



AIA
Minnesota

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

Matrix

AIA MINNESOTA MATRIX NEWSLETTER

May 2021

Fuel for the Long Haul

By Anna Pravinata, AIA, NOMA, AIA Minnesota President



"Take care of yourself. We need everyday moments. We need joy. We need gratitude. We need love. We need belonging. We need these things to fortify us for this fight."
– Brené Brown

Over the past few weeks and months, many of us and many of those we care about have had times where we've felt exhausted. We've been exhausted by more than a year of remote work and intensified caregiving during a pandemic-driven recession. We can also feel periodically exhausted from working to create better firms, a better profession, and a better world for future generations.

Mary-Margaret and I will speak to the ways we can fortify ourselves to stay in the work of climate action in a future column. This month, in the wake of the Chauvin trial verdict, I want to speak to staying in the work of equity.

It is hard work. It can make you feel tired in your bones. You may feel overwhelmed and frustrated and want to throw up your hands and say "enough." That is all real and fair – I feel this way, too, sometimes.

We are complex people and creating equity is equally complex. Multiple things can be true at the same time. We can be committed to the work of justice and eradicating bias in architecture, AND we can – and must – take time for family and friendships, our health, our spiritual lives, and to simply allow ourselves to be happy. Celebrating moments of joy and grounding ourselves in gratitude is helpful in resetting and recharging.

Another thing that helps people stay in the work of systems change is to be in it with people who have shared goals and who can step forward during the times that

you need to step back. I am grateful to be part of a leadership team at AIA Minnesota where we look out for each other in this way.

There are many places to find community in the work of equity through involvement in AIA Minnesota. At the April 2021 board meeting, a restructuring of our equity efforts and two new approaches were approved that will strengthen this work and add to the ways it is embedded in all that we do:

- **Equity in the Built Environment Committee** – This new committee will be focused on learning and applying promising practices related to equity in architecture; identifying and rooting out inequities in how the built environment is created and maintained, recognizing the ways that the built environment has led to marginalization, and creating spaces that foster feelings of belonging, ownership, and power for all people – particularly those who have not traditionally been represented within or centered by design processes and design outcomes. *(If you're interested in joining this group, reach out to EVP/Executive Director [Mary-Margaret Zindren](#)).*
- **Equity Council** – This new group will be comprised of representatives from more than a dozen AIA Minnesota committees, knowledge communities and partner organizations whose work relates to equity in the profession and/or equity in the built environment. It will meet three times per year to foster collaboration and to ensure efforts across the architecture community are well aligned.

In creating these two new groups, we will be transitioning away from an EDI (equity, diversity, and inclusion) Committee, yet remain committed to a wide variety of additional ways for members to be engaged in creating equity in the profession and the built environment, including:

- **Community of Practice for Culture Change** – people across the profession who are committed to learning, experimenting, and driving change toward a culture that is authentic, equitable, and collaborative.
- **[Women in Architecture Committee](#)** – focused on overcoming the biases and barriers women face in the profession of architecture and creating a strong network to celebrate and sustain their work and career success.

Many other committees and knowledge communities have integrated equity as a priority in their work, including the **[Committee on the Environment \(COTE\)](#)**, the **[Committee on Design](#)**, the **[Housing Advocacy Committee](#)**, the **[Building Codes Knowledge Community](#)**, and the **[Government Affairs Committee](#)**. Affiliated and partner organizations like the **[Minnesota Architectural Foundation \(MAF\)](#)** and the Minnesota chapter of the **[National Organization of Minority Architects \(MSP NOMA\)](#)** also focus on supporting diversity and equity in the profession, and creating a feeling of belonging and agency.

At AIA Minnesota, our efforts to further equity continue to evolve, responding to what is happening around us, as well as proactively planning of where we should be heading in the months and years ahead.

If you've not yet been involved and are asking yourself, "As an architect or a designer, what can I do?" I would encourage you to look at the list above, find what interests you the most, and take that first step to get involved. If you're currently involved but find yourself asking, "How can I maintain my energy for this work?" reach out to others in your group for support and talk together about how you can support each other's need to recharge. The AIA Minnesota staff team is happy to help you get connected, as are any members of the AIA Minnesota board.

