



**Member
Guidebook**

**Everything you need
to get the most from your
membership experience.**

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THE A'LIST

**AIA connects you like
no other organization can.**

Start your new membership
experience with the A'List—
some of our most valuable
membership benefits and perks.



THE A'LIST

AIA chapters

Members often discover their deepest connection to AIA at one of more than 200 local, state, and international chapters, which are the heart and backbone of AIA. Focused on needs, opportunities, and challenges in members' immediate communities, AIA chapters offer valuable benefits, events, and education tailored specifically to local interests and concerns. No matter where you live, there's an AIA community near you. Find yours at aia.org/chapters.

THE A'LIST

AIA designation

Since 1857, when 13 architects formed what would become The American Institute of Architects, the letters AIA have signified the highest standards in architectural practice. Today, more than 160 years later, with 96,000+ members, the letters AIA still deliver an abiding promise of rigorous education, extensive training, real-world experience, and a commitment to professional excellence recognized by clients, civic leaders, and the public. Enhance your personal brand and professional standing by adding the AIA designation to your name. AIA, Assoc. AIA, International Assoc. AIA, and FAIA—learn more at aia.org/designation.





THE A'LIST

AIA Conference on Architecture

Every year, AIA hosts this international gathering of leaders in architecture and beyond to define the year ahead. The conference delivers visionary speakers, hundreds of sessions, exclusive local architecture tours, inspired networking, and the opportunity to learn from the best. The conference's Architecture Expo features hundreds of leading brands and manufacturers with the newest high-tech products and sustainable materials to hit the market. New AIA members get an exclusive discount; all AIA members save with special member rates. Learn more and sign up for updates at aia.org/conference.

CAIA COMMUNITY



THE POWER OF BELONGING HERE.

AIA is where we network. Celebrate. Collaborate. Socialize. And grow. We're a community of passionate individuals bound by common values, standards, and ethics. Most importantly, we're a community united by a shared drive to create a better world through the power of design. AIA is where we gather to celebrate successes, meet shared challenges, and shape the future of our careers, our practice, our profession, and our world. The power of AIA is you.

Photo: Garrett Rowland

NETWORK

With 96,000+ members, AIA is the largest, most influential network of architecture and design professionals. More than 200 local, state, and international chapters, and dozens of member groups, AIA Knowledge Communities, and regional and national events create endless opportunities to engage, socialize, learn, and lead the profession. Whether you're a recent grad or an established leader, you'll find a rich and ever-changing landscape of social, professional, and educational experiences designed to advance your career and build professional connections that last a lifetime. You belong here.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

We invest in creating new knowledge and supporting the local community innovators and leaders of today and tomorrow. Through grants, fellowships, and scholarships like the Diversity Advancement Scholarship, the Sho-Ping Chin Women's Leadership Summit Grant, the Upjohn Research Initiative, and the AIA College of Fellows Latrobe Prize, AIA and its philanthropic partner the Architects Foundation seek and support extraordinary problem solvers and their solutions with more than \$100,000 in grants and \$200,000 in new scholarships each year.

AWARDS

From small innovations to crowning career achievements, our community celebrates effort, impact, and accomplishment. AIA's local and national awards are among the most prestigious in the industry and recognize personal successes, honor professional accomplishments, and celebrate architecture's impact on shaping our communities. Each year, our national program features 30+ awards, including the prestigious Architecture Awards for the best contemporary architecture and the Gold Medal, AIA's highest annual honor.

DESIGN ASSISTANCE

AIA's award-winning Communities by Design (CxD) program has catalyzed billions of dollars in sustainable development in communities all over the world. CxD teams combine a customized range of disciplines and professions in an integrated community design process that brings together government and civic leaders, the business sector, nonprofit leaders and the general public to build collective action plans for key local issues. The program has led to dramatic transformations in small rural towns and large urban jurisdictions and has been adapted widely around the world.



Photo: Jamey Stillings © Mazria, Inc.

Pioneering solutions:

Edward Mazria, FAIA, won the 2021 AIA Gold Medal for his work sounding the alarm on climate change and motivating the architecture profession to act. Ed was one of the first architects to calculate the built environment's impact on the climate crisis, and his 2030 Challenge inspired AIA to launch the 2030 Commitment to reduce operational carbon in buildings. Ed's environmentally conscious work and his climate advocacy champion the impact and the responsibility of sustainable planning and design. He's a member.

KNOWLEDGE

AIA



THE PASSION FOR RESHAPING EXPERIENCES.

The designed world is getting more complex. So **AIA** works tirelessly to deliver the information and education that helps you create, anticipate, and **innovate**. That means industry-leading continuing education from acclaimed architects, designers, and firms. Thought leadership and insights on critical, current issues. And a range of professional tools, expert resources, and industry innovations to constantly help you transform your practice and profession.

