



Creative Placemaking on Vacant Properties



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About us



Center for Community Progress

- **Mission:** To foster strong, equitable communities where vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties are transformed into assets for neighbors and neighborhoods.
- **Services:** Technical assistance, education and training, policy, and research. Focus on systems-level change.
- **Snapshot:** In 2016, fielded 200+ technical assistance inquiries, supported policy/programmatic change in dozens of communities, reached 5,500 through education, distributed 1000s of publications

CREATIVE PLACEMAKING OVERVIEW



“In creative placemaking, partners from public, private, nonprofit and community sectors strategically shape the physical and social character of a neighborhood, town, city or region around arts and cultural activities.”

It “animates public and private spaces, rejuvenates structures and streetscapes, improves local business viability and public safety, and brings diverse people together to celebrate, inspire, and be inspired.”

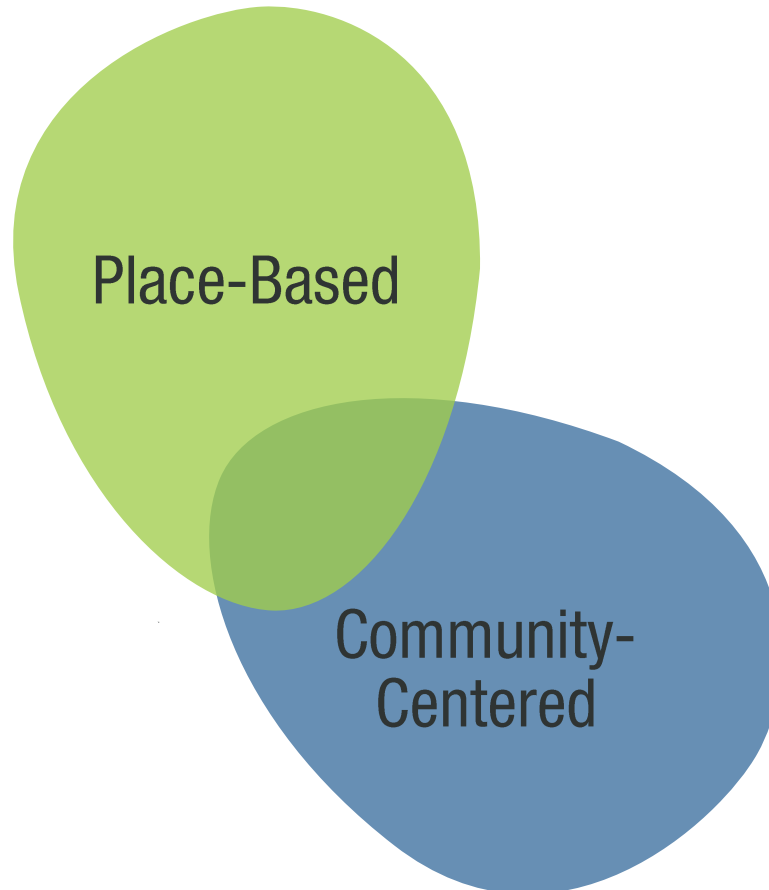
Essential Elements



Place-Based



Essential Elements



Essential Elements



CREATIVE PLACEMAKING AND VACANT PROPERTIES



Creative Placemaking Impacts

ECONOMIC

Invigorates markets and provides income opportunities for residents through arts-related and culturally relevant businesses (*More than Storefronts*)

HOUSING

Makes connections between disparate residents and stabilizes vulnerable communities
("Exploring the Ways Arts and Culture Intersects with Housing")

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

Creates opportunities for residents to express themselves, share language and culture, and engage in decisions that affect them (*More than Storefronts*)

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graph LR; A((Integrate arts and culture into revitalization work, engaging in a process of creative placemaking)) --> B((Create a distinct sense of place to which people have an emotional, authentic connection)); B --> C((Compel existing residents/businesses to remain invested in their community and new residents and businesses to become invested)); C --> D((Reduce vacancy, abandonment, deterioration));
```

Integrate arts and culture into revitalization work, engaging in a process of creative placemaking

Create a distinct sense of place to which people have an emotional, authentic connection

Compel existing residents/businesses to remain invested in their community and new residents and businesses to become invested

Reduce vacancy, abandonment, deterioration

Create catalytic and lasting change



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graph LR; A(( )) --> B(( )) --> C(( )) --> D(( ))
```

Create a distinct sense of place to which people have an emotional, authentic connection

Compel existing residents/businesses to remain invested in the community and new residents and businesses to become invested

Reduce vacancy, abandonment, deterioration

How a property comes to be occupied matters
Who/what occupies a property matters

Integrate arts and culture into revitalization work engaging in a process of creative placemaking

CREATIVE PLACEMAKING CASE STUDIES



CREATIVE PLACEMAKING ON VACANT PROPERTIES:

Lessons Learned from Four Cities



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Publications

Community Progress has published numerous reports and studies to help equip communities around the country with the information they need to reclaim and transform their inventories of vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties. Reports are available to download free of charge below. Publications dated prior to 2010 are by the National Vacant Properties Campaign, which merged with the Genesee Institute to form the Center for Community Progress in 2010.


Please feel free to link to any of these publications to share with others, but do not upload the publications to any other public website or forum without written permission of Center for Community Progress. For additional information or to request such permission, contact Chelsea Allinger at c.allinger@communityprogress.net.



