AIA Kansas City Year in Review 2021
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Letter from the Executive Director

“Don’t look back, you’re not going that way.”

Seems like a contradictory quote to introduce an annual report but stick with me on this.

The past two years have had their share of setbacks and frustrations. People’s priorities have shifted, and we all want to feel a bit more in control of our lives. Looking back can make us wince when all we want to see is smoother sailing ahead. We feel it at AIA Kansas City, too.

Yet when we focus on the bright spots, the wins, and the successes, as you’ll see presented in this annual report, it’s clear that we are in fact thriving as a chapter and as a profession. Flipping through these pages, you’ll see:

- Our members are still creating award-winning projects around the world. (pg. 6)
- AIA Kansas City membership numbers remain strong and help us maintain our position as the 17th largest local AIA chapter in the world. (pg. 3)
- Our Associate AIA members commit to achieving licensure, with the help of AIA Kansas City resources. (pg. 12)
- We develop new programs to showcase design excellence. (pg. 10)

Our board, committees, and staff worked hard this past year to deliver meaningful programming that would resonate with our members and stakeholders. We thrive on our members’ engagement with our dynamic chapter and rely on you to let us know how we can serve you best. Our chapter’s success is your success, and vice versa. Looking back at 2021 activities in this report shows how much we accomplished and how we’re poised for the future.

In fact, we are optimistic about 2022! Our activity level never waned in 2020 and 2021, and we have plenty of opportunities planned in 2022 for you to learn, grow, network, serve, achieve, and belong.

I look forward to having you join us on this coming year’s journey. With any luck, when we look back at 2022, we’ll like what we see.

Onward,

Dawn Taylor

Mission

In continuous operation since 1890, AIA Kansas City supports its members, advances the value of the architecture profession, and improves the quality of the built environment
AIA KANSAS CITY
BY THE NUMBERS

AIA Kansas City is part of the national network of over 200 AIA chapters representing over 95,000 architects.

1,169
AIA Kansas City members

15
members became registered architects

65
events hosted

2,881
registrations for all AIA Kansas City events

33
education credits were provided

77
AIA Kansas City Member Firms

96
Cornerstone Partners, Professional Affiliates, and event sponsors supported AIA Kansas City
Membership

AIA Kansas City’s first priority is our members. We serve a variety of career stages, interest areas, and needs with our member benefits and services.

1,169 MEMBERS

- AIA Architect Members: 851
- AIA Associate Members: 234
- AIA Emeritus Members: 84

MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

17th largest local chapter in the world

27% membership increase since 2011
Our members, board, committees, and staff continued work on the important initiatives contained in the 5-year Strategic Plan, which our Chapter launched in 2020 continued on as planned for 2021. This plan focuses on four priorities and strives to answer the challenges presented:

**ELEVATING THE VALUE OF ARCHITECTS**
For centuries, architecture has had a profound impact on the public realm. But how will the profession of architecture manifest in 20 or 30 years?

The architect’s future will most likely include realities we do not currently imagine. However, the only one certainty is our profession will change. Just as similar professions have experienced in recent years, the quickening pace of technology and market innovations combined with the evolution of social and cultural trends will assist in the rapid evolution of the architectural practice landscape.

**FOSTER THE FUTURE**
To be successful, the profession needs a continuous pipeline and retention of the next generation of architects. Sustainability in any organization means building interest and relevance in their community while fostering future membership and leadership. The challenge is forecasting optimal ways to feed the pipeline. What are the needs of the next generation? How will they impact and inform the evolution of the profession?

**INTENTIONAL KNOWLEDGE SHARING**
AIA Kansas City has a responsibility to provide programmed learning, opportunities for personal growth, and a sense of belonging. The importance of this issue cannot be understated. It is through these avenues that AIA Kansas City is in a prime, unique position to increase knowledge sharing across the profession.

**EQUITY + DIVERSITY + INCLUSION**
AIA Kansas City believes that our profession and our larger A/E/C industry are enriched by the creative power of diverse opinions, equitable practices, and inclusive firm cultures. Our chapter will deliver tools and resources that our members will use to build an empowered workforce, where everyone is valued and has equal access to prosperity. The time is now, and the opportunities are at hand to establish solid EDI practices that reflect our future workforce.
Recognizing Excellence

DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS
In 2021, AIA Kansas City continued to recognize outstanding projects that showcase our Member Firms through our annual Design Excellence Awards. This year’s awards jury included Scott Erdy, FAIA, Jeff Goldstein, FAIA, and Zinat Yusufzai, AIA from Philadelphia. We had an impressive 101 entries and presented awards to 21 projects. AIA Kansas City hosted a luncheon on November 10 at The Guild to honor the award recipients.

