



AIA KANSAS CITY
MEMBERSHIP &
CORE SERVICES



AIA
Kansas City



AIA KANSAS CITY MISSION STATEMENT

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 STRATEGIC PLAN VISION, ESTABLISHED IN 2015

AIA Kansas City provides services and benefits that empower architects to create environments that enhance quality of life and our collective future.

CONTACT US:

WEBSITE: www.aiakc.org

PHONE: 816.221.3485

ADDRESS: 1801 MCGEE, SUITE 100
KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

MEET YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Front row, left to right: Ryan Warman; Marsha Hoffman, Past President; Mike Gekas; Meredith Stoll

Back row: Kara Bouillette; Galen Lif, President; Amy Kinderknecht; Andy Pitts, President-Elect; Jonathan Petry, Angie Gaebler

GALEN LIF, AIA
PRESIDENT
Gould Evans

JONATHAN PETRY, AIA
TREASURER
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Kansas City District

MEREDITH STOLL,
ASSOCIATE AIA
EMERGING PROFESSIONAL
DIRECTOR (2018)
BRR Architecture

ANDY PITTS, AIA
PRESIDENT-ELECT
TreanorHL

RYAN WARMAN, AIA
DIRECTOR (2018)
Pearce Construction

AMY KINDERKNECHT, AIA
EMERGING PROFESSIONAL
DIRECTOR (2019)
GastingerWalker&

MARSHA HOFFMAN, AIA
PAST PRESIDENT
SFS Architecture

ANGIE GAEBLER, AIA
DIRECTOR (2019)
STRATA
Architecture + Preservation

CHRISTINE MURRAY
PUBLIC DIRECTOR
Greater Kansas City
Chamber of Commerce

MIKE GEKAS, AIA
SECRETARY
McCownGordon Construction

KARA BOUILLETTE, AIA
DIRECTOR (2020)
Hufft

JULIE PIERCE
PUBLIC DIRECTOR
Henderson Engineers

MEET YOUR STAFF

We have four full-time, dedicated staff members with more than 41 years combined experience in non-profit and association management.

- Executive Director Dawn Taylor joined AIA Kansas City in June 2010. She brought 17 years of membership, fund-raising, volunteer management, strategic planning, policy and program development, and event planning to this executive role. She serves on the board of Kansas City AGC and served on Mayor Sly James's Task Force for the Arts, 2011-2014. In addition, she has presented at several national AIA conferences and meetings.
- Deputy Director Tiffany Shepherd is a Certified Association Executive through ASAE. She also served seven years on the board for the Kansas City Society of Association Executives, including serving as President. She is currently serving her second year on the Small Staff Associations Committee with ASAE, where she helps reviews the total spectrum of ASAE's programs, services, products and activities and evaluates their appropriateness and adequacy in meeting the needs of small-staff association professionals. Tiffany spoke on a panel at 2015 Grassroots about our Component Excellence Award-winning leadership program, Pillars. Tiffany has been with AIA Kansas City since March 2003.
- Director of Communications Kristen DaMetz began her tenure at AIA Kansas City in January 2004. She was named to the 2010-2011 class of Centurions, the gold-standard leadership development program of Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. She currently lends her communications expertise to the board of Society for Marketing Professional Services and has served on the Young Professional Alliance for University of Kansas Medical Center.
- Director of Member Relations Amy Tonyes joined the chapter in June 2012 and immediately deployed her knowledge gained from working in one of our Member Firms. Her experience working directly with firm principals, combined with her marketing and program management skills, creates direct member value. Under her guidance, the chapter has instituted dynamic programming to engage its membership such as the ARE Success Team, Equity in Architecture and PIERS Mentoring Program. In addition, Amy has served as a NCARB Licensing Advisor since 2013. In 2017, she spoke on a panel at the annual NCARB Licensing Advisors Summit about how to engage young professionals. Amy's knowledge of the licensure process and her connections at NCARB have been instrumental in helping our Associate members get licensed.



