

Karen Nelson is the Dean, School of Architecture, and Faculty at the BAC. In 1994, Karen began teaching design studios at the BAC and at RISD followed by theory seminars and faculty development courses. Karen practiced architecture working on housing for people with AIDS in NYC, a school building in MA, and on small commercial projects. Karen's passion for people, socially just design, contemporary architecture and art, travel, and linguistics inform her teaching. In 2012, Karen received an NCARB grant to explore Collaborative Global Practice. In 2018, Karen lectured on Bento and Architecture at the Japanese-German Center Berlin and in 2020, she participated in three panel discussions about design education and diversity. Karen holds a Master of Architecture degree from Columbia Univ. and her B.S. in Art + Design from MIT.