We would like to congratulate all of the 2021 Design Excellence Awards recipients.

PROJECT OF THE YEAR
Lone Oaks Farm Hunter Education Station
Architect: El Dorado
Owner: University of Tennessee

ARCHITECTURE LARGE: HONOR
West Bottoms Flats
Architect: BNIM
Owner: MCM Company, Inc

ARCHITECTURE LARGE: HONOR
Career and Technical Education Center
Architect: BNIM
Owner: Johnson County Community College

ARCHITECTURE SMALL: HONOR
Winnetonka High School Addition
Architect: BNIM
Owner: North Kansas City School District

ARCHITECTURE LARGE: MERIT
Southeast Community College Academic Excellence Center
Architects: Gould Evans and BVH Architecture
Owner: Southeast Community College

ARCHITECTURE XLARGE: MERIT
Fertitta Center
Architects: AECOM and PGAL
Owner: University of Houston

ARCHITECTURE LARGE: MERIT
Kirk Family YMCA
Architect: BNIM
Owner: YMCA of Greater Kansas City

ARCHITECTURE XSMALL: MERIT
Tableau Vivant
Architect: Gould Evans
Owner: West 18th Street Fashion Show

ARCHITECTURE LARGE: CITATION
McCownGordon Construction Headquarters
Architect: Helix Architecture & Design
Owner: McCownGordon Construction

ARCHITECTURE XLARGE: CITATION
ReVerb Apartments
Architect: Burns & McDonnell
Owner: Copaken Brooks

ARCHITECTURE SMALL: CITATION
Sunset Residence
Architect: KEM STUDIO

ARCHITECTURE XSMALL: CITATION
Liberty Public Schools Learnscape
Architect: Hollis + Miller Architects
Owner: Liberty Public Schools

ARCHITECTURE MEDIUM: CITATION
Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield Music Center
Architect: BNIM
Owner: University of Missouri – Columbia

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE: HONOR
Kansas City Museum Interior Restoration
Architect: International Architects Atelier
Owner: City of Kansas City, MO Parks & Recreation

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE: MERIT
MidAmerican Energy Corporate Office and Conference Center Renovation
Architect: BNIM
Owner: MidAmerican Energy

DIVINE DETAIL: HONOR
Rolling Screen
Architect: International Architects Atelier
Owner: City of Kansas City, MO Parks & Recreation

DIVINE DETAIL: MERIT
Francis Quad Column Conservation
Architect: International Architects Atelier
Owner: The Curators of the University of Missouri

CONCEPT: MERIT
Arthur Richards PreK-8
Architect: DLR Group
Owner: Virgin Islands Public Schools

CONCEPT: MERIT
The Battle Within Lakeside Retreat
Architect: Hermanos Design
Owner: The Battle Within

CONCEPT: MERIT
East Bottoms Vision Study
Architect: Kansas City Design Center
Owner: Kansas City, MO Planning Department

PROFESSIONALS’ CHOICE
Southeast Community College Academic Excellence Center
Architect: Gould Evans and BVH Architecture
Owner: Southeast Community College
Recognizing Excellence

AIA KANSAS CITY BOARD AWARDS
We took special note this year of our members and others who inspired us with their leadership, compassion, agility, and relevance. We congratulate the 2021 AIA Kansas City Board Award winners, who were recognized at our BIG HOLIDAY NIGHT on December 8 at the Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center for the impact they had in our community this year:

ARCHITECT AWARD
Dave Herron, AIA

FIRM AWARD
Hoefer Welker

EMERGING PROFESSIONAL AWARD
Tabitha Darko, AIA

CHAPTER VOLUNTEER AWARD
Sam Loring, AIA

PRESIDENT’S AWARD: ARCHITECTURAL ADVOCATE
Anna Marie Tutera, Kansas City Museum

PRESIDENT’S AWARD: OUTSTANDING SERVICE
AIA Kansas City Education Outreach Committee & NOMA KC
Committees & Programs

ADVOCACY
Our Advocacy Committee held City Hall Day in October, meeting with Councilmembers from three districts in Kansas City, MO. This group also held quarterly meetings with Kansas City, MO’s City Manager to discuss a range of issues.

