

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Lin Nelson-Mayson
612-624-3292
lnelsonm@umn.edu

EVENT DETAILS

Beverley Oliver Hawkins and Nieeta Presley: Influential Saint Paul Developers

*September 7 -
December 1, 2019*

Opening Party
Thursday, September
19th, 5-7pm

HGA Gallery
210 Rapson Hall
89 Church Street S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Guest curator – Marilyn J. Bruin

Dr. Beverley Oliver Hawkins and Nieeta Presley have decades of experience developing and managing housing for families in Saint Paul. This exhibition chronicles their experiences and motivations to pursue funding for affordable, quality housing that has influenced the design and development of the Central Corridor. The stories of these strong-willed African American women are compelling and include reflections on social justice and urban renewal.

“You have to do the hard work, but if you persevere, the project comes together.” – Beverley Oliver Hawkins

When Beverley Oliver Hawkins joined Model Cities in 1984 at Mayor George Latimer’s request, it was a satellite clinic in the Saint Paul Division of Public Health. At her retirement in 2018, she had grown Model Cities to become a private company and three non-profits. It now engages in community development, new construction and rehabilitation, residential and commercial property management, and human service delivery.

“Working together on common good, for common good, to solve diverse issues.” – Nieeta Presley

Nieeta Presley became Executive Director of the Aurora/St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation (ASANDC) in 2002 and expanded the organization’s reach to St. Paul’s entire First Ward, the Thomas-Dale/Frogtown, Summit-University, and Hamline-Lexington neighborhoods. She demonstrates the collective power of organizing and galvanized the community to push for redevelopment goals and projects to build wealth, improve quality of life and lift people out of poverty, yet not out of their neighborhoods.

Beverly and Nieeta collaborated to develop the MCASA Home project to provide a pathway to home ownership opportunities for families seeking stability in the neighborhood. With skill and determination, these two developers advocate for and encourage communities of color to generate wealth, stability and vibrant neighborhoods.

General Information

The Goldstein Museum of Design (GMD), part of the University of Minnesota's College of Design, supports design teaching, research, and discovery through exhibitions, publications, programs, and partnerships.

Location

HGA Gallery is in the main floor lobby of Rapson Hall, 89 Church Street S.E., St. Paul, MN 55455

HGA Gallery Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-9:00pm

Friday 9pm-6pm

Saturday and Sunday 1-5pm

Closed all University holidays

Free admission

Parking

Parking is available in the Church Street Ramp at 80 Church Street SE at a rate of \$3.00 per hour up to a daily maximum of \$12.00. Sundays parking is free (except for special events). The Ramp and Rapson Hall are both handicapped accessible. The LRT green line is nearby.

Accessibility

Accessible parking can be found inside of Church Street ramp

Public Transit

For bus information, call (612) 373-3333 or visit <http://www1.umn.edu/pts/bus/connectors.html> or <http://www.metrotransit.org/>

Support for this exhibition and programs provided by the Goldstein Museum of Design, the College of Design, and generous individuals. In addition GMD programming is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

