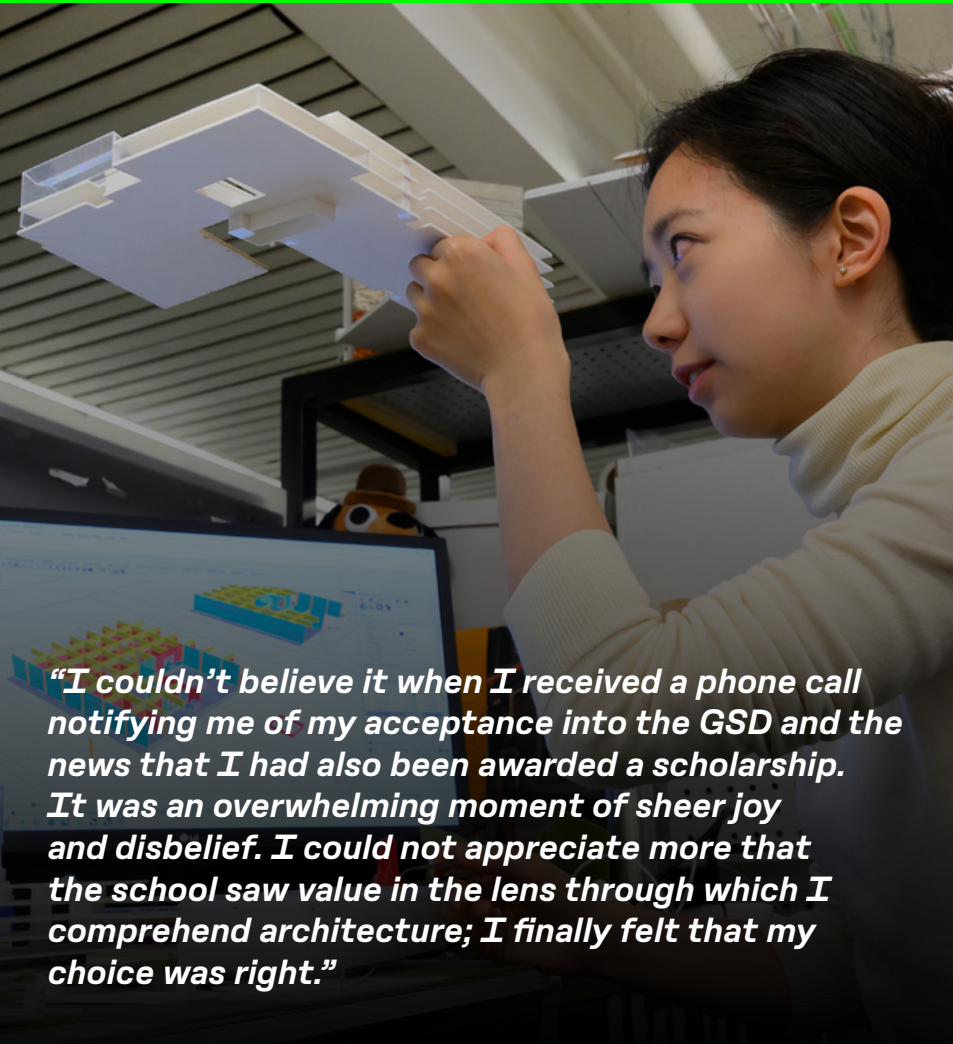
DESIGN STUDIO FUND



The Design Studio Fund supports the reach and accessibility of GSD option studios, putting students in deep engagement with real-world issues facing designers around the globe. This fund’s financial support covers a wide range of costs associated with option studios—from materials to invited expertise to travel— thus allowing students to focus more deeply on their immersive option studio experiences.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

MAYA ADACHI MArch I '25

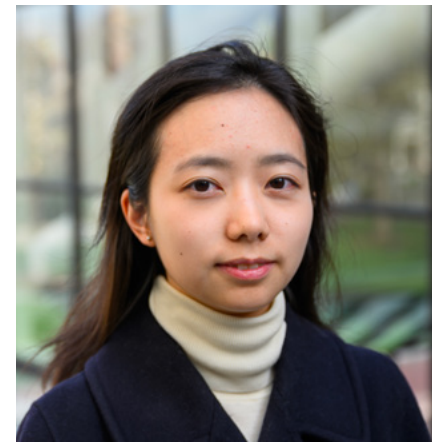


“I couldn’t believe it when I received a phone call notifying me of my acceptance into the GSD and the news that I had also been awarded a scholarship. It was an overwhelming moment of sheer joy and disbelief. I could not appreciate more that the school saw value in the lens through which I comprehend architecture; I finally felt that my choice was right.”