Culture change – systems change – is everyone's work; it cannot simply be the work of those in leadership. It needs all of us, working together, for it to truly take hold and to be sustained for the long haul.

CALL TO ACTION

2021 AIA Minnesota Young Architects Award Submissions Due Friday, June 4

The AIA Minnesota Young Architects Award is given to individuals who, in an early stage of their architecture career, have shown exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the profession and the community at large. Submissions should demonstrate outstanding architecture accomplishments, leadership qualities, and significant contributions to the the community at large with selection criteria including, but not limited to design excellence, practice, education, or service. **The deadline to submit an entry is Friday, June 4, 2021, at 12:00 pm.**

[Learn more »](#)



A'21 MN

The Minnesota Conference on Architecture

Virtual Programming
October 27 & November 3

November 10-11 at the
Minneapolis Convention Center

A'21 MN: A Hybrid Conference

Virtual Presentations: Wednesdays, October 27 and November 3

In-Person Presentations: November 10-11

Call for Proposals

Consider proposing a continuing education program for this year's hybrid Conference. The selection committee seeks proposals on a wide variety of topics for all building types including Practice, Design, Materials & Systems, Technology, Preservation, Urban Design, Sustainable Design, Ethics, Equity Diversity & Inclusion, and the Future of the Profession, to name a few.

Visit [A'21 MN Proposals](#) to access this request. Deadline is June 4, 2021.

Questions? Contact [Deanna Christiansen](#).

For Exhibitors and Sponsors:

We will have an array of sponsorship opportunities, both online and in-person. The 2021 exhibit hall will have both in-person and virtual format options. Watch for details, coming soon. Questions? Contact [Pam Nelson](#).

[Learn more about A'21 MN »](#)

Delegates Needed to Attend AIA Business Meeting

Delegates are official representatives of their chapter and participate in the 2021 AIA Annual Business Meetings and election of Officers and At-large Director. Duties include reviewing summaries of candidates' experience and qualifications, listening to pre-recorded candidate speeches, attending both the virtual 2021 AIA National Annual Business Meeting (June 10, 2021, 12:00-4:00pm CST) and virtual Regional Caucus (June 11, 2021, 10:30-11:30 am CST), and vote online for Officers and At-large Directors. We need delegates from AIA Northern Minnesota, AIA St. Paul, and AIA Minneapolis. If you are interested, please email [Amber Allardyce](#) by May 20.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Committee on the Environment (COTE)

The Committee on the Environment (COTE) works to advance and disseminate design practices that integrate built and natural systems and enhance the design quality and environmental performance of the built environment. COTE serves as the community and voice on behalf of AIA architects regarding sustainable design and building science and performance. [View our charter »](#)

COTE is currently working on creating systems and tools to make it easier for design professionals to integrate environmental performance elements into projects; advocating at the state and local level for policies that advance sustainable practices in the built environment; and creating a network of design and technical professionals to advance sustainability. For more information about the COTE Committee, contact [Sheri Hansen](#) or [Deanna Christiansen](#).

MSP NOMA



NOMA Black Spectacles 50 x 50 Program

NOMA is partnering with Black Spectacles in 2021! Licensure candidates who have paid 2021 NOMA dues will have the opportunity to access the ARE 5.0 Prep Expert Package at a deeply discounted rate. [Learn more »](#)

MINNESOTA ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION

Rapson Competition Announcement

David Wilson, AIA has been named recipient of the 2021 Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship. The MAF and Rapson Fellowship award a \$12,000 prize to the winner of a two-part competition to advance the recipient's education in architecture through foreign or domestic travel-study under a theme of discovery. [Learn more about the design competition and view the finalist submissions »](#)

LEADERSHIP FORUM



Top to bottom, left to right: Thea Rozenbergs, AIA; Ann Voda, AIA; Andrea Baker Pokorney, AIA; Erik Bjorum, AIA; Brooke Jacobson, AIA; Susan Morgan, AIA; Angela Varpness, AIA; Zac Rosenow, AIA; Jody McGuire, AIA; Constance Chen, AIA; Mollie O'Connor, AIA; Simona Fischer, AIA; Nicholas Wallin, AIA; Allison Salzman, AIA; Ian McLellan, AIA; Sarah Gilbert, AIA; and Claire Lonsbury, AIA.

