



52<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

# Design & Honor Awards

2024 CALL FOR ENTRIES  
JANUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 23

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## Architecture Educator of the Year

The Educator of the Year Award is bestowed upon any educator, faculty member, administrator, or staff person who has furthered the objectives of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in the role of educating and supporting the next generation of architects. The Institute works to advance our nation's quality of life.

Educator of the Year recipients are consistent with AIA's values as they stand for:

- Architecture that strengthens our communities.
- Building economic opportunities for architecture firms and architects.
- Investing in the future of the profession and society.
- A focus on sustainability in the firm's projects, especially the impact of climate change through the built environment.
- Equity, diversity, inclusion, and human rights as it applies to the profession and the built environment.

### Eligibility<sup>1</sup>

This award is available to educators at any level or position, including faculty members, administrators, and staff, who are employed by and work within the architectural programs of Georgia Institute of Technology, Kennesaw State University, or Savannah College of Art and Design. It also extends to educators from primary or high schools actively involved in K-12 outreach programs offered by local AIA chapters, the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) Atlanta Chapter, or Spike Studio in the state of Georgia.

### Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on information submitted as it relates to one or more of the following:

- **Education:** An educator, faculty member, administrator, or staff person who over a career demonstrates excellence in architectural education advancing the art and science of teaching design.
- **Transferability:** An educator, faculty member, administrator, or staff person whose work demonstrates a transferability to other instructional settings.
- **Passion:** An educator, faculty member, administrator, or staff person who instills a strong passion for design and the profession among their students.

### Submission

All nominations shall be submitted online via our nomination form. Self-nominations are not allowed. Each nomination shall contain the following:

- A nomination letter that summarizes the contributions made as they relate to the criteria of the award, not to exceed one page
- A resume or curricula vitae of the candidate
- An optional nomination package of the individual's achievements and contributions including images (not to exceed 10 pages)

### Selection

The Honor Awards Selection Committee comprises AIA members in good standing regardless of membership level and may include local chapter allied members.

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<sup>1</sup> AIA Georgia board members presently in office, members of the state's Strategic Council, the Young Architect Representative, and the Statewide Associate Representative are ineligible for individual honor awards.

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## Bronze Medal Award

The Bronze Medal is bestowed upon any program, firm, institution, or AIA member that has furthered the objectives of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The Institute works to advance our nation's quality of life. Bronze Medal recipients are consistent with AIA's values as they stand for:

- Architecture that strengthens our communities.
- Building economic opportunities for architecture firms and architects.
- Investing in the future of the profession and society.
- A focus on sustainability in the firm's projects, especially the impact of climate change on the built environment.
- Equity, diversity, inclusion, and human rights as they apply to the profession and the built environment.

### Eligibility<sup>2</sup>

This award is open to any of the following:

- An individual responsible for delivering such activity, located in or having an impact in Georgia.
- A program, camp, workshop, website, podcast, video, community event, or other medium
- An institution that sponsors, nurtures, or promotes such activity

### Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on information submitted as it relates to one or more of the following:

- **Service:** The program, institution, or individual shall have made significant contributions to an AIA chapter in the state of Georgia, to AIA Georgia, or to the AIA South Atlantic Region initiatives.
- **Education:** The program, institution, or individual shall have advanced the public understanding and appreciation of the role of architecture in the built environment
- **Advocacy:** The program, institution, or individual shall have made significant contributions to issues related to architecture in Georgia or the community at large

### Submission

All nominations shall be submitted online via our nomination form. Self-nominations for individuals are not allowed. Nominations can only be submitted by AIA members in good standing and AIA staff. Each nomination shall contain the following:

- A nomination letter that summarizes the contributions made as they relate to the award's criteria, not to exceed one page.
- A resume or curricula vitae of the candidate (if an individual).
- An optional nomination package of the nominee's achievements and contributions including images (not to exceed 10 pages) or links to key information online.

### Selection

The Honor Awards Selection Committee comprises AIA members in good standing regardless of membership level and may include local chapter allied members. The jury may recognize no more than two winners in a single year.

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<sup>2</sup> AIA Georgia board members presently in office, members of the state's Strategic Council, the Young Architect Representative, and the Statewide Associate Representative are ineligible for individual honor awards.

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## Emerging Professional Award

The Emerging Professional Award is bestowed upon AIA members in good standing who have furthered the objectives of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The Institute works to advance our nation's quality of life. Award recipients are consistent with AIA's values.

