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**AIA Minnesota**  
Matrix is the official newsletter of  
The American Institute of Architects Minnesota

# Matrix

*Pictured above: Another successful Lake Superior Design Retreat.*

**KEEPING YOU CONNECTED**

## WARM WELCOME

AIA Minnesota would like to welcome our newest members:

- Alberto Babio, Assoc. AIA
- Brittany Bauer, Assoc. AIA
- Craig Coil, Assoc. AIA
- Paul J. Klein, Assoc. AIA
- Dr. Ahoo Malekafzali, Assoc. AIA
- Prachi Sharma, Intl. Assoc. AIA
- Sarah L. Ward, Assoc. AIA

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Have you renewed your 2017 AIA membership? It is not too late. Sign in to the AIA National website to update your contact information and renew your membership. If you are having difficulty paying your membership there is a payment plan option available.

Questions? Contact Amber at 612-338-6763 or [allardyce@aia-mn.org](mailto:allardyce@aia-mn.org)

## AIA Minnesota President's Message

In January, AIA National released a report of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Commission that summarizes recommendations for how AIA can aid in shifting the reality of the profession. The creation of this commission stemmed from a value proposition put forward in a resolution by Rosa Sheng in May 2015 which states that a more equitable profession leads to greater equity in the built environment.



Meredith Hayes Gordon

This is a goal that I believe to be fundamental to practice because our role is to advocate for clients, users, and/or the public in all that we do. The report includes 11 priority recommendations for action that have the potential for impact. [View the article.](#)

AIA Minnesota has also been focused on these issues over the past few years. We have implemented or are working to implement recommendations similar to those in the national report. Our 2015 Diversity Task Force Report provided definition and guidance on diversity, inclusion and equity in Minnesota.

In December, the board approved creation of two new committees. The Committee on Diversity, Inclusion & Equity will serve as a

resource and partner in developing programming and services related to this topic.

The Research Committee stems from the need for both primary and secondary research that has long existed but became more apparent in the development that report.

Our 2015 report clearly told the story that architects in Minnesota do not accurately represent the population of Minnesota. So in addition to the committee work mentioned above, we are also taking the first steps towards development of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training program for members.

While the fruition of such a program is likely to be a couple of years away, it is important to recognize the commitment being made. AIA National also has a program under development with a different approach and we feel that both programs will offer members the benefit of engaging in different ways.

Last, our new strategic direction aligns directly with the recommendation to engage children in our schools.

*continued on page 2 >>*

SAVE THE DATES!



## 2017 AIA MINNESOTA CONVENTION & PRODUCT EXPOSITION

**WHEN:** November 14–17, 2017  
**WHERE:** Minneapolis Convention  
Center, 1301 Second Avenue S.,  
Minneapolis

### Convention program planning has begun!

The Convention Programs Committee is already meeting and is seeking ideas and proposals for continuing education presentations at the Convention. As always, programs will be a diverse mix of subject matter.

### The Committee looks for:

- Ideas to address practice and technology
- Innovative materials and systems
- Project case studies featuring sustainability, unique collaborative teams, divine detailing, etc.
- Suggestions for quality speakers

[Check out](#) our Call for Proposals. Deadline is May 15, 2017.

### Questions?

Contact committee chair Jonathan Strand, AIA, [jstrand@cunningham.com](mailto:jstrand@cunningham.com) or Deanna Christiansen, [Christiansen@aia-mn.org](mailto:Christiansen@aia-mn.org)

## AIA Minnesota President's Message

<< continued from page 1

Most architects seem to have landed in the profession due to exposure to architecture at an early age. Focusing additional resources on existing programs like our long successful Architecture in the Schools program allows that exposure to spread more broadly across our state.

The national report concluding comments state, "The most productive and successful

businesses and organizations also happen to be the most committed to the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion." I look forward to partnering with all of you on this commitment to advance architecture in Minnesota.

