

**Contact:**  
Sergio Palleroni [sergiop@pdx.edu](mailto:sergiop@pdx.edu)  
Abby Dacey, [dacey@boora.com](mailto:dacey@boora.com), 503-226-1575

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Portland Open Forum on Design:  
"Expanding Architecture: A Conversation on Engagement and Change"**

Portland, OR – (March 13, 2009) – Portland State University Department of Architecture, Portland State University Social Equity and Opportunity Forum, and Architects Without Borders-Oregon to sponsor a forum on social responsibility and engagement in the design professions featuring Bryan Bell.

Designers have the potential to benefit many more people than they currently reach. No, this is not a call for pro bono work. Instead we are being challenged to play a more direct role in solving the critical social and environmental problems facing the nation and our communities--and to incorporate outreach into our own practice to serve what is an ever-growing client base with real needs. Come discuss the possibilities and challenges as we try to engage a broader range of issues as concerned citizens and designers.

Special guest, Bryan Bell, founder of Design Corps and editor of the much discussed recent book, *Expanding Architecture: Design as Activism*; Janet Hammer, Director of the Social Equity and Opportunity Forum at Portland State University; Sergio Palleroni, associate professor of architecture at Portland State University and founder of the BaSiC Initiative; John Duke, Clinic Director, Outside In; Abby Dacey, Architects Without Borders-Oregon, and Boora Architects; as well as other local practitioners and housing providers will engage with the audience in a discussion of the potentials and challenges we face in our efforts to create greater accountability and responsible engagement.

Date: Friday, March 27, 2009

Time: 12-1:30 PM

Location: Shattuck Annex, 1914 SW Park (intersection of Broadway and Hall Streets), Portland, Oregon.

Free and open to the public

Coffee and Oregon apples will be provided.

# # #