



2015-16 Year in Review

Written by Tanya Schmitt, 2015-16 Curator

July 1, 2016 marks the 4th birthday of Minneapolis Hub of Global Shapers, and my first day as Outgoing Curator.

We had several projects that we worked on as a Hub that built upon our previous years, and with the exciting news that we won the bid to host ShapeNA, we have spent much time preparing to host ShapeNA 2016: Bridging Purpose in Minneapolis July 22-25. Our hub continues to grow and make big impact in the community, both collectively and individually. What I'm most proud of from my year as Curator is the community that our team has built and the supportive and encouraging friendships that will continue to develop and last far beyond our time as Shapers.

Project Highlights

Women Lead MSP

We continued our WomenLeadMSP project from earlier in 2015, where we hosted an event with 150 women across sectors, age, and experience for an event called Share Your Story. We brought in 25 mentors to share on various topics and facilitated activities for women to connect, develop their story, and build a supportive, collaborative community.

Our 2015-16 project included 2 additional events. The first one was to help define the needs and gaps in the current landscape of women's leadership organizations and collect stories of women leaders that were published in Minnesota Business magazine. The second was a gathering of 75 women with the theme "Fierce Authenticity." There were 5 speakers from public, private, academia, nonprofit, and education sharing their authentic leadership stories and advice. Additionally, we started a monthly newsletter aggregating women's events and highlighting individual women that are doing remarkable things in our community.

Solar for the People

We made our first grant from our Hub's Donor Advised Fund to Just Community Solar Coalition. This grant is aligned with our previous work in the Energy Forum and involvement with Cooperative Energy Futures. Five local MN communities have teams working on identifying opportunities for solar energy in their community and increasing accessibility for renters, low income individuals, etc.

ShapeChange with Mabel

Members of our Hub used the consulting framework from a previous year to help local entrepreneur, Mabel. She is working to set up a nonprofit to send children to school in her home country of Cameroon. After a few sessions with Shapers, we had an online fundraiser that raised enough money to send 88 children to school that otherwise wouldn't have had the means for uniforms and books. We also connected her to a local university group that could work with her on the steps to become a 501c3 nonprofit and become tax exempt.





Shaper Event Highlights

The year started strong with 7 Minneapolis Shapers attending **ShapeNA 2015: Colliding Energies** in Calgary, Canada. Tanya, Wes, Brian, Glasha, Taylor, Jens, and Joy all made the trip to meet and collaborate with Shapers from across the region. Joy and Tanya facilitated a session on relationship building activities for Hubs, and Glasha presented the Hub's efforts around Diversity and Inclusion.

It was a privilege to attend **ACM15** in Geneva in August. My small group (pictured) is a group of people I stayed connected with throughout my year as Curator. In addition to learning so much from the various sessions, it was invaluable to be in a room of 400+ Curators from around the world. I got to know so many incredible people working in various sectors to make the world a better place. In Geneva, I had the opportunity to present on Membership Recruitment and Engagement. It was fun to bring the good work of the Minneapolis Hub to the Global stage.

Internal Hub Activities

Shape Farm – our Hub visited Mighty Ax Hops to learn about local food systems and farming from Shaper Eric.

Fall Recruitment – 7 new Shapers joined the Hub.

Young Professionals Happy Hour – We partnered with Net Impact and US Green Building Council to bring young professionals together for networking.

Fall Retreat – Our hub gathered at Shaper Julia's house for a full weekend retreat discussing projects, systems, and what it means to be disruptive.

Power and Privilege Workshop – We invited Ashlee Consulting to facilitate a conversation around power and privilege with our hub. We continued with a monthly conversation series about systems thinking.

Barn Social at Beck's – We celebrated our ShapeNA Bid victory and had dinner with YGL Christophe Beck.

Meet the Shapers – We gathered to learn more about individual projects, passions, work, and stories of our Shapers Sophia, Brian, Joy, Dustin, and Irene.

Meet the Leaders – This year, we met with local leaders Amit Sharma, JB Scherpelz, Shawntera Hardy, and Hussein Farah for conversations on leadership, their work, and our team to learn about various sectors and areas of impact.

Spring Recruitment & Retreat – 4 new Shapers joined our team, and attended our one day retreat hosted at STLF.

Conversation with Paul Smyke – We hosted Paul Smyke from WEF USA to discuss Shapers metrics and WEF future.

Ronald McDonald Birthday Bash – We hosted a birthday party for a local house for children with cancer and their families. Shaper Tom donated use of his start up's photo booth which was a huge hit for all. Fun way to give back.

