



AIA
Minnesota

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

Matrix

AIA MINNESOTA MATRIX NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

What Does Excellence Look Like?

By Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA, AIA Minnesota President



Happy 2022, AIA Minnesota Community!

I am looking forward to serving as president of AIA Minnesota this year. Yes, even in the space of COVID, climate change and systemic injustice, there is a place for hope and optimism. We as a profession can make measurable and meaningful impact in creating a built environment that is more resilient, sustainable, and just!

By now we are all familiar with [AIA 2030](#), the [AIA Framework for Design Excellence](#), and [Just](#), created by the [International Living Future Institute](#). These platforms provide metrics, tools, and case studies to assist in the process of creating good design and workplace systems that serve people and protect the planet, goals that are near and dear to my heart. This fuels my vision for how we can be a catalyst for change, modeling best practices to the clients we serve and the communities we help to create. How do we collectively build a culture of excellence where zero-carbon, resilient, and equitable outcomes are the norm within the profession?

My vision for our organization this year centers on developing our next AIA Minnesota strategic workplan, aligning our AIA Minnesota members' needs and desires with [AIA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025](#). The priorities identified in the AIA plan are twofold:

- 1. Climate action for human and ecological health**
- 2. Advancing racial, ethnic, and gender equity**

The ten principles of the Framework for Design Excellence focus on climate action,

well-being, and equity and will help to inform our strategic workplan. When we Design for Integration, Equitable Communities, Ecosystems, Water, Economy, Energy, Well-Being, Resources, Change, and Discovery, we can make transformational shifts toward a better built environment. Of course, every project won't meet all criteria, but it is my hope that we can create an ongoing dialogue of what's working well so that we can support and inspire our community to not only know better but to do better.

When it comes to equity, our strategic workplan will also be informed by two key initiatives and resources:

- [The 2030 Diversity Challenge](#), an initiative of NOMA and the AIA Large Firm Roundtable to double the number of African American architects from 2,500 to 5,000 by 2030. This effort will involve eliminating systemic barriers and pinch points by providing scholarships, paid internships, entry-level and management jobs with meaningful experiences, and mentoring to increase representation in firms and develop opportunities for leadership.
- The recent study commissioned by the AIA and The Center for WorkLife Law titled [The Elephant in the \(Well Designed\) Room](#) – it focuses on bias within the architecture profession. As I read through the report, I could unfortunately relate to the disturbing examples of workplace culture that women and people of color face daily. We must acknowledge and wrestle with these inequities and biases. My hope is that we will create a culture of practice where everyone is seen, valued, and heard.

We are at a critical crossroad to ensure the well-being of our planet and its people for future generations. It will take all of us working together to resolve the critical issues of climate change and equity that we are facing globally. What does excellence look like? How will we know? These are questions that I will continue to pose and challenge as we build intentional change for a reimagined future, one that centers resilience, sustainability, and equity.

I look forward to what we learn and how we grow together this year!

CALL TO ACTION

Firm Assessments

Attention Firm Principals and Marketing Staff: Firm Assessments have been emailed to the firm contacts and are due on January 31, 2022. Firm Directory Profile Questionnaires will be emailed in early January 2022. Firms must pay 2021 Firm Assessments and complete the Firm Directory Profile Questionnaire in order to be listed in the AIA Minnesota Firm Directory that will be published in an annual print publication of *ENTER* and on the AIA Minnesota website. [Learn more »](#)



SAY IT LOUD Exhibition

Exhibit Open Through January 30, 2022

Physical Exhibition, HGA Gallery, UMN College of Design

[View the Virtual Exhibit and Learn More »](#)

Curated by New York-based architect **Pascale Sablan, FAIA, NOMA**, SAY IT LOUD elevates the work of BIPOC and women designers working in built environment fields.

