



THE
DESIGNMATTERS
FELLOWSHIP
PROGRAM

AT ART CENTER
COLLEGE OF DESIGN

WHERE ART AND
DESIGN EDUCATION
MEETS SOCIAL CHANGE

Designmatters Fellowships are a highly competitive form of scholarship awarded on the basis of merit to top students at Art Center College of Design. Fellows are embedded in host organizations for one full 14-week academic term to work on high-level design projects and explore the mission, model and meaning of the host organization's work. For many Fellows, this is the first step on a career path in the field of social innovation.

Host organizations are introduced to the power of strategic design through this new generation of designers determined to use their skills to change the world. In recognition of the diverse and growing field of socially conscious organizations and businesses advancing positive change, the Designmatters Fellowship Program offers two types of Fellowships:



“As Art Center graduates go forward, our hope is not to simply find work in their chosen field, but also to find meaningful work. Designmatters gives them the context and the courage to find such meaning.”

LORNE M. BUCHMAN, PRESIDENT,
ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN



“Designmatters Fellowships give students the opportunity to act as ambassadors for design in host organizations. With these experiences, Fellows can articulate the powerful and real impact designers can make in the world.”

MARIANA AMATULLO, VICE PRESIDENT
AND CO-FOUNDER, DESIGNMATTERS
AT ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN

I.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIPS

Designmatters International Development Fellows serve organizations that perform humanitarian work on a global scale. These Fellows use design to address global issues like hunger, poverty, healthcare and education in dynamic and complex NGOs, often working with constraints in both time and resources.

Past International Development Fellow hosts include UNICEF's Innovation Unit, UNFPA, Doctors Without Borders, Ashoka Changemakers, Acacia Foundation, OAS, PAHO, International Rescue Committee, UNDP, AED, UNESCO and the United Nations DPI.

II.

BUSINESS FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION FELLOWSHIPS

Launched in 2012, Designmatters Business for Social Innovation Fellowships place Fellows in social enterprises and private sector companies working to address critical social issues through strategic partnerships, sustainability, market-based approaches and new business models. These Fellows combine the powers of human centered design and business to bring innovative solutions and foresight to complex, evolving consumer trends in global and emerging markets.

Past Business for Social Innovation Fellowship hosts include Rubbermaid Commercial Products and Proximity Designs.

As Fellows are expected to contribute to their host organizations far beyond their core projects, host organizations are in turn asked to truly integrate the Fellow into their team and provide opportunities for the Fellow to engage with projects and initiatives at a strategic level.

Who are Designmatters Fellows? They are upper-term undergraduate students, graduate students and recent graduates from across disciplines at Art Center College of Design selected based on a combination of exceptional skill, academic excellence, and highly developed interpersonal skills. Designmatters Fellows have an average of four years of professional work experience, from working in design studios to freelancing, adding a level of professionalism, initiative, time management, and work flow organization that sets them apart from their peers. 90% of past Designmatters Fellows have remained engaged with their host organization after their fellowship.

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“I benefited greatly from what I learned at UNICEF, and in return, I believe that I was able to share with them the significant impact design can have.”

