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## **AIA MINNESOTA MATRIX NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2020**

### **IMPORTANT NOTES FROM AIA MINNESOTA**

The AIA Minnesota office is closed until May 29. All staff are working remotely, available via email and phone.

**All meetings will be conducted via Zoom.** Please check the website calendar for updates on events, and note meeting details below.

For updates on COVID-19 and resources for your business, please visit the [AIA Minnesota website](#).

### **EVENTS CANCELED/POSTPONED**

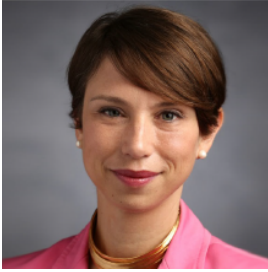
- Minnesota Amendments to IBC Seminar, April 7 canceled
- Home of the Month Event, April 28 canceled
- Spring ARE Review sessions postponed
- Numerous University of Minnesota events canceled
- A'20 (AIA National Conference on Architecture) postponed
- Doors Open Minneapolis postponed

## **We Need Each Other**

**By Mary-Margaret Zindren, EVP/Executive Director**

How does this pandemic-induced financial crisis differ from the Great Recession? It is unprecedented in the depth and breadth of its impact - and in how it has brought forth our shared humanity.

As I write this, we have held 10 of 17 scheduled virtual Town Hall meetings - listening sessions to understand the specific concerns, questions, and ideas



members have related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its financial impact.

In these conversations, I have been deeply struck by your care and compassion. The conversations have quickly turned to how members of the architecture community can help each other, and how we can help the broader community in this time of extraordinary need.

What we have learned from these Town Hall meetings has already shaped our legislative advocacy and the resources we provide through our website, our CEs, and our committees and knowledge communities. We're developing even more ways for you to keep in touch with us as this situation evolves; keep reading this issue of Matrix for additional ways to connect and help us serve you well.

Perhaps the most important learning for us as a staff team is a deepened sense of how much we care about you all as people. Holding only Zoom meetings these past two weeks has let us more into your world, and you into ours. In addition to knowing you as great architects, architectural designers, faculty members, thinkers, and volunteers, we now have been introduced to many of your home office setups, your dogs and cats, and your children. Thank you for staying connected to us and to each other, and for letting us into your world. When the reason you exist as an organization is to fight on behalf of the individuals who make up your membership, knowing those people more personally only makes you fight harder.

Our shared humanity is making us a stronger community - and we will need these strong bonds as we work to keep this community together, riding the waves of the weeks and months to come.

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## COVID-19 RESOURCES

### AIA Minnesota Completes Town Hall Meetings

In late March, AIA Minnesota conducted 17 virtual Town Hall meetings with various segments of the membership to better understand your needs and concerns. These meetings will help us align our resources with providing the services you need in the coming months.

For notes recapping those town hall discussions, visit this [web page](#) to request a password.

If you have further questions, concerns, or ideas for AIA Minnesota during this unprecedented emergency, please contact any member of the AIA Minnesota staff or submit them via this [online form](#).

### Architecture Essential During the Stay at Home Order

Minnesota is currently operating under the [Governor's Stay at Home Executive Order](#), effective until 5:00 pm on Friday, April 10.

Architecture is [exempted](#) from this order, as it is on the [Minnesota Critical Businesses List](#). This means that architects can travel to job sites as needed.

In all cases, we urge members to complete as much work remotely as possible in order to comply with the spirit of the executive order. If work must be completed in person, members should practice social distancing and other safety practices to protect their health and the health of others.

## AIA Issues Guidance on Standard of Care for Site Visits

AIA National's Risk Management team has developed a [document](#) that reviews the key considerations each firm and practitioner must evaluate when making decisions about on-site work, and some potential mitigating technologies and best practices that are available to the profession.