Participating AIA Minnesota members include **Kristine Anderson, Assoc. AIA; Tammy Angaran, AIA; Abimbola Asojo, AIA; Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA; Tu-Anh Bui Johnson, Assoc. AIA; Trevor Bullen, AIA; Nina Ebbighausen, AIA; James Garrett Jr., AIA, NOMA; Damaris Hollingsworth, AIA, NOMA; Karen Lu, AIA, NOMA; Joy Martin, AIA; Jody McGuire, AIA; Celina Nelson, Assoc. AIA; Jennifer Newsom, AIA; Mary Springer, AIA; and Lyssa Washington, AIA, NOMA.** [Learn more »](#)

Targeted Community Capital Project Grant Program Application Deadline Extended to January 7

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) extended the application deadline for the [Targeted Community Capital Project Grant Program](#) to January 7, 2022. Individual organizations and government entities may apply for up to \$1,500,000.

Nonprofit organizations and government entities are encouraged to apply for complex and costly capital projects that might not occur without public financial assistance. The projects must result in providing, increasing, and/or expanding access to economic development, education or workforce development programs or services to underserved communities or economically disadvantaged people or groups.

Eligible costs that could be covered by the grant include predesign, design,

acquisition of land or buildings, construction, furnishing and equipping a new or renovated building with a result of increasing access to services for the targeted communities.

Minnesota Solar for Schools Program Accepting Applications

The Minnesota Department of Commerce Division of Energy Resources requests proposals from qualified schools throughout Minnesota (outside of Xcel Energy Electricity Territory) for the Solar for Schools Grant Program. The program is designed to provide grants to stimulate the installation of solar energy systems while using the opportunity to integrate renewable energy use into the school's curriculum. Public schools, K-12 as well as state colleges and universities, are eligible for funding based on financial need. The RFP will be available on Wednesday, January 5, deadline is January 31. [Learn more »](#)



View the 2021 AIA Minnesota Awards Celebration

Did you miss the 2021 Awards Celebration? Hear the juror comments on the 2021 [Honor Awards](#), and view the video LHB created to celebrate their history as 2021 Firm Award recipient, as well as celebrating with all our other award winners! View the recording [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Association of General Contractors (AGC) Releases Annual Construction Industry Assessment

The results of the annual AGC of Minnesota survey of General Contractors, Specialty Contractors, Architects, Engineers, Industry Suppliers and Service Providers was released in December. Overall, respondents are strongly optimistic that market demand for construction services will be positive in 2022, reflecting a return to almost pre-COVID optimism levels. Project cancellations and deferrals

have abated slightly but remain at high levels for both building and highway markets. The pandemic remains a drag across all AEC sectors but flagging market opportunity due to COVID impacts has been overtaken by stubborn supply chain disruption and skilled workforce availability as the greatest challenge to business operations. [View the assessment »](#)

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Advertise in *ENTER*

We are launching the first annual print publication in early March 2022!

This annual publication will include thought-provoking features, inspiring articles, community profiles, Honor Award project showcases, and more. You will also find our AIA Minnesota firm directory and the directories of all our project partners.

Here is your chance to put your company in front of our members and the larger community of targeted influencers in this high-quality publication. Total print run is 5,000.

Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity to align your company and brand with *ENTER*!

Options for participation:

- Full-page and half-page print ads.
- Directory listings.
- Print & digital packages available.

[Click here](#) for rate card and more details.

Deadline is January 14th. Ads due January 21st.

ENTER digital will now be published on a biweekly basis starting mid-December. This is our main vehicle to reach architect members, related project partners, their clients, and others who have interest in the design of our community. Ads, sponsorships, and advertorial opportunities available biweekly starting at only