2021 Leadership Forum Moves to Skill Building

This year's Leadership Forum is meeting virtually twice a month through July with sessions led by a variety of leadership content experts. Our April sessions began the movement from a focus on self-awareness to a broader look at interacting with others. Skills taught include communication strategies, coaching, motivation and engagement, and courageous conversations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Share *ENTER* Weekly With Your Networks

ENTER weekly is off to a strong start, but we need your help in continuing to spread the word. If you see an article that would be of interest to a client or collaborator, consider sharing the link. Reshare or like our posts on

[LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), and encourage the people in your networks to sign up for the weekly email at entermn.com.

We have limited advertising and sponsorship opportunities in each weekly issue. Contact [Pam Nelson](#) for details.

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.

NATIONAL & LOCAL CHAPTER UPDATES

AIA NATIONAL



AIA CONFERENCE TICKET PRICES INCREASE TODAY

AIA member Conference tickets are still \$99, but that price increases to \$199 after midnight tonight! A \$99 ticket gets you access to keynotes, continuing education, product demos and information, and more! New AIA members can register for just \$25. [Learn more and register »](#)

2021 AIA/ACSA INTERSECTIONS RESEARCH CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

AIA and ACSA are accepting abstracts for the 2021 Intersections Research Conference until **May 5, 2021**. This year's theme is Communities; and will bring together researchers and designers from practice and academia. There will be five tracks: Equitable Communities, Healthy Communities, Zero-Carbon Communities, Community Localism, and Post-Pandemic Communities. [Learn more »](#)

AIAU: NEW COURSES ON EQUITY AND RESILIENCE

Climate change is everyone's crisis, and architects are uniquely positioned to solve it. Explore new courses that can help you reduce embodied carbon, respond to climate action, and infuse

core sustainability principles into all your projects to support your efforts to design healthier spaces, improve building performance, and promote inclusion. [Learn more »](#)

BLUEPRINT FOR BETTER: ARCHITECT'S PRIMER ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

Incorporating renewable energy into your projects is easier and more affordable than ever. AIA's newest resource is a starter guide to help meet your clients' goals while contributing to a more sustainable, distributed electric grid. [Learn more »](#)

AIAU: SPOTLIGHT ON EQUITY: ARCHITECTURE IN TURBULENT TIMES

Spotlight on Equity: Architecture in Turbulent Times takes a critical look at the structural failings that systemic racial injustice, climate change, and COVID-19 have created, and how the power of design can make the impact we need now. Ten powerful sessions share brave ideas and honest dialogue, along with the knowledge architecture professionals need to be part of the solution. [Learn more »](#)

AIAU: EMBODIED CARBON 101 SERIES

Embodied carbon is an emission source that has long been overlooked. In the next 10 years it will be responsible for a staggering 74% of CO2 emissions of new buildings constructed during that period. This new series will show you how to immediately consider embodied carbon while gaining in-depth knowledge about the details. [Learn more »](#)

FREE COPY OF THE AIA FIRM SURVEY REPORT: THE BUSINESS OF ARCHITECTURE

This essential resource includes metrics to measure practice, evaluate performance, and set strategy. You'll discover trends in firm billings and finances, construction sectors served, international work, and practice and technology, including: Why there is likely to be a significant increase in retrofits due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more »](#)

ON-DEMAND HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT VIDEOS

Check out this [library](#) of housing-related videos, including net-zero energy, housing equity, community advocacy, Living Building Challenge, and mitigating pandemic risks.