Born and raised in Japan, Maya moved to the United States at age 19 to pursue her undergraduate degree. Unlike many of her peers at the GSD, Maya didn’t study architecture as an undergraduate; yet after being introduced to the idea of spatial design in a theater class, she yearned to learn more. She knew a graduate program in architecture would greatly benefit her career, but without a traditional background in architecture—or sufficient financial support—Maya doubted her ability to attend one.

To Maya’s delight, not only was she accepted to the GSD, but she received a generous financial aid award. It was a moment of joy and validation for Maya, confirming that her dedication and hard work had paid off.

As a GSD student, Maya has learned more about her approach and specific passions within the field of architecture, exploring creative solutions to design challenges. Her latest project, a collaboration with fellow GSD student Madison Kim MArch ’25, focused on transforming office spaces in Boston into cooperative housing. As she furthers her education, Maya looks forward to continually refining her skills while striking a balance between the quotidian and the innovative in her work.



“I find myself oscillating between two paths: one pursuing modest spaces without a strong overarching message, which can be a perfect backdrop for one’s life story and gently embracing everyday life; the other, stimulating individuals and posing questions through architecture. I look forward to spending my career finding the balance.”

Gifts to the GSD Fund for Financial Aid increase the financial aid available to current and prospective students, removing economic barriers so that talented and diverse thinkers like Maya can see themselves at the GSD.

Click here to [read more about Maya’s story.](#)



Lamai Zhang MUP '23 and Abdul-Razak Zachariah MUP '23 met during their first year at the GSD, quickly bonding over their backgrounds in nonprofits and a shared desire to fight systemic inequities through design. As their academic studies presented contemporary and historical design challenges around the world, they saw an opportunity to bring their learning in the classroom to the communities closest to them.

Working together, Abdul and Lamai launched the Urban Planning and Design (UPD) site visits, a series of student-led excursions focused on bridging the gap between their academic work and communities in Greater Boston. They collaborated with a number of nonprofit organizations to provide members of their cohort with windows into local systemic inequities—and the efforts being taken to right them.

After receiving a grant from the Racial Equity and Anti-Racism (REA) Fund, Abdul and Lamai were able to compensate the organizations that they worked with during each site visit, as well as help cover transportation costs and funding for debrief sessions—ensuring that the visits were accessible to all students.

As Lamai reflects: **“We wanted to thoughtfully engage with community organizations to learn about the historical context that played a role in shaping current neighborhood situations. Understanding the unique characteristics and significance of each neighborhood became a cornerstone of our work.”**

Contributions to the REA Fund help make initiatives like this possible, furthering the GSD’s pursuit of designing a more equitable future.

Click here to [read more about the UPD site visits.](#)

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN (UPD) SITE VISITS



“We can’t stress enough how important ongoing student advocacy is to ensuring initiatives [such as UPD Site Visits] not only come to fruition, but also thrive. We truly believe that our efforts can spark and have sparked transformative change, and we’re hopeful to attract more alumni and donors who share our vision.”

– Abdul-Razak Zachariah MUP '23

STUDIO SPOTLIGHT

DESIGNING THE CONDITIONS: COOPERATIVE HOUSING IN AMERICA



“It was when I went to Central Falls and met the mayor and the planning director that everything clicked. I got a real sense of the city’s needs and how tight their budget was. That visit really got me thinking about my studio project in a whole new way; I wanted to come up with something that made sense for a financially constrained—but ambitious—place like Central Falls. That’s when I really got into service design, which became my main focus.”

– Gianina Yumul MUP '23

Option studios are a critical component of the GSD experience, allowing students opportunities to engage with communities around the globe facing the most pressing design challenges of today. These courses are funded in part by the Design Studio Fund, which seeks to expand on and deepen these experiences.

The 2023 GSD option studio “Designing the Conditions: Cooperative Housing in America” granted students the opportunity to work in Central Falls, Rhode Island, and explore paths toward affordable housing within the community.