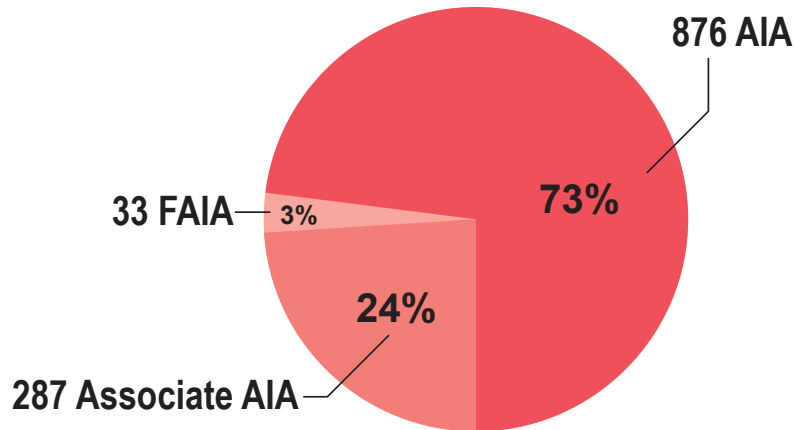
Tiffany Shepherd, Amy Tonyes, Dawn Taylor, Kristen DaMetz

AIA KANSAS CITY MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN

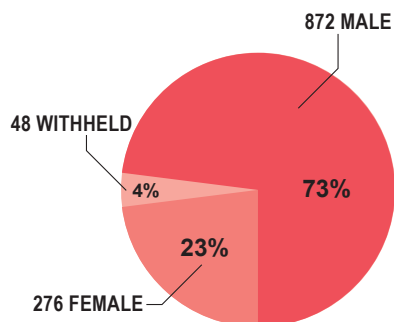
Total Members: 1196

Surpassing association industry trends, our membership has **grown by 26%** since 2008.