Meredith Hayes Gordon, AIA  
AIA Minnesota President

## AIA MINNESOTA

## Two Residential Architects Receive Awards of Distinction

AIA Minnesota is pleased to announce **Christine Albertsson, AIA**, of Albertsson Hansen Architecture, Ltd. as the 2017 Architect of Distinction. This annual award is given to an AIA Minnesota member who has been licensed to practice for fifteen or more years and who has demonstrated a mastery of residential architecture through design, craft, and materials and who has made significant contributions to the advancement of residential design.



Christine Albertsson, AIA



Jody McGuire, AIA

Also, **Jody McGuire, AIA**, of SALA Architects Inc., was recognized as the 2017 Emerging Architect of the Year, an honor bestowed upon an AIA Minnesota member who has been licensed to practice for ten or fewer years and who demonstrates an innovative

approach to residential design, the emergence of a unique architectural voice, and a developing mastery of architecture.

Both award recipients will be profiled in the April/May issue of *Midwest Home* magazine and will be formally recognized at a program hosted by AIA Minnesota and the magazine in late spring (date and location to be announced).

Albertsson and McGuire were selected from among a pool of candidates by a jury comprised of past recipients Bob Ganser, AIA, and Mark Larson, AIA, along with Andrea Johnson, AIA, faculty at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture, and Chris Lee, editor of *Midwest Home* magazine.

UNIVERSITY  
OF MINNESOTA

## ARCHITECTURE AS CATALYST 2017

**WHEN:** March 6–10, 2017

**WHERE:** University of Minnesota

Architecture as Catalyst is an annual week-long event, bringing new ideas, conversations, and expertise to the school by inviting guests from around the world to run experimental workshops with graduate students and give public lectures on their work.

Each year, the week before spring break, first and second year graduate architecture students engage with the guests and host faculty in intensive five-day workshops, each focused around a unique set of ideas and techniques. Learn more on the [website](#).

**AXPIARE**

## ARE Scholarship Recipient

Congratulations to Eric Lagergren, Assoc. AIA, from Scalzo Architects, Ltd. in Duluth!



In a blind review of five applications, Eric has been selected to receive AIA Minnesota's 2017 ARE Scholarship. In 300 words or less, each applicant wrote an essay defining the role of the licensed architect of the future. The thesis for Eric's essay is, "The role of the future architect is to bridge the socio-economic divide by imbuing thoughtful and intelligent design with dynamic delivery methods." [Read more.](#)

## AIA Minnesota Lending Library Update

AIA Minnesota has received a copy of the Ballast 5.0 review manual, which is now in our lending library and available to AIA Associate members.

So how do you prepare for the ARE 5.0 exams? [Learn more about making the transition.](#)

## ARE 4.0 Review, Site Planning & Design

**WHEN:** Monday, April 10,  
6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

**WHERE:** AIA Minnesota Office

**DETAILS:** [See more details and register.](#)

**AIA NATIONAL**

## Delegates Needed for 2017 AIA Conference on Architecture

If you plan to attend the AIA Conference on Architecture 2017 (A'17), please consider becoming a delegate. Delegates are official representatives of their chapter and participate in the business meetings and election of officers. Duties include being present for the candidate speeches, voting and attending the business meeting. A change this year will have the regional caucuses, candidate speeches, and annual Business Meeting all happening prior to the start of the conference, on Wednesday, April 26. This is an effort to avoid conflict with increased learning and networking opportunities during the Convention. We need delegates from AIA Northern Minnesota, AIA St. Paul, and AIA Minneapolis. If you are interested please email Amber at [allardyce@aia-mn.org](mailto:allardyce@aia-mn.org).

## OTHER CE TOPICS PLANNED FOR DEVELOPMENT/ DELIVERY THIS YEAR

- Ethics
- Minnesota commercial energy code
- Current state of lean and IPD in healthcare
- Use of technology to improve services: iterative design, parametrics, compatibility between programs
- Residential series
- ADA updates

If you have topics that you'd like to see addressed and/or, if you'd like to join the CE committee and help guide the development of the programs we offer, please contact committee chair Nicole Washburn, AIA, at [nwashburn@jlgarchitects.com](mailto:nwashburn@jlgarchitects.com) or staff liaison Deanna Christiansen at [christiansen@aia-mn.org](mailto:christiansen@aia-mn.org).