A/E/C INSIGHTS
AIA Kansas City continued our partnership with The Builders’ Association and AGC Kansas City to host a program on Infrastructure and Our Industry featuring government affairs experts from both of our national organizations.

ARE SUCCESS TEAM
This is the seventh year of this program. These teams are supportive small groups of Associates who commit to taking all sections of the ARE in a 12-month period. The 2021 team had 15 participants.

EDUCATION OUTREACH
This year’s Outreach group released the Explore Architecture Career Guide, created in conjunction with NOMA KC. Additionally, the first video was launched in the series of videos that complement the guide. This committee also helped facilitate an architecture camp this summer.
Committees & Programs

**EQUITY IN ARCHITECTURE**
Equity in Architecture hosted five sessions based on the AIA Guides for Equitable Practice. This series will complete in 2022. The committee also compiled all of the data from the Member Firm Equity Survey, and will release the results in early 2022.

**WOMEN IN DESIGN**
This committee provided mentorship, support, and advocacy for women in the profession by continuing the Women in Leadership Series, creating the new Porches + Podcasts Series, and facilitating a conversation on resume building, networking, and business opportunities. They also co-hosted a Trolley Tour with CREW KC.

**PILLARS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**
The Pillars Leadership Program continues to prepare emerging leaders as it completed its 15th year in 2021 with 16 graduates. The program also selected 16 participants for its 2021-2022 class. To date, 228 participants have graduated from the program.

**YOUNG ARCHITECTS FORUM**
YAF supported and engaged our early-career members through a variety of programs including tours, a career resiliency seminar and a summer happy hour. Additionally, YAF offered 10 ARE Study Sessions and designed, assembled and delivered over 40 New Grad care packages.
New Program

SHOW YOUR WORK
AIA Kansas City created this new program for members to be able to take a more in-depth look at our Design Excellence Award winning projects.

Members were able to take tours of these projects with the architects that designed them, and had access to the design team to ask questions.

PALOMAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS COMPLEX
Architect: BNIM | Location: San Marcos, CA | virtual tour

KCAI: BARBARA A MARSHALL HALL & WYLIE DINING CENTER
Architects: Helix Architecture + Design & Christopher Carvell Architects | Location: Kansas City, MO | in-person tour

SHOW YOUR WORK BY THE NUMBERS

130+
registrations for both programs

2
tours of award-winning projects

1
joint event with AIA San Diego on the California project
Signature Programs

AIA Kansas City welcomed members and sponsors to its signature fall events. Many safety protocols were put in place, and we combined two events for a big year-end celebration.

DESIGN AWARDS
21 projects awarded | Philadelphia-based jury
112 event registrations | first award celebration luncheon format

BIG HOLIDAY NIGHT
combined BIG NIGHT with Holiday Party | 6 Board Awards presented
4 newly elected Board Members | 165 event registrations | celebrated a successful year
Additional Initiatives

AIA Kansas City collaborates and partners with other organizations and AIA at state, regional, and national levels.

**AIA NATIONAL**
- Attended virtual Grassroots in February
- Attended Big Sibs virtual monthly meetings
- Staff has been participating in meetings and conferences with their Big Sibs counterparts to share experiences and resources.

**CENTRAL STATES REGION**
- AIA Kansas City provides administrative support for CSR (meetings, rosters, voting, communication, accounting)
- AIA Kansas City member Neal Angrisano, AIA, served as our CSR representative to the Strategic Council
- AIA voted to dissolve all regional groups in 2021. AIA Kansas City is providing administrative support to facilitate this process.

**AIA MISSOURI**
- AIA Kansas City has six representatives serving on the AIA Missouri Board.
- AIA Kansas City member Tony McGrail, AIA, served as AIA Missouri President.