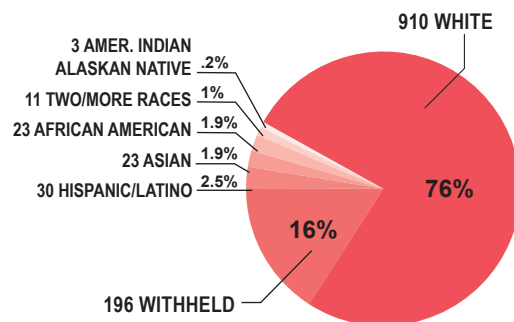
MEMBER TYPE



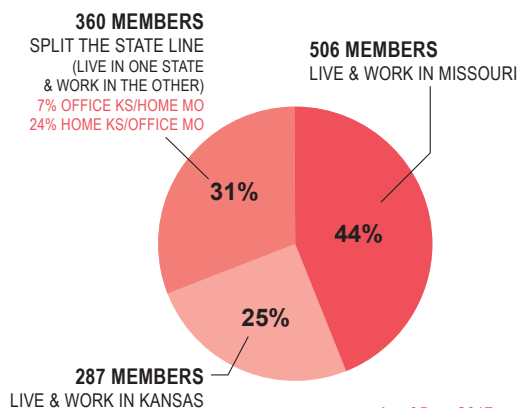
GENDER



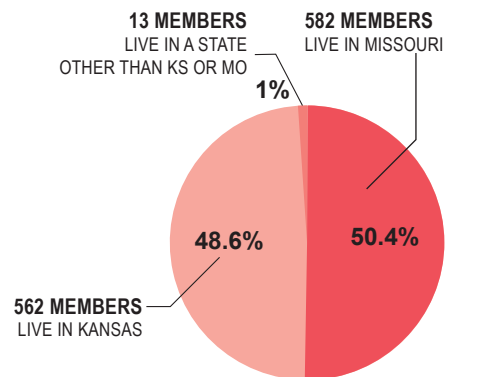
ETHNICITY



STATE ASSIGNMENTS



As of Dec. 2017



As of Dec. 2017

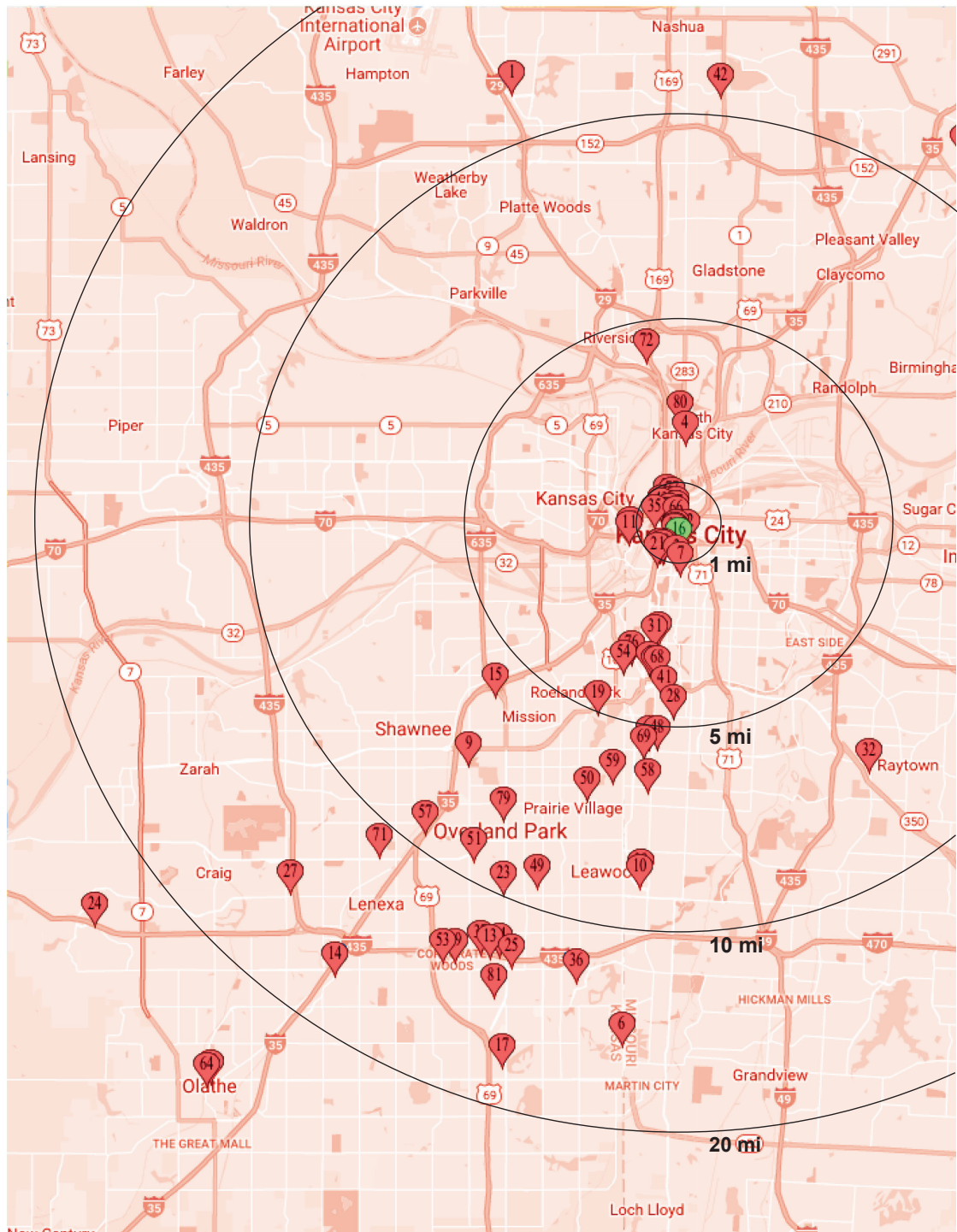
MEMBER FIRMS

AIA Kansas City represents 72 firms in the metro area. You can learn about all of our member firms at aiakc.org/firm.

AIA KANSAS CITY MEMBER FIRM MAP

AIA Kansas City's office is located at #16, green pin shown below

10/27/2017



A HOME FOR OUR MEMBERS

Our chapter completed an office remodeling project in summer 2016 to enhance our members' and guests' experience as well as to improve work flow and office security. Our space is in an enviable location in Kansas City's Crossroads Arts District, home to many of our Member Firms as well as other design and creative businesses. Our lease extends to 2029, so our members know that they have an attractive and stable "home" for years to come.





AIA KANSAS CITY CORE MEMBER SERVICES

All of the following services are provided to 1,196 AIA members that are in the assigned territory of AIA Kansas City, and includes the counties of Johnson and Wyandotte on the Kansas side and 28 counties on the Missouri side. AIA Kansas City has provided local services to the Missouri counties since 1890 and to Wyandotte and Johnson counties since 1926 and 1954, respectively.

Our chapter has received FIVE AIA Component Excellence Awards since 2006, is a member of the BIG SIBS group of largest urban chapters, and is regarded as a leader and model for a successful AIA Local Component.