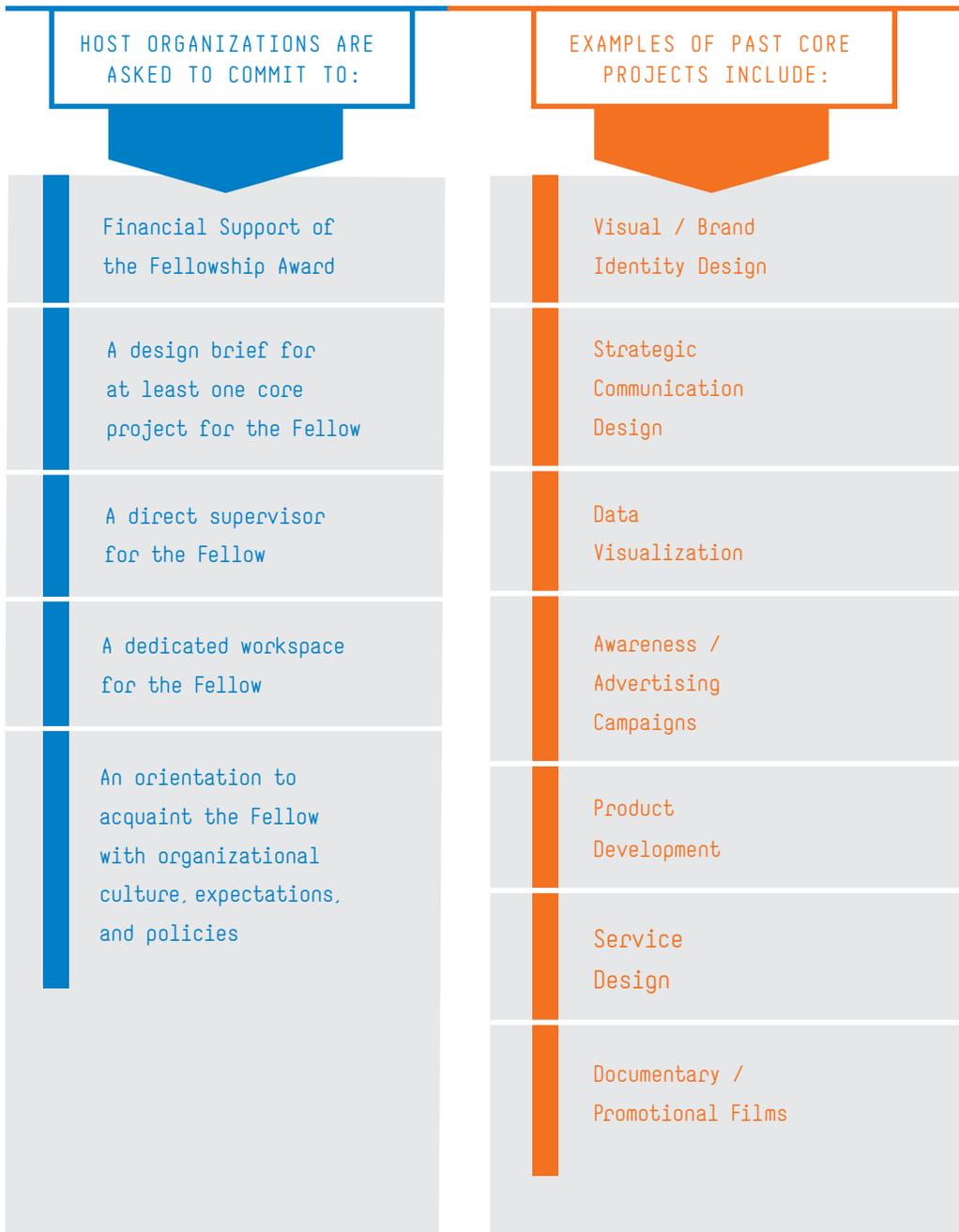
MIYA OSAKI, DESIGNMATTERS FELLOW, UNICEF INNOVATION UNIT, SPRING 2007; CURRENTLY PARTNER AT DIAGRAM

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“We are a complex organization with a complicated mission and infrastructure, working in difficult contexts. [Our Fellow] was able to translate these thicket of meaning into elegant, compelling, even edgy creative that still articulated the IRC’s singular voice.”

KATHERINE SARKIS, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

HOST ORGANIZATION COMMITMENT



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT Jennifer May at (626) 396-2462 or jennifer.may@artcenter.edu



“At Designmatters the students are bright, talented and creative but above all they have something unique- not just curiosity, but a passion to look outside of the world they already know. They want to engage on a different level of problem solving, a global level and sometimes a local level that can be just as important. They all seem to have the adaptability to go inside an organization unknown to them and make a difference with their specialized skill or perspective. Their portfolio, of course, has to be top-notch, but their aptitude to learn on the fly, and adapt to their surroundings is critical. That doesn't just take talent, but maturity and dedication, which are truly key components to their success and the success of the projects they partake in at the organizations.”

STEPHANIE SIGG,
CREATIVE DIRECTOR,
BLOOMBERG LP AND
DESIGNMATTERS FELLOWS MENTOR

ABOUT DESIGNMATTERS

Designmatters is Art Center College of Design's social impact department with the mission to utilize art and design education as a catalyst for change, imagining and building a more humane future for all. Through Designmatters, students, faculty and alumni from across disciplines are engaged in an ongoing exploration of the role of art and design in effecting large-scale sustainable change through innovative partnerships locally and around the world. It is through the impressive outcomes generated by Designmatters that the College became the first design school to receive the United Nations' Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) status. The award-winning and social innovation outcomes of Designmatters during the past decade are providing a key foundation for the framework of Media Design Practices: Field, a graduate track in the College's Media Design Practices program which focuses on communication design at the intersection of new technology and social engagement.

ABOUT ART CENTER

Learn to create. Influence change. This is the mission of Art Center College of Design. For more than 80 years, we've achieved an international reputation for our rigorous, trans-disciplinary curriculum, faculty of professionals, strong ties to industry and a commitment to socially responsible design. At Art Center, we prepare artists and designers to make a positive impact in their chosen fields—as well as the world at large.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT

designmattersatartcenter.org/fellowship-program/
or contact Jennifer May at (626) 396-2462
or jennifer.may@artcenter.edu