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

MERIT AWARD CALL FOR ENTRIES

Submittals due Friday, May 28

AIA Minneapolis Merit Awards recognize projects by AIA Minneapolis architects that tell a story of:

- Excellence Beyond Design
- Public Interest Design
- The Variety of Forces that Shape a Building

[Learn more and apply online »](#)

GOLF OUTING

Monday, July 26

Majestic Oaks Golf Course, Ham Lake, Minnesota

Registration is now open for golfers and sponsors. For golfers, the event includes a box lunch, 18 holes of golf with cart, driving range and putting green events, sponsored events at every hole, and a BBQ dinner. Click [here](#) for sponsorship and golfer registration. Golfers limited to 288, taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

SUBMIT MONTHLY LUNCHEON TOPICS

AIA Minneapolis is curious to know what future monthly luncheon topics would be most engaging and beneficial to our membership. We are looking for your ideas under the umbrellas of advocacy, member engagement, the environment, and equity, diversity, and inclusion. If you have topics that would encourage you and your colleagues to attend these luncheons, please email [Amber Allardyce](#). Perhaps you would like to hear from a specific subject-matter expert, have an idea for a panel discussion, or have been looking for an opportunity to present a subject of your own. We welcome your input!

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS SEEKS FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR HOUSING PROGRAMS

The City of Minneapolis is soliciting development funding proposals for the following housing programs:

- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Emergency Shelter Program – The ESG program funds may be used to renovate, rehabilitate, and convert buildings for use as emergency shelters for people who are homeless.

Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m. CDT, on Friday, June 11, 2021. [Learn more »](#)

AIA NORTHERN MINNESOTA



SAVE THE DATE: AIA NORTHERN MINNESOTA CHAPTER GOLF OUTING

Friday, July 9, 2021

Enger Park Golf Course

Join us for an 18-hole scramble, range and cart fees included. Registration coming soon!

Schedule:

Social/Registration: 11:00 am (boxed lunch provided)

Announcements: 11:45 am

Carts Depart: 11:50 am

Golf Start Time: 12:00 pm

Awards to follow: 4:30 pm (approx.)

Sponsorships:

Sponsorship includes hole sign and recognition in awards/on website

Eagle = 4 golfers, \$1000

Birdie = 2 golfers, \$500

Par = no golfers, \$250

For more information or sponsorship opportunities, contact [Aaron Kelly](#).

AIA ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission advises the Mayor and City Council on municipal heritage preservation matters. The Commission has 4 openings for 3-year terms. [Learn more »](#)

ST. PAUL PLANNING COMMISSION SEEKS FIVE MEMBERS

The City of St. Paul's Planning Commission is seeking 55 members from Wards 1, 5, and 7. Commissioners serve 3-year terms, with an opportunity to be reappointed for 2 terms. [Learn more »](#)

CONTINUING EDUCATION



Materials Matter Education Series

Two more sessions left! This series has been very popular, providing practical information from both Minnesota and national subject matter experts. Take advantage of this affordable and valuable continuing education opportunity.

Wednesdays, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm (includes break from 12:00 - 1:00 pm)

May 5 - Just Do It: Strategies for Projects

May 19 - Beyond Transparency: Materials Disclosure + Practice

Each session will provide 4.0 HSW LUs.

[Register today »](#)



MINNESOTA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



Accessibility Workshop: Modifying Historic Properties for Increased Accessibility

Thursday, June 3, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

AIA Minnesota is partnering with the Minnesota Historical Society to provide this continuing education program. Three virtual presentations will be made by the following:

- David Fenley, ADA Director, MN Council on Disability
- Ray Bloomer, Accessibility Specialist, Accessibility Support Program, WASO, National Park Service
- Bill Hickey, AIA, and Bess McCollough, AIA, Collaborative Design Group

3.0 HSW LUs provided for those attending the entire program.

More details will be available soon.

COMMITTEE AND KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY UPDATES

ARCHITECT LICENSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 6, 12:00

[Virtual Meeting](#)

SPRING ARE REVIEWS - REGISTER NOW!

[Programming & Analysis](#)

Tuesday, May 18, 3:30 - 7:00 pm

Presented by DJ Heinle, AIA, TKDA and Melissa Emerson, AIA, HDR

ARE JEOPARDY MIXER IN JUNE

Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 10, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

The AIA Committee and the Emerging Professionals Committee are planning a virtual ARE Jeopardy game. Watch for more details and make plans to attend. This will be a fun way to prepare for your next exam or to simply meet up with friends and colleagues.

