

What does AIA-NJ do for me?



AIA
New Jersey

What does AIA-NJ do for me?

“ The chapter does a lot for me personally and professionally, but perhaps the most important thing it does for me is to make me feel truly connected to other architects.

I originally reached out to the chapter in exactly that hope. I was a young professional who had recently embarked on starting my own design firm, and it was very easy to feel isolated after leaving a big established firm and colleagues behind. Worse, I was operating under the perception that the AIA wasn't doing anything, or at least not enough: little equity in architecture, little engagement of young people.

The first activity I became involved with was on the Design Day awards committee, and I immediately felt a sense of relief. Here were other architects from a variety of firms around the state, and we were engaged in a common purpose: to celebrate the work of New Jersey architects. The experience was extremely rewarding, and I began to look for other opportunities to engage, including coming back to the Design Day committee more than once. As my involvement continued, it became clear that AIA-NJ was having this effect on more than just me, and beyond our professional community. The chapter makes the world around us feel connected to architects, too.

This may, in fact, be the most important thing that AIA-NJ does for any of us as architects: outreach intended to help our communities understand who we are and what we do, demystifying the process of design and construction. The educational programs, the outreach to colleges and high schools, and all such efforts represent a vital signal for communicating to non-architects — and to potential future architects — what we are about.

There are other things AIA-NJ does for me. It's a great resource for identifying and cultivating talented recruits for my own firm, and a resource for those young professionals as they continue their education and pursue licensure. On the national level, ArchiPAC (our lobbying arm) recently went to bat for the entire profession to ensure that architects would be exempted from the more onerous provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 relating to service professionals.

But ultimately, it is the sense of connectedness that I value most highly. The sense of common purpose among architecture professionals is irreplaceable, and the outreach to non-architects is vital. As someone who enjoys the privilege of a role on AIA-NJ's Executive Committee, it's an honor to be able to give back, and to help my colleagues feel connected.

Joshua Zinder, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP
Managing partner, JZA+D (Princeton)
President Elect, AIA-NJ

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Welcome



Many AIA-NJ Past Presidents have asked “What can I do for you?” Often having served on both their Section and State Boards, their commitment to the AIA has been outstanding. Now that I am serving as 2020 AIA-NJ President, I too ask, “What can I do for you?”

As licensed architects we are all working to advance the quality of life of our clients and all who live, work, and play in our projects. It is our job to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. As AIA members we are held to an even higher standard:

We stand for equity and human rights

We stand for architecture that strengthens our communities

We stand for a sustainable future

We stand for protecting communities from the impact of climate change

We stand for economic opportunity

We stand for investing in the future

We speak up, and policy-makers listen

The greatest strength of the AIA is the involvement of its members. This magazine gives a glimpse into a few of the many things AIA-NJ does for you as an architect and member. Perhaps you didn't know there were over 20 committees all working to improve your practice. Maybe you didn't know what they have been working on over the past several years. Maybe you have served on one or more of our committees. Whatever your level of engagement, I hope you enjoy reading about what your colleagues are doing on your behalf. Maybe you will be inspired to join us. Feel free to reach out with any questions. Everyone you will read about in these pages is here to help.

Steven B. Lazarus, AIA

Partner

Axis Architectural Group

President AIA-NJ 2020

What does AIA-NJ do for you?



I am honored that Steve Lazarus, AIA (AIA-NJ 2020 President) asked me to provide the introduction for the 2020 marketing effort by AIA-NJ to display to our members ‘what does AIA-NJ do for you’? So, the story begins! During my tenure as your 2019 AIA-NJ President, Steve raised his hand and asked the Board of Trustees if they would consider the concept of providing a news-letter to clearly depict what our great organization does for all of us, throughout the year. There was some discussion, we looked at the *Leagueline* example, and we unanimously agreed it was a thoughtful idea.

Our leaders, colleagues, members and sponsors (many who wrote these articles) work tirelessly, 7/24/365, for all of us! They include, but are not limited to:

- Members**
- the Executive Committee**
- the Board of Trustees**
- the Committee Chairs**
- the Committee Members**
- our Public Awareness Consultant**
- our Executive Director and Staff @ PSI**
- our Attorney**
- And Our Sponsors.**

When we quickly agreed that sharing the stories is a great idea, Steve began asking for articles to provide a ‘snapshot’ of many of the ‘member benefits’. He asked our EPiC (Emerging Professionals Community) Chair, our EDI (Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) Chair, our L&GA (Legislative & Government Affair) Chair, our Old-Timer (Jerry Eben, FAIA) and many of us to make this possible. AIA-NJ’s Committee list is extensive (please see the list below). Each Committee has a Chair-Person & Committee Members to support the work of event hosting, providing continuing education, presenting awards, etc. The committees focus on the goals and on the mission of AIA-NJ! We do this for YOU, for the MEMBERS, for the profession and for the LOVE of the AIA!

Our mission is powerful:

AIA New Jersey serves its members and promotes the public’s understanding of Architecture through advocacy, education and service.

We uphold these words every day, please notice the word: members (the most important part of AIA-NJ) in the MISSION STATEMENT, this is key, you are most important!

AIA-NJ's committee list:

Public Awareness
E-Bulletin/Newsletter/Website
Historic Resources
Resiliency
EDI (Equity, Diversity & Inclusion)
WIA (Women in Architecture)
CRAN/SFx (Custom Residential Architects Network/Small Firm Exchange)
Homeland Security
COTE (Committee On The Environment)
L&GA (Legislative and Government Affairs)
State Board Liaison
Members and Dues
Fellowship
EPiC (Emerging Professionals Community)
NCARB Liaison
Service Awards
Design Awards
Michael Graves Lifetime Achievement Award
AIA-NJ Foundation (aka scholarship)
Continuing Educations
Codes and Standards
K-12
College and University Liaison
Board related Committees (Nominations, Budget & Finance, Bylaws, and Policies).