## CONTINUING EDUCATION



### DESIGNER'S GUIDE TO SUCCESSFUL VEGETATIVE ROOFS

[There is still time to register!](#)

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 7, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

**WHERE:** International Market Square

### SPECIAL INSPECTIONS/ FIRESTOPPING

[Register now!](#)

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 23,  
8:30 am to 10:00 am

**WHERE:** International Market Square

### ENERGY ANALYSIS DESIGN DAY ONE

Best of the Best program from the 2016 Convention!

**WHEN:** April TBD

**WHERE:** International Market Square

### ON-DEMAND WEBINAR AVAILABLE NOW! MINNESOTA CONSERVATION CODE FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS: WORK AREA METHOD

Presented on October 11, 2016, this program is now available on our website as an on-demand webinar. The program provides a step-by-step discussion of the code including two in-depth case studies. [View webinar.](#)

## CHAPTER UPDATES

### AIA MINNEAPOLIS

#### MONTHLY LUNCHEON

**WHAT:** Nicollet Mall: From Concept through Construction, A Presentation by James Corner Field Operations' Lisa Switkin

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 16, 11:45 am

**WHERE:** International Market Square, Ste. 185

**DETAILS:** As a senior principal at James Corner Field Operations—a leading-edge landscape architecture and urban design firm—Lisa Switkin helps reimagine signature urban spaces, weaving natural and engineered systems into vibrant, green destinations with multiple stories and experiences. Join Switkin for a behind-the-scenes look at the transformation of Nicollet Mall in downtown Minneapolis. [Register to attend](#) by Monday, March 13.

#### BOWLING NITE

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 16, 5:30 pm  
check-in; 6:00 bowling

**WHERE:** Bryant-Lake Bowl

**DETAILS:** The 2017 Strike Force is happy to announce the return of AIA Minneapolis Bowling Nite on Thursday March 16th at Bryant-Lake Bowl. This is an annual reprieve from cabin fever and a chance to socialize with your AIA chapter colleagues. Space limited to 48. [Sign up here.](#) Sign up as a team of 6, or if you are fewer, we will incorporate you into a team!

### SAVE THE DATE! 2017 GOLF OUTING

**WHEN:** Monday, July 24

**WHERE:** Majestic Oaks Golf Club

**DETAILS:** Watch for more details and registration in April. If you'd like to be a part of the golf committee, please contact Pam Nelson at [nelson@aia-mn.org](mailto:nelson@aia-mn.org).

### AIA ST. PAUL

#### ST. PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMPLETES FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

The three-year process, led by Tom Parent, AIA LEED® AP, involved multiple charrettes with a wide variety of stakeholders and will address the district's growing diversity.

[Learn more](#) in the article in Architect magazine.

### AIA NORTHERN MINNESOTA

#### SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

**WHEN:** Friday, July 14, 2017

ARCHITECTURE  
IN THE SCHOOLS

VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITY:  
CAREER EXPLORATION  
DAY PRESENTATIONS

Share your career journey and what it's like to be an architect with Minneapolis public high school students. Multiple dates and times available. Typical volunteer obligation is 1½ hours.

[Learn more and sign up to be a presenter.](#)

EMERGING  
PROFESSIONALS (EPC)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
DRAUGHTING CLUB

**WHEN:** Wednesday, March 8, 5:30 pm  
**WHERE:** Wander North Distillery, 308 Prince Street, St. Paul

Stop by for a pint and some good conversation! The AIA Minnesota Emerging Professionals Committee (EPC) organizes Draughting Club on the second Wednesday of each month.

[Check out the 2017 dates and locations.](#)

# COMMITTEE UPDATES

## Committee on the Environment

### MARCH 9TH DAY AT THE CAPITOL WITH USGBC MINNESOTA

In lieu of its March meeting, COTE is partnering with USGBC Minnesota for the Day at the Capitol: Your Voice Matters. Join USGBC Minnesota and COTE at the Capitol to hear from legislators and show your support of energy efficiency and green building policy in Minnesota. The event is free, but registration is required. [Register](#) today.