Receiving award for updated website, March 2017

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

AIA Kansas City's award-winning website launched in September 2016 and offers our members:

- State-of-the-art graphics and easy navigation; resources listed for all categories of membership; extensive listing of all programs and events; ways to get engaged with our committees; job board with open positions at our Member Firms
- Listing of all of our Member Firms with images of their projects to aid the public in selection of an AIA Kansas City architect

AIA Kansas City also releases a weekly electronic newsletter, *Building Blocks*, with distribution to more than 2,200 addresses.

Additionally, Executive Director Dawn Taylor publishes a monthly, members-only newsletter, *Thursday at 3*, to focus more keenly on chapter operations and to issue a call to action to members for a variety of engagement opportunities.

EDUCATION

Continuing Education Opportunities - approximately 900 members enroll for our lunch-time learning sessions, apart from other continuing education offerings.

- In 2016, provided 61 credit hours, 29 of which were HSW.
- In 2017, provided 50 credit hours, 29 of which were HSW
- In addition, we regularly team with other registered providers to deliver more education opportunities to our members: more than 23 in the last two years.

Members can earn all required 18 hours of education for membership simply by attending our FREE lunchtime sessions scheduled throughout the year. Average attendance is 50 – 60 members.

Few, if any, programs exist locally or nationally that are dedicated to the development of leadership skills for mid-career architects, particularly those that are qualified, and even aiming for, principal- or owner-level leadership. To meet the needs of these members, AIA Kansas City developed two companion programs, *Business of Architecture* and *Business of Projects*. These exclusive, hands-on programs, taught by both national and local experts, provided participants with key strategies for managing both their firm and their projects. Intimate class sizes of 20-25 people ensured individualized learning experiences.

- *Business of Architecture* (2014-15) focused on developing the critical business skills that will enable architects to lead their firms more effectively. Topics included marketing and sales, talent, HR management, firm culture, technology, finances and risk. *Business of Architecture* received a grant from Victor O. Schinnerer & Company, Inc., the CNA Insurance Companies, and The AIA Trust.
- *Business of Projects* (2016-17) gave a thorough study of a project from concept to completion. Series topics included: Project Financing and Delivery Methods, Project Planning, Working with Clients, Design Management, Construction Documentation, and Construction Contract Administration & Project Closeout.

ADVOCACY

Our Advocacy Committee is engaged in local issues in the Kansas City Metro Area. This committee of 22 members examines and creates opportunities to increase visibility/awareness of local architectural advocacy issues.

AIA Kansas City leadership has been meeting annually since 2011 with KC Metro mayors and elected officials on both sides of the state line. The goal is to establish our chapter as knowledgeable resources and to learn about the particular challenges and initiatives that are on the elected leader's agenda. Municipalities include:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Johnson County, KS | • North Kansas City, MO | • Prairie Village, KS |
| • Kansas City, MO | • Overland Park, KS | • Raytown, MO |
| • Kansas City, KS | • Olathe, KS | • St. Joseph, MO |
| • Lee's Summit, MO | | |

Our chapter has collaborated for the past year with a substantial metro-wide civic prosperity initiative called KC Rising. The most prominent economic development and civic leadership agencies in the metro are spearheading this initiative and have identified architecture, design, and construction as a globally significant industry. AIA Kansas City has provided access to chapter members to assist with surveys, serve as team members, attend research and development meetings, and celebrate the debut of KC Global Design.

Our chapter sent 17 members to participate in the kick-off event for Overland Park's ForwardOP. Participants in this program will be reviewing the current plan's status and discussing future initiatives for Overland Park's visioning process.

Executive Director Dawn Taylor and two past AIA Kansas City board presidents currently serve on Kansas City Economic Development Corporation's Advisory Council. These are appointed positions.

ELEVATE PUBLIC AWARENESS

Design Excellence Awards – We consistently recognize and publicize outstanding member projects and exemplary service through our annual Design Excellence Awards. The AIA Kansas City Design Excellence Committee creates a showcase event each year to recognize and celebrate the great design achieved by local firms. This is our signature annual event, drawing 400 people from the design community. This year will be our third annual Professional's Choice Award, an award selected by our membership. We produce a keepsake book with all project submissions and a profile of the jury. Our committee hand-delivers these books to civic officials, e.g., mayors on both sides of the state line. Following the event, winning projects are often featured in local media.