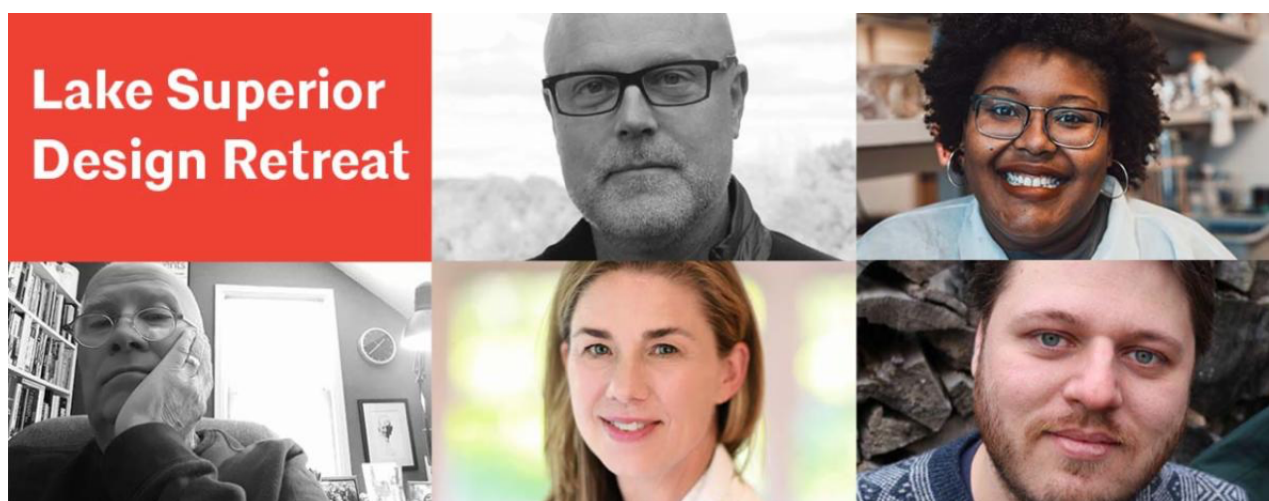
\$495.

Limited space available. Contact [Pam Nelson](#) for more information.

Ways to Stay with AIA: Membership Options

If you or someone you know has recently been laid off, furloughed, their start date has been indefinitely postponed, or they are self-employed or an independent contractor and their income has been significantly impacted by the pandemic, we can help with options for maintaining AIA membership. We can also provide guidance on a wide variety of ways to stay engaged with the architecture community. Please reach out to [Amber Allardyce](#) for more information.

LAKE SUPERIOR DESIGN RETREAT (LSDR)



34th Annual Lake Superior Design Retreat (Virtual)

February 25-26, 2022

Registration is now open for the VIRTUAL 2022 Lake Superior Design Retreat, on February 25–26! Hear from five design professionals from the comfort of your own home. [Register »](#)

- Brian Alexander, [Trace Bloom](#)
- [Tiara Moore](#), environmental ecologist, [A WOC Space](#) and [Black in Marine Science](#)
- [William Swanson](#), mystery and true crime writer
- Katie Swenson, [MASS Design Group](#)
- Cole Wehrle, [Wehrlegig Games](#)

Support LSDR with a sponsorship! [Learn more about this year's sponsorship opportunities »](#)

COMMITTEE/KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Housing Advocacy Committee

The Housing Advocacy Committee (HAC) seeks to positively influence affordable-housing and homelessness issues. Its focus is on how architects, along with other designers, might be key players in helping to address these important social issues. As an HAC member, you may assist in planning our events, including our annual [Search for Shelter Design Charrette](#) — which benefits local housing agencies. Passionate volunteers are invited to join this committee.

The 2022 Search for Shelter event will be virtual, with a kickoff on Friday, February 18 and a closing session on Sunday, February 27. More volunteers at all levels of experience are welcome! [Learn more »](#)

Contact [Sheri Hansen](#) for more information.

LEADERSHIP FORUM

2022 Leadership Forum Participants Selected

Congratulations to the 16 participants in the 2022 Leadership Forum!

Mandel Cameron, AIA, The Opus Group
Skip Carlson, AIA, Wilkus Architects
Jonathan Dykstra, AIA, Alliance
Tom Erickson, AIA, BKV Group
Beth Evanson Makhoul, AIA, Alliance
Blake Hagen, AIA, RSP Architects
Evan Hall, AIA, Mead & Hunt

Michael Hara, AIA, HGA
Todd Lampinen, AIA, HDR Inc.
Bob LeMoine, AIA, PKA Architecture
Kelly Martinez, AIA, LHB
Jennifer Nowacki, AIA, Miller Dunwiddie
Dean Reitmann, AIA, Mead & Hunt
Kristen Salkas, AIA, Alliance
Jennifer Ukura, AIA, BWBR
Donald Venticinque, AIA, RSP Architects