The above list of 26 committees includes over 100 members who step up to make it all happen! The powerful list, tells the story of what AIA-NJ does for you! ALWAYS know that we welcome members who want to have fun, to volunteer, to make more network connections, to enjoy peer-to-peer camaraderie and so much more, so please join a committee. It will be one of the best things you do, I guarantee it!

I hope you enjoy reading through the entire publication (or at least you skim through it) to get a glimpse of what that happens behind the scenes and I personally thank everyone who has been there for the AIA-NJ, and for me, as your President, it was a truly great year.

This is what AIA-NJ did for me.

Thank you!

Judy Donnelly, AIA
Donnelly Architecture LLC
AIA-NJ Past President 2019

AIA-NJ Legislation & Government Affairs



Codes and regulations affect every architect in the state. Having a voice in their writing and adoption directly impacts our profession. The Legislative and Government Affairs Committee (L&GA) works closely with our lobbyist, Public Strategies Impact (PSI), to monitor legislation, regulations and all matters concerning the practice of architecture in New Jersey. PSI is our eyes, ears and voice in Trenton, they interact daily with decision-makers in the legislature, the Governor's office and the various executive branch departments and commissions. PSI is a team of bipartisan professionals who have a thorough knowledge of the lawmaking and regulatory processes in New Jersey, and because of their efforts on our behalf AIA New Jersey has been able to influence numerous Bills, has had our members testify before the state legislature, and has even introduced potential bills to members of the senate.

Having a voice directly impacts our profession.

The Legislative & Government Affairs Committee is typically one of the most active committees of AIA New Jersey, working on both the legislative and administrative sides of state government. On the legislative side, the L&GA Committee:

- Formulates and implements a comprehensive legislative strategy to initiate, support, oppose, or amend bills of particular interest.
- Identifies and alerts our members to new legislation of potential interest, interprets bills and develops a position.
- Seeks sponsors of favorable legislation in the Senate and Assembly, as appropriate, and works for the passage of such legislation when introduced.
- Closely monitors all legislation, flagging and responding to important developments as they occur.
- Issues periodic written reports including notices of bills scheduled for consideration and actions taken on bills of interest.

- Testifies before committees or drafts written or oral testimony, as necessary, and contacts key legislators in advance of votes on bills of concern.
- Advises as to when our members' direct involvement is necessary and how best to affect it, coordinating appearances and setting up meetings as called for.
- Maintains relationships with legislators and staff in order to enhance their understanding of your issues and concerns.
- Works with the Governor's office and appropriate legislative offices to secure the appointment of AIA-NJ supported individuals to boards, councils, agencies, etc.
- Through PSI, provides Special analysis of election year activity and its relationship to AIA-NJ and its members.
- When needed, creates an AIA-NJ Grassroots Outreach Plan. This includes an "Architect Ambassador" program to provide contact with local legislative offices by appropriate constituents in all 40 legislative districts
- Keeps current on all issues of AIA at the federal level and attends appropriate events, conferences and activities.



Michael Hanrahan, AIA, Governor Philip Murphy, and Jack Purvis, AIA



On the administrative front, the L&GA Committee:

- Monitors the New Jersey Register and flags proposed rules and rule changes as they appear.
- Communicates with rule makers through meetings, formal oral or written testimony, or informal contacts to present your position regarding proposed regulations.

During the past year, L&GA has led the statewide effort for the Historic Property Reinvestment Tax Credit. New Jersey is one of only a select few states without an historic tax credit. The goal is to adopt legislation that closely aligns with the similar tax credit at the Federal level. The committee also discussed proposed changes to NCARB, sunset regulations and collaborated with NJAPAC.

The L&GA Committee meets monthly either in person or via teleconference, and makes presentations at Section meetings as appropriate. We encourage all our members to become involved in this important committee on either the Section or Chapter level to offer your opinions about proposed legislation, develop and work with allies, form and maintain relationships with appropriate coalitions, and help us raise the profile of member architects and the architectural profession before all governmental branches, agencies, authorities and other appropriate entities.

Michael Hanrahan, AIA
Clarke Caton Hintz
AIA-NJ Regional Representative
L&GA Committee Chair 2019
AIA-NJ 2011 Past President

AIA-NJ has enabled me to contribute to my profession. Since becoming proactively involved in 1999, I have worn many hats and worked my way through the ranks to become AIA-NJ President in 2016. Probably the most rewarding role for me has been my involvement in the Legislative and Government Affairs Committee. Over the years, there have been many legislative issues that our profession has faced including school construction, historic preservation, and the use of wood in multi-family construction. The efforts of this committee resulted in the preservation of our livelihoods as architects by lobbying on behalf of all registered architects in NJ not just AIA members. Without the efforts of this committee, there would have been the loss of work in many different sectors as well as restrictive laws prohibiting the use of building materials in certain building types. Probably the most important lesson that I learned from being involved in this committee is that our job of educating and informing the public must be ongoing. Our legislators as well as the general public do not understand the Value of the Architect, and our continued efforts to tell our stories increase that Value. I know that my efforts as an active member in AIA-NJ have made a difference, and I am grateful that AIA-NJ has afforded me that opportunity.

**Lobbying on
behalf of all
registered
architects.**

Justin A. Mihalik, AIA
JAM-Arch
AIA-NJ 2016 Past President
L&GA Committee Chair 2020

AIA-NJ Mayors Symposium



One issue we as AIA leadership hear often is that the public doesn't understand what architects do and the value they bring to a project. The AIA has been working hard the past several years to address this concern. They began with an advertising campaign directed at homeowners and developers, listing the benefits an architect brings to their projects, and encouraging them to hire one. The focus of that campaign shifted to civic engagement in the last two years, beginning with having AIA member architects participate in the 2018 SXSW CIVIC I/O event in Austin, Texas. SXSW is one of the largest music festivals in the country, and in recent years they have combined it with the US Conference of Mayors, bringing elected officials from all over the country to Austin for workshops and presentations.