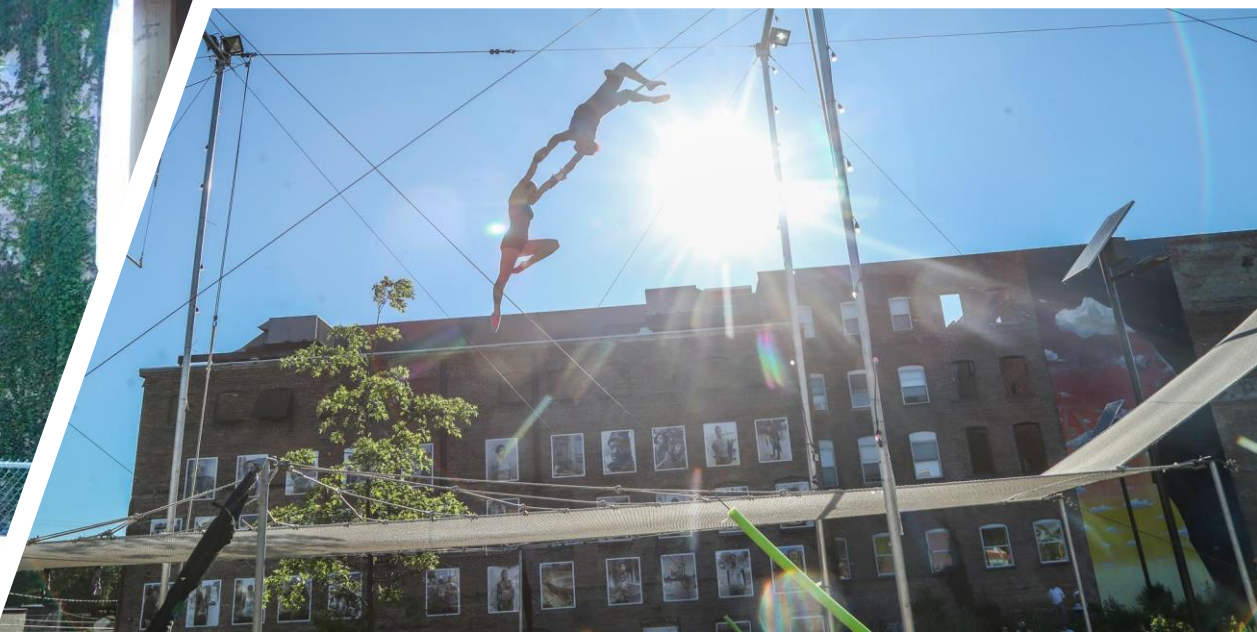
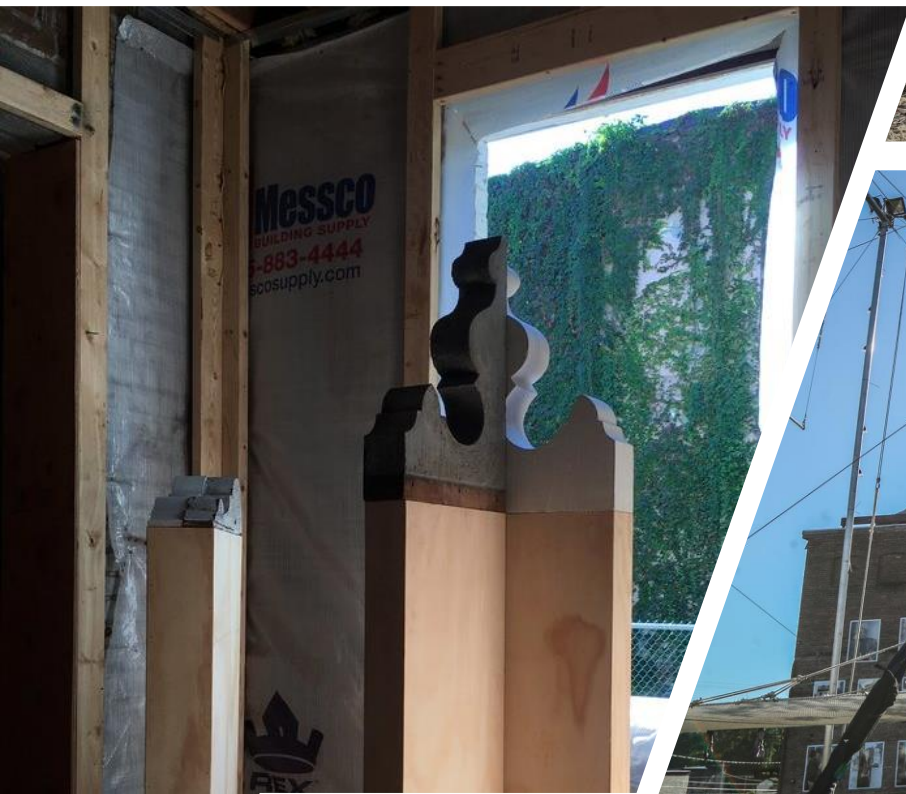
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MICHIGAN**







**NEWBURGH,
NEW YORK**





**MACON,
GEORGIA**









KEY TAKEAWAYS AND LESSONS LEARNED

Key Takeaways/Lessons

Initial Observations:

- **Regulatory Issues**
- Partnership
- Momentum
- Community Engagement
- Funding

Regulatory Issues

Initial Observations:

- Be open to possibilities and give each other the benefit of the doubt
- Set transparent exceptions
- **Communicate clearly**
- **Identify and cultivate liaisons**
- **Adapt or work around regulations**



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