Damon Rich describes himself as a designer who uses the tool set of a community organizer. Rich says his goal at his design firm, Center for Urban Pedagogy, is to "[assemble] associations to meet a wide range of needs. "I'm really excited to keep on finding ways to design things that really become social objects and social symbols," Rich says. At the Center for Urban Pedagogy, he created users' manuals for the city, working with marginalized communities that most need civic jargon. Rich practices largely in the urban planning tradition, but he's not careful about disciplinary lines. At the Center for Urban Pedagogy, he works with public arts, community organizing, and urban planning, can pull policy levers to make urbanism more equitable, healthy, and vital.

Recipient, Rich will get a chance to see how an infusion of money ($625,000), translated through broad-based grassroots urban planning, can pull policy levers to make urbanism more equitable, healthy, and vital. As a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship grant winner, Rich will get a chance to see how an infusion of money ($625,000), translated through broad-based grassroots urban planning, can pull policy levers to make urbanism more equitable, healthy, and vital.

Damon Rich talks about the planning approaches that recently earned him a MacArthur Fellowship.