Board Awards – Our annual Board Awards recognize outstanding contributions to our profession, the community, and the built environment. The categories are: Firm of the Year, Architect of the Year, AIA Kansas City Volunteer of the Year, Community Volunteer of the Year, Community Impact of the Year, Educator of the Year, Emerging Professional of the Year, Architectural Advocate of the Year, and Historic Preservationist of the Year. Winners from our chapter and from the community invite their family, colleagues, and other stakeholders to the awards presentation held in December.

My Architect Campaign – Our *My Architect* Campaign, winner of the 2009 AIA Component Excellence Award, has featured prominent local clients with their notable building projects and focused on the message that exceptional architects create exceptional buildings for our community. These recognizable civic leaders helped AIA Kansas City convey the value that architects bring to a high-profile project and evidenced a high standard for what our community can achieve by investing in quality design. The original campaign—ads placed in performing arts playbills—reached a primary audience of more than 280,000 C-Level Executives. A new *My Architect* campaign is in development for 2018.

Education Outreach – AIA Kansas City and our Center for Architecture & Design are committed to nurturing the next generation of architects and designers. Working with colleagues from other design disciplines, we have developed three curricula that serve both middle and high school students and teachers. The goal of our efforts is to introduce students and teachers to design, design thinking, careers in design and to help students and teachers understand that the skills that are needed in architecture and other design related fields such as problem solving, analytical thinking, collaboration, communication skills, presentation skills, leadership skills, technical knowledge, community awareness, and creativity and show how these skills can translate into many other career fields. To date, over 300 Kansas City metro area students have participated in one of our programs with the help of over 100 AIA Kansas City members. Our education outreach program won a 2017 K-8 Architecture & Design Education Component Grant Award from The Architects Foundation and Armstrong World Industries Foundation.

Kansas City Architectural Foundation – We play a leadership role with this 501c3 companion organization. AIA Kansas City members comprise most of KCAF's board. Through its public lectures, scholarships, and educational resources, KCAF inspires people to become thoughtful and engaged stewards of the built environment.



Kansas City Design Week event held in our Center

Additionally, we engage the public via communications and programs through:

- **Center for Architecture & Design** – founded by AIA Kansas City in 2012 and launched in collaboration with five other design professional associations in 2014. The Center is a collective of design-minded individuals and groups who recognize the impact and value of design in our everyday lives. The Center serves as a forum for discussion, collaboration, and the promotion of quality design through programs, lectures, education and advocacy. The Center recognizes and advances the contribution of multiple design disciplines and promotes the professions to future generations. **Our Center is the only one in our Central States Region and the only one in the U.S. that is comprised of six different design associations**, with a combined communications reach of more than 5,000 individuals.
- **KC Design Week** – A program of our Center for Architecture & Design, Design Week was launched in February 2010 and has grown into a series of 12+ events over 8-10 days that appeal to a diverse audience including design professionals, the business community, students, and the general public. Each year, 1,800 people take part in lectures, tours, workshops, panel discussions, charrettes, parties, and competitions. Events sell out in hours or days. More than 12,600 people have attended KC Design Week since its inception.
- **Girl Scout Cookie Construction** – We are in our 4th year of Cookie Construction, which is a partnership with the Girls Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri. Currently, Kansas City and Dallas are the only cities (and AIA chapters) that offer Cookie Construction. Cookie Construction is a six-month leadership and education program for Girl Scouts in the Kansas City metropolitan area, including Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas as well as the cities of Lawrence and Leavenworth, KS. Girl Scouts partner with female architects, interior architects, and design engineers to design and plan 8'x8' structures made completely from Girl Scout cookie boxes. Mentors engage Girl Scouts in activities simulating the professional process of design, including: preliminary conceptualization and creative development through project evaluation, mock-up construction, material evaluation, and collaboration. Each year we have more than 35 volunteers and 105 girls participate in the program.

MEMBERSHIP

Retention and Recruitment Efforts

- With 1,157 members, AIA Kansas City enjoys a 95% retention rate due to the high quality of its programming as well as its committed and highly trained staff.

