



Delaware Leaders attend AIA Leadership Summit

Last month, [AIA Delaware](#) leaders attended [The American Institute of Architects'](#) Leadership Summit! Just over four hundred local, state and national member volunteers and staff gathered together to listen to problems, share best practices, create partnerships, debate divergent perspectives, understand one another, and communicate our issues to our legislative officials.

President Robert A. Grove, AIA and **President-Elect Brennon J. Bickel, AIA** were present in Washington, D.C., making a difference. There, they had the privilege of listening in on a panel discussion with 2025 AIA President, Evelyn M. Lee, FAIA, NOMA, 2025 AIA President-elect Illya Azaroff, FAIA, and AIA 2025 Strategic Councilor Leah Alissa Bayer, AIA, NOMA, NCARB and learning about how AIA is empowering its members to challenge conventions and forge new directions in architectural practice.

The second day of the Leadership Summit included inspirational community building, candidate introductions, education, environmental design encouragement, lobbying preparations, meet the mayors, and more. Highlights included an inspirational keynote by Baratunde Thurston, writer, podcaster and comedian, on "How to Citizen" and remarks from Congresswoman Dina Titus in preparation for the visit to Capitol Hill the following day.

The next day they headed to Capitol Hill to advocate for pressing legislation that will significantly impact the architecture profession and community needs by directly engaging with Delaware's policymakers to advocate for AIA's legislative goals: **Design Freedom for Federal Architecture, Update Fee Limitations for Federal Contracts, Housing, Community Resiliency, and Tax Incentives for Architects.**

Support AIA, [by learning more about what architects are discussing with Congress.](#)

NEWS

AIA sends letter to Acting Administration of the

General Services Administration

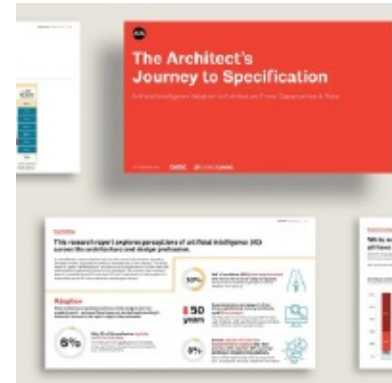
On March 20, Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA, Interim Executive Vice President and CEO The American Institute of Architects sent Stephen Ehikian, Acting Administrator of General Services Administration (GSA), a [letter](#) urging the agency to “uphold policies that encourage creativity, sustainability, and community-driven design in the federal built environment.” The communication was prompted by the White House’s January 21 presidential memo, “[Promoting Beautiful Federal Civic Architecture](#).”



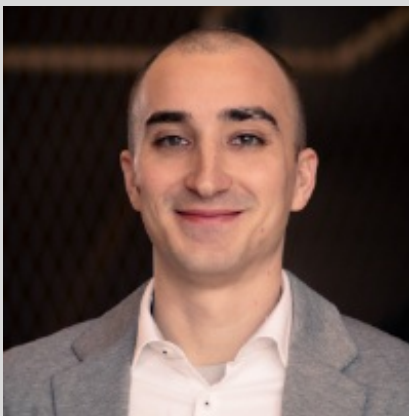
New research explores perceptions and opportunities of artificial intelligence in architecture

A new study published by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) quantifies current adoption and use of artificial intelligence (AI) across the profession, as well as the opportunities and concerns about its increased use in the design and construction sector.

The report, [Artificial Intelligence Adoption in Architecture Firms: Opportunities & Risks](#), is part of The Architect’s Journey to Specification series and was published in collaboration with Deltek and Construct Connect.



“AI is transforming the design industry, creating both challenges and opportunities for Building Product Manufacturers,” Derek Guffey, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, Vice President of Sales, Building Product Manufacturers Segment, ConstructConnect. “This research offers key insights into AI and its impact on go-to-market strategies and product selection in this brave new world. The Journey to Specification serves as a guidepost for manufacturers planning for an AI-driven future.”



Drew Hohenwarter, AIA, Chair of the AIA Delaware Design Awards Jury

Meet the Delaware Design Awards Jury!

Drew Hohenwarter, AIA, Chair of the AIA Delaware Design Awards Jury, is the President-Elect of AIA Central PA and co-chair of the chapter’s Design Awards committee. A licensed architect, he began his career in Philadelphia after earning his Master of Architecture from Temple University. During his studies, Drew received the AIA Student Achievement Award, was awarded the Knowles Travel Grant to study in Copenhagen, and contributed to an EPA brownfield revitalization project in Philadelphia’s Kensington neighborhood.

Now based in his hometown of Lancaster, PA, Drew is part of TONO Group, where he is actively involved in all phases of design. Passionate about architecture’s role in shaping communities and creating a sense of place, he remains dedicated to thoughtful, impactful design.

[Meet the full jury](#)



ArchitectureWeek

Celebrate Architecture Week | April 13 - 19, 2025

Architecture Week celebrates the profession of architecture and invites everyone—especially K-12 students—to explore architecture and design. See how you can join the fun April 13–19 and find activities near you!

[Want to get involved? Explore your options >](#)

Double Header CE Program April 14 at 11:00 AM | In-Person | Lewes, DE



Improving Health and Safety Through Smart Home Enabled Windows & Doors

Home automation goes to the next level – where high design meets high performance in residential construction. This course will explore recent trends in smart home technology for residential construction with a specific focus on windows and doors. We will look at the wide range of options available to architects designing a smart home, and how these choices can impact the health, safety, well-being and piece-of-mind of occupants. Lastly, we will discuss how architects can incorporate home.

CE Credits: 1 AIA LU/HSW

Windows and Energy Performance

Windows are an integral part of all residential and light commercial buildings, and they directly impact both the energy performance and human comfort in those buildings. This course provides an overview of two directly related aspects of energy performance related to windows and doors in buildings: 1. The recognized codes, standards and testing that establish performance levels and requirements. 2. The options for glass and window frames that directly determine the ultimate performance.

CE Credits: 1 AIA LU/HSW

Presented by AIA Delaware in partnership with Allied Member, [Marvin Windows & Doors](#).

[Learn more and Register >](#)

AIA25

Conference
on Architecture
& Design

BOSTON
JUNE 4-7



AIA25 Registration Is Open!

Registration just opened for the premier AEC industry event - the [AIA Conference on Architecture & Design® 2025](#) - happening June 4-7 in Boston.

AIA25 is a conference where imagination drives solutions and collaboration redefines what's possible in architecture and design—all anchored by inspiring keynotes, industry-best continuing education, dynamic networking, immersive tours, unforgettable events, and the industry's largest expo.

Whether you're an architect, design professional, engineer, contractor, interior designer, landscape architect, emerging professional, or firm owner, AIA25 promises to leave you inspired and equipped with new tools, fresh perspectives, and a renewed sense of purpose to design a better world.

[Learn more & register >](#)

CAREER

Let's Design a Better World Together

When you join AIA, you're joining a community with global reach—and so much more.

Connect with like-minded professionals through chapters, awards programs, and volunteer opportunities to get inspired by experts and creatives in your field. Level up with educational tools to grow your career and achieve your professional goals. Take advantage of resources to steadily scale your practice and streamline your work. Advocate for yourself, your community, and the world on a whole new platform.

It's more than a membership. It's a calling.

[Join AIA >](#)



JOIN AIA

Welcome New Members!

We welcome our newest member to our community.

- Arman Reid, Associate AIA

Welcome
New
Members!



Resources from AIA Small Firm Exchange: Building Your Brand

The AIA Small Firm Exchange recently hosted an online session, “What Is Your Brand – & Why Is It Worth Investing In?” presented by Charrette Venture Group (CVG).

If you missed it or want to dive deeper, check out the session recap and additional resources to help you strengthen and invest in your firm’s brand.

Some Key Takeaways

- Do you need to re-fresh or re-brand?
- Does your firm have a “Why”?
- What does your Creative Brief look like and what does it include?
- Are you looking for a top ten list of key brand consideration?

[Download the all summary for more >](#)

Small Firm Exchange All Call Summary 02.13.2025
Connect with AIA SFX



Key Takeaways

- ✓ Do you need to re-fresh or re-brand?
See recent examples at <https://www.charretteg.com/creative-studio>
- ✓ Does your firm have a “Why”?
https://www.charretteg.com/newsroom/charretteg-always_february_23_quarterly_final_draft_2-7-23
- ✓ What does your Creative Brief look like and what does it include?
<https://www.charretteg.com/cvg-free-learning/your-creative-brief>
- ✓ Are you looking for a top ten list of key brand considerations?
A recorded webinar at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvXk3yJh6M8>
- ✓ What should your firm be named?
<https://www.charretteg.com/cvg-free-learning/naming-your-afc-firm>
- ✓ Perhaps you prefer podcasts?
<https://www.charretteg.com/podcasts/entiretech/training-your-architect-firm/>
- ✓ What is the StoryBrand framework?
<https://storybrand.com/>
- ✓ Are you looking for a crash course in how to run a firm?
<https://www.charretteg.com/free-classes>
- ✓ Would you like to have CVG speak at your firm event?
<https://www.charretteg.com/request-a-speaker>

Upcoming All Calls

03.13.25: Social Media for Small Firm Architects 04.10.25: Presence & Presentation

Open Mic Night on April 17th Knowing Your Worth and Finding Your Path

Join AIA Young Architects Forum's Community Focus Group for an open and honest conversation about navigating your career as an architect! Whether you're negotiating salary, building confidence, or defining your path, this discussion is for you.

Hear from our amazing panelists Karla Sierralta, AIA, Andrea Cabalo, AIA, and Casaundra Quackenbush, AIA, who have faced similar challenges and progressed in their careers as they share insights, experiences, and strategies for recognizing your value, advocating for yourself, and turning obstacles into opportunities.

Apr 17, 2025 from 04:00 PM to 05:30 PM (ET)
On Zoom

Come ready to listen, learn, and connect with peers who are on the same journey!

[Join the conversation!](#)

Young
Architects
Forum

AIA Member group

What's NAC'ing? on May 28th Call for (Associate AIA) Volunteers

There are many opportunities to volunteer with the AIA. This interest call is tailored to Associate AIA members, which includes students, emerging professionals in their first decade after college, senior

professional working in firms, and non-licensed academics.

We will walk through the governance structure of AIA National, the timeline for the Call for Volunteers (including the Assoc. AIA rep to the AIA Board of Directors!, NAC leadership and 70+ other committees), the required information for the applications, tips for navigating the opportunities to serve, and norms for serving as a national volunteer. We will leave plenty of time for questions at the end.

Speakers

- Asa Hamlett Santa Cruz, Assoc. AIA, moderator
- Brett Wedding, AIA, 2026 NAC Chair
- Kathleen McCormick, NAC Staff Liaison

May 28, 2025 from 04:00 PM to 04:45 PM (ET)
On Zoom

[Join the conversation!](#)

National Associates Committee

 AIA Member group

MEMBER NEWS

Becker Morgan Group Ranks Amongst the Best Architecture & Engineering Firms

Recognized in Public Safety, Education, Hospitality, Healthcare, Government, Commercial, Multi-Family & Land Development

Becker Morgan Group is proud to announce its recognition in Building Design+Construction's 2024 Giants 400 Report. These annual rankings highlight the nation's top architecture/engineering firms, with a record-breaking 602 firms participating this year. Becker Morgan Group ranked #75 overall and was recognized in multiple categories, underscoring the firm's expertise and dedication across various markets.

Becker Morgan Group ranked in the following categories:

Public Safety (#36), PK-12 Schools (#94), Hospitality (#88), Healthcare (#124), Hospitals (#99), Government (#138), Cultural (#61), Retail (#64), Office (#140), Multi-Family (#129), Sports (#81).



ARCHITECTURE
ENGINEERING

Becker Morgan Group Announces Staff Promotions

Becker Morgan Group is excited to announce additions to our leadership team, welcoming four new Senior Associates and three new Associates. These promotions are more than a recognition of past achievements; they are a testament to the value these team members bring to our firm every day. We are proud to support their continued professional growth and development as they step into these new roles.

Senior Associate

- Christopher M. Coleman, AIA, NCARB | Architect
- Edward H. Hastings, PMP | Project Manager
- Eva King, PE, LEED AP BD+C | Civil Engineer
- Jonathan N. Street | Civil Designer

Associate

- Benjamin P. Dealy, AIA | Architect
- Lisa M. Goss | Marketing & Business Development Manager
- Rhonda L. Hitchens | Administrative Manager



Christopher M. Coleman, AIA, NCARB
Senior Associate | Architect



Edward H. Hastings, PMP
Senior Associate | Project Manager



Eva King, PE, LEED AP BD+C
Senior Associate | Civil Engineer



Jonathan N. Street
Senior Associate | Civil Designer



Benjamin P. Dealy, AIA
Associate | Architect



Lisa M. Goss
Associate | Marketing &
Business Development Manager



Rhonda L. Hitchens
Associate | Administrative Manager

SEA Studio recognized in Forbes inaugural America's Top 200 Residential Architects 2025



From [Forbes](#) editor: "Sea Studio Architects, based in the sought-after resort town of Bethany Beach (with offices in Philadelphia, too), was founded in 2009 by Virginia Tech grad Scott Edmonston and has grown to a team of 10 on the strength of its award-winning, human-centric design. Its residential work evokes the coastal vernacular of the Mid-Atlantic region for a range of clients, including the beach-house set, nonprofits, gallerists and even itself..."

We're honored to be included on the inaugural list which is a credit to our fantastic clients, tireless contractors, and the dedication, talent, and hard work of our team past and present.



Garrison Lake Golf Club Begins Clubhouse Construction

Construction is officially underway for the new 5,000 SF clubhouse at Garrisons Lake Golf Club in Smyrna, Delaware! This exciting new addition will enhance the experience at one of the region's premier public championship golf courses, set on 160 beautiful acres of land.

Owned by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Division of Parks and Recreation, this course

has become a beloved destination for golf enthusiasts. With construction slated for completion by January 2026, the new clubhouse will elevate the entire golfing experience.

[StudioJAED](#) is proud to provide architectural and MEP engineering services for this exciting project. Stay tuned for more updates as we watch this project come to life!



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Our Partners





Landmark Announces Staff Achievement

Laidman-Murray Announced as Young Engineer of the Year 2025

The Board of Directors of Landmark Science & Engineering, a leading consulting firm in Delaware and Maryland specializing in site/civil and water resources engineering, environmental sciences and land surveying, is pleased to make the announcement that Dakota Laidman-Murray, P.E., a firm principal, has been selected as Delaware's Young Engineer of the Year 2025 by the Delaware Engineering Society (NSPE-DE).



Dakota M. Laidman-Murray, P.E. is a principal of Landmark where she has worked for over 12 years. She performs civil engineering and project management for large-scale educational, industrial and affordable housing projects involving planning and site design, stormwater management, environmental and water resources design. She earned a Bachelor of Environmental Engineering degree, with a concentration in Water Resources and Water Quality and a minor in Civil Engineering from the University of Delaware in 2012.

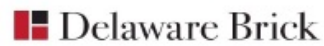
Throughout her tenure at Landmark, Dakota has contributed to a wide range of civil and site design projects, with a particular focus on K-12 and post-secondary education as well as affordable housing developments. She oversees all aspects of project planning, site design, approvals, and construction administration, with specialized expertise in the modeling and design of stormwater management systems.

Beyond her work at Landmark, Dakota is an active member with ACEC Delaware, serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors, and Chairs the Programs and Education Committee which awards engineering scholarships and helps promote engineering as a career choice. Passionate about mentorship, she guides high school seniors on their Engineering Pathway Capstone Projects and helps select recipients for the ACEC Delaware Engineering Scholarship.

Outside of her professional life, Dakota enjoys spending quality time with her husband and daughter, with frequent trips to Disney World.



Allied Member News



Happy Retirement Bob MacIntosh!

Bob MacIntosh, founder of **MacIntosh Engineering**, which joined the DCI Engineers family in 2022, retired at the end of February after an illustrious four-decade career. We are so lucky to have had a leader and friend like Bob join DCI and help Steve Krumenacker lead our East Coast offices for the past three years.

DCI recently celebrated Bob's retirement with his staff, friends and family. To learn more about our friend, Bob, his incredible career and the legacy he leaves behind, visit the news post about his retirement.

[READ MORE ABOUT BOB'S IMPACT](#)

Bob also wanted to share this personal message to all the friends that he's made over the years:

I have enjoyed getting to know you and work with you over the years. I appreciate your friendship and everything that you have done for me during my career. It has been a great ride. I am looking forward to retirement and the chance to slow down and spend more time with Michele and our family and friends. Planned activities include travel, spending more time down the shore and working on long-overdue projects for us and our kids. Time with our sweet granddaughter Cailyn is another fun focus in the coming years. I hope that we can stay in touch, so I wanted to get you my contact info moving forward. My cell will stay the same at (302) 528-0810, and my retirement email address will be snakebitebobbymac@gmail.com. I don't think I will be doing any more engineering as evidenced by my less-than-professional but easy to remember email. Please feel free to reach out to me any time, should you need anything or just want to catch up. Thanks again for all you have done for me and our team.

All the best,
Bob

- Arch Resources, LLC
- Atwell, LLC
- Baker, Ingram & Associates
- Blake & Vaughan Engineering, Inc.
- County Group Companies
- DCI Engineers
- DEDC
- Delaware Brick Company
- DiSabatino Construction Company
- **Diversified Lighting New Member!**
- Electronic Home Solutions
- G. Fedale Roofing & Siding

- Marvin
- Nason Construction, Inc.
- Pangro Development, Inc.
- Parker Block Co. Inc.
- Penn Lighting Associates
- RCI Printing and Graphics
- The Sanders Company
- Tighe & Cottrell, P.A.
- Union Wholesale Company
- **Upstate Door, Inc. New Member!**
- Verdantas
- Wohlsen Construction Company

RESOURCES

- [AIA Delaware](#)
- [Find an Architect](#)
- [Job Board](#)
- [Become an Partner or Allied Member](#)

- [Become an AIA Member](#)
- [AIA Contract Documents](#)
- [AIA Career Center](#)
- [AIAU](#)

AIA Delaware | www.aiadelaware.org

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