Throughout the studio, students had the chance to take abstract concepts regarding housing and develop them in a real-world environment, ideating alongside local planners and nonprofits already taking steps to address housing needs in the area. From physically altering spaces for improved flexibility to developing policies that incentivize the use of vacant buildings, students worked with city officials to offer practical ideas that Central Falls can use to advance cooperative housing in the city.

Central Falls Director of Planning and Economic Development Jim Vandermillen appreciated the students’ insights and partnership: “We weren’t approaching the GSD students as a client, saying, ‘This is



what we want you to do.’ They were able to explore issues and matters interesting to them. But more than that, it was a resource for us. Hearing their [end-of-semester] presentations helped me gain a new perspective on the challenges facing Central Falls.”

The Design Studio Fund helps defray the costs of option studios like this one, ensuring that more GSD students have the chance to apply their learning at the intersection of theory and practice.

Click here to [read more about the Rhode Island studio.](#)



ANNUAL GIVING FUNDS

The GSD offers a distinct collection of funds for support, all of which work to advance the accessibility of the student experience and the quality of a GSD education.

GSD Fund for Financial Aid

Assist students from across degree programs with vital financial support, ensuring the best and brightest students have access to a GSD education.

Racial Equity and Anti-Racism Fund

Provide students and faculty with small grants to ensure that the values of diversity, inclusion, and belonging are embedded in the fabric of the GSD.

Design Studio Fund

Support the reach and accessibility of option studios, which covers a wide range of associated costs from materials to invited expertise to travel.

Degree Program Funds

Help degree programs pursue their missions and goals, which can include enriching curricula, increasing research capacity, and providing expanded professional development opportunities for students.

Master of Architecture Fund

Master in Landscape Architecture Fund

Master of Architecture in Urban Design/

Master of Landscape Architecture in Urban Design Fund

Master in Urban Planning Fund

Master in Design Engineering Fund

Master in Design Studies Fund

Master in Real Estate Fund

Doctor of Design Fund

Dean's Innovation Fund

Provide unrestricted funding for Dean Sarah M. Whiting to address the school's most urgent needs, accomplish core priorities, and advance new initiatives without constraint.

Frances Loeb Library Fund

Help facilitate the GSD's ability to tackle the world's most pressing challenges, enabling research, teaching, and learning through resources and services including Special Collections and Archives, writing services, research consultations, workshops, GIS and data services, and events that promote the research of the GSD faculty.

Student Emergency Fund

Assist currently enrolled students who have experienced an unexpected and limited financial hardship due to situations beyond their control.



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Notify Harvard of your intent to give by calling 866-845-6596 or emailing donorsecuritygifts@harvard.edu. Please include the following information to ensure proper instructions are provided: the name of the mutual fund, the number of shares, and where the fund is currently held.

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Notify Harvard of your intent to give by filling out a simple form in advance of a transfer: alumni.harvard.edu/giving/securities.



Matching Gifts:

Use the Harvard online tool to see if your employer matches gifts to the GSD: alumni.harvard.edu/giving/stocks-matching-gifts.

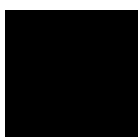
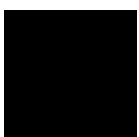
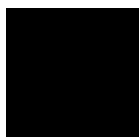
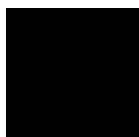
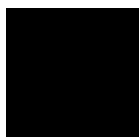
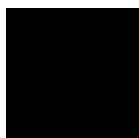
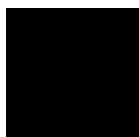
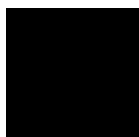
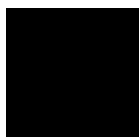
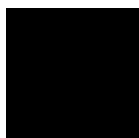
Donor Advised Fund:

Make a gift by suggesting a grant or designating the GSD to receive all or a portion of a fund value upon termination of the fund. If you include the GSD in your plans, please let us know and use our legal name and federal tax ID.

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Planned Giving:

Discover how to support the design education you care about while achieving your own financial goals. To learn more, contact the University Planned Giving Office at 617-495-4647, email pgo@harvard.edu, or visit plannedgiving.gsd.harvard.edu.



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