MINNESOTA ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION (MAF)

Report on Pandemic Impact on Architecture Practice in Minnesota

The Minnesota Architectural Foundation (MAF) Women in Architecture (WIA) Fund promotes equity in the architecture and design profession through annual grants. In 2020 a grant was awarded to Precipitate to study the pandemic impacts on the practice in Minnesota. The report, presented at a session during the A'21 MN Conference on Architecture, "Understanding the Impacts of the Ongoing Pandemic Across the Profession," will better equip firms to respond with resilience and equity

to current challenges and prepare for future disruptions.

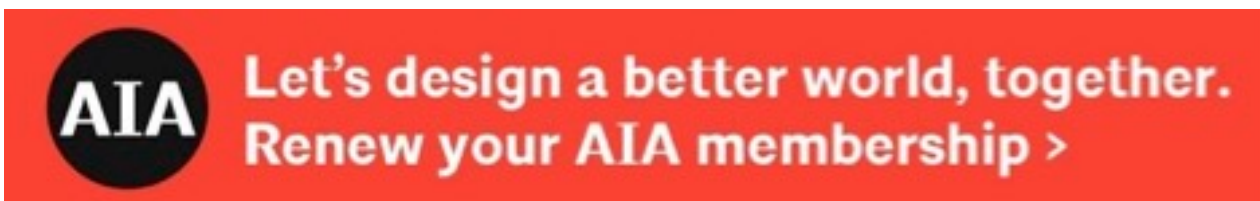
[View the report »](#)

[Learn more about grants available through the MAF WIA fund »](#)

[Donate to MAF »](#)

NATIONAL & LOCAL CHAPTER UPDATES

AIA NATIONAL



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE JANUARY 15

Renew your AIA Membership by January 15, 2022. [Learn more »](#)

SUBMISSIONS OPEN FOR 2021 COTE TOP TEN AWARDS

The COTE Top Ten Awards is the architecture industry's best-known awards program for design excellence juried through a holistic lens that includes climate, health, and equity. Show the world how you're making a difference—submit your project for a COTE Top Ten Award today! **Deadline is Thursday, January 13.** [Learn more »](#)

SUBMISSIONS OPEN FOR OTHER AIA AWARD PROGRAMS

AIA recognizes and celebrates the best buildings and spaces, and the people behind them, with some of the most prestigious awards in the built environment. Take a look at many of our awards that are currently open for submission, including AIA/ALA Library Building Award, Education Facility Design, and more. [Submit today »](#)

NEW AIAU CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Master new skills that help you meet your firm's business and sustainability goals through AIAU's exclusive certificate programs. You'll learn best practices from leading architects and firms on the core topics that will drive your projects, your career, and your firm forward. Complete all courses in a program to earn a certificate that shows your achievement. Certificates are available in [AIA+2030](#), [Materials](#), [Resilience & Adaptation](#), and [Business Foundations](#). [Learn more »](#)

LAKISHA WOODS SELECTED AS AIA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Board of Directors has selected Lakisha Ann Woods, CAE, as the next AIA Executive Vice President/Chief Executive Officer effective Jan. 31, 2022. Woods has held several significant leadership roles in the design and construction industry. She currently serves as the President & Chief Executive Officer of the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS), which convenes experts from the building industry, design, government, and regulation to identify and develop solutions to critical issues impacting the built environment, including climate action, natural disasters, and inequity. [Learn more »](#)

2030 COMMITMENT REPORTS 2020 PROGRESS

Newly released, 2030 By the Numbers: The 2020 Summary of the AIA 2030 Commitment measures annual performance of the architecture and design community toward its goal of carbon neutral buildings by 2030. It includes data from calendar year 2020 and suggestions for improving performance year to year. [View the report »](#)

AIA RELEASES Q4 2021 HOME DESIGN TRENDS SURVEY: NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY DESIGN

Neighborhood and community design trends are in the spotlight in the Q4 AIA Home Design Trends Survey. [View the latest interactive report](#), drawing on data from hundreds of firms.