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

CONGRATS TO WINDY FLEISCHACKER, ASSOC. AIA, RECIPIENT OF ARE

SCHOLARSHIP



Windy has been selected to receive AIA Minnesota's 2021 ARE Scholarship. Application requirements included a 300-word essay defining the role of the licensed architect of the future.

The thesis for Windy's essay is, "As a middle-aged queer person still in the beginning stages of my career, I bring a different perspective on many of the issues currently facing our industry as well as compassion and empathy associated with my broad life experience. As a licensed architect, I would be confident in taking on a leadership role within my firm and community to directly address inequities and

help envision a more just future." [Read more »](#)

ARCHITECTURE IN THE SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 13, 8:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

BUILDING CODES KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Wednesday, May 12, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

Open forum, with updates to current TAG meeting discussions for the 1323 Commercial Energy Code. Bring your code questions, experiences, and updates to share.

Use this [link](#) to view all current codes and their specific status.

COMMITTEE ON DESIGN

Thursday, May 13, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Friday, May 14, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: THE REGISTRATION LINK ABOVE IS NEW. PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS MEETING, AND DELETE ALL PREVIOUS MEETING NOTICES/CALENDAR ITEMS FOR COTE. THIS WILL BE THE ZOOM ROOM FOR THE REMAINING MEETINGS IN 2021.

Join us to continue the discussion with AIA Minnesota Executive Vice President Mary-Margaret Zindren on resources needed for Minnesota architects to practice sustainable design, and the role of COTE in shaping upcoming resources and initiatives.

COMMITTEE ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Wednesday, May 19, 8:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

FOUNDATIONS OF INTERCULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SUMMER OFFERING

Build your capacity to engage across cultural differences with colleagues, peers and clients by learning the foundational concepts of intercultural development. Participants will be introduced to the Intercultural Development Continuum as a theory of change model before taking an evaluative assessment to measure their current skills and being guided through development of personal and professional goals. The program concludes with a dynamic, hands-on workshop to practice using and growing your intercultural skills. 5 LU Hours; 4 ethics credits. First session begins July 9. [Sign up now »](#)

COUNCIL OF FIRMS KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

TECHNOLOGY/MALWARE RISKS

Monday, May 10, 11:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 4, 8:00 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

ENTER COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 19, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 18, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

The regular legislative session is scheduled to end on Monday, May 17. Join us for a recap of session progress, or for a discussion of what's next if work continues.

View the [2021 legislative agenda](#).

HEALTH DESIGN KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Thursday, May 27, 4:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

Presentation by Hui Cai, PhD, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Institute of Health and Wellness Design, School of Architecture and Design, University of Kansas.

HOUSING ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 5, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

Join us to continue brainstorming public policy ideas we can explore at the local and state levels for introduction in 2022.

LAKE SUPERIOR DESIGN RETREAT COMMITTEE

Monday, May 17, 11:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM (MDT) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 19, 4:30 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 4, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

2021-22 HOME OF THE MONTH PROJECTS ANNOUNCED

View the 40 outstanding residential design projects submitted for the chance to be featured over the coming year in the *Star Tribune's* Home of the Month series. Twelve were selected to be featured. [See the projects »](#)

TECHNOLOGY IN PRACTICE (TAP) KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

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, AIA](#), or AIA Minnesota staff liaison [Deanna Christiansen](#). [Join directly »](#)

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 12, 8:00 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

PEOPLE & FIRMS

Alchemy Architects has joined more than 700 nationwide firms as a signatory to the AIA 2030 Commitment. [Learn more about the 2030 Commitment »](#)

Senior Architect **Michael Braun, AIA**, joined the Food, Distribution and Manufacturing design group at **LEO A DALY**.

Rebecca Celis, AIA, has been named Market Sector Leader for Arts and Community at **HGA Architects and Engineers**.

The Minneapolis office of **HGA Architects and Engineers** was a partner in **2021 AIA COTE Top Ten** project MIT.nano. [Learn more »](#)

Congratulations to **HGA Architects and Engineers** on receiving a **2021 AIA Architecture Award** for the Walker Art Center Expansion, which also received an AIA Minnesota Honor Award. [Learn more »](#)

MSR Design's 510 Marquette studio project has earned **Living Building Challenge (LBC) Petal Certification** through the International Living Future Institute (ILFI) for the materials, equity, and beauty petals.