**LICENSURE**
- AIA Kansas City provides resources and programming to help members achieve licensure. Congratulations to those licensed in 2021:
  - Tyler Asby, AIA
  - Nadav Bittan, AIA
  - Colleen Cassidy, AIA
  - Lindsey Dahl, AIA
  - Jonathan Klocke, AIA
  - Jeremy Krug, AIA
  - Chloé Middleton, AIA
  - Kylie Miller, AIA
  - Sarah Murphy, AIA
  - Michelle Newcome, AIA
  - Ryan Northcutt, AIA
  - Daniel Osburn, AIA
  - Robert Powell, AIA
  - Rebecca Roberts, AIA
  - Jasmin Sangha, AIA
  - Jeremy Krug, AIA
  - Chloé Middleton, AIA
  - Kylie Miller, AIA
  - Sarah Murphy, AIA
  - Michelle Newcome, AIA
  - Ryan Northcutt, AIA
  - Daniel Osburn, AIA
  - Robert Powell, AIA
  - Rebecca Roberts, AIA
  - Jasmin Sangha, AIA

Congratulations to Our Newest Fellows

Laura Lesniewski, FAIA

Jon Niemuth, FAIA

The AIA Fellowship program was developed to elevate those architects who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society.

Congratulations to AIA Kansas City members Laura Lesniewski, FAIA, with BNIM and Jon Niemuth, FAIA, with AECOM.
Additional Initiatives

**CENTER FOR ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN**
- Hosted the return of KC Design Week 2021. The 7-day event featured 9 events with over 250 registrations.
- Promoted local Senior Shows to local professionals to view the work done by graduating seniors. Design schools from KC Art Institute, KSU, and Johnson County Community College were all highlighted.
- CfAD also hosted 20x20x2021 on December 2. This first-time happy hour featured presenters from each of CfAD’s organizations to dispel industry myths. Look for round two in 2022.

**KANSAS CITY ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION**
- Since 1991, Kansas City Architectural Foundation has given 184 scholarships totalling $457,850 to 129 unique individuals.
- In 2021, 11 scholarships were awarded, totaling $42,000. Scholarship amounts ranged from $3,000 to $6,000.
- 12 AIA Kansas City members serve on KCAF’s Board of Directors.
- Additionally, two Member Firms and 16 Fellows made contributions to scholarships in 2021.

**AROUND THE METRO**
- AIA Kansas City supported the KCMO Energy Code Updates.
- We placed our members on a municipal design review commission, a green housing task force, and design awards juries for several AIA chapters around the country.
- AIA Kansas City, USGBC Central Plains and SEAKM Kansas City delivered a joint program in June about reducing embodied carbon, part of our focus on climate action.

**Congratulations to Our AIA Citizen Architect**

Frank Zilm, FAIA
Congratulations to Frank Zilm, FAIA, for being named to AIA's national list of Citizen Architects, defined by their active involvement in their communities and recognized as being “the driving force behind AIA’s advocacy efforts.” It was an easy decision for our chapter to nominate Frank – he has both a decades-long commitment to service and advocacy, as well as a very recent roster of effective efforts to make Kansas City a national leader for its progressive energy codes.
2021 Cornerstone Partners

Our Cornerstone Partners allow AIA Kansas City to present high-quality programming, grow our advocacy reach, and continue expanding our impact in the metro area. AIA Kansas City appreciates their continued support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

* Cornerstone Partners with 10+ years of loyalty

**GOLD LEVEL || $7,500**
JE Dunn Construction *
McCownGordon Construction *

**BRONZE LEVEL || $2,500**
A.L. Huber General Contractors *
Apex Engineers
ATG
Bob D. Campbell & Co. *
BSE Structural Engineers
Centric *
Control Service Company
Dialectic Engineering
Harvest AV Solutions *
Henderson Engineers *
Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects
Holmes Murphy *
House of Rocks
Kelar Pacific
Lankford | Fendler + associates *
Leigh + O’Kane
Pearce Construction
Polsinelli *
Seiler Instrument Company *
SMACNA - Kansas City *
The Builders’ Association
Thornton Tomasetti *
Turner Construction *
Wallace Engineering *
Walter P Moore *

**SILVER LEVEL || $5,000**
Lockton *
Wallace Saunders

**RED RIBBON LEVEL || $1,000**
BHC *
Coreslab Structures
Country Home Elevator
Custom Engineering
Drexel Technologies *
Hoss & Brown Engineers
IMA, Inc.
Kaw Valley Engineering, Inc. *
KH Engineering Group *
Kissick Construction *
New Horizons Enterprises
Olsson
PMA Engineering *
Roof Top Sedums *
Schlagel Associates *
Smith & Boucher Engineers *
Spire
Straub Construction *
U.S. CAD *
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