



AIA Brooklyn is dedicated to the advancement of the architectural profession through education, outreach, and mutual support.

Brooklyn NOW! 2026, presented at the Brooklyn Public Library – Library for Arts & Culture, celebrates the design forces actively shaping our borough today. Opening in April 2026, the exhibition highlights how architects, builders, and visionaries are reimagining Brooklyn’s streets, homes, and civic spaces. The exhibition will be accompanied by five in-person public programs where participants will be encouraged to engage directly with the ideas and people behind the work.

4/02	Building Brooklyn NOW	Architecture, community and the next generation
4/09	Housing Brooklyn NOW	Design, advocacy and community voices
4/13	Futures Brooklyn NOW	Public storytelling and creative place making
4/23	Public Brooklyn NOW	How public spaces shape neighborhood life
4/30	Practicing Brooklyn NOW	Working Locally in a global city

Building Brooklyn NOW: Architecture, Community, and the Next Generation
Thursday, April 2 · 6:30–8:00 PM

Unveiling the *Brooklyn NOW! 26* exhibition, this panel introduces the public to the exhibition and the people shaping Brooklyn today. Centered on the question, “*Who is building Brooklyn now?*”, the conversation highlights the collective forces, architects, planners, civic leaders, cultural institutions, and future generations, who contribute to the borough’s built and civic landscape. It offers an accessible entry point for students, families, and community members interested in how they can participate in building Brooklyn’s future.

Housing Brooklyn NOW: Design, Advocacy, and Community Voices
Thursday, April 9 · 6:30–8:00 PM

As New York City faces long-term underinvestment in public housing and growing affordability challenges, this session brings together architects, community organizations, and housing advocates to explore how design, policy, and community voice intersect. Drawing from current projects and approaches, the discussion will examine how collaboration can translate resident priorities into more equitable housing outcomes. Through an interactive component, participants will engage in hands-on, community-centered activities that surface shared values and collective ideas for the future of public housing.

Futures Brooklyn NOW: Public Storytelling and Creative Placemaking

Monday, April 13 · 6:30–8:30 PM

Join us for a collaborative visioning session focused on designing for the future and shaping public possibilities. Together, we will imagine what our civic and educational spaces might look like 10–15 years from now. The session will explore how emerging ideas, hopeful design characteristics, and community-centered innovations can evolve into tangible futures. This interactive workshop invites participants to co-create forward-looking concepts, experiment with future-thinking tools, and help chart pathways toward meaningful, community-driven design.

Public Brooklyn NOW: How Public Spaces Shape Neighborhood Life

Thursday, April 23 · 6:30–8:00 PM

This panel explores how public space in Brooklyn is shaped not only through design, but also through policy, community advocacy, and the forces that determine who a space is truly made for. From parks and waterfronts to sidewalks and under-elevated corridors, Brooklyn's shared spaces are continually contested and transformed. The conversation brings together planners, designers, and advocates to ask what it really means to design for belonging.

Practicing Brooklyn NOW: Working Locally in a Global City

Thursday, April 30 · 6:30–8:00 PM

What does it mean to build a practice rooted in Brooklyn? This panel highlights architects and designers whose work is deeply embedded in Brooklyn's neighborhoods. Speakers will discuss building a local practice, working with community clients, and balancing local impact with broader professional pressures.

For more information contact:

bknow@aiabrooklyn.org

<https://aiabrooklyn.org/brooklyn-now/>

BPL Library for Arts & Culture
10 Lafayette Avenue, Second Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217

<https://www.bklynlibrary.org/locations/library-for-arts-and-culture>