

# 3<sup>rd</sup> International Smart and Healthy Cities Symposium

Presented by the Institute of Smart and Healthy Cities at Thomas Jefferson University, the Politecnico di Torino, Italy, and AARP PA



October 14 & October 15

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## SPEAKER BIOS

### *Panel I: Understanding the Impact of Smart Cities: Policies, Design, Economics, Big Data, Environment and Population Health*

**Mariela Alfonzo**  
*Founder and CEO,  
State of Place*



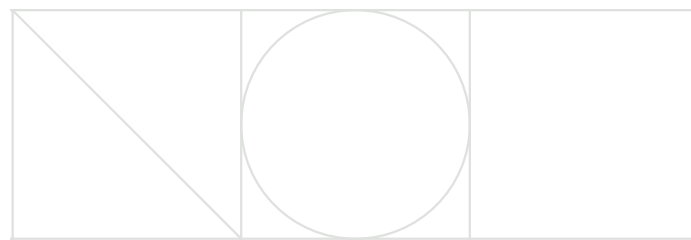
Bridging the worlds of academia and practice, Dr. Alfonzo is the Founder and CEO of State of Place, an AI-driven urban design data and predictive analytics software that helps citymakers make more effective, cost-efficient, bottom-up, transparent, and accountable citymaking decisions to create livable, equitable, sustainable places all people can access and love. State of Place grew out of Urban Imprint, an urban design-behavior research and consulting firm, Dr. Alfonzo established in 2005, via which she worked with a range of private and public sector real estate stakeholders translating data into evidence-based design, development, and planning guidance. An expert on the value of

urban design, Dr. Alfonzo focuses on how the relationship between the built environment and behavior impacts health, broadly defined to include physical, mental, social, community, environmental, and fiscal health, within the context of community change.

**Silvia Barbero**  
*Associate Professor in Design,  
Politecnico di Torino  
Chair of the Systemic Design  
Association and member of  
the Scientific Committee for  
the Relating Systems Thinking  
and Design Symposium*



She leads Systemic Design research in local economies, policy design, environmental production, innovation, through collaboration with companies, research centres, national and international networks. She is the scientific





coordinator of European and International projects on how to drive the circular economy through Systemic Design, as well as regional projects and direct collaboration with companies. She is professor in "Systemic Design" at the Systemic Design Master Degree since a.y. 2017-2018, professor in "Product Environmental Requirements" at Design and Visual Communication degree since 2007, and professor in "Systemic Design for territorial development" at doctoral course in Management, Production and Design. She co-founded the Eco-pack Observatory in 2005 and she is responsible for the Stage&Job design curriculum at Politecnico di Torino.

**Emily Yates (she/her)**  
*Smart City Director  
Innovation Management,  
Office of Innovation  
& Technology  
City of Philadelphia*



As Smart City Director for the City of Philadelphia, Emily is responsible for managing and leading the implementation of the SmartCityPHL Roadmap that provides guidance on how smart and emerging technology solutions can improve the quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors while improving the delivery of City services.

Throughout her career, Emily has worked to help cities position themselves as globally competitive by utilizing a systems approach to develop strategies, projects and programs that exist within the intersection of sustainability, technology, and economic development. Most recently, Emily was Deputy Director with Envision Charlotte where she was responsible for leading the development of the Circular Charlotte strategy, which made Charlotte the first city in the US to have a citywide circular economy strategy, in addition to other local programming that created a smarter, more sustainable Charlotte.

She has held a variety of positions in Europe and North America, including urban planning positions with both the District of Columbia and the city of Cleveland planning offices. Emily was a recipient

of the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt German Chancellor/ Bundeskanzler Fellowship, which funded a year of research focused on German approaches to the implementation of sustainability policy and climate change adaptation in brownfield development. Emily holds a Bachelors of Science in Landscape Architecture from Arizona State University. She is a member of the Emerging Leaders in Energy and Environmental Policy (ELEEP) Network.

**Mike Watson**  
*Director of Livable  
Communities, AARP*



Mike works closely with AARP's 53 state offices to encourage towns, counties and cities to be more livable for people of all ages. He leads AARP's team responsible for supporting the AARP Network of Age Friendly States and Communities, delivering direct technical assistance to communities, providing free publications and resources, publishing the free weekly AARP Livable Communities newsletter, equipping mayors and local officials with tools and resources, and delivering livability grants to communities nationwide through the AARP Community Challenge grant program.

Mike's previous roles at AARP include serving as an advisor to AARP's chief advocacy and engagement officer, providing strategic advice and expertise on retirement policy, family caregiving and livable communities and helping to advance AARP's livable communities work by leading the AARP Community Challenge grant program and AARP's national mayoral engagement effort.

He holds a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in legal studies from Wingate University a master's in public policy from the University of Maryland School of Public Policy and a professional certificate in municipal finance from the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy. An avid runner, cyclist, and lover of the outdoors, Mike is passionate about creating communities where people of all ages can thrive.



## Panel II: Drivers for Change: Population Health, Technological Innovation, Built Environment, Entrepreneurship

**Adam Dakin**  
*Managing Director,  
Dreamit Ventures*



Dreamit Ventures is one of the top venture accelerators and most active investors, having helped build over 300 companies. Deamit focus on pre-Series A startups that restate markets and have the potential to deliver venture-level returns.

redevelopment in walkable places such as Media, Narberth, Hatboro, and Doylestown. For years, Jason has advised Seaside developer, Robert S. Davis, and has consulted to property owners and municipalities throughout the United States on smart growth.

