



Investing in Excellence, Leadership, Discovery and Equity in the Profession of Architecture

The Minnesota Architectural Foundation benefits the community by funding crucial growth opportunities that educate, inspire and support emerging architects. Through its scholarship and fellowship programs, the MAF invests in the architectural community to promote excellence, encourage discovery, foster equity and advance leadership in the architectural profession.

During 2020, the Foundation and our communities at large were challenged by a number of impactful events. Through those challenges, the Foundation continued to support our community with nearly \$50,000 in scholarships and fellowships to support the future of our profession.

Created in 1992 as the Minority Architectural Scholarship, this fund was renamed the **Clarence Wigington Minority Architectural Scholarship** to recognize the extraordinary professional and civic accomplishments of the first African American municipal architect in the United States and the first licensed African American architect in Minnesota. This fund provides tuition scholarships to black, Indigenous and students of color who wish to pursue a professional architecture degree in Minnesota with the intent of becoming a Registered Architect. For the past several years, this scholarship has been enhanced through a special gift of \$1,000 from AIA's Component Matching Grant Program. The Clarence W. Wigington Minority Scholarship has provided tuition scholarships for eight students of color since its inception. In 2020 as the Dunwoody College of Technology architecture program became accredited, the Foundation added students of that program to those who would be eligible for the Wigington scholarship. Prior scholarship recipients Laichee Yang and Jordan Strickland who are in their second- and third-year graduate studies respectively continue to be supported this year. In addition, two new students, Faize Duale from Dunwoody and Samuel Fleming from the University of Minnesota also received scholarships in 2020.

In 2018, the MAF launched the **Women in Architecture Fund** to promote equity in the architecture profession through grants that address challenges that women face over the course of their careers. Applicants are encouraged to present entrepreneurial, innovative, and/or research-based ideas. The vision of this fund is to support the advancement of women in the profession of architecture by increasing the diversity of perspectives in design processes thereby leading to more inclusive design solutions. The Women in Architecture Fund held one grant cycle in 2020 and is funding two grantees at \$2,500 each. Outside the Box Architecture Programming will fund curriculum development and project materials for a Spring 2021 workshop in Duluth aimed at engaging underrepresented populations of middle school students. The second grant have been awarded to Precipitate to fund research on COVID-19 and the equity of impact on workers in architecture.

First awarded in 1989, the **Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship** honors Ralph Rapson, FAIA. Based on a weekend juried design competition, this partially endowed fellowship

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Thomas F. Ellerbe Scholarship  
Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship  
Clarence Wigington Minority Architectural Scholarship  
Beverly E. Hauschild-Baron Leadership Fund  
Women in Architecture Fund

awards young Minnesota architectural graduates or practitioners a stipend to advance their architectural education. The Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship has provided \$284,000 in funds since 1989 to advance 26 individual's education in architecture through foreign or domestic travel-study. The Rapson Fellowship Competition was held in March with the final jury selection delayed but eventually held virtually in September. Five finalists were selected from a field of 36 entries. The jury awarded a \$12,000 fellowship to Matthew Tierney, AIA who is planning to travel along two river systems to study the ways architecture, infrastructure and people interact with water.

The **Beverly E. Hauschild-Baron Leadership Fund** was established in 2001 to recognize Beverly Hauschild-Baron's 25 years of service to AIA Minnesota. Its purpose is to help develop ongoing leadership for AIA Minnesota by providing financial support for AIA Minnesota members and AIA Minnesota staff pursuing leadership training. This year the fund providing one scholarship for a 2020 Leadership Forum participant. While sponsoring a keynote speaker at the AIA Minnesota Conference on Architecture has been a typical expenditure of this fund, the virtual nature of the conference in 2020 greatly reduced the overall need for financial support. The fund committee is currently exploring alternate opportunities to support leadership development in our community in 2021.

The **Thomas F. Ellerbe Scholarship** was endowed in 1981 by the Ellerbe firm In honor of Thomas F. Ellerbe, FAIA. This fund annually awards two or more scholarships to exemplary architectural and engineering students In the final year of their master's program. To date, there have been 17 engineering and 62 architectural recipients receiving over \$184,000 in awards. Due to the unique circumstances of this year, no scholarships were awarded in 2020. The intent is to reactivate this scholarship program in 2021.

This year, the Foundation looked for unique opportunities to support our community through the challenges of the ongoing pandemic. The difficult economic conditions that new or recent college graduates have faced this year became a focus for a new ARE Support program. Using General Fund dollars, the Foundation provided almost \$12,000 to support members of our community who are pursuing licensure but are laid off, furloughed or currently unemployed by financially supporting access to ARE study materials.

Moving into 2021, the Foundation will continue to concentrate fundraising efforts on the Wigington Fund to push towards the ability to provide more significant financial support to a greater number of students each year. Our fundraising goals are ambitious, but already in the second half of 2020 we have received several meaningful contributions and pledges.

The MAF fundraising efforts remain vital to our mission, and we are so grateful for your continued support. Thank you to all who have supported the MAF through your generous and tax-deductible contributions. Visit [www.MinnesotaArchitecturalFoundation.org](http://www.MinnesotaArchitecturalFoundation.org) for more information on our funds, scholars and mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MEREDITH HAYES GORDON". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Meredith Hayes Gordon, AIA