EDUCATION

AIA's best-in-class continuing education promises new ideas, skills, and career opportunities. Earn a certificate, master new skills, or earn AXP hours with courses by leading architects through AIAU, your local chapter, core AIA events, or our extensive network of AIA-approved CE providers. Innovative local and national leadership programs like the Women's Leadership Summit and Next to Lead provide guidance and support for career advancement. The AIA/ACSA Intersections Research Conference and the Design and Health Research Consortium share the latest research and its impact on practice.

RESEARCH & REPORTS

Industry research, reports, and economic data keep our members in front of change and ground business decisions on a foundation of facts. Navigate current business conditions and prepare for the future with AIA's proprietary suite of business intelligence like the Architecture Billings Index (ABI), the *Business of Architecture Firm Survey Report*, and the *AIA Compensation Report*. A range of resources and reports like the *AIA Framework for Design Excellence*, the *Guides for Equitable Practice*, the *Architect's Guide to Business Continuity*, and the *Architect's Primer on Renewable Energy* provide guidance, leadership, and indispensable resources for successful practice.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Looking to increase compliance, efficiency, effectiveness, and competitive advantage? *AIA Best Practices* is a collection of expert advice and experience on professional practice, firm management, project delivery, and contracts, aligned with the *Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice, 15th edition*. Topics include pro bono work, firm valuation, equitable culture, public interest design, and more. New content and definitive articles ensure you're current with the most important trends shaping practice and the marketplace.



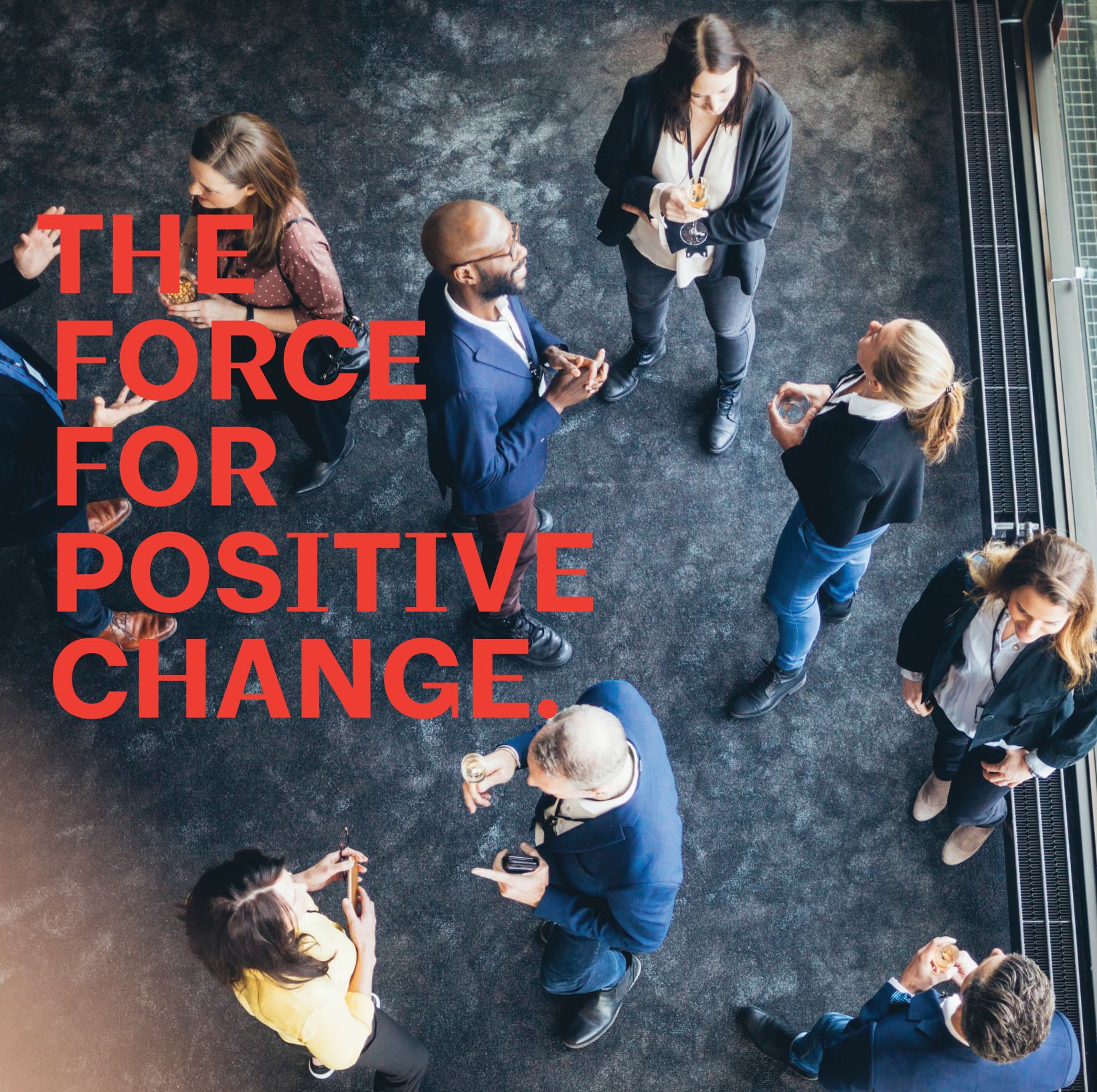
Photo: Joe Szurszewski

Learning from leaders:

AIA makes meeting annual continuing education requirements easier and rewarding with AIAU—our premier online learning platform for architects and design professionals. AIAU is your source for AIA LU | Elective, LU | HSW, GBCI, ADA, and/or RIBA courses by award-winning architects and firms. There are 170+ curated courses, four exclusive certificate programs, and a range of free live courses including the Emerge Series, which offers free experience hours for Associate AIA members.