SALARY DATA AND HIRING TRENDS IN ARCHITECTURE

How has architect compensation held up during the pandemic? How have benefits shifted? Find out in AIA Compensation Report 2021, the industry's most comprehensive report on salary and compensation trends. [Learn more »](#)

FREE RESUME REVIEW

To help you navigate the current job market, we're offering free expert résumé review services through the [AIA Career Center](#). Simply visit your account overview page and scroll to the TopResume section at the bottom to submit.

MEMBER PROFILE

Update your contact preferences, education, licenses, career, and contact information online. Visit myprofile.aia.org.

AIA MINNEAPOLIS

JANUARY LUNCHEON: 2021 HONOR AWARDS

Thursday, January 21, 12:00 pm

In this two-part series, hear the stories behind the projects that were recognized with 2021 AIA Minnesota Honor Awards and Commendations for Achievement in the Framework for Design Excellence. Honor Award projects will be spotlighted at the January luncheon and Commendations will be featured in February. [Register »](#)

AIA NORTHERN MINNESOTA

LSDR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

AIA Northern Minnesota is funding 10 scholarships for architecture students to attend the 2022 virtual Lake Superior Design Retreat. Learn more [here](#), and please share this opportunity with your students, interns, and mentees.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Minnesota license renewals are due June 30, 2022. Architects must have 24 Professional Development Hours (PDH) accrued between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2022. Two of these PDH credits must be Ethics credits.

- Check [here](#) to see if you have carryover credits from the last license renewal (ethics credits do not qualify for carryover).
- Check [here](#) under Continuing Education for the link to view your AIA transcript.

CE CREDITS RECORDED FROM A'21 MN

Credits from the A'21 MN Conference have now been recorded to AIA member transcripts. If

you have questions regarding the AIA Minnesota credits you see on your transcript, or if you'd like to request a certificate for the sessions you attended at the A'21 MN Conference, please contact [Deanna Christiansen](#).

NEW ON-DEMAND WEBINARS AVAILABLE IN JANUARY

Five A'21 MN Conference programs will be made available for credit as on-demand webinars. The same number of credits will be available on-demand as were provided at the virtual Conference. When available, details will be posted [here »](#)

- D1-18. Interrupting Abusive Behavior in the Workplace 1.0 LUs and Ethics credits
- D2-22. Fire Service Features of the State Fire Code 1.5 HSW LUs
- D2-27. Minnesota Amendments in the 2020 MN Accessibility Code 1.25 HSW LUs
- D3-41. Ethical Leadership for Today's Complex Business Environment 2.0 LUs and Ethics credits
- D4-71. Pathways to SB 2030: Three Minnesota Case Studies 1.0 HSW LU

COMMITTEE AND KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY UPDATES

ARCHITECT LICENSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 6, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

2022 ARE 5.0 SCHOLARSHIP

The AIA Minnesota Architect Licensing Advisory Committee coordinates awarding a scholarship to an AIA Minnesota Associate member to cover the costs of all sections of the Architect Registration Exam, within the parameters defined in the application. Test fees currently total \$1,410 for all six divisions of the 5.0 exam.

[2022 ARE Scholarship Application »](#)

Deadline is January 21, 2022

NCARB PRESENTS AT THE A'21 MN CONFERENCE

Jared N. Zurn, AIA, vice president, examination, a senior leadership team member for NCARB, presented "Navigating Licensure: NCARB, the ARE, and You" at the A'21 MN Conference on Architecture on November 11, 2021. [View the 90-minute presentation here »](#)

For more information and resources to guide your licensure, visit the AIA Minnesota website pages for [AXP](#) and [ARE](#).

ARCHITECTURE IN THE SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

NO JANUARY MEETING

BUILDING CODES KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Wednesday, January 12, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

Open forum. Bring your code questions, experiences, and updates to share.

COMMITTEE ON DESIGN

Thursday, January 13, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

COMMITTEE ON EQUITY IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (EBE)

Wednesday, January 19, 8:30 am
[Virtual Meeting](#)

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (COTE)

Friday, January 14, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

COUNCIL OF FIRMS KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Monday, January 10, 11:30 am
[Virtual Meeting](#)

This meeting will be a working session to gain input on topics to cover in 2022.

