

July 2021



We've moved! Come visit us at our new space at 1239 Baronne St!

Board Member Spotlight



Amy Stelly

About Amy:

The Urban Conservancy's board members bring their passion for New Orleans to their board service. Take Amy Stelly, a third generation Treme resident and founder of the [Claiborne Avenue Alliance](#) (CAA). Amy, who has served on the UC board in various capacities (past president, current secretary) since 2015, is an artist, designer, planner and teacher. Her scope of work includes building and open space design, historic restoration, downtown and neighborhood revitalization, environmental planning, zoning, entitlements, site planning, streetscape and landscape design.

Through her advocacy work with the CAA, she spearheaded a recent study of community health outcomes of those living or working near urban highways. She [made international headlines](#) recently when the Claiborne Expressway was recognized as "an example of historic inequity" by the Biden administration.

Through August 6, you can find her hosting an urban design pop-up to gather residents' thoughts, comments or suggestions on a broad vision for the Claiborne Corridor, the Municipal Auditorium and the City of New Orleans.

Meet Amy at the pop-up in the resource room on the first floor of Craig School Campus of Homer Plessy, 1423 St. Philip St. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (check in at the school office).

Those who cannot attend in person may take an online survey at www.claiborneavenuealliance.com

"Serving on the UC board has introduced me to a supportive community of progressive thinkers and doers," says Amy. "It has also broadened my knowledge of the city's economic and environmental ecosystems, which has proven to be an invaluable asset to my work."

Interested joining Amy in board service? Read our [FAQ sheet](#) and then [apply here!](#)



BASIN Camp Wrap-Up

BASIN stands for Building Active Stewardship in New Orleans and is the UC's week-long water stewardship and environmental literacy summer camp for children held at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center. We believe in the importance of instilling "living with water" principles at an early age to prepare the water leaders of tomorrow. We do this through fun and experiential activities, field trips, and green professional guest presenters. To learn more about BASIN, check out [our website](#) or watch [this short video](#).

We learned a lot while having tons of fun this summer! Miguel from [Friends of the Lafitte Greenway](#) gave us a tour of the Greenway, Bryant from the [SWBNO](#) showed us the benefits of green infrastructure, we helped Will from [Green Light New Orleans](#) paint rain barrels, Laura from [Bike Easy](#) taught us about bike safety, Dr. Thomas from [Loyola's Environment Program](#) led us on a bug hunt, Tres from the [Master Naturalists](#) showed us various furs and skeletons, and more! Huge shout out to all of our guest speakers for making this camp super special, we can't wait for next summer!



New Team Member Spotlight:

Brianna Cunningham & Christy Williams

Please join us in welcoming Christy Williams and Brianna Cunningham, StayLocal's new Program Assistants. With Christy and Brianna joining the team, StayLocal will expand the assistance we provide by adding a financial fitness component to the support StayLocal provides to business owners.

Christy Williams' work with the Urban Conservancy and Stay Local began more than 15 years ago, when, as a small business owner recovering from Hurricane Katrina she was determined to build back her education-based business, Teacher's Stop, alongside other independent business owners.

Her primary focus will be on counseling minority-owned businesses. Christy brings her business skills along with decades of experience both with teaching and evaluating learning tools. Over the years Christy has served on the Urban Conservancy board and been a StayLocal ambassador to the community, promoting the online directory of certified locally-owned businesses.

Christy holds a Masters of Curriculum and Instruction from University of New Orleans and a Bachelor of Science with a Certificate in Early Childhood Education from Loyola University New Orleans. She can be reached at christy@staylocal.org.

Brianna Cunningham was an Americorps member with StayLocal in 2016 who helped produce networking and marketing opportunities for StayLocal members. Since receiving her BA in Sociology and English from Bucknell University, Brianna has worked in nonprofit fundraising, community development, and economic empowerment for a number of small businesses and nonprofit organizations. A personal trainer, she recently founded her own fitness company, Brizy Fitness.

Brianna took her first plane ride to New Orleans for the Bucknell University Katrina Recovery Team trip, working to help survivors of the devastating 2005 hurricane as they worked to rebuild their homes and reclaim their communities. From there, not only did she develop a passion for giving back but she also developed a love for New Orleans' local business as the experience of shopping, eating, and enjoying local. To keep up with her local experiences and support for small and local businesses, you can follow her Instagram page [@citylovelocal](#), and to contact her directly, you can email brinna@staylocal.org.

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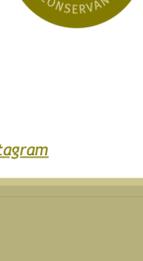
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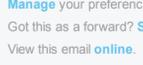
Our Initiatives

We support projects that meet the needs of our constituents; that's how [FYI](#), [BASIN](#), and [StayLocal](#) came about. Sometimes we just lend a hand to get big ideas off the ground. The Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative and the Lafitte Greenway are examples of some of our most recent collaborative efforts.



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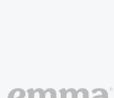
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