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 9, 8:15-10:30 am program, 11:00 am-1:00 pm legislative meetings (participation optional)

**WHERE:** Minnesota State Capitol Rotunda, 75 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55155

## Residential Architecture Committee

*Take advantage of these opportunities to gain exposure for your residential design:*

### HOME OF THE MONTH

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** March 13

**DETAILS:** Submit your residential project for consideration to be one of the twelve new Home of the Month projects to be featured in the Star Tribune's Sunday Homes section. [Learn more.](#)

### HOMES BY ARCHITECTS TOUR

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** April 3

**DETAILS:** Application for projects to be considered for inclusion in this year's tour is now available [here](#).

### HBA TOUR INFO SESSION

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 16, 5:00-6:00 pm

**WHERE:** AIA Minnesota

**DETAILS:** Have questions about what is involved in participating? Get them answered at this informal Q&A session, where members of the tour committee and some past participants will be on hand to share information. [RSVP to attend.](#)

### SAVE THE DATE! 2017 HOME OF THE MONTH EVENT

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 18 at the American Swedish Institute

**DETAILS:** More information and a registration link coming soon.



## ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The May/June issue of *Architecture MN Magazine* will feature Modern Houses, Temple Israel, and a Timberframe Office Tower. This issue also includes a special advertising section "Coming Soon & In Place" for firms to promote their projects or specialties.

Space deadline is technically March 3, but we may still be able to accommodate additional space reservations until March 15 so please contact Pam Nelson to reserve your ad at [nelson@aia-mn.org](mailto:nelson@aia-mn.org).

## WHAT IS YOUR DESIGN TEAM STORY?

We all learn by hearing stories. They tell us what's important. So as we work to transform, we've reached out to architects who have been a part of the "team" over the last thirty-five years and asked them to share their stories.

Here is the first one:

MDT has shaped my career as an architect. From my first visit as an intern, new to the Twin Cities, learning communications and engagement from experienced professionals and meeting peers from other disciplines, to more recent visits where I have mentored younger staff in the art of hand drawing, shared memories of past visits with MDT colleagues and enjoyed the uniqueness of small town Minnesota, I have learned that design thinking extends beyond the walls of a building or even the curb line.



Architects are uniquely qualified to envision "what could be" from nothing, and MDT is an incredible opportunity to do that in the service of greater Minnesota.

**Dan Green**  
miller dunwiddie architecture

Please share your Minnesota Design Team story with us! It can be about something you learned, made you a better architect, or a heartwarming story about working in greater Minnesota.

## TRANSITION UPDATE

### Minnesota Design Team

Last summer, the leadership of the Minnesota Design Team began to consider its future and its relationship with AIA-Minnesota. For a long time, MDT's relationship with AIA-Minnesota has been an informal one. Going forward, our relationship needs to be formal and sustainable.

We still have many questions to answer. But after several months of discussions, a successful winter retreat at the end of January and much additional discussion, here is where we are:

- MDT and AIA Minnesota are inextricably linked by a common mission and vision. Bob Mack, FAIA, in his recent Gold Medal remarks, could not have said it better: "When architects take on projects and develop designs, we need to pay more attention to the true impact of our work. We need to . . . take the lead in creating a more just and vibrant world."
- From the beginning, MDT has relied almost exclusively on volunteers and has operated on a threadbare budget. To be sustainable, to continue to provide the unique and invaluable services to Minnesota communities, this most likely needs to change. One option we are actively exploring is becoming a stand-alone non-profit (still closely linked with AIA Minnesota). This would enable us to seek grant funds to stabilize our organization and further our work.
- MDT is just one of dozens of entities working with outstate Minnesota communities, helping them address myriad challenges, and helping them intentionally plan more vibrant communities. We will seek to collaborate more closely with these groups and coordinate our efforts so that the the communities we visit can successfully leverage ALL of what WE do in reaching their goals.
- As the original city planners, the discipline of architecture is uniquely positioned to be the leaders in showing how thoughtful design can benefit a community. In addition to maintaining a special relationship with AIA Minnesota, we need to be better at involving more architects involved in the work we do.