The event in which AIA participated brought 6 mayors (including Presidential Candidate Mayor Pete Buttigieg from South Bend) together with architects, planners, and futurists to brainstorm ways that we can help them solve some of their most pressing concerns, and helped to raise their awareness that architects do more than design buildings.

AIA New Jersey felt a program like this could benefit our members by encouraging municipalities to have architects on their Zoning and Planning Boards, and making us their go-to people when they have questions about the built environment. In its fledgling year we brought together Mayors and other officials from 6 of our 565 municipalities with architects and planners from AIA New Jersey. We had 3 guest speakers and completed a visioning exercise to help the participants see how architects think differently about their issues and offer solutions they may not have considered. It was a very successful event, with all the Mayors promising to tell their friends about how great it was. As a result of the symposium, one mayor has added an architect to his planning board as a paid consultant.

We are in the planning stages of this year's event, and encourage all our members to reach out to their local mayor and encourage them to attend. Topics of discussion will be how architects can help communities revitalize their public libraries, and how we can help with disaster relief. It will take place at the Holmdel Municipal Recreation room at the Bell Works complex in Holmdel, on March 24, 2020 from 9:00 – 12:00, and includes a tour of the newly completed library.

Verity L. Frizzell, FAIA
Feltz & Frizzell Architects LLC
Resiliency/Homeland Security & Event Chair
AIA-NJ 2018 Past President

**Encouraging
municipalities
to have
architects on
their boards.**

AIA-NJ Treasurer



As State Treasurer, I have the distinct opportunity to learn about and observe various programs available to each of our members. The programs are aligned with our Mission Statement: To promote the public's understanding of architecture through advocacy, education and service.

Each of the programs are championed by a committee. The committees work along-side one another to support and promote programs and events in order to have the greatest impact on the community.

We have developed a budget for 2020 that provides support for our membership by monitoring and acting on legislation through our Legislative and Government Affairs Committee, mentoring and supporting social and educational events for our Emerging Professionals Community (EPiC), and by providing code seminars to address amendments to national and state codes. The budget also provides funding to underwrite events that promote equity, diversity & inclusion, and women in our profession.

**Promote equity,
diversity &
inclusion and
women in our
profession.**

The AIA-NJ supports green initiatives by hosting and promoting the Annual East Coast Green Conference. One of our organization's primary concerns is Climate Change and its effect on our environment. AIA-NJ has addressed this concern by training some 200 of our members in Post-Disaster Safety Assessments so these professionals can voluntarily assist local governments evaluate damaged buildings after a disaster. Good Samaritan legislation enacted with the help of AIA-NJ allows them to perform this valuable work without personal liability.

Our organization has allocated funding for public outreach through our K-12 Educational Programs which engage students from several school districts in our state. Member volunteers visit classrooms and enrich the students' understanding of our profession through lectures and design projects.

The 2020 Budget also provides funding for college scholarships. Any architectural program located in the State of New Jersey can apply for funding.

I am excited to be part of the leadership for AIA-NJ. As a result of my opportunities with AIA-NJ, I have witnessed the best of our profession; many of our members volunteer countless hours on behalf of our organization proving our Mission statement and our, as well as their, commitment to make the world a better place to live.

I am certain that 2020 will be a successful year for our membership and that we will all grow in knowledge of the challenges we face in our ever changing world and how we can make a difference in communities in which we serve.

Marvin Clawson, AIA
Clawson Architects LLC
AIA-NJ Treasurer

What does AIA-NJ do for me?



I am a newer member of AIA New Jersey, having joined in August of 2018. I had meant to join earlier in the year so I could get a free ticket to the 2018 AIA Conference in New York. After all, the bonus of getting a free ticket to the Conference seemed like the biggest benefit of joining AIA New Jersey. At the time, I had very little knowledge about what, exactly, AIA-NJ or the national AIA for that matter, does. Only one of my previous employers was a member, and I never heard of him attending any meetings or speaking about the organization. I was never involved in the AIAS during my time at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. So, what was it that made me join? Well, early 2018 was also the time I decided to focus fully on my own company as a sole practitioner. The thought of sitting alone in an office without any coworkers was really what drove me to join AIA-NJ. I saw it as a way of fulfilling a need for comradery amongst like-minded peers and a way to make sure my practice didn't become isolated from what was happening in the profession outside of it.

I have been told you get out of AIA New Jersey what you put into it.

At the very first meeting I attended I learned there was a volunteer position called the Young Architect Regional Director (YARD) that was seeking applicants. I knew nothing about this position, only that I fulfilled the sole requirement of it needing to be filled by someone who was licensed less than 10 years. Wanting to get the most out of AIA New Jersey as possible, I submitted an application, was lucky enough to be selected, and began my 2 year term at the beginning of 2019. The previous YARD of New Jersey helped me navigate the responsibilities of this new position I found myself in. The main goal was to gather and disperse pertinent information, as it pertained to those architects licensed less than 10 years, from the national level of the AIA down to the local level of AIA New Jersey. This required multiple monthly conference calls, four trips around the country over the course of the year and various in person meetings with the AIANJ executive board. All of this to ensure that AIA-NJ is constantly bringing the best information and programs from across the nation that it can to its members.

I'm writing this article to give a new perspective on AIA-NJ and to help answer what it is, exactly, that it does for its members. It's the question the organization hears the most, it's the question I was asking myself prior to joining. It truly is a network of peers. A network that exists outside of your office and spans not only across the state, but the country as well. A network that tirelessly works to keep architects at the forefront of national conversations with regards to the built environment and the health, safety and welfare of the people who utilize it. It's an organization where nearly 50% of its members have been licensed 10 years or less. I used to ask "what is AIA-NJ does for me?" Now I put it to you to see if you can answer, "What is it AIA-NJ doesn't do for you?"

If you feel you have an answer for that, then join and let us know how we can all work together to solve that issue too.