Jason's work on the New Daleville traditional neighborhood was the subject of author Witold Rybczynski's 2007 book, *Last Harvest*. More recently, Jason was featured in Leigh Gallagher's 2013 book, *The End of the Suburbs: Where the American Dream is Moving*.

**Jason Duckworth**  
*President, Arcadia Land  
Company*



Jason has received widespread recognition as a progressive developer and advocate of smart growth. Under Jason's leadership, Arcadia—a developer of walkable communities throughout the Philadelphia suburbs—has pursued a strategy of infill

Outside of Arcadia, Jason is a trustee of Natural Lands, the Philadelphia region's largest land conservancy, where he chairs the conservation programs committee. Jason is an outspoken advocate for Vision Zero in Pennsylvania and been directly involved with legislative initiatives for automated enforcement and bike lanes. Jason is an advisory board member of Breakthrough of Greater Philadelphia, an educational enrichment program for Philadelphia middle school students.

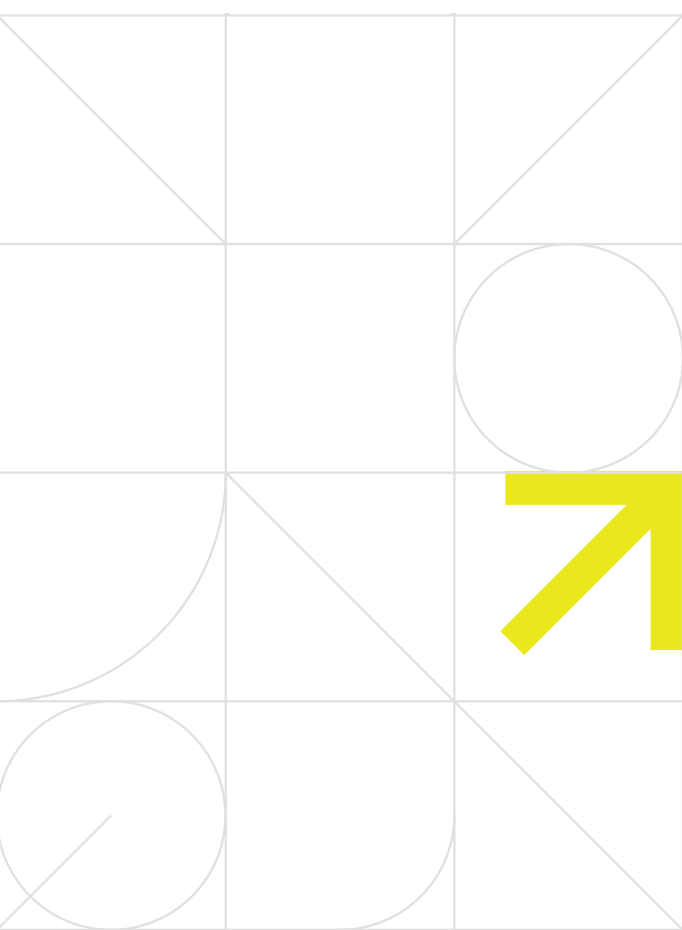
Prior to Arcadia, Jason worked in private equity with Crosslink Capital in San Francisco and in management consulting with McKinsey & Company in New York. He has an AB in Urban Studies (summa cum laude) from Princeton University from which he was awarded the Daniel M. Sachs graduating scholarship. He also earned an M.Litt. in Geography from the University of Oxford, England.

Jason resides in Center City Philadelphia with his wife, Angela, and daughters, Amanda and Lucy.

**Cybelle Jones**  
*Chief Executive Officer,  
SEGD (Society for  
Experiential Graphic Design)*



Cybelle has nearly 30 years in the experience design field most recently as Executive Director leading design projects ranging from interactive cultural experiences to art and historical museums. Some of her most celebrated designs include the National World War II Museum, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights,



the International Spy Museum and corporate interactive exhibits for Google, Johnson & Johnson and Coca-Cola. Ms. Jones has received multiple honors including the AIA Award of Excellence and the Distinguished Member Award from SEG.D. She has been a guest speaker at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, The Chengdu China Design Week, Museum NEXT, AAM, MAAM, SEG.D, AIA and XLab. She is a former board member of SEG.D, and helped to establish the Masters of Exhibition Design at the Corcoran College of Art, now part of The George Washington University in Washington D.C.

**Fedrica Larcher**  
*Female, Agronomist, PhD Associate Professor in Horticulture, Landscape and Urban Ecology, Dept. of Agronomy, Forestry and Food Sciences, University of Torino*



The research activity concerns landscape and urban ecology, urban horticulture and green areas design. Fedrica has been the Director of the Research Centre for Rural Development of hilly areas (Univ. of Turin) since 2018. She has been Councilor of SIEP-IALE-Italian Chapter of the International society for landscape ecology since 2011. She is member of the International Society for Horticultural sciences (ISHS WG on Ecosystem services). She has been involved in several EU projects-since 2018 H2020 SCC2 ([www.progireg.eu](http://www.progireg.eu))-as well as National and Local projects.

Fedrica attended more than 60 national and international congresses. She has several international contacts and experiences (Scotland, France, Germany, Slovakia). She is author of more than 130 publications, of which about 50 SCOPUS indexed (H-index= 11). She is associate editor of Landscape research T&F peer review UK journal since 2015 and Editor of Horticultural Science, Czech Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Prague since 2017.

**Andriele Madison**  
*Green Space Communities Lead, Centre for Sustainable Healthcare*



Andriele leads community projects at the interface of public health and green space use at the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare. She has a Master of Science in Global Health from Georgetown University and a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology from the University of Utah. She is interested in combating cultural and social barriers to good health and creating sustainable systems that promote good health among all, including vulnerable populations.