ADVOCACY

AIA



THE FORCE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE.

AIA is powered by the collective voice and actions of 96,000+ members.

Together, we're taking on urgent issues affecting the architecture profession, in numbers that are making a difference. Because when you provide talented, passionate professionals and committed community members access to resources and leadership opportunities, they become a critical voice for change and a powerful force for good. Get ready to raise your voice.

GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY

From leadership on national policy priorities to influencing local code standards, AIA is the voice of architecture to legislators at the federal, state, and local levels. But we can't advocate for a better future without you. Policymakers and legislators want to hear your industry expertise and critical perspective in meetings, testimony, regulatory guidance, and advocacy communications. Join fellow members in advocating for public health, safety, and welfare and encouraging the development of codes that ensure sustainable, resilient, equitable, and thriving communities.

SUSTAINABILITY

AIA members are leading the way to carbon neutral, acting as a force multiplier for sustainable, resilient design in communities around the world. AIA isn't just supporting this effort, we're prioritizing it. Our latest efforts include AIA's *Framework for Design Excellence*, ten defining principles that guide architects and their clients on the path to sustainable, resilient, inclusive design; and *Blueprint for Better*, a multiyear campaign with definitive resources like courses, talking points, message books, research, and reports to transform public awareness and the day-to-day practice of architecture.

EQUITY

Today's architects measure success by how we design our work, how we design and support our workforce, and how we prepare emerging professionals for leadership. Through campaigns like *Blueprint for Better*, resources and reports such as the *Guides for Equitable Practice*, innovative programs like Women's Leadership Summit and Next to Lead, and courses, grants, and scholarships, AIA actively engages our members and the broader design community to champion equity, diversity, and belonging in our organization, profession, and communities.

PUBLIC ADVOCACY

To promote the critical role of architects and architecture, AIA develops, funds, and manages campaigns that influence industry perception and impact consumer and business behavior. *Blueprint for Better* highlights architects' contributions and impact in the fight against climate change.



Answering with action:

Buildings account for roughly 40% of annual fossil fuel carbon-dioxide emissions. And that big number requires big action. *Blueprint for Better* is AIA's call for big action. More specifically, it's a call to design a zero-carbon, resilient, healthy, just, and equitable future for everyone. Architects can't do it alone. But together—architects, engineers, design professionals, contractors, civic leaders, and the public—we can transform the day-to-day practice of architecture and build a better future.

AIA EVERY DAY

This is day-to-day AIA: The vital tools and practical information that support every architect, every day.

Comprehensive, industry-standard contracts and forms. Architect-approved insurance programs. Exclusive discounts. And an ever-growing collection of articles and inspiration to help you discover things you love and new approaches to design. All expertly curated to meet your ever-changing interests and needs.

AIA CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Since 1889, AIA Contract Documents have been recognized as the industry standard for defining relationships in design and construction projects. Today, over 200 easy-to-use, comprehensive forms and contracts are trusted and used by architects, contractors, engineers, attorneys, owners, and all other parties involved in a construction project. Members save 20% with an exclusive discount.

AIA TRUST

Designed for and exclusively available to AIA members, the AIA Trust offers comprehensive insurance and benefit programs to help individual architects and firms of any size manage risk and protect their investments. Products range from professional liability insurance to health insurance, retirement plans, pet health coverage, and free risk management resources. Members get exclusive rates on selected products.

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Every week, AIA Architect, the industry's premier newsletter, delivers ideas and inspiration with stories, insights, project profiles, and timely news.

MASTERSPEC®

For more than 50 years, architects have trusted their product selection to AIA MasterSpec®, the industry-standard product and specification resource. With more than 900 master guide specifications covering 7,000+ products, it's the most comprehensive and trusted collection in architecture and design.

CAREER CENTER

With AIA Career Center, architects can easily discover and apply to the best jobs. It also has tools to help you streamline your search. Members save on marketing, recruiting, and hiring the best talent.

DISCOUNTS

Members enjoy exclusive savings on products and services, including Contract Documents, Masterspec®, AIAU, conferences and events, research, reports, and the AIA Store. Business, consumer, and trade discounts include FedEx, UPS, Avis, Hertz, Dell, and Office Depot.



The power of AIA is you.