Vin Minkler, AIA
Minkler Architecture and Design
AIA-NJ Young Architect Regional Director



Emerging Professionals: Breaking Ground and a Look Ahead



Are you licensed less than 10 years? A recent graduate or studying for the ARE's? Practicing architecture and not licensed? An architectural student? If yes, then you are EPiC!

AIA New Jersey's Emerging Professionals Community was founded over 4 years ago. Our efforts have focused on providing programming, education support and advocacy for 'emerging professionals' or EP's. Our volunteers work at the local, state and national levels to share knowledge and opportunities for our membership.

New ideas to increase member participation and interest.

It's exciting to see what progress we have made as a committee. Across all sections, our volunteers have hosted a variety of EPiC events from Hatchet Throwing Happy Hours to ARE Trivia nights. We have started an annual Beaux Arts themed EPiC Party open to all members across the state. We have promoted licensure support the past two years and plan to celebrate newly licensed members at our event this coming year.

Licensure support has been our focus as a committee the past two years. Our volunteer-led ARE webinars have been our most attended programming yet. Purchased and donated ARE study materials have been provided to each of our local sections. If you are looking to borrow materials, reach out to us!

As of October 2019, AIA NJ's total membership was 49% emerging professionals with about two-thirds being architects licensed less than 10 years! In the coming year, we would like to find more opportunities for programming and support of young architects. We are also considering a mentor program for all membership types and recently polled our community to gauge interest and mentoring needs.

We are always looking for new ideas as well as ways to increase member participation and interest. If you would like to learn more about EPiC or get involved, feel free to contact:

Matt Pultorak, AIA
Rutgers University, Planning, Development & Design
2020 AIA-NJ EPiC Chair

Lauren Harris, Associate AIA
Works for John LaProcido at L2A
2020-2021 AIA-NJ Regional Associates Director

Vin Minkler, AIA
Minkler Architecture & Design
2019-2020 AIA-NJ Young Architect Regional Director

Thank you for your consideration,
Megan Pritts, Associate AIA
JZA&D
2018-2019 AIA-NJ Regional Associates Director



EPiC WIA panel discussion



EPiC mini golf outing



EPiC Party

AIA-NJ Historic Resources Committee



AIA-NJ is a leader in the promoting the essential role that historic preservation plays in maintaining and improving the quality of life in New Jersey. With a long history and a vast stock of older buildings, we enjoy a heritage that is evident in a wealth of historic structures that convey the story of America within our compact borders.

There have been numerous efforts championed by AIA-NJ members in general and the Historic Resources Committee in particular that made a difference in our state. The New Jersey Rehabilitation Subcode, conceived of and enacted a generation ago, acknowledges that much of the architect's billable time entails existing buildings. Its straightforward approach has given new potential to our older existing buildings to become useful again and serves as a basic component in the goal to make construction activity more environmentally friendly by recycling buildings. Moreover, our Rehab Subcode has served as a model for similar codes nationwide.

The arc of preservation encompasses past centuries and decades well into the 20th century to include modern masterpieces. When Eero Saarinen's Bell Labs, a sprawling 2M square foot telecommunications research center built in the early 1960s in suburban Monmouth County, was shuttered and faced possible demolition, AIA-NJ raised the public's awareness of its importance, advocated for its repurposing and mobilized to hold a Charrette to illuminate its many possible re-use scenarios.

**Advance the
benefits of
historic preservation
in New Jersey.**

The publication that resulted from the Charrette is credited by its redeveloper as pointing the way to the future for what has become Bell Works – now a destination to work, shop, dine and learn.

Our commitment to historic buildings in the public realm has been a hallmark of the committee's activity in recent years. Ongoing and secure funding for capital projects from the New Jersey Historic Trust is now in place for the next generation, thanks to the lobbying efforts of AIA-NJ. The committee and AIA-NJ continue to focus on the enactment of a Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit to spur reinvestment in communities throughout the state. Designed to work in concert with its federal counterpart, a tax credit for rehab in New Jersey would help attract investors and level the playing field - all of our neighboring states offer such a tax credit program as do the majority of states nationwide.

The committee welcomes members in all corners of the state to help advance the benefits of historic preservation by joining the Historic Resources Committee.

Michael Calafati, AIA, LEED AP
Principal
Michael Calafati Architect LLC
Chair Historic Resources Committee



John F. Peto Studio and Home, Island Heights, NJ (1890)



Ocean City City Hall, Ocean City, NJ (1914)



AIA-NJ Public Awareness Committee

The Public Awareness Committee of AIA-NJ engages with the public, local government agencies, decision-makers and building officials in various ways. Through our AIA-NJ Web-log or Blog as it is called on the World-Wide-Web, the committee produces timely articles and news of interest to industry decision makers and our membership. Through our extensive social media efforts, the PA committee publishes this information which is searchable from the internet. We support the interests and activities of our architect members.

The Public Awareness Committee of AIA-NJ receives inquiries from local and regional journalists with architectural questions for our members. Depending on the question and area of expertise, contacts are forwarded to our members whose background and expertise match the nature of the inquiry. We also periodically reach out to local journalists to offer member expertise and assist them in preparing accurate architecturally related media for publication. We have had members participate in print media, radio and TV media segments.

The Public Awareness Committee of AIA-NJ communicates with the AIA New Jersey Legislative and Government Affairs Committee (L&GA), and the New Jersey Architects Political Action Committee (NJAPAC). This interaction publicizes state-level issues of importance to our members and the architectural community, most recently

**Engages with
the public,
local government
decision makers
and building
officials.**

relating to the NJ Historic Preservation Tax Incentives. The role of the Public Awareness committee is to alert our members to these activities that may affect how we practice.

The news and information created and distributed by the Public Awareness committee is an important benefit of being a member of the American Institute of Architects in New Jersey.

Follow us on social media at.....