### Eligibility<sup>3</sup>

This award is open to an individual who meets all of the following:

- All Associate AIA Members, as well as any Architect member in good standing, residing and licensed to practice architecture in Georgia.
- The initial date of licensure (if licensed) in any US jurisdiction is 1) less than 10 years and 2) the first graduation from an accredited school of architecture is less than 15 years ago.

### Criteria

Candidates will undergo evaluation based on information submitted related to three or more of the following criteria:

- **Design:** Assessment of the candidate's contributions to architectural design advancement and design discourse, and/or efforts in political advocacy on behalf of the profession.
- **Service:** Evaluation of the candidate's contributions to the profession through leadership roles in AIA at various levels (local, state, regional, or national), and/or leadership positions in NOMA, the Architecture Foundation of Georgia, or the Architecture Design Center.
- **Education:** Consideration of the candidate's contributions to the advancement of architectural education at K-12 and college levels, or through initiatives supporting licensure achievement and the development of AIA continuing education offerings.
- **Advocacy:** Review of the candidate's contributions towards enhancing their local community(s).
- **Mentorship:** Assessment of the candidate's contributions to nurturing and mentoring the next generation of architects, and/or the development of future leaders in the profession.
- **Leadership:** Evaluation of the candidate's accomplishments and achievements through impactful leadership in their firm/practice/employer or the broader architecture business community.

### Submission

All nominations shall be submitted online via our nomination form. Self-nominations for individuals are allowed for this award. Each nomination shall contain the following:

- A nomination letter that summarizes the contributions made as they relate to the award's criteria, not to exceed one page.
- A resume or curricula vitae of the candidate.
- An optional nomination package highlighting the individual's achievements contributions, and design excellence including images (not to exceed 10 pages).

### Selection

The Honor Awards Selection Committee comprises AIA members in good standing regardless of membership level and may include local chapter allied members. The jury is instructed to identify at least one recipient of this award, but not more than two in a single year.

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<sup>3</sup> AIA Georgia board members presently in office, members of the state's Strategic Council, the Young Architect Representative, and the Statewide Associate Representative are ineligible for individual honor awards.

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## Architecture Firm of the Year

The Architecture Firm of the Year Award is bestowed upon a firm whose passion and practice have produced notable architecture and contributions to society for at least a decade and has furthered the objectives of the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Architecture Firm of the Year recipients are consistent with a visible commitment to AIA's Values:

- Architecture that strengthens our communities.
- Building economic opportunities for architecture firms and architects.
- Investing in the future of the profession and society.
- A focus on sustainability in the firm's projects, especially the impact of climate change on the built environment.
- Equity, diversity, inclusion, and human rights as they apply to the profession and the built environment.

### Eligibility

This award is available to any firm situated in Georgia or the Georgia office of a multi-location firm. It is open to both individual architects and architectural organizations. The eligibility criteria require ongoing collaboration among individuals within the firm or its successor for a minimum of ten years from the Georgia office, resulting in consistent production of distinguished architecture and professionalism. In exceptional cases where multiple firms have a formal, long-term collaboration agreement, the jury will consider joint applications.

### Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on information submitted as it relates to two or more of the following:

- **Design:** The firm shall have been widely recognized and known for the consistent quality of its design and the Georgia community(s) in which it practices shall know the firm for its contributions.
- **Service:** The firm shall be known for its contribution to the profession at the local, state, regional or national levels through the engagement and participation of its people in AIA activities and leadership, and/or in the following affiliated organizations: Architecture Design Center, Architecture Foundation of Georgia, The Spike Studio, or the National Organization of Minority Architects.
- **Collaboration:** The firm shall showcase internal collaboration among its diverse members and strategic collaboration with others in the industry.
- **Mentorship:** The firm shall have evidenced the nurturing and mentoring of the next generation of architects and creating a workplace culture that strongly supports associates and young professionals.
- **Leadership:** The firm shall have demonstrated an exceptional and visible leadership role (both inside the firm and outside to the profession) as a champion of the AIA Values enumerated in the introduction section for this award.

AIA Georgia recognizes that many modern firms engage in a diverse array of practices, such as engineering and other complementary activities in the AEC space. Nominees should limit their nomination materials to only the activities of their architecture practice by employees in the state of Georgia.