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Zachary Anderson, AIA
Joshua Fowler, Assoc. AIA
Derek Kieckhafer, AIA

Julian Menne, Assoc. AIA
Michael Nickerson, AIA

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Pandemic Response Resources

AIA Minnesota continues to update its [Pandemic Response Resources](#) webpage with materials for business management, remote work, health, and more. You can also get the latest updates on state and federal programs and policies.

AIAU COVID-Related Courses

COVID-19 has been wreaking havoc on architecture firms for more than a year. During that year, AIAU recruited leading design professionals to share their insights and strategies for overcoming COVID-related practice issues and navigating seismic industry shifts. Explore a collection of courses by leading architecture professionals to help you chart a path forward for your practice and your firm.

Courses include:

- [Power Moves Series](#)—This three-part series from the AIA Women's Leadership Summit aims to help women architects build virtual networks, negotiation skills, and strong careers.
- [Managing Through a Downturn: Notes From the Field](#)—Firm leaders discuss whether conventional crisis response works for COVID-19.
- [The COVID Practice](#)—Four experts from diverse backgrounds offer their perspectives on how the pandemic changed their approach to architecture.
- [Design Excellence and Practice: Leading in Uncertain Times](#)—Expert panels and AIA members share perspectives on design excellence through the lens of social justice, climate change, and COVID-19.
- [Making a Plan to Return](#)—A case study example examines the pros and cons of one firm's return-to-work strategy.
- [Returning to Work: HR Considerations](#)—Guidance to help you develop your firm's return-to-work approach.
- [Is Your Firm Prepared? Business Continuity Planning for Architects](#)—Seasoned architects share business continuity best practices to reduce disruptions and respond quicker to threats and opportunities.

AIA Strategies for Safer Facilities

AIA has created strategies and step-by-step risk management tools for many different space types:

- [Strategies for Safer Multifamily Housing](#)
- [Health Care Facility Design Checklist](#)
- [Strategies for Safer Schools](#)
- [Strategies for Safer Senior Living Communities](#)
- [Strategies for Safer Retail Stores](#)
- [Strategies for Safer Offices](#)
- [Strategies for Safer Buildings](#)
- [Risk Management Plan for Buildings](#)
- [AIA Reoccupancy Assessment Tool](#)
- [Tenant Energy Optimization Program \(ULI\)](#)

Visit the [AIA COVID-19 Resources for Architects](#) page to learn more.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

[AIA SEATTLE: JUST TRANSITION: UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM IMPACTS OF DECARBONIZATION MAY 17 - 19 »](#)

[UMN DESIGN IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD: DESIGN JUSTICE MAY 26 »](#)

[MINNESOTA BROWNFIELDS BEYOND REMEDIATION: ADAPTIVE REUSE JUNE 3 »](#)

[MINNESOTA BROWNFIELDS BEYOND REMEDIATION: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT JUNE 24 »](#)

[MINNESOTA BROWNFIELDS BEYOND REMEDIATION: CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES JULY 29 »](#)

[MINNESOTA BROWNFIELDS BEYOND REMEDIATION: SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUGUST 26 »](#)

BREAKING THE STIGMA BARRIER: MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Friday, May 21, 9:00 - 10:15 am

Mental health is an invisible crisis in construction. Nationally in construction, more workers die annually by suicide than by all occupational injuries combined. Learn how a culture of caring and wellbeing can reduce the underlying conditions and risks associated with mental health. This webinar will focus on WHY these topics are imperative for construction leaders at all levels. Learn what you and your organization can do to help promote mental wellbeing and reduce the risk of suicide among your workforce and the construction industry. This is a free session, sponsored by AIA Minnesota, AGC of Minnesota and other partners in the Building Jobs Coalition. [Learn more and register »](#)

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 cancelations, postponements, or virtual meetings.



AIA
Minnesota

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Sheri Hansen

JUNE Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, May 21.
JULY Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, June 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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