@AIANJ on Facebook and Twitter

@AIANewJersey on Instagram

American Institute of Architects New Jersey Chapter on LinkedIn

William J. Martin, R.A., AIA, P.P., LEED AP-H

WJM Architecture

Co-Chair Public Relations Committee

Bruce D. Turner, AIA

Bruce D. Turner, Architect

AIA-NJ 2005 Past President

AIA-NJ 2017-2019 Regional Representative

Co-chair Public Relations Committee

Cumberland County Improvement Authority



Judy Donnelly, AIA, Bruce Turner, AIA, Kimberly Bunn, AIA, Steve Lazarus, AIA and Stacey Ruhle Kliesch, AIA, at Communications/ Public Relations Planning Meeting

AIA-NJ Committee on the Environment



The AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE®) works to advance, disseminate, and advocate design practices that integrate built and natural systems and enhance both the design quality and environmental performance of the built environment. COTE serves as the community and voice on behalf of AIA architects regarding sustainable design, building science and performance. COTE reflects the profession's commitment to provide healthy and safe environments for people and is dedicated to preserving the earth's capability of sustaining a shared high quality of life. The committee's mission is to lead and coordinate the profession's involvement in environmental and energy-related issues and to promote the role of the architect as a leader in preserving and protecting the planet and its living systems. COTE provides the AIA with knowledge about environmental issues and advises the Institute on environmental policy matters affecting the practice of architecture. The committee supports cooperation with educators and institutions of learning, manufacturers, government agencies, environmental organizations, and industry groups in advancing environmentally sound design processes and standards as well as environmentally innovative materials and integrated systems.

On both the National and Local stage, COTE does all of these things through policy advocacy & development, recognition such as the Top Ten Awards, resource gathering & development for our members, and active communication and sharing of best practices in sustainable planning, design and construction.

The voice for sustainable design, building science and performance.

COTE Goals

1. To advance the importance of sustainable design to our fellow architects, within the Institute, and to the broader public.
2. To educate architects about the environmental and energy-related impacts of design decisions & about how to incorporate sustainable design into daily practice.
3. To define and promote the cutting edge of sustainable design for our profession.
4. To foster leadership among architects in all facets of environmental decision making.
5. To recognize environmental leadership of architects in practice, education, industry, and government.

6. To influence the direction of architectural education to place more emphasis on ecological literacy, sustainable design and building science.
7. To maintain, refine, and strengthen alliances with professional and trade associations and other leaders in environmentally responsible design to coordinate our sustainable agendas to make our message stronger.
8. To maintain, refine, and strengthen alliances with other AIA Knowledge Communities and committees, and serve as a resource to Institute initiatives and projects that promote sustainability in the built environment.
9. To green AIA convention venues and meetings.
10. To communicate the AIA's environmental and energy-related concerns to the public and private sectors and influence the decisions of the public, professionals, clients, and public officials on the impact of their environmental and energy-related decisions.
11. To educate architects on regulatory, performance, technical and building science issues and how those issues influence architecture. Educate the architectural profession on programming, designing, and managing building performance.
12. To investigate and disseminate information regarding building performance best practices, criteria, measurement methods, planning tools, occupant-comfort, heat/air/moisture interfaces between the interior and exterior of buildings.
13. To promote a more integrated practice in order to achieve environmentally and economically efficient buildings.

Jason Kliwinski, AIA, LEED Fellow/Faculty,
Certified Sustainable Building Adviser
Adjunct Faculty, Montclair State University
Climate Reality Leader
LEEDap BD&C/O&M
Gpro Instructor
AIA-NJ 2010 Past President



*LEED Platinum, Living Building Challenge Certified,
Gladstone NJ - Host site of East Coast Green 2019*

East Coast Green Conference 2020

Since getting involved in AIA-NJ COTE in 2006 at the request of then immediate past AIA-NJ president Bruce Turner, I have watched the will of our Nation and other Countries waver on admitting and dealing with the issue of climate change. Some of you may stop reading here because you too are a climate change/science denier. Some may simply think it's not relevant to your practice and everyday work or that your clients simply aren't interested or 'won't pay for sustainability' in their projects. I will agree with those of you who say climate change is nothing new. It is not caused by man alone and has been going on far longer than we have existed on this planet. Where most climate change deniers and misinformed members of the public get it wrong, is that while climate change is not new, it is being accelerated at an unprecedented rate since the start of the Industrial Revolution specifically by human activities, in particular the massive burning of fossil fuels, releasing gigatons of carbon unnaturally at rates unseen since the last great extinction. Anthropogenic climate change is now very real.

Leading the conversation and effort to combat climate change.

Knowing that approximately 40% of all greenhouse gas emissions in this Country come from energy use in buildings, I would also argue that it is every architect's duty to minimize the impact of the built environment on our planet while creating the healthiest spaces possible in which people live, work and play. It is, after all, an architect's job to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public in their work. That is why we are a licensed profession. Climate change affects all three of these areas. The scary thing is that it's not just one thing like sea level rise, but is, in fact, the domino effect across all of the natural systems we take for granted and rely on such as clean water, air and soil, our healthcare system and a stable climate. These things are all interconnected.

Since 2006, the year *An Inconvenient Truth* was released by former Vice President Al Gore, AIA-NJ COTE has run workshops on sustainable design in order to share best practices, support sustainable policies that reduce emissions and bring the issue of climate change to the forefront of the practice of architecture and the public. In 2010, when I was president of AIA-NJ, the East Coast Green conference was born. That inaugural two-day conference in Atlantic City, chaired by Verity Frizzell, FAIA a recent past president of AIA-NJ featured Robert Kennedy Jr. and Architecture 2030 founder Ed Mazria as keynote speakers, winning AIA-NJ a national award for educational excellence.