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**Submission**

All nominations shall be submitted online via our nomination form. Self-nominations for firms are allowed. Nominations can only be submitted by AIA members in good standing and AIA staff. Each nomination shall contain the following:

- A nomination letter that summarizes the contributions made as they relate to the award's criteria, not to exceed one page.
- Please submit a concise nomination package detailing the firm's accomplishments and contributions, which should include images and span a minimum of 3 pages (with a maximum of 15 pages). If the nomination emphasizes the MENTORSHIP criterion, completion of the EP Friendly Firm checklist is required. This additional checklist will not be included in the 3-page limit but should be added to the end of your package.
- A statement on firm letterhead signed by the managing partner certifying that the firm complies with the Unpaid Labor Resolution passed by AIA in 2016 at the AIA National Convention.

**Selection**

The Honor Awards Selection Committee comprises AIA members in good standing regardless of membership level and may include local chapter allied members. The jury for the Architecture Firm of the Year Award will be instructed that their analysis of the contributions of the nominee will be limited to the activities of the architecture practice

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## Carmen Stan AIA, Elevation of the Profession Award

Carmen Stan, AIA, dedicated over 15 years to practicing architecture in the metro Atlanta area, leaving a significant impact on the profession and her community cut short by her untimely passing in 2022. The Carmen P. Stan, AIA Elevation of the Profession Award serves as a tribute to her career and leadership within the institute and the community. Carmen played a unique role in transforming the approaches of her local and state chapters by actively contributing to Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) initiatives. Her leadership and activism with Equity in Architecture (EQiA) and similar groups were instrumental. As the head of Robert Cain Architects, her design prowess led the firm to win over 40 design awards. Carmen also chaired the AIA Georgia Design Awards program for several years and served on the Board of Directors of AIA Georgia for a term of four years.

The Carmen Stan Elevation of the Profession award is presented to an architect member or AIA staff member who reflects these same values and contributions to the field of architecture.

### Eligibility<sup>4</sup>

The award is open to all Associate AIA members, Emeritus members, and Architect members in good standing, residing, and licensed to practice architecture in Georgia. Additionally, the award is open to AIA Georgia or AIA Atlanta staff member or former employee.

### Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on information submitted as it relates to two or more of the following:

- **Design:** Contributions and achievements the candidate has made in the area of design excellence
- **Service:** Contributions made through leadership and volunteer service to AIA, NOMA, the Architecture Foundation of Georgia, or other architecture-focused organizations.
- **EDIJ:** Contributions and advocacy efforts in the areas of challenges of equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice in the profession and built environment.

### Submission

All nominations shall be submitted online via our official nomination form. Self-nominations are not allowed. Nominations can only be submitted by AIA members in good standing or current AIA staff. Each nomination shall contain the following:

- A nomination letter that summarizes the contributions made by the candidate as they relate to the criteria of the award, not to exceed one page.
- The candidate's resume or curricula vitae.
- An optional nomination package highlighting the individual's achievements, contributions, and relevant contributions to the profession. This package may include images to support the highlighted achievement, letters of reference, or a listing of awards won, etc. The package should not exceed 10 single-sided pages inclusive of images.

### Selection

Recipients of this award will be chosen by a committee comprised of AIA members in good standing regardless of membership level and which may include local chapter allied members.

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<sup>4</sup> AIA Georgia board members presently in office, members of the state's Strategic Council, the Young Architect Representative, and the Statewide Associate Representative are ineligible for individual honor awards.

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## Bernard B. Rothschild FAIA Award

The Rothschild Award, the most prestigious honor from AIA Georgia, is named after Bernard B. Rothschild FAIA, a dedicated leader in the architectural profession. This award is given to an architect or architect partners in recognition of their extensive and distinguished service to the field of Architecture in the State of Georgia. It is not necessarily an annual award, and only one recipient is selected each year.

### Eligibility

This award is open to an individual(s) who meet all of the following:

- AIA Georgia Architect member in good standing. In rare cases where a nominee has worked the preponderance of their career in partnership with another architect, the selection committee may choose to bestow the award to more than a single individual.
- If the nominee has held a leadership role in their firm or employer, this firm or employer should not have engaged in the use of Unpaid Labor (see 2016 adopted policy resolution of the AIA) in the most immediate preceding 10 years of their career.
- AIA Georgia board members presently in office, members of the state's Strategic Council, the Young Architect Representative, and the Statewide Associate Representative are ineligible for individual honor awards.

### Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on information submitted as it relates to two or more of the following:

- **Design:** The contributions the candidate(s) has made to the advancement of architectural design and to elevating the quality of the built environment in Georgia's communities.
- **AIA Leadership:** The contributions the candidate(s) has made to the advancement of AIA and its leadership, either through local, state, regional, and/or national chapters.
- **Education:** The contributions the candidate(s) has made to advancing architectural education.
- **Civic Leadership:** The contributions the candidate(s) has made through leadership service in public office, the architectural licensing board, state committees (such as building codes, etc.) nonprofit boards, design review commissions, etc.
- **Mentorship:** The contributions the candidate(s) have evidenced mentoring the next generation of architect leaders in Georgia.
- **Advocacy:** Contributions the candidate(s) has made in improving the legal, and legislative climate of Georgia for architects, the local community, and the built environment.

### Submission

To nominate someone for the award use our online nomination form. Self-nominations are not permitted. The nomination should include the following:

- A nomination letter summarizing the nominee's contributions concerning the award's criteria, not exceeding two pages.
- Supporting materials, letters, and other documents, are limited to an additional 10 pages.
- A statement on firm letterhead, signed by the firm's leadership, certifying compliance with the Unpaid Labor Resolution passed by AIA in 2016 at the AIA National Convention.



**Selection**

A jury of at least three individuals comprised of the most recent past winners of the Rothschild Award or those appointed by the AIA Georgia President, Executive Director, and/or Fellowship Committee. The Rothschild Selection Jury may also consider candidates internally, using the same criteria.

**To Firms Selecting Mentorship as a Key Criterion:**

Please utilize the checklist and survey below to illuminate the dedication and resources your firm has allocated to supporting young professionals. AIA Georgia is enhancing its Honor Awards Programs to better incorporate criteria for EP-friendly firms and by doing so we recognize that an EP-friendly workplace is pivotal to firm success.

**Note:** This form complements, rather than substitutes, your narrative explaining why your firm excels in this domain. Feel free to provide additional insights on any checklist items or share initiatives not covered below. Add this form to the end of your material submission for the Architecture Firm Award.

### General Firm Characteristics

*Answer for your firm/office in Georgia, not regionally or nationally*

1. What is the approximate size of your firm?  
 Small (10 or fewer licensed architects and candidates for licensure)  
 Midsize (11-30 licensed architects and candidates for licensure)  
 Large (more than 30 licensed architects and candidates for licensure)
2. Does the firm have a written family leave policy? If so, provide details in the narrative portion of the Firm of the Year application.  
 YES  NO
3. Does the firm exceed the profession's average for diversity by having women in more than 25% of the firm's positions for licensed architects and candidates for licensure?  
 YES  NO
4. Does the firm exceed the national average for the architecture profession for diversity by having minorities in more than 30% of the firm's positions for licensed architects and candidates for licensure?  
 YES  NO
5. Does the firm have an internal program dedicated to, or a formalized commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion? If yes, please describe in the narrative portion of the Firm of the Year Honor Awards application.  
 YES  NO



13. Does the firm engage emerging professionals in the entire project duration - from conception through completion?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

14. Does the firm include emerging professionals in all areas of practice, such as design, documentation, construction, presentations, client meetings, consultant coordination meetings, job site meetings, code reviews, etc.?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

15. Does the firm provide full-time emerging professionals with paid time off to attend professional development seminars/programs such as the AIA South Atlantic Regional Conference, AIA Georgia Christopher Kelley Leadership Development Program, Day at the Capital, ICC and Fire Code seminars, ULI Young Leaders, or Center for Leadership, etc.?<sup>1</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

### Licensing Support & Compensation

16. Does the firm provide an increase in compensation for employees upon elevation to professional licensure?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

17. Does the firm provide financial compensation for licensure candidates making progress in passing modules of the ARE (such as a paid bonus for each test passed)?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

18. Does the firm compensate licensure candidates for the cost of the NCARB Record transmittal fee or fees for a completed ARE test module?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

19. Does your firm openly share its salary structure with employees so that salaries are transparent and pay increases/bonuses are based on well-communicated criteria?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

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<sup>1</sup> Note that "paid time off for professional development" must be IN ADDITION to the employee's regular PTO/vacation time. Asking an employee to use their PTO for professional development that benefits the firm is not in the spirit of this item.