Please continue your efforts to protect our public health and the safety of your teams as you make decisions about whether to visit job sites during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## AIA Minnesota Advocates on Your Behalf

AIA Minnesota staff, member leaders, and contract lobbying partners have been actively advocating for the profession during this critical time.

Prior to the issuance of the Governor's Stay at Home Executive Order, we lobbied the Governor and legislative leaders - via the Building Jobs Coalition, which we co-chair - requesting that the construction industry broadly be exempted from any shelter-in-place order that might be issued, and urged passage of a significant bonding bill (as of today, we understand that a bonding bill remains a high priority for the Legislature). We also issued our own letter advocating specifically for architecture to be exempted in order to allow for the completion of critical on-site work. These letters are available on our [website](#).

We are also aware of issues arising related to shifts in local government staffing, particularly related to permitting and inspection. AIA Minnesota continues to be in contact with the League of Minnesota Cities as they develop support mechanisms and guidelines for cities throughout the state. The Department of Labor and Industry has also issued this [Guidance for Building Inspections During COVID-19](#) to help cities navigate this time.

Please stay connected to AIA Minnesota for updates as we continue to work on your behalf with leaders at the state and local level.

## Share Your Unique Skills with FEMA/Army Corps of Engineers

AIA Minnesota has registered the architecture profession as standing ready to assist with emergency needs related to the COVID-19 epidemic. However, individual firms and practitioners are also encouraged to register with the Federal agencies to provide details about professional skills.

The effort to build out facilities to expand local and regional capacity is being lead by the US Army Corps of Engineers through FEMA. They need help from the private sector.

<https://www.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Contracting/>  
<https://www.usace.army.mil/Coronavirus/>

Firms and individuals interested in working on this should take the first step of registering: <https://sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/index.jsf>

Within SAM.gov is the Disaster Response Registry, where you can register your company's unique capabilities: <https://sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/searchRecords/advancedDRSearch.jsf>

## Free AIAU Courses for AIA Members

To help AIA members navigate through the rapidly changing business environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, AIA National is making some of AIAU's best business and tech courses available to AIA members for free. Learn valuable skills about virtual practice, successful business strategies, risk management, and more from some of the most innovative architects, firms, and design professionals. [Learn more »](#)

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### CALL TO ACTION

## Help Define Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Projects Survey

The National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the Social Economic Environmental Design Network (SEED Network) are creating a shared vision of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) among our collective members by asking for your input.

Your voice will help shape the criteria for the 2020 NOMA-NAACP-SEED Awards, which will be given to six projects in the US that are excellent examples of JEDI in design, architecture, and land development. [Take the nine-question survey »](#)

## Call for AIA Fellowship Candidates

Have you made a significant contribution to the profession and society while exemplifying architectural excellence? You can become a member of the AIA College of Fellows. AIA Fellows are recognized with the AIA's highest membership honor for their exceptional work and contributions to architecture and society. The prestige of FAIA after your name is unparalleled and the judging is rigorous. If you want to learn more about the process and receive advice throughout the nomination process, let the AIA Minnesota Fellows Advisory Group help. Notify [Amber Allardyce](#) of your interest to be included on the meeting announcements.

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## COMMITTEE AND KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY UPDATES

### ARCHITECT LICENSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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**Thursday, April 2, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

#### PROMETRIC TEST SITES TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Prometric has determined it is necessary and appropriate to **temporarily close test centers in the United States and Canada for a period of 30 days, starting March 18**. They anticipate reopening the test centers effective April 16. If you have an existing appointment with Prometric, you will receive email instructions on how to reschedule your appointment to a future date once it is safe to resume testing. No rescheduling fees will be applied. [Prometric announcement »](#)

#### SPRING AIA MINNESOTA ARE 5.0 REVIEWS POSTPONED

Due to low registration numbers, AIA Minnesota has canceled the Construction & Evaluation ARE Review and the Practice Management and Project Management ARE Review that were scheduled for March and April. We plan to reschedule these classes at a later time.