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 11, 12:00 pm (NOTE NEW DATE AND TIME)
[Virtual Meeting](#)

ENTER COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 19, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 18, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

[View the 2022 AIA Minnesota Legislative Agenda »](#)

HEALTH DESIGN KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Thursday, January 27, 4:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

Guest presenter: Eric Eloff, President, Mercy Health Laboratories, St. Louis, Missouri

HOUSING ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 5, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

Volunteer for Search for Shelter 2022

Search for Shelter will remain virtual in 2022! Join us for the opening session on Friday, February 18, and the closing session on Sunday, February 27. Teams will set a work schedule within the remainder of the charrette, with each team working approximately 20 hours. All skill and experience levels are welcome! [Learn more »](#)

LAKE SUPERIOR DESIGN RETREAT COMMITTEE

NEW DATE: Friday, January 21, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM COMMITTEE (MDT)

Wednesday, January 19, 4:30 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

ANNUAL MDT RETREAT (VIRTUAL)

Saturday, January 29, 8:45 am - 12:00 pm

[Register »](#)

This year's retreat will feature a panel discussion on life cycle housing.

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 1, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT NOW FOR THE MINNEAPOLIS & ST. PAUL HOME TOUR

The Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour, now a program of [the National Association of the Remodeling Industry of Minnesota \(NARI-MN\)](#), is accepting home applications through a soft deadline of January 17. Not limited to NARI members, and the area has expanded to include the first-ring suburbs. The tour is April 30-May 1, 2022, 11 am to 5 pm both days. Submission form downloadable under "[submit a home](#)" on [MSPHomeTour.com](#).

TECHNOLOGY IN ARCHITECTURE PRACTICE KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

The TAP Knowledge Community is making a plan for gatherings in 2022. The goal is to have four meetings throughout the year at which best practices will be shared and knowledge exchanged on ways our profession can best make use of technology, with a focus on each of AIA Minnesota's four strategic priorities:

- Build and mentor the profession
- Make architecture accessible, understandable, and highly valued
- Take immediate, bold action to help address climate change
- Foster equity, belonging, and agency for women, people of color, and other marginalized groups

Firm leaders are encouraged to direct their AIA and non-AIA technical staff as well as

tech-enthusiasts to join the TAP community.

If you would like to make sure you are on the TAP email list for 2022, email [Deanna Christiansen](#).

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 12, 8:00 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

QUARTERLY NETWORKING SOCIAL

Thursday, January 13, 4:30 pm

Stop in to [Urban Growler](#) to catch up with old friends and make new connections at this informal social event hosted by the Women in Architecture Committee. [Register »](#)

PEOPLE & FIRMS

Daniel Avchen, FAIA, former CEO of **HGA**, is retiring after a 49-year career. [Learn more »](#)

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Sharon Barczak, Allied Member of AIA
Minnesota
Pria Cooper, Associate AIA
Trevor DeSautel, Associate AIA
Lynn Halsey, Associate AIA
Nicole Kastern, AIA

Evan Pukal, Associate AIA
Tyler Snell, Associate AIA
Alaina Trowbridge, Allied Member of AIA
MN
Michael Young, AIA

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

[Totally Radical: Designing in the 1980s Exhibition October 22 - January 9 »](#)

[AGC Minnesota Construction Summit January 11-12 »](#)

LEED GREEN ASSOCIATE ONLINE AND WEBINAR TRAINING

November-January and On Demand

Leading Green is offering live webinars and on-demand training to help you become LEED-accredited. AIA Minnesota members receive a \$50 discount on these programs by using the coupon code "sust." [Learn more »](#)

UMN ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit the College of Design's [online calendar](#) for regular updates on activities.

UMN CAREER AND INTERNSHIP RESOURCES

Employers with jobs, internships, or smaller, project-based micro-internships are encouraged to post opportunities for students and recent grads at [careerhelp.umn.edu](#).

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.



AIA
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FEBRUARY Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, January 14.
MARCH Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, February 18.

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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