We've lots of work still to do in this transformation! The steering committee will continue to work through the benefits of the different options before us and we plan to engage the larger membership of both MDT and AIA Minnesota in this effort.

We will update you here as we make progress. And we encourage you to reach out to any or all of us if you have questions, concerns, ideas or suggestions.

Thank you for your support in our effort to make MDT stronger.

Hans Muessig, co-chair  
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[jbarbour@shelterarchitecture.com](mailto:jbarbour@shelterarchitecture.com)

## MINNEAPOLIS/ ST. PAUL CHAPTER, SOCIETY OF DESIGN ADMINISTRATION

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 16,  
12:00-1:00

**WHERE:** AIA-MN Board Room,  
International Market Square,  
Minneapolis

The March 16, 2017 meeting of The Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter of the Society for Design Administration (SDA) will be a video entitled, "Unconscious Bias at Work." This video will cover Human Resource issues within the work place. There will be a 15-minute discussion following the presentation. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kay Johnson at [kjohnson@michaudcooley.com](mailto:kjohnson@michaudcooley.com) to get more information. See [www.sdamn.org](http://www.sdamn.org) for meeting information and schedule.

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## PEOPLE & FIRMS

### CUNINGHAM GROUP ARCHITECTURE ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS



**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL DAN GROTHE, AIA, LEED® AP** || Throughout his 15 years as an architect at Cunningham Group, Dan has successfully led multiple large-scale construction and renovation projects for our corporate clients, including Epic Systems' corporate campus.



**SENIOR ASSOCIATE MIKE BERG, AIA** || Mike has been with Cunningham Group for 12 years, providing leadership in project development for education, nonprofit and corporate clients, including Epic Systems' corporate campus.



**SENIOR ASSOCIATE SCOTT KRENNER, AIA** || Scott has been with Cunningham Group for 11 years and his educational facility portfolio includes some of our most innovative schools—Alexandria Area High School, North Park Elementary School, and Pathways Innovation Center/Roosevelt High School in Casper, WY.



**SENIOR ASSOCIATE AMY CHEEVER, AIA, NCARB, LEED® AP** || Throughout her 11 years with Cunningham Group, Amy has been integral to success of projects ranging from workplaces to libraries to multifamily living, including the Regatta and Landing residences in Wayzata.



**SENIOR ASSOCIATE PAUL HAGEN, AIA** || Paul has an extensive career in architecture, including 12 years at Cunningham Group, where his main focus has been in education and workplace design, including Epic Systems' corporate campus.



**SENIOR ASSOCIATE PETE MIKELSON, AIA, LEED® AP** || An architect with Cunningham since 2011, Peter's main focus has been in work place design, specifically on Epic Systems' corporate campus and the design of Cunningham Group's Phoenix office, which recently opened in a historic Mid-Century Modern landmark.

### LHB ANNOUNCES PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION



**Becky Alexander, AIA** has earned the WELL Accredited Professional (WELL AP™) credential through the International WELL Building Institute™ (IWBI™), placing her among a group of leading professionals who are dedicated to supporting human health and well-being in the built environment.

### JEFFREY COLEMAN NAMED 2017 CLIENT CHOICE AWARD WINNER

The Coleman Law Firm of Minneapolis is delighted to announce that founding partner **Jeffrey Coleman**, has been named a 2017 Client Choice award winner. Mr. Coleman is the state of Minnesota's exclusive Client Choice Award recipient in the construction category.

## Make Matrix Your Own

APRIL *Matrix* editorial deadline is Friday, March 17.

MAY *Matrix* editorial deadline is Friday, April 21.

Please submit content to Sheri Hansen at [Hansen@aia-mn.org](mailto:Hansen@aia-mn.org).