#### ARE LENDING LIBRARY

The AIA Minnesota Lending Library will continue to be available for use on a limited basis. A staff member will be in the office one morning each week, with the exception of the two weeks of the stay at home order (March 30-April 10). If you have a book that is due to be returned and/or if you would like to check out one of the study manuals from the library, please email [Deanna Christiansen](#) to make an appointment.

### ARCHITECTURE IN THE SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

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**Thursday, April 9, 8:30 am**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

### ARCHITECTURE MN COMMITTEE

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**Wednesday, April 15, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

### BUILDING CODES KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

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**Wednesday, April 8, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

The meeting will be an Open Forum discussion with continued review of updates to current release of MN code chapters via the DOLI website.

### COMMITTEE ON DESIGN

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**Thursday, April 9, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

The committee will continue its assessment of AIA Minnesota Awards during the April meeting.

**Spring AIA Minnesota awards programs, including the AIA Minnesota Young Architects Award and the Affordable Housing Design Awards programs, are delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please watch the AIA Minnesota website for updates on individual programs.**

## COUNCIL OF FIRMS KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

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This knowledge committee is planning to meet every Monday from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm to address any firm-related COVID-19 items. [Virtual Meeting info »](#)

## EMERGING PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

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**Tuesday, April 7, 7:30 am**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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**Tuesday, April 21, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

The committee will discuss the policy impact of COVID-19 in Minnesota.

## HEALTH DESIGN KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

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**Thursday, April 30, 4:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

The knowledge community will discuss the Guidelines Update: 2022 Edition.

## HOUSING ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

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**Wednesday, May 6, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

## KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY ON THE ENVIRONMENT (KCOTE) SHIFTS TO COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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In June 2019, AIA members overwhelmingly voted on a resolution to "exponentially accelerate the decarbonization of buildings, the building sector, and the built environment." To help guide AIA Minnesota's work towards this goal, our Knowledge Community on the Environment is going to shift to a working committee. We are inviting all who are interested in being a part of this volunteer effort to join us for a COTE Organizing and Visioning discussion. These discussions will be offered at two different times via Zoom to which you are encouraged to join

one or the other, as your schedule allows. The two dates scheduled are Tuesday, April 7 from 8 to 9:30 am; and Tuesday, April 14 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm.

**Tuesday, April 7, 8:00 am**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

**Tuesday, April 14, 3:30 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

## LAKE SUPERIOR DESIGN RETREAT COMMITTEE

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**Monday, April 20, 11:30 am**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

## MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM (MDT)

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**MDT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 15, 4:30 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

**APRIL VOLUNTEER MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 15, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Virtual Meeting**

Introduction to the MDT Community Workbook Update project. [Learn more and register »](#)

### UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Leader-in-training for the visit to Gary, Minnesota June 12 - 14
- Volunteers for the Gary visit
- Volunteers to review Mahnomen's application

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact [Ann Mayhew](#).

Do you have MDT files - physical or digital - on your personal home or computer? Please send to [Ann Mayhew](#).

## RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

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**Tuesday, April 7, 12:00 pm**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

## TECHNOLOGY IN PRACTICE (TAP) KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

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The Technology in Practice (TAP) knowledge community is building a virtual community on Slack. Firm leaders are encouraged to direct their AIA and non-AIA technical staff as well as tech-enthusiasts to join the TAP community as our practice moves into an increasingly digital marketplace. If you have questions or would like to

be a part of this group, please contact co-chair [Adam Wilbrecht](#), or AIA Minnesota staff liaison [Deanna Christiansen](#).

## WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

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**Wednesday, April 8, 8:00 am**

[Virtual Meeting](#)

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### MINNESOTA LICENSE RENEWALS ARE DUE JUNE 30, 2020

The Minnesota AELSLAGID licensing board has opened online renewals for 2020-2022. A postcard was mailed to the primary address given by licensees/certificate holders (which may be a work address) on Friday, and we have just sent an email to those who subscribe to the Board's email communications. The postcard shows an April 6 (next Monday) open, but they have, in fact, opened early. Architects must have 24 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) earned between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2020 to renew their license to practice architecture in Minnesota. Two of those PDHs must focus on professional ethics. Visit the [AELSLAGID website](#) for the board's COVID-19 statement and license renewal details. Visit the [2018 carryover page](#) for the post of 2018 CE carryover for 2020 renewals.

### NEW ETHICS WEBINAR NOW AVAILABLE: ETHICAL DESIGN IN THE ERA OF CLIMATE CHANGE

As our society faces increasingly complex challenges, from climate change, to social equity, to an emphasis on individual well-being, architecture provides a primary means to address these problems head-on. With the landslide vote to adopt the Resolution for Urgent and Sustained Climate Action at the A'19 Conference, the architecture community signaled its desire to choose relevance in the era of climate change by adopting the Framework for Design Excellence. Take advantage of this on-demand webinar and explore the reasons why the AIA Code of Ethics now includes "Obligations to the Environment with regard to Ethical Standard 6.5: Climate Change." [For details and to register »](#)

### OTHER CURRENT WEBINAR OPPORTUNITIES

Take advantage of AIA Minnesota's on-demand webinars and face-to-face sessions to help you meet your continuing education requirement. [Learn more »](#)

### MATERIALS MATTER WORKSHOP SERIES

Knowing where our materials come from, what's in them, how they were made, and how long they'll persist in the environment beyond the life of a building gives us greater control over our projects and our product decisions. Gaining this knowledge will empower architects to become advocates for materials transparency, enhancing design of a healthier, greener, more prosperous, and more equitable built environment. Materials Matter is a series of 5 workshops. Watch for more details to come soon.

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## NATIONAL & LOCAL CHAPTER UPDATES



## AIA NATIONAL

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### A'20 POSTPONED

A'20 has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Watch for updates from AIA National about a rescheduled event.

### AIA AWARDS NOW OPEN

The AIA Architecture Awards program celebrates the best contemporary architecture regardless of budget, style, size, or type. This coveted award honors some of the most exciting architecture of the year, and showcases the many ways buildings and spaces improve our lives. Deadline for submissions is June 23, 2020. [Learn more »](#)

### AIA 2020 HOME DESIGN TRENDS SURVEY PANEL

The AIA's Home Design Trends Survey is a recognized resource for emerging trends in residential design. We need firm leaders to respond to the survey to help us better track trends. Through HDTs you can use data to track trends and plan for future business conditions. [Join today »](#)

### AIA NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The competition is open to any and all architects actively registered in the United States. The contest is also open to Associate members of the AIA, and student members of AIAS in good standing. Professional Affiliate or Allied members are not eligible. Fourteen award winning images will be exhibited at A'20 Conference on Architecture in Los Angeles, CA. [Learn more and enter »](#)

### MEMBER PROFILE

Update your contact preferences, education, licenses, career, and contact information online. Visit [myprofile.aia.org](http://myprofile.aia.org).

## AIA MINNEAPOLIS

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### APRIL LUNCHEON: VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

**Thursday, April 16, 12:00 pm**

Hear from attorney Kristine Kubes, Esq., of Kubes Law Office, about recent changes to the Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct and how they may impact your practice. 1 LU applied for + 1 Ethics Credit. [Register »](#)

Note that April and May's luncheons will be virtual meetings. **Registration in advance is required.**

### SAVE THE DATE: GOLF OUTING

**Monday, July 27**

**Majestic Oaks Golf Club**

We are planning to hold the AIA Minneapolis Golf Outing on Monday, July 27 at Majestic Oaks Golf Club. This is a great day of golf and a great way to support the Minnesota Architectural Foundation.

Registration is opening soon.

[Check back for golfer registration »](#)

[Check back for sponsorship opportunities »](#)

### DOORS OPEN MINNEAPOLIS POSTPONED

Doors Open Minneapolis has been postponed until this fall. Volunteer opportunities will remain the same. Stay tuned for more details!