Chapter Trends in Membership Recruitment and Retention

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
AIA	624	641	622	625	625	639	699	707	792	800
Assoc	288	240	189	206	206	219	251	254	285	269
Emeritus	66	69	74	76	77	78	76	78	79	80
Total	918	936	885	907	908	936	1026	1039	1156	1157

New members, newly-licensed and new Fellows recognition

- Each month, new members to AIA Kansas City are recognized in one of our issues of our weekly electronic newsletter, *Building Blocks*.
- Our Director of Member Relations also holds a new member meet and greet each quarter and invites all new members to the AIA Kansas City office, or visits their office, to introduce them to the programs that we offer.
- Newly-licensed members are recognized each year at our annual meeting, BIG NIGHT, that is held in September. They each receive a personal invitation to attend from one of our Board members. That evening, they are recognized by name, receive a small gift and a hand-written congratulations card from our Board, and their accomplishment is recognized and applauded by their peers.



BIG NIGHT

- AIA Kansas City is proud to have a long list of members who are Fellows. There are 60 total, tracing back to 1864, and 31 currently living/working in Kansas City. New Fellows receive a special reception that is held in conjunction with one of our six Cocktails & Conversations events. Fellows also plan annual peer luncheons and endeavor to support annual FAIA submissions from our chapter.

Pathways to Engage Members and Enhance Their Experience

Our membership can take part in active, dynamic committees with consistent programming for specialized audiences.

Equity in Architecture: Because of the diversity of our membership and as a parallel to the Institute's equity initiatives, our chapter established this committee in 2016 to provide resources for members and Member Firms to improve their company's awareness and success on issues pertaining to diversity. Our chapter sent a representative to the most recent Equity by Design Conference in San Francisco to develop her as a leader of this committee. The committee composed and conducted an extensive survey, based on national models, to assess the practice of equity in the Kansas City market. Results were released in January 2018.

Young Architects Forum (YAF): YAF is dedicated to connecting emerging professionals, developing the next generation of design leaders, and raising an awareness of the value of high quality design in our built environment. YAF supports and encourages young professionals in our chapter to obtain their license, become involved with career development and leadership opportunities, and collaborate with allied professionals on joint programming. This group has presented dynamic programs this year such as a series on virtual reality, a networking event with a young accountants group, and tours of significant cultural buildings in our metro.



YAF hosted a series on Virtual Reality

Women in Design (WiD): Women in Design is a community of women involved in architecture and the design professions who have come together for mentorship, support and advocacy for women in the profession. Our WiD committee was a national leader and innovator when it was founded in April 2005. This committee also hosted the second Women's Leadership Summit in Kansas City in 2011. WiD has always been a broad umbrella to welcome participants and presenters from associated professions involved in the design of the built environment; including landscape, graphics, industrial design, interiors, and construction. Annual programming includes Day of Shadowing, tours, workshops, and efforts to raise funds for the committee's endowed scholarship at Kansas City Architectural Foundation. Our Women in Design committee won an AIA Diversity Best Practice Award in 2008.

Pillars Leadership Program: We have graduated 149 young professionals in the past 11 years of our award-winning program and have accepted 16 into the 2017-18 class. The purpose of the program is to prepare a representative cross section of the chapter's emerging leaders for their role in shaping the future of both the architectural profession and the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. The training program includes active participation in programs and exposure to community leaders and issues. Applications are accepted for the program once each year. Criteria for acceptance include proven career success and community involvement. The benefits of the program include: development of relationship skills, skill development, team performance, and chapter and community leadership.

Chapter Leadership Grant: Now in its third year, this fund offers financial support for AIA Kansas City members to attend an educational event that advances the chapter's mission and goals and is in direct alignment with the Strategic Plan. Recent examples of grant recipients include our representative at Speak Up, at the Women's Leadership Summit, and at the Equity by Design Conference. Grant amounts are typically \$500-\$1,000 per person.

Local Membership Annual Events Exclusive to AIA Kansas City:

- **BIG NIGHT:** 120+ members in attendance
- *Cocktails & Conversations*, 6 events annually: 100+ members attend each event = 600+ total
- Annual Luncheon for Member Firms principals and Cornerstone Partners: 70 members and sponsors attend this invitation-only event
- PIERS mentoring: 75 members enrolled in past two years
- Pillars Leadership Program: This highly competitive program accepts 16 annually
- Holiday Party: 175+ members, sponsors, and community honorees in attendance
- Design Excellence Awards: 400+ in attendance



2016 BIG NIGHT



Pillars Leadership Program: 2017–2018 class



AIA Kansas City Past Presidents