



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

Matrix

AIA MINNESOTA MATRIX NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

IMPORTANT NOTES FROM AIA MINNESOTA

The AIA Minnesota office is closed. 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.

Change Takes Action

By Karen Lu, AIA, NOMA, AIA Minnesota President



“In case you were wondering, *we are the ones* we’ve been waiting for.”

— Dr. Mindy Fullilove, Hon. AIA

We are nearing the end of 2020. The challenges that face us now are greater than ever and our work is ongoing. The path may not always be apparent, but as a professional community, our direction is clear:

- **The Future of Practice:** AIA Minnesota Culture Change Initiative work has defined a desired culture for the profession that is Authentic, Equitable, and Collaborative.
- **The Future of Design:** AIA National has expanded design excellence to provide a holistic approach to design that encompasses equitable communities, ecology, and economy.

The future of practice and the future of design are intertwined. AIA Minnesota is working at both ends of the spectrum — from advocacy at the state legislature to a broader understanding of Design Excellence, and from the Culture Change Initiative to the 21st Century Development framework. The outcome of our collective efforts will be projects that are sustainable, equitable, and beautiful; a built environment that respects and honors the multiple ecosystems

and communities to which it belongs.

To that end, the AIA Minnesota Conference on Architecture this year was hopeful and inspiring. The three areas of focus — Design for Positive Climate Impact & Environmental Justice, Resilience & Collective Recovery, and the Future of Design — brought our greater community of visionaries and entrepreneurs, generalists and specialists, experienced and new professionals, lifelong learners and skeptics, all together to connect, learn and share. Many of us met for the social hour at the end of each conference day to connect with old friends, see familiar faces, and make new acquaintances.

From Ed Mazria, FAIA, we learned that it is still possible to make a significant impact on the trajectory of climate change. From Dr. Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Hon. AIA, we learned that the process of healing post-trauma requires all of us to play a role in the recovery. And from James Garrett Jr., AIA, NOMA and Dr. Rory Hyde, we learned about the expansive possibilities of our profession and our projects — both what has been built and what is being imagined. We know that addressing climate change and racial injustice are our ethical responsibilities, and that our civic responsibilities demand public engagement and community-centered processes.

We have the momentum to make progress, but we must stay engaged to effect real change. What are we doing to make our vision of the future a reality? How can we maximize our impact? How will we measure progress and hold ourselves accountable? These are questions to be continually asking and answering — as individuals, as firms, as schools of architecture, and as state and local chapters of AIA.

As my time as your AIA Minnesota President draws to a close, I am proud of the momentum we've gained and the progress we've made, together. I am inspired by the vision and the integrity of this architecture community. More than anything, I'm grateful — grateful to have had the opportunity to serve and to have had the chance to work with so many amazing people. Thank you for entrusting me with this honor and responsibility in this truly unforgettable, transformative year.

CALL TO ACTION



AIA
Minnesota

2020 Virtual Awards Celebration

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 | 4:00 PM

Awards Celebration

All AIA Minnesota members, clients, and partners are invited to join in celebrating the vibrancy of our architecture community as we lift up the people and projects that make our industry great. This year's event will be hosted virtually, which means it's easier — and more comfortable — than ever to be part of the celebration.

Registration is \$10 and includes a gift box of goodies and treats mailed to you in advance of the event. **Don't miss the festivities, including the announcement of the 2020 Honor Awards and Commendations.** [Register now »](#)

Be a Sponsor of the 2020 Virtual Awards Celebration

Show your support for the industry by sponsoring the virtual awards celebration event. Select options at various price points from \$500 to \$2,000. This creates an opportunity to include a branded item in the gift box each registrant receives. [Learn more »](#)



Save the Date: AIA Minnesota Member Congress

Wednesday, December 2, 12:00 pm

2020 was a year to demonstrate our resilience...and more. At the Member Congress, you will hear about the many efforts — both planned and unanticipated — that were implemented or initiated in 2020, several of which will continue into 2021. There will also be a vote to amend the Bylaws to include both NAAB accredited educational institutions in Minnesota — the University of Minnesota College of Design and now Dunwoody College of Technology Architecture. We would love to see all AIA Minnesota members at the virtual Member Congress from your home, office, or wherever you call “office” in 2020.