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## A'20 MN: THE MINNESOTA CONFERENCE ON ARCHITECTURE



The graphic features a red background. On the left, the text 'A'20 MN' is displayed in large, bold, black and white letters. On the right, the AIA Minnesota logo is shown, consisting of a black square with a white eagle emblem and the text 'AIA Minnesota' in white. Below the logo, the text 'The Minnesota Conference on Architecture' is written in white. Underneath that, the dates 'November 10 - 13, 2020' and the location 'Minneapolis Convention Center' are also written in white.

### PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES

Program planning has begun and our committee is seeking ideas and proposals for continuing education presentations and tours for this year's Conference.

**Program and Tour Proposals:** Who can propose a program or tour? Just about anyone! A committee, a firm or company, an individual member, an allied member or organization, to name a few.

**Topics to Propose:** The selection committee will choose a wide variety of topics to be presented; however, this year's Conference will include a special focus on climate action, as well as programs addressing business continuity, providing skills and resources to assist firms and individuals to remain resilient during the recovery from the pandemic. Visit the [A'20 MN web page](#) to access this request. **Deadline is May 11, 2020.**

**Ideas:** And if you don't have a proposal to make, but simply have an idea for a topic or speaker, let us know. Send your suggestions to [Deanna Christiansen](#).

### BOOTH REGISTRATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES COMING SOON

We are looking forward to showcasing the latest innovative design and construction industry products and services to our 1,500+ attendees, composed of architects and building industry professionals who come to network, receive continuing education, and seek out new products and companies for partnerships. [Watch here for more information to come »](#)

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## PEOPLE & FIRMS

**Traci Engel Lesnewski, Assoc. AIA**, has been named president and CEO of **MSR Design**.

**Emily Nelsen, AIA**, of **CNH Architects**, was honored in Washington, D.C. for her contributions to an innovative passive house design. [Learn more »](#)

**Jeremy Woitaszewski, AIA**, has been made president and principal of architecture at **Baker Associates, Inc. Architects**.

## WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Maya Dailey, Assoc. AIA  
Sarah Gastler, Assoc. AIA  
Hannah Graf, Assoc. AIA

Bridgette Marso, Assoc. AIA  
Dustin Schipper, Assoc. AIA  
Xinhong Wang, Assoc. AIA

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## AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit the [AIA Minnesota Events Calendar](#) for more information about upcoming events. For events not sponsored by AIA Minnesota, please check directly with sponsors for up-to-date information about cancellations, postponements, or virtual meetings.



### CHECK OUT THE LATEST ISSUE OF [ARCHITECTURE MN](#).

The March/April issue features the stories and images of the seven winners of the 2019 AIA Minnesota Honor Awards. Plus: Design travel to the Shigeru Ban-designed Aspen Art Museum and an interview with the Minneapolis Parks Foundation's Paul Bauknight on the importance of community engagement in park planning. [Read more »](#)

## ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The July/August issue features Midcentury Renovation & Top Sustainable Projects. This issue also includes the Directory of Renovation, Remodeling, & Restoration. If your architectural firm specializes in any of these areas, you should be listed here!

Directory deadline is April 24. Ad space reservation deadline is May 8.

[Click here](#) for the 2020 media kit and directory forms and contact [Pam Nelson](#) to reserve your ad spot.



*Matrix is published  
by AIA Minnesota.*

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**Karen Lu, AIA**

AIA Minnesota Executive Vice President

**Mary-Margaret Zindren, CAE**

AIA Minnesota Matrix Editor

**Sheri Hansen**

**MAY** Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, April 17.

**JUNE** Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, May 15.

Please submit content to [AIA Minnesota](#).

Get updates on events, activities and the latest architectural news from AIA Minnesota and its chapters on social media. Don't forget to tag us on your news to share!



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