



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

Matrix

AIA MINNESOTA MATRIX NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021

Updated Policy on In-Person Meetings and Masks

The AIA Minnesota Board approved the following policy on in-person meetings and masks for the remainder of 2021:

Board, committee, knowledge community, and task force meetings remain primarily virtual with one to two in-person meetings per year. (Virtual meetings allow more members to attend and reduce travel-related concerns, while in-person social gatherings grow connections among members.) For AIA Minnesota gatherings or events (including those of committees and KCs) – indoor or outdoor – masks will be optional and can be worn as a personal preference. Attendees are asked to not comment on or inquire about why someone is wearing a mask, as the choice to do so could relate to any number of personal health-related concerns.

Questions? Please contact [Amber Allardyce](#).

Striving for a Clear Vision of the Future

By Anna Pravinata, AIA, NOMA, AIA Minnesota President



In my very first Matrix column as president, I wrote about my hope for a new normal that feels less overwhelming, and about seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Eight months later, I am still feeling overwhelmed, and there are plenty of days where I wonder about that light at the end of the tunnel.

The delta variant has kept COVID-19 at the top of many minds. A seemingly endless string of forest fires, floods, droughts, hurricanes, and other natural disasters keep reminding us how important it is to tackle the climate crisis. Living in the Minneapolis metro area often prompts conversations on civil unrest and social justice issues with random out-of-town strangers. I can't even

plan a vacation with certainty. It feels like a loop we can't escape.

It is exhausting and frustrating to me when I can't see change or progress right away, and times like these are perfect examples of that. I recently came across this [Harvard Business Review article](#), looked at the "Time Cones Graphic" and breathed a sigh of relief. Tactics, strategy, vision, and systems-level evolution; they are all different and require different levels of certainty. I understood better that I was struggling with the desire to manage "systems-level evolution" with 99% certainty, an impossible and overwhelming task because of all the unknowns on the road ahead. Instead, we can move toward our vision with strategies and tactics that move us in the right direction based on what we can predict right now.

Our recent transition of the A'21 MN Conference on Architecture to a fully virtual event is a tactical change, but it does not make us lose sight of the importance of personal connections to our strategy and vision; we will find ways to maintain and grow those connections with other tactics in the months to come.

To support our vision to end systemic racism in the profession, our strategy is to continually view everything with a DEI lens; using this strategy results in tactics like the formation of the Community of Practice and the Equity Council, along with other efforts. The outcomes of these groups will inform our strategy and vision going forward in the years ahead.

[Mary-Margaret's inspiring Matrix article](#) from last month calls on us as architects and architectural designers to protect the health of the planet, both in our day-to-day practice and in envisioning the new face of our communities. Implementing the [AIA Framework for Design Excellence](#) in our projects is a good tactic to get us into the habit of always thinking of sustainability in our projects.

With all of that information, and a partially clear road ahead of us, I'm trying to calm down a bit and remind myself today and every day that yes, I only have a blurry image of the vision and even blurrier image of systems-level evolution. But I feel good about the strategy and even feel better about the tactics in place. And as an architect and a volunteer leader of AIA Minnesota, I believe we can continue to develop good tactics and strategies that move us toward a clearer vision and move us toward a culture that is authentic, equitable, collaborative, and committed to solving the climate crisis.

CALL TO ACTION

Call for Leadership

AIA Minnesota is currently seeking applications for officer and board leadership positions that will begin January 1, 2022. This is an opportunity to grow your leadership skills, expand the circle of professionals you work with, or raise your profile in the community. By joining an AIA Minnesota leadership team you will be

engaged in key decision as we continue to serve the interests of current members, to shape a profession where all can thrive, and to advance AIA's top strategic priorities of climate action and equity — in our organization, in our profession, and in our communities. **Application deadline is September 17.** [Learn more and apply online »](#)

Open AIA Minnesota Officer/ Board Leadership Positions for 2022:

- **President-Elect** (three-year commitment as President-Elect, President, and Past President; AIA and Assoc. AIA members eligible)
- **Secretary** (one-year term, renewable; AIA and Assoc. AIA members eligible)
- **Treasurer** (one-year term, renewable; AIA and Assoc. AIA members eligible)
- **Associate Director** (one-year term, renewable; only Assoc. AIA members eligible)

Seeking Minnesota Representative to Serve on the Strategic Council

AIA is shifting from a region-based model to a state-based model of representation on the Strategic Council. The goal of this shift is to simplify and optimize governance within the organization, open pathways to leadership, enable greater collaboration within AIA, and pivot the organization to meet key goals of the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. AIA Minnesota is seeking applicants interested in representing AIA Minnesota on the AIA Strategic Council. **Application deadline is September 17, 2021.** [Learn more and apply »](#)

CONVERSATIONS IN EQUITY & DESIGN



A VIRTUAL SPEAKER SERIES

The Walker Art Center, AIA Minnesota, Dunwoody College of Technology, NOMA MSP, and Minneapolis College are sponsoring a fall speaker series on equity and design. Hear from nationally renowned architects and designers who will present their work and engage in critical conversations around the integration of ethics, equity, justice, and culture in relationship to design practices and education.

All sessions are virtual. CE credits applied for.

[Learn more about the topics, and register for each event »](#)

September 10, 12:00 pm

Ron Rael, in conversation with Trevor Bullen, AIA

September 30, 7:00 pm

Sekou Cooke, in conversation with Paul Bauknight

October 15, 12:00 pm

Sarah Zewde, in conversation with Jessica Holmes, Assoc. AIA

November 3, 12:45 pm

Majora Carter, in conversation with Aaron Regla Breton, AIA NOMA
(This session is part of A'21 MN: The Minnesota Conference on Architecture)

Submit Your Project for a 2021 Honor Award

Our Honor Awards acknowledge outstanding built projects by AIA Minnesota members, or firms that are owned by AIA Minnesota members, that practice professionally in Minnesota. We encourage broad participation from established and new practitioners of firms of all sizes — small, medium, or large.

Submissions for the 2021 Honor Awards will close at 12:00 noon CST on Friday, September 24, 2021. [Learn more »](#)

MAPAC Seeks Volunteers for Advisory Council

The MAPAC board of directors is establishing an advisory board of members from across Minnesota. This group will meet twice per year to share their policy concerns and get updates from the MAPAC board on giving strategy. If you are interested in joining the advisory council, please email [Sheri Hansen](#).

A'21 MN

AIA Minnesota

The Minnesota Conference on Architecture

Virtual Programming
October 27 & November 3, 10, & 11

A'21 MN Goes Fully Virtual

Four Days of Online Programming: Wednesdays, October 27, November 3,

and November 10; Thursday, November 11

In order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our members, partners, and their loved ones, the AIA Minnesota board of directors and staff team have decided that the A'21 MN conference will be a fully virtual event.

This year's Conference will still be a powerful event filled with inspiring and educational programming. More than 60 experts and prominent keynote speakers from across the country will join us to share their knowledge on the issues impacting your practice today.

Registration will be live the week of September 20. Plan to virtually attend to gain new knowledge and help meet the [requirements](#) needed to renew your Minnesota license in June 2022.

MEET THE 2021 HONOR AWARDS JURORS

The 2021 Honor Award jurors will be presenting their own work and stories from their practice at the A'21 MN Conference on Wednesday, November 3 from 10:30 to 11:45 am.

Mark Lee is the chair of the Department of Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and a principal and founding partner of the Los Angeles–based architecture firm Johnston Marklee. Since its establishment in 1998, Johnston Marklee has been recognized internationally with over 50 major honors and awards. The firm's work spans 13 countries and resides in the permanent collections of several museums. Recent projects include the Menil Drawing Institute in Houston, Texas; a renovation of the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; the design of the new Dropbox global headquarters in San Francisco, California; and the new UCLA Graduate Art Studios campus in Culver City, California. Together with partner Sharon Johnston, FAIA, Lee served as co-artistic director for the 2017 Chicago Architecture Biennial.

Curtis J. Moody, FAIA, established his firm in Columbus, Ohio, in 1982 on a foundation of diversity of thought. In the years since, Moody has continuously challenged the status quo and created a corporate environment at Moody Nolan that is both inclusive and equitable. With more than 230 employees in 11 offices across the U.S., Moody Nolan is now the largest African American architecture firm in the country. The firm has won over 330 awards, including 49 from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and 45 from the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA). In 1992, Moody received the AIA's prestigious Whitney M. Young Jr. Award, named after the civil rights leader who challenged the profession to pursue progressive values in architecture. In 2021, Moody Nolan became the first African American–owned firm to win the AIA Firm Award.

Jane Weinzapfel, FAIA, is principal at Leers Weinzapfel Associates, the Boston firm she cofounded with Andrea Leers, FAIA. Past recipient of the Boston Society

of Architects Award of Honor, Weinzapfel is a design leader in academic facilities and campus design in general, with a special expertise in award-winning infrastructure and transportation design. Dedicated to the craft and technology of design, she has led many of the firm's investigations of new materials and systems. Weinzapfel has been a visiting faculty member at MIT's School of Architecture and Planning and at the University of Arizona College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. She has served on the Mayor's Boston Transportation Advisory Committee, the Mayor's Government Center Plaza Task Force, and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Community Development Designer Selection Board.

For Exhibitors and Sponsors:

We have an array of virtual opportunities available, from program sponsorships to virtual exhibit booths. [Click here](#) to see all opportunities to participate. For more information, contact [Pam Nelson](#).

[Learn more about A'21 MN »](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Photos by Thena Tak; Mary Ludington; Don Wong.

Type/Variant House Receives AIA Minnesota 25 Year Award

Type/Variant House, located in northern Wisconsin and designed by [VJAA](#), is the 2021 recipient of the 25 Year Award. Established by the American Institute of Architects Minnesota in 1981, the prestigious 25 Year Award annually recognizes one exemplary architectural project that stands the test of time. The award recognizes completed building projects—either individual buildings or groups of buildings—completed at least 25 but not more than 50 years ago, designed by firms with architects registered and practicing professionally in Minnesota. [Learn more »](#)



Three Receive AIA Minnesota Collaborative Achievement Award

(pictured above, left to right) **Lonnie Laffen, AIA**; **Kim Palmer**, and **Ben Ptacek, AIA**, are the recipients of the 2021 AIA Minnesota Collaborative Achievement Award. Formerly known as the Special Award, the Collaborative Achievement Award seeks to encourage, stimulate, and recognize exceptional contributions made by individuals and organizations that improve the quality of our physical environment. This award celebrates architecture as a collaborative effort that relies on the talents and commitment of many individuals working together to achieve common goals. [Learn more »](#)



Join us for a hybrid exploration of the best of residential design from our region's talented architecture community. From accessory dwelling units to lakeside cabins, from remodeled split-levels to midcentury modern, this year's event offers a close-up look at how architectural design can make a difference in how we live. The 2021 tour features 16 projects, including four homes presented in a virtual format from

September 18–26, and 12 available to tour in person on September 18 and 19.

[View the 2021 tour homes »](#)

Volunteer for the Homes by Architects Tour! Volunteers greet visitors and sell tickets at each home. [Learn more »](#)

Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) for behind-the-scenes photos and stories, sneak peeks and more! Use hashtag #HBAT2021 to join the conversation.

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY: FREE HOMES BY ARCHITECTS TOUR
TRANSPORTATION BY MOTORCOACH FOR AIA AND ASSOC. AIA
MINNESOTA MEMBERS**

Join Pella Windows & Doors as they explore the beautiful homes on the 2021 Homes by Architects Tour via private motor coach. A FREE tour ticket, bus transportation, food, and beverages provided. [Sign up](#) to reserve a spot on the bus for one or both days of the tour.

BONUS TOUR STOP: WHITE OAKS SAVANNA

During the tour weekend, explore [White Oaks Savanna](#), an architecturally driven community with 30 home sites nestled into lush prairie landscape, located just west of Stillwater. Stop by the lemonade stand and meet the founders, David Washburn and Bob Appert, to take a self-guided tour of the community.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship opportunities are now available. Align your company with these architect-designed homes to reach a targeted audience who seek out the best in good design! Contact [Pam Nelson](#) for more information.



Advertise in ENTER

Align your company and brand with our insightful digital weekly. 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 weekly 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.

COMMITTEE/KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Residential Architecture Committee

AIA Minnesota's Residential Architecture Committee supports architects and designers of custom homes by facilitating networking and educational opportunities, bringing in speakers and hosting roundtable discussions on topics relevant to the residential design sector. In addition, the committee created and hosts the annual Homes by Architects Tour and the Home of the Month program, both of which showcase the work of our state's vibrant residential design community to a broad audience. To get involved, contact AIA Minnesota staff liaison [Ann Mayhew](#).

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 »](#)

NATIONAL & LOCAL CHAPTER UPDATES

AIA NATIONAL

CLOSING SOON: MEMBERSHIP HONORS AND AWARDS

Each year, AIA celebrates the best buildings and spaces and the people behind them. Submissions close September 14 for Associates, Young Architects, Collaborative Achievement, Honorary Membership and more. [Learn more »](#)

SUBMIT NOW TO THE 2022 HOUSING AWARDS

AIA Housing Awards show the world how beauty, safety, sustainability, and comfort can come together. New for 2022, the awards offer opportunities in eight categories, with the jury evaluating entries relative to the AIA Framework for Design Excellence. Submit by October 13 at 5 pm ET. [Learn more »](#)

NEW AIA COMPENSATION REPORT AVAILABLE

The newly updated 2021 AIA Compensation Report is now available! Get data for 44 positions in 31 states, 33 metro areas, and 18 cities, plus a free salary calculator. New coverage this year includes Hawaii and Utah, and the Honolulu, Milwaukee, Orlando, Salt Lake City, and Tampa metro areas. [Learn more »](#)

AIAU EMBODIED CARBON 101 SERIES

Embodied carbon is an emission source that has long been overlooked. Yet in the next ten years, it will be responsible for a staggering 74% of CO2 emissions of new buildings constructed during that period. Start making a difference right now with AIAU's newest series, Embodied Carbon 101. You'll learn how to immediately consider embodied carbon in your projects while gaining in-depth knowledge about environmental product declarations, envelopes, MEPs, carbon accounting, and more. [Register »](#)

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

VIRTUAL LUNCHEON: MAYORAL FORUM

Thursday, September 23, 12:00 pm

[Register »](#)

AIA Minneapolis is working with the candidates to complete a virtual mayoral forum. Stay tuned for more details!

AIA NORTHERN MINNESOTA

DRAUGHTING CLUB RETURNS!

Who: Northern MN AEC (Architecture, Engineering, Construction) Community and Guests

What: AIA Northern MN Draughting Club and Social Hour

Where: [Ursa Minor Brewing](#)

When: First Wednesday of each month (Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1)

Why: Socialize with experienced and emerging connections in our northern AEC Community.

*An assortment of appetizers will be provided on behalf of the AIA Northern Minnesota Chapter.

AIA ST. PAUL

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Wednesday, September 22, 12:00 pm

At this session, we'll hear from experts on homelessness trends and what is being done to address the crisis. We'll also learn about the functional components and design of Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis' Dorothy Day Place campus in St. Paul. Catholic Charities staff will share day-in-the-life experiences of the residents and guests who access the campus every day. [Register »](#)

COMMITTEE AND KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY UPDATES

ARCHITECT LICENSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The September ALA Committee meeting is canceled. Our next meeting will be October 7.

UPCOMING ARE REVIEWS

PP&D and PD&D Exams

- **Mechanical and Electrical** - The recordings from the 2020 ARE Review presentations that focused on mechanical and electrical systems will be made available on-demand early September.
- **Structural Systems** - A two-session virtual, but live-streamed, review class will be scheduled for late November and early December.

Watch for more details to be announced [here](#).

2020 ARE 5.0 PASS RATES

These pass rates are for all candidates (first time and repeat) through December 13, 2020.

Practice Management 51%

Project Management 63%

Programming & Analysis 50%

Project Planning & Design 45%

Project Development & Documentation 57%

Construction & Evaluation 66%

Visit <https://www.ncarb.org/pass-the-are/pass-rates> to compare with previous years.

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

ARCHITECTURE IN THE SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 9, 8:30 am
[Virtual Meeting](#)

BUILDING CODES KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Wednesday, September 8, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

Open forum. 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, September 9, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

COMMITTEE ON EQUITY IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (EBE)

Wednesday, September 15, 8:30 am
[Virtual Meeting](#)

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (COTE)

Friday, September 10, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

The September meeting will feature architects who work regularly on B3 projects. Listen to their experience, and bring your questions about B3 in action!

COUNCIL OF FIRMS KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE UPDATES AND DISCUSSION
Monday, September 13, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 7, 8:00 am
[Virtual Meeting](#)

ENTER COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 15, 12:00 pm
[Virtual Meeting](#)

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 21, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

The September meeting will be a discussion of the 2022 legislative platform. Join us to help shape our agenda for the upcoming session!

HEALTH DESIGN KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Thursday, September 30, 4:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

HOUSING ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 1, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

LAKE SUPERIOR DESIGN RETREAT COMMITTEE

Monday, September 20, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

SAVE THE DATE

**34th Annual Lake Superior Design Retreat
February 25-26, 2022**

MINNESOTA DESIGN TEAM COMMITTEE (MDT)

Wednesday, September 15, 4:30 - 5:30 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 7, 12:00 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)



The Residential Architecture Committee had a great time at their in-person social at Waldmann Brewery on August 10, which included a tour by owner Tom Schroeder (pictured).

TECHNOLOGY IN ARCHITECTURE PRACTICE (TAP) KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

Thursday, September 23, 4:30 pm

[Virtual Meeting](#)

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 8, 8:00 am

[Virtual Meeting](#)

PEOPLE & FIRMS

Locus Architecture joined the AIA 2030 Commitment.

Maria Tomala, CDFA, data and project analyst at **Cunningham Group Architecture**, was elected national president of SDA.

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Kendrick Booth, Associate AIA
 Jill Bутtenhoff, Associate AIA
 Wes Grunke, Associate AIA
 Mara Hitt, Associate AIA
 Erin McDonough, AIA

William Minnehan, AIA
 Aniket Nagdive, Associate AIA
 Jon Vandervelde, AIA
 Eric Young, AIA

IN MEMORIAM

John Litchy, AIA, passed away on August 20. [Learn more »](#)

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

[LeadingGREEN Online LEED Training and Exam Prep \(On-Demand in 2021\) »](#)

MENTOR A UMN DESIGN STUDENT

Applications are now open for mentors to work one-on-one with architecture and design students for the 2021-2022 academic year. [Learn more and apply »](#)

MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE ADDS ARCHITECTURAL VIRTUAL REALITY & RENDERING CERTIFICATE

Minneapolis College (formerly known as MCTC) is now offering a 16 CR certificate in Architectural Virtual Reality & Rendering. Our first classes starting this August. Classes are in the evening so they won't interfere with work and are geared toward working practitioners. We are excited that our instructors (Raz Pomerleau, RSP; Joe Mollen, U+B and Maya Saliba, past

MCTC grad and Interior Designer) are working practitioners and are skilled in their subjects.

[Learn more »](#)

ROBERTA DWYER ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP

To honor the legacy of pioneering civil engineer Roberta Dwyer, LHB established an endowment of \$25,000 in 2020 to support a civil engineering scholarship at UMD in her name. The scholarship will support women students in engineering. In order to grow the impact of the scholarship, LHB is reaching out to the community for additional contributions with a goal of a total endowment of \$50,000. Please see the following link for more information and an opportunity to donate: [Roberta Dwyer Engineering Scholarship](#)

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

*Matrix is published
by AIA Minnesota.*

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OCTOBER Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, September 17.

NOVEMBER Matrix editorial deadline is Friday, October 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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