Finally, and very importantly, the Member Congress is also a chance to hear from leaders of related organizations; to thank **Karen Lu, AIA**, for her exemplary service as your president; to hear from **Anna Pravinata, AIA**, who is slated to become your next AIA Minnesota president; and to vote in new officers and board members for 2021. Hope you can join us...virtually!

State Designer Selection Board Process Changes

In response to the pandemic, the State Designer Selection Board (SDSB) has made changes to its process. Highlights include:

- Proposals shall only be submitted electronically.
- Shortlisting and interview meetings will be held via WebEx.
- Revisions to Request for Proposals.

Meetings will continue to be open to the public and digitally recorded for viewing at the convenience of interested parties. It is not clear whether these changes will be made permanent. [Learn more about SDSB »](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lake
Superior
Design
Retreat**

LSDR 2021 Update February 26 - 27, 2021

The date has been confirmed and other details are in the works. Watch for more information, coming soon!

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.

Leadership Forum 2021 Applications Now Available

The 2021 Leadership Forum will be totally virtual. This year's Forum began with face-to-face sessions for the first three months, and then transitioned to Zoom sessions. We learned what works and what doesn't and we will use those lessons-learned to make the 2021 Forum even better. As we move further into the year, we'll assess the safety of scheduling a few optional, in-person, social gatherings beyond the virtual learning sessions. We hope an all virtual Leadership Forum will make participation accessible for our mid-career members regardless of where they live in Minnesota.

Eligibility to apply includes AIA Minnesota members, licensed, with ten years total career experience. **The application deadline is November 30.** [Learn more and apply »](#)

Questions? Feel free to contact [Deanna Christiansen](#).

Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry Seeking Code Development and Energy Code Specialist

The Department of Labor & Industry is seeking an expert to evaluate national code provisions and attend national and state meetings to ensure that codes incorporated into the Minnesota State Building Code are consistent with statutory standards and achieve public safety goals. **Deadline to apply is November 4.** [Learn more »](#)

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Paying Back Your PPP Loan

Architect recently ran an article on when and how borrowers should expect to pay back their PPP loans. [Learn more »](#)

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.

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

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](#)

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

NATIONAL & LOCAL CHAPTER UPDATES

AIA NATIONAL

NEW, UPDATED AIA CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Two key residential contracts as well as an updated, complimentary Condominium Project Guide were released on Oct. 19. The updated residential documents address such topics as insurance requirements, post-occupancy site visits and maintenance requirements. [Learn more »](#)

AIA ISSUES CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Based on input from the full spectrum of AIA's membership, the Climate Action Plan reiterates our dedication and commitment to designing a sustainable, healthy, and equitable world. [Learn more »](#)

AIA RACIAL EQUITY INITIATIVE

AIA has compiled a centralized set of resources for members on understanding racism, firm culture, opportunities for members, and ways to take action. [Learn more »](#)

MEMBER PROFILE

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

AIA MINNEAPOLIS

Virtual Luncheon Presentation

Thursday, November 19, 12:00 pm

Hear from AIA Minnesota members who were inducted into the College of Fellows this year, as well as those who received the Young Architect Award in 2020. [Register »](#)

Comment on Built Form Regulations in the Minneapolis 2040 Plan

The City of Minneapolis has published a draft version of Built Form Regulations to help align the current zoning code with the goals of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. These regulations are adjustments to the tools architects use when dealing with building scale - including building height, lot coverage, and floor area ratio. The City has set up a website for public comment that is open through November 9, giving architects an opportunity to lend their expertise to the process. [Learn more »](#)

AIA ST. PAUL

2020 ST. PAUL PRIZE COMPETITION

Attention all emerging designers and architects: AIA St. Paul invites you, individually or in teams of two, to participate in the 2020 St. Paul Prize, a design competition exclusively for professionals working or living in Minnesota and who are within ten years of graduating from an accredited professional degree program with a B.Arch or M.Arch. The competition opens on Monday, November 2, 2020 with submittals due by **Monday, November 30, 2020**. [Learn more »](#)

COMMITTEE AND KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY UPDATES

ARCHITECT LICENSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 12:00

[Virtual Meeting](#)

VIRTUAL ARE REVIEWS

ARE reviews covering content from the Project Planning & Design and Project Development & Documentation exams have been scheduled to take place in November and December.

