

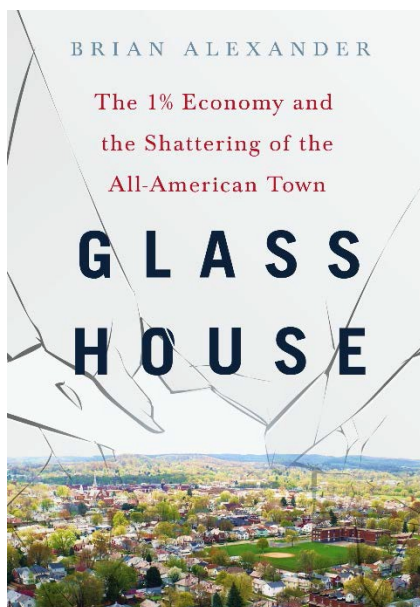
Join the OSU Department of Sociology for an evening with

**Brian Alexander**

author of the new book

## GLASS HOUSE:

The 1% Economy and the Shattering of the All-American Town



In 1947 Forbes magazine declared Lancaster, Ohio the epitome of the all-American town. Today it is damaged, discouraged, and fighting for its future. In *Glass House*, journalist Brian Alexander uses the story of one town to show how seeds sown 35 years ago have sprouted to give us Trumpism, inequality, and an eroding national cohesion.

The Anchor Hocking Glass Company, once the world's largest maker of glass tableware, was the base on which Lancaster's society

was built. As *Glass House* unfolds, bankruptcy looms. With access to the company and its leaders, and Lancaster's citizens, Alexander shows how financial engineering took hold in the 1980s, accelerated in the 21st Century, and wrecked the company...Meanwhile, Alexander goes behind the scenes, entwined with the lives of residents as they wrestle with heroin, politics, high-interest lenders, low wage jobs, technology, and the new demands of American life.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
PLEASE RSVP / REGISTER AT :  
[glasshouseevent.eventbrite.com](http://glasshouseevent.eventbrite.com)

FEBRUARY 16, 2017  
6:00 – 7:30 PM

PSYCHOLOGY BLDG.  
ROOM 035  
1835 NEIL AVE.,  
COLUMBUS OH 43210



**Brian Alexander**



has written about American culture for decades. A former contributing editor to *Wired* magazine, he has been recognized by Medill School of Journalism's John Bartlow Martin awards for public interest journalism and other organizations. He grew up in Lancaster, with a family history in the glass business. He lives in California.

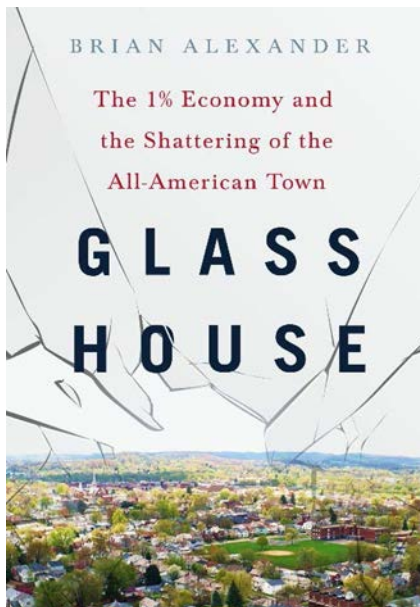
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NBC reporter and former Wired magazine contributing editor Brian Alexander will discuss his new book: *Glass House: The 1% Economy and the Shattering of the All-American Town*, which chronicles the struggles of Lancaster, OH following the closure of the Anchor Hocking Glass Company. With access to the company and its leaders, Alexander shows how financial engineering, which took hold in the 1980s, contributed to the closure of the plant. He then goes behind the scenes, entwined with the lives of residents as they wrestle with heroin, politics, high-interest lenders, and low wage jobs to chronicle the devastating consequences of the company's closure for the community. More broadly, Alexander's story of one Ohio town shows how seeds sown 35 years ago have given rise to Trumpism, inequality, and an eroding national cohesion.