Last year we hosted East Coast Green at the most sustainable building in New Jersey, the Willow School's Wellness Center, LEED Platinum & Living Building Challenge certified. This year is the 10th anniversary of East Coast Green and I am happy to say, planning is in the works for our 2020 conference. Building codes have often only been developed after great disaster in a reactive mode, such as an energy code after an oil embargo, a seismic code after the leveling of a city, or a fire code after massive destruction. We cannot wait for climate disaster to hit before acting. As a profession, we must lead this conversation and effort. So, mark your calendars now for East Coast Green 2020 – The Intersection of Health, Wellness & Climate Change, June 19th at one of the most sustainable Universities in the State, Montclair State University and join me to celebrate, commiserate, and most importantly act to do our part as a profession to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public from one of the greatest threats of our time, climate change. Look for updates from AIA-NJ and at www.eastcoast-green.com

Jason Kliwinski, AIA, LEED Fellow/Faculty,
Certified Sustainable Building Adviser
Adjunct Faculty, Montclair State University
Climate Reality Leader
LEEDap BD&C/O&M
Gpro Instructor
AIA-NJ 2010 Past President



Michael Farewell, FAIA, architect for the Willow school, leading a campus tour



Bruce Turner, AIA, Judy Donnelly, AIA, Jason Kliwinski, AIA, Andrew Thompson, AIA, Robin Murray, AIA, Robert Schmitz, Associate AIA

AIA-NJ Communications Committee



The Communications Committee focuses on communication with the AIA-NJ members. The committee does this through multiple channels including the digital Newsletter, e-Blasts, the Blog and the Website. The committee works closely with AIA-NJ office staff, the Public Awareness Committee, and the Executive Board to disseminate information.

The Newsletter is a digital format that is emailed to members, including allied and trade professionals, on a bi-monthly schedule. Working with a consultant the newsletter currently goes out on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month.

The newsletter includes articles that are prepared by the Public Awareness Committee, AIA national, and local sections. Any articles or press releases can be submitted for inclusion in the newsletter, and are all approved by a committee member before publication. The focus is meant to highlight upcoming opportunities for AIA-NJ members, and showcase happenings over the past month at AIA, AIA-NJ, the local sections and the architecture community at large.

The Blog and Website are key components to getting information out to members and the public, and is the base platform for the Newsletter. The website features general information on the organization, sections for all committees, links to local sections and upcoming events in an Events Calendar that is all viewable to the public. These events are also subsequently featured in the Newsletter. AIA-NJ and each local section are encouraged to list upcoming happenings in the Events Calendar. Listing in the Events Calendar can be completed by anyone, currently a communications committee member will list any event with final registration details that is submitted during the month.

The Blog is within the Website and is the place where expanded information about current happenings, upcoming events and general

news can be posted. These articles are subsequently featured in a newsletter. The Blog is also used by AIA-NJ Social Media accounts to link to articles, and Sections and other allied organizations can link to it on their own websites and newsletters.

The AIA-NJ Newsletter and Website are both avenues of non-dues revenue for the organization. The Communications Committee coordinates with consultants to sell advertising on both of these platforms that results in income for the organization and is included in the annual budget.

Emails and e-Blasts are coordinated by the Communications Committee to be sent to members on more focused or single topic items. Including at minimum a monthly Upcoming Events email to all members, and special e-Blasts on specific topics as needed. The committee works with AIA-NJ staff and all the other AIA-NJ committees to coordinate information as it needs to go out.

For internal AIA-NJ communication and archive of information, the AIA-NJ SharePoint site is also maintained by the Communications Committee. This allows the 100 plus AIA-NJ volunteer board members, committee members and staff to have access to the site for the sharing of documents and information. A private calendar is used for planning of AIA-NJ and local section events for the purpose of avoiding overlapping events. SharePoint also serves as a digital archive of committee information, event information and board meeting reports for the organization. The Communications Committee is responsible for creating new accounts for volunteers on an as-needed basis to have access to the SharePoint site, and coordinates with the consultant that is responsible for back-ups and upgrades to the software.

Kimberley Bunn, AIA
Bunn Architecture
AIA-NJ Communications Chair
AIA-NJ 2015 Past President

Digital Newsletter, Website and blog, eblasts and emails and social media.



1999

2005

website 2020

email 2020



NJ Architects Political Action Committee

NJAPAC Works to Increase Your Bottom Line

Architects need to be constantly in the minds of politicians and policy makers in order to have a significant impact in shaping the laws and regulations that affect the built environment. The New Jersey Architects Political Action Committee (NJAPAC), provides advocacy functions that AIA-NJ cannot by law provide for themselves. The main purpose of our PAC is to support candidates for State office who support the mission of AIA-NJ and who support the ideals held dearly by members of the architectural profession. Our support is bipartisan and our track record is excellent; 98% of the candidates we have supported over the years have won their elections.

The Activities of NJAPAC are supported by members dues and contributions.

As required by NJ election laws, NJAPAC was organized as an independent organization with its own Board of Trustees and bylaws. However, we work closely with AIA-NJ's Legislative and Government Affairs Committee to develop and forward the legislative agenda of the Chapter. Everything we do is administered by our Executive Director and staff at PSI in strict compliance with applicable election laws and other regulations.

The activities of the PAC are supported nearly exclusively by contributions from AIA-NJ members through a dues allocation and by direct contributions from members and by our Sections. These funds are used to: promote the ethical and legal practice of architecture; to educate lawmakers on the role of the architect in service to society; to increase awareness of the profession among policy makers; and, to pay for attendance of PAC members at political events where we develop relationships with, and offer ourselves as a resource to, candidates and state legislators.

A few of our successes over recent years - working hand-in-hand with AIA-NJ's Legislative and Government Affairs Committee - include: the passing of "Good Sam" legislation so members can volunteer in times of emergencies without needlessly increasing their liability; the opportunity to discuss directly with the Governor's office our role in the rebuilding of homes and businesses along the Jersey Shore in the wake of Super Storm Sandy; defeating perennial attempts to institute a Professional Service Tax on architectural services; lobbying to maintain a majority among the other professions who sit on the State Board of Architects'; defeating bills that would have banned all lightweight framing in multiple dwellings after a disastrous fire broke out in a large residential building project under construction in Edgewater; preventing Certified Interior Designers from obtaining practice legislation that would have allowed them to seal Construction Documents; and, working with the State to clarify the State Board of Architects' ability to take actions against unlicensed practitioners.

The PAC promotes YOUR profession to YOUR legislators so that YOUR architectural practice can be more profitable. Architects who act to further the agenda of AIA-NJ ultimately serve their own enlightened self-interest and help to increase their own firm's bottom line. We must continually promote AIA-NJ's agenda to the Legislature and policy makers in New Jersey to be effective.

If you are interested in helping out by serving on the Board of NJAPAC, or just participating on our monthly, hour-long teleconferences (and quarterly in-person meetings) contact David Del Vecchio, AIA at 908-670-8162. If you want to help and have more money than time, donations to NJAPAC can be made at <https://aia-nj.org/architects-political-action-committee/>

David Del Vecchio, AIA
David Del Vecchio, Architecture, LLC
AIA-NJ 2003 Past President
AIA-NJ 2008-2010 Past Regional Director
New Jersey Architects PAC Chair



Megan Pritts, Associate AIA, Judy Donnelly, AIA, Nia Lesesne (Legislative Assistant to Senator Cory A. Booker) and Steven Lazarus, AIA



Brian Penschow, AIA, Marissa Jamello, AIA and Sean Cuddahy, AIA, meeting with U. S. Congressman Christopher H. Smith's staff in Washington, D.C.

AIA-NJ Women in Architecture Committee

The AIA NJ Women in Architecture Committee (WIA) has had a burst of growth in the last 18 months. Under past chairmanship of Stacey Kliesch, AIA, the committee built up its numbers and finished out 2018 with a sold out, 50-person speed mentoring program designed by Lauren Harris, Associate AIA. At this event, it became evident that women from every stage of career had a need to share ideas, stories and solutions with their peers, as opposed to the traditional passive lecture AIA program. 2019 saw Kliesch transition to chair the Equity Diversity Inclusion Committee and hand the WIA reins to Harris. Assigning representatives for each local section, Lauren scheduled regular committee conferences to plan bi-monthly programs to reach every corner of the state, accommodating working mothers with morning and weekend events when family support is more readily available, and focusing discussion topics with the most current needs of her committee population.



**Equity.
Diversity.
Inclusion.**

2020 has already started off with robust planning and gathering on the part of AIA NJ Women in Architecture, with more to come. Men and women are always invited to come together to discuss best practices for building up equity for women in architecture. Current and new members will find this committee is very open and available to welcome new ideas and tackle problems. Contact Lauren Harris, Associate AIA, to get involved.

Lauren Harris, Associate AIA
Works for John LaProcido at L2A
2020-2021 AIA NJ Regional Associates Director



AIA-NJ WIA Committee members

AIA-NJ Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee

The AIA-NJ Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee is just starting its third year in 2020. Our committee prioritizes programs that foster participation, communication and representation of all sectors of the architectural community across the industry. We present tools, techniques and recommendations for our members to facilitate an increase in the level of Equity in our profession, ideally benefiting all marginalized members in target populations. Recently, our committee has been offering bimonthly educational seminars that are provided to the entire membership as a free member benefit. We intend to continue this offering into 2020. Stacey Ruhle Kliesch, AIA, CID, LEEDap, LREA

Stacey Ruhle Kliesch, Architect LLC
AIA-NJ 2009 Past President
AIA-NJ Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Chair



Judy Donnelly, AIA, Stacey Ruhle Kliesch, AIA and Ann Leeb



Jessica O'Donnell, AIA, Marissa Iamello, AIA, and Christina Amey, AIA, 2019 Presidents of West Jersey, Jersey Shore and South Jersey

AIA-NJ Custom Residential Architects Network/Small Firm Exchange

The Custom Residential Architects Network (CRAN®) Knowledge Community develops knowledge and information to benefit architects who are engaged in, or who are interested in learning more about, custom residential practice. CRAN® presents information and facilitates the exchange of knowledge and expertise to promote the professional development of its members via discussion forums, national symposia and conventions, publications, and local activities. CRAN® supports all architects whose practices focus on custom residential work. We address the unique issues related to custom residential practice. We provide a forum for an



Focus on custom residential work.

exchange of ideas and resources that affect the residential practitioner. We are creating a group that can leverage the benefits of a larger firm for the small firm practitioner.

The mission of the AIA Small Firm Exchange (SFx) is to advance the mutual interests of architects practicing in small firms. The objectives of the AIA SFx are three-fold; Advocate for small firms within the AIA and in outside organizations and agencies, promote leadership in Small Firm professional development and practice, and facilitate and support the local component round tables and small firm networks. Because the majority of custom residential architecture firms in New Jersey are also small firms, and similarly, the majority of small firms are residential practices, AIA-NJ has decided to combine these two networks into one committee. The merger gives small residential architecture firms the ability to easily gain the support and fellowship of their colleagues. You can find us on Facebook to find out more.

Brian W. Penschow, AIA
BWP Architecture
Co-Chairperson AIANJ CRAN/SFx



CRAN Committee Luncheon



What does AIA-NJ do for me?

When I started working in New Jersey, in addition to calling it home for over 14 years, I transplanted my membership from AIA New York City to AIA Newark & Suburban (AIA-NS). As I got to know the members of AIA-NS from the “Mayor” Jerry Eben to Judy Donnelly with her infectious personality, it reminded me of my 20+ years serving on the board of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) on local and national levels. NOMA became family to me as I established relationships with students, interns and professionals. Now that I have been serving on the board of AIA-NS, the members who have shared meals with me and welcomed me into their homes have become my new family and we are building those same relationships.

Andrew E. Thompson, AIA
2020 President
AIA Newark & Suburban Architects
Passaic County Seat



AIA-NJ K-12 Committee



The mission of the AIA New Jersey K-12 Committee is to introduce kids to architecture and to let them know that they can become an architect. For the past two years, the committee has sponsored an all-day Kids Design Day event, where architects mentor middle school students as they work together on a group activity to create a town. In 2018, this event was held at the NJIT College of Architecture and Design in Newark and in 2019 it was held on the Camden Campus of Rutgers University. In 2020, we are looking to create six of these events across the state as our committee partners with each of the six AIA Sections across New Jersey,

Introduce kids to Architecture.

In 2020, K-12 Co-Chair John Fallon, AIA is planning to continue an ambitious after school program about architecture in partnership with Newark Public Schools. Also in 2020, Co-Chair Joseph E David, AIA will be coordinating the AIA New Jersey Tower Challenge, an original, all day competition where teams of high school girls compete in categories including Best Seismic Performance, Most Efficient per Zoning Requirements and Best Design.

The AIA New Jersey K-12 Committee also is a conduit for our members to become involved in their local schools and communities. We continue to develop a presentation library with the goal of providing presentation materials for any member interested in talking about architecture to students. We also coordinate member involvement in events like the NJSBA's STEAM Tank program, a statewide competition with three different age levels where teams present ideas, designs and inventions to mentors and judges. In Spring 2020, the AIA New Jersey K-12 Committee is looking to launch its own statewide design competition. Look for additional details and information later this year.

Joseph E David, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C
KCG Architects
Past President - AIA Architects League of Northern New Jersey



2018 AIA-NJ Kids Design Day at NJIT Hillier College of Architecture and Design

College and University Relations Committee

The education of future architects is critical to sustaining our profession and to the development of future AIA members. AIA-NJ College & University Relations Committee serves as a liaison between academia and practice in New Jersey. The C&U committee coordinates engagement with accredited schools of architecture in the state, including NJIT, Kean Michael Graves College of Architecture, and Princeton University. The C&U committee will also interface with NJ community colleges offering associate degrees in architecture, and will explore collaborations with allied university programs offering design and planning studies (e.g. planning, landscape architecture, urban studies) to enhance education and research centered on the built environment. AIA-NJ engagement may include grant funding, scholarships, research initiatives, lectures, and symposia.

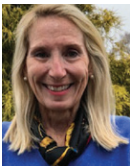
Ronald C. Weston, AIA
PS&S
AIA-NJ College & University Relations



AIA-New Jersey Administrative Staff



Joseph A. Simonetta, CAE Honorary AIA
Chief Executive Officer
 Joe manages the AIA-NJ office and staff whose functions are to implement the goals and objectives set by the Board of Directors, assist the committees and task force structure, and act as Chief Lobbyist for the organization's governmental affairs activities. We all strive to meet the needs of the membership through constant communications, membership services, and support.



Laura Slomka
Event/Staff Manager
 Laura is responsible for the day to day oversight of the organization, events, and staff. Laura also attends all the governance meetings, coordinates all events and provides individual service to the leadership and volunteers throughout the year.



Lori Lee
Executive Assistant
 Lori manages the leadership data bases so necessary for a functioning organization. Additionally, she is responsible for all Board meetings and communication, SharePoint updates, Service Awards and working with committee and task force chairs with updates and meetings.



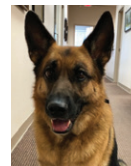
Kelly Biddle
Membership Services
 All member issues and requests go to Kelly who assures quick and personal response to every member. Additionally, Kelly is the focal point for all communications both incoming and outgoing.



Lisa Jones
Event Coordinator
 Lisa works with members and coordinates the various programs and events offered by AIA-NJ. She works with Laura on Design Conference, Tri States conference, activities and programs at Grassroots and Convention, and all seminars and educational programs.



Karen Reiser
Finance Officer
 Karen manages the finances and investments of AIA-NJ. She works closely with the Treasurer and the officers and Board to produce timely reports and annual budgets, and coordinates all reviews, audits and government tax filings.



Sawyer Grace
Security

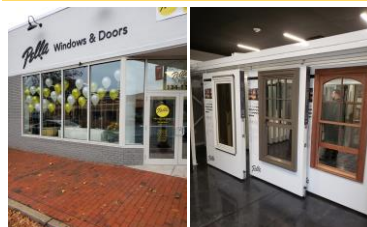
Please know that we are here every business day to service the membership's needs. Now that you know us please reach out to say hello, ask a question or request a resource. We're here to serve you, the members of AIA-NJ.

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What has the AIA-NJ done for me?



In 2020, I will be celebrating my 48th year of membership.

Over the course of a lifetime, only a few celebrations are worthy of extra special attention. AIA National recognizes “membership longevity” at the 50-year mark. Although I am just short of that milestone, I would like to highlight key steps on my journey with the intent of highlighting the benefits of AIA membership for those just embarking on their architectural careers.

Today, thousands have gone through the AIA-NCARB’s Intern Development Program (IDP), now called the Architectural Experience Program (AXP, www.ncarb.org/gain-axp-experience). At first glance, it seems like this mandatory program has always been there to support new professionals, but it has not. When I became registered in 1984, I studied independently, adding stress and time to the process. In 1989, several AIA-NJ architects, including myself, started to lobby the state board of architects to make IDP mandatory. It became mandatory in the mid-1990s. Many of you took advantage of IDP/AXP in your quest to study for and pass the exams, and because you did, you are architects today.

Becoming a knowledgeable promoter of architecture in the broader communities we serve is another key benefit for AIA members. From local committees to chapter programs to national lobbying efforts, AIA helps one become a better public speaker and advocate. It helps architects be seen as professionals when the general public does not fully understand why they need a licensed architect on their project. Additionally, APAC (<https://aia-nj.org/architects-political-action-committee/>) backing helps when political leaders would like to embrace the ins and outs of responsible governance with respect to the building and preservation process.

Another significant benefit of being an active AIA member is the experience gained by serving in leadership roles within the organization. I have served as president of my local Section twice, Chapter president, and Regional Director on the National Board. Surrounding these titled positions, I had many foundational leadership opportunities as well. Longevity in this profession goes hand-in-hand with