Structural Systems

Wednesdays, November 4 and 11

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

[Learn more »](#)

Mechanical Systems and Electrical Systems

Tuesdays, December 1 and 8

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

[Learn more »](#)

ARE ONLINE TESTING LAUNCHES MID-NOVEMBER

Recently NCARB announced the availability for ARE candidates to schedule online-proctored appointments beginning November 16. They also announced their decision to replace scratch paper with a digital whiteboard tool, for use both online and in physical test centers. NCARB received many questions and concerns about the digital whiteboard tool and understands this is a major change. For more details explaining this decision visit "Letter to ARE Candidates."

[Learn more »](#)

ARCHITECTURE IN THE SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 12, 8:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

BUILDING CODES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 11, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

Open forum discussion: 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, November 12, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Friday, November 13, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

This meeting will be a special event focused on the development/instatement of a zero-energy code in Minnesota, as mentioned by **Ed Mazria, FAIA**, in his keynote address at A'20 MN: The Minnesota Conference on Architecture.

COMMITTEE ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Wednesday, November 18, 8:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

COUNCIL OF FIRMS KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Monday, November 9, 11:45 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

We will continue our discussion on digital practice at this meeting. The specific topic will be "Proving value to our clients: how a digital practice increases our position as a trusted advisor."

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 3, 8:00 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

ENTER COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 18, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 17, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

HEALTH DESIGN KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

What's Happening: The Work of Firms in Health Design Around Minnesota

Thursday, November 19, 4:00 pm (Note date change)

[Virtual Meeting](#)

HOUSING ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 4, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

LAKE SUPERIOR DESIGN RETREAT COMMITTEE

Monday, November 16, 11:30 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM (MDT) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 18, 4:30 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

MDT is exploring digital tools that can be adapted to providing virtual community engagement. Anyone with experience and/or interest can contact [Steve Roos, AIA Minnesota Allied Member](#).

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 3, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

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, November 11, 8:00 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

PEOPLE & FIRMS

MSR Design promoted **Kristilyn Vercruysse, AIA**, to senior associate.

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Sam Cowley, Assoc. AIA
Chidindu Mbibi, Assoc. AIA
Kaitlin McCoy, Assoc. AIA

Madeline Myrlonn, Assoc. AIA
Karlie Nelson, Assoc. AIA
Sara Powers, Assoc. AIA

IN MEMORIAM

Michaela Mahady, FAIA, one of the founders of **SALA Architects**, passed away in late October. [Learn more »](#)

A'20 MN: THE MINNESOTA CONFERENCE ON ARCHITECTURE



Thanks for attending A'20 MN: The Minnesota Conference on Architecture

CONTINUING EDUCATION UPDATES

Our goal is to have uploads to AIA National transcripts completed by the end of November. Attendance at Conference programs was taken each time you logged into a program. The Zoom report for the amount of time each person was in the program will also be reviewed. There will be some amount of leniency, taking into consideration a variety of reasons that someone might have joined a session a little late, have left a little early, or had to log off and back on (e.g., technology issues, entering a program by mistake and moving to another program, etc.). If you have any questions, or need assistance, email [Deanna Christiansen](#).

THANK YOU SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS!

Thank you to all of our major sponsors, exhibitors, and program sponsors. The conference would not have been possible without you!

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

[LEADING GREEN LEED ASSOCIATE TRAINING \(NOVEMBER SESSIONS AVAILABLE\) »](#)

[A MORE EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE POST-PANDEMIC WORLD NOVEMBER 12 »](#)

[DIRTY LAUNDRY: DELIVERING THE DIRT ON DESIGN NOVEMBER 17 »](#)

MENTOR A DESIGN STUDENT

The College of Design is seeking mentors for junior and senior architecture students. [Learn more and sign up »](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

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

COVID-19 Environmental Interventions & Best Practices

Led by Professor Tasoulla Hadjiyanni (Interior Design), the Culturally Enriched Communities (CEC) research initiative gathers best practices for creating healthy and connected communities. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, CEC has begun collecting a [repository of environmental interventions](#) to help inform stay-at-home responses and recovery efforts.

Career & 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

*Matrix is published
by AIA Minnesota.*

AIA Minnesota President
Karen Lu, AIA

AIA Minnesota Executive Vice President
Mary-Margaret Zindren, CAE

AIA Minnesota Matrix Editor
Sheri Hansen

DECEMBER Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, November 20.

JANUARY 2021 Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, December 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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AIA Minnesota | 105 5th Avenue South, Suite 485, Minneapolis , MN 55401

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