Volunteer Opportunities

2021
About Volunteering with AIA Colorado

Want to create change? Interested in making a difference? Want to expand your network? Get involved!

There are no shortage of 2021 opportunities for you to share your perspective or roll up your sleeves and work alongside your peers to develop new solutions and programs. From Committees to Knowledge Communities and appointed roles, volunteering with AIA Colorado is the best way to build your leadership skills, gain new experience, meet colleagues, and shape the profession. Read on for opportunity details.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. MST on Wednesday, January 6, 2021.

> Ready? APPLY HERE
AIA COLORADO Committees

1. Architecture Advocates Network
2. Awards Committee
3. Christopher Kelley Leadership Development Program Committee
4. College of Fellows Nominating Committee
5. Committee on the Environment
6. Conference Committee
7. Editorial Committee
8. Emerging Professionals / Mentorship Committee
9. Government Affairs Committee
10. Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) Committee
Architecture Advocates Network

OVERVIEW
Members of the Architecture Advocates Network help to expand our advocacy efforts across the state and in local communities.

2021 GOALS
• Brainstorming compelling subject for Virtual Connect Event
• Reveal how ARCpac reinforces AIA’s goals in Colorado State Election cycles
• Find opportunities for collaborations with other committees over the course of each year for outreach

RESPONSIBILITIES
• Develop tools and resources to support the network’s 2021 goals
• Act as mentors and facilitators for members who want to be advocates of the architecture profession but are looking for support and guidance.
• Take the lead in building relationships between members and elected officials
• Assist in political fundraising efforts of ARCpac and ARCsd

TIME COMMITMENT
• Participate in regular committee meetings, year-round.
• Periodically speak with other committees and member groups to share AIA Colorado advocacy goals and promote efforts.
Awards Committee

OVERVIEW
The Awards Committee helps to plan the annual AIA Colorado Design + Honor Awards program, which elevates design and recognizes the accomplishments of individual Colorado architects and firms.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Design Awards:
• Review categories, criteria and submission instructions for design awards
• Make recommendations for jurors
• Promote call for award entries
• Provide input and guidance on the format for the presentation of the awards
• Promote the awards celebration

Honor Awards:
• Review Honor Award submission categories
• Refine and create Honor Award criteria
• Provide input concerning honor award submission/selection process

TIME COMMITMENT
• Regular meetings 9 months of the year with increased frequency prior to call for submissions and awards event
Christopher Kelley Leadership Development Program Committee

OVERVIEW
This committee is for past participants of the Christopher Kelley Leadership Development Program who would like to pay it forward by serving on the group’s Executive Committee for the 2021-2022 program.
College of Fellows Nominating Committee

OVERVIEW
This committee helps members who are in the process of applying to the AIA College of Fellows.

Committee members should expect at least two meetings as a group and individual outreach to support qualified members.
Committee on the Environment (C.O.T.E.)

OVERVIEW

This committee will review AIA’s 2030 Challenge and more to advance AIA Colorado’s imperative of environmental stewardship.

In 2021, the committee will build awareness of and promote the use of the Framework for Design Excellence and implement a survey to better understand how we can support firms’ efforts.

You can expect regular virtual meetings and periodic coordination with other committee efforts advancing environmental stewardship.
Conference Committee

OVERVIEW
Help plan AIA Colorado’s annual signature event, the Practice + Design Conference, which has historically drawn 600+ design professionals. This committee helps to select a theme, research and secure speakers, plan conference activities and more.

With the event having moved to a digital platform in 2020, we appreciate nimble volunteers, who can adapt to rapidly changing, public health guidelines and offer creative event ideas as we explore options.

RESPONSIBILITIES
• Identify keynote speakers—help make contact
• Develop, promote and review the call for speakers and speaker proposals, concurrent sessions and schedule
• Promote event
• Attend and volunteer at the event (whether in-person or virtual)

TIME COMMITMENT
• Regular meetings 9 months of the year with increased frequency during key planning times
Editorial Committee

OVERVIEW
The Editorial Committee is ideal for members who have an interest in storytelling and is open to volunteers beyond membership (i.e. marketing professionals or students).

This committee develops content that advances the profession, provides insight into the life of an architect, and explores current issues and challenges for architects in Colorado.

RESPONSIBILITIES
• Research stories and pressing issues among the architecture community.
• Attend other committee meetings and regularly report on cross-association activities.
• Develop content (written, video, photo or audio) to be shared with members regularly, disseminated via AIA Colorado’s website, newsletter, and social media channels.
• Attend and report on AIA Colorado programs and events.

TIME COMMITMENT
• Monthly meeting (in-person or via web conference)
• 4-6 additional hours per month writing/developing content, researching stories, interviewing members and attending events.
Emerging Professionals / Mentorship Committee

OVERVIEW
This newly combined group will research and help identify opportunities for programs and events that help emerging professionals establish themselves, connect with each other and advance in their careers.

The team will help facilitate AIA Colorado’s group mentorship program, which is an opportunity for members to collaborate, support and learn from each other.

The committee will work with staff to identify needs for meeting frequency.
Government Affairs Committee

OVERVIEW

This team follows issues of statewide concern to the architecture profession, with an emphasis on the Colorado state legislature. Whether you're already familiar with legislative issues that affect architects or would like to learn and share your perspective, the Government Affairs Committee is a great way to get involved and help us define our advocacy objectives and policy priorities.

Each legislative session (January–May), the GAC establishes a legislative subcommittee that proactively reviews all bills introduced. The subcommittee reports to the full committee regularly through the session as input is needed. Legislative Subcommittee members are chosen from returning members to the committee.

RESPONSIBILITIES

• Discuss legislative and similar statewide issues affecting the architecture profession.
• Review bills flagged by the legislative subcommittee that may impact the profession.
• Evaluate requests for AIA Colorado to take formal positions and actions on specific bills.
• Engage when AIA Colorado supports or opposes specific bills—contact legislators, testify at the Capitol if possible (dependent on relative expertise).
• Research opportunities for AIA Colorado to write our own bills to advance the architecture profession.
• Represent AIA Colorado when there are opportunities to meet with state lawmakers and candidates.

TIME COMMITMENT

• Monthly meetings, occurring year-round on Thursdays
• Active involvement during the annual legislative session is especially important.
• Between meetings during the legislative session, review bills flagged by the legislative subcommittee needing immediate input.
Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (J.E.D.I.) Committee

OVERVIEW

We believe that developing a profession that respects and values different experiences, backgrounds, beliefs and ideas propels architecture into the future and better positions our members to succeed.

AIA Colorado seeks volunteers who support this association imperative to continue and build upon the work of the 2020 committee to promote justice, equity, diversity and inclusion within the architecture profession in Colorado through events, programs, initiatives, partnerships and research.

RESPONSIBILITIES

• Identify/refine top goals and projects for the year
• Plan programs, contribute content, and/or pursue additional opportunities to expand awareness of J.E.D.I. in the profession. This is a hands-on committee.
• Work with the committee to identify and establish relationships with important stakeholders.
• Develop programming to be integrated into existing AIA Colorado programs like the annual conference, leadership programs, mentorship, design awards and more.

TIME COMMITMENT

• Monthly meeting
• 1-2 hours per month meeting with smaller sub-committee
• 2-4 hours per month independent work/research
AIA COLORADO
Knowledge Communities

1. Academy of Architecture for Health Knowledge Community
2. Business of Architecture Knowledge Community
3. Regional and Urban Design Knowledge Community
Academy of Architecture for Health Knowledge Community

OVERVIEW
The Academy of Architecture for Health Knowledge Community provides educational and networking opportunities for members who work on healthcare projects and seek to advance this rapidly evolving area of practice.

STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES
• Lead regularly occurring meetings. Common agenda items include:
  • Formal presentations, often by non-member experts or government agency staff.
  • Workshops that help members gain a deeper understanding of the topic.
  • Roundtable discussions.
  • Tours of places or buildings (depending on gathering restrictions)
  • Virtual networking events that help develop strategic relationships with like-minded groups in similar organizations.
• Proactively reach out to potential speakers to coordinate presentations.
• Complete continuing education application forms when meeting topics are suitable for AIA learning units.
• Lead communication efforts for meetings. This includes direct communications with members who opt-in to email communications, creating flyers and other promotional materials, and social media posts.
Business of Architecture Knowledge Community

OVERVIEW
Members of this team help to organize events and learning opportunities around the business side of architecture. Topics might include marketing, HR and legal, contracts/contract negotiation and more. Interest will appeal to professionals with a variety of experience—from firm principals to mid-career professionals hoping to hone their practice management skills.

STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES
• Meet regularly to discuss issues related to practice management
• Determine important topics to cover in 2021
• Plan calendar of events
• Program events (ideally quarterly) in a variety of formats to appeal to AIA Colorado membership
• Help identify speakers and coordinate virtual events
• Promote the events to friends and colleagues
• Facilitate panels and peer group conversations
Regional and Urban Design Knowledge Community

OVERVIEW
The Regional and Urban Design Knowledge Community discusses issues related to the design of public spaces, land use regulations, and urban planning in Colorado.

STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES
• Lead regularly occurring meetings. Common agenda items include:
  • Formal presentations, often by non-member experts or government agency staff.
  • Workshops that help members gain a deeper understanding of the topic.
  • Roundtable discussions.
  • Tours of places or buildings (depending on gathering restrictions)
  • Virtual networking events that help develop strategic relationships with like-minded groups in similar organizations.
• Proactively reach out to potential speakers to coordinate presentations.
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AIA COLORADO

Appointments

1. Architect Licensing Advisor
2. Disaster Response Coordinator
Architect Licensing Advisor

OVERVIEW
A board-appointed role, the Architect Licensing Advisor volunteers to help those pursuing licensure, working closely with AIA and NCARB. This is a two-year appointment.
Disaster Response Coordinator

OVERVIEW
State disaster coordinators are AIA members who will establish and maintain a relationship with state and/or local county emergency management officials, the chapter and AIA National. Coordinators help maintain a roster of potential volunteers and assist in Disaster Assistance Trainings.

RESPONSIBILITIES
• Maintain active Safety Assessment Program (SAP) credentials, per CalOES standards.
• Work with other state coordinators through AIA National.
• Manage the AIA Colorado Disaster Response Handbook and member SAP roster.
• Develop and maintain relationships with state and local disaster response agency staff.
• Develop and maintain relationships with allied organizations who also maintain an SAP roster.
• Represent AIA Colorado for the Colorado Recovery and Resiliency Collaborative (CRRC).
• Work with AIA Colorado staff to manage disaster response efforts in the state.

TIME COMMITMENT
• Minimum three-year commitment for this position.
• Year one goals:
  • Update the AIA Colorado Response Handbook (last updated in 2014)
  • Make introductions with state agency staff.
  • Attend quarterly CRRC meetings.
Thanks for considering AIA Colorado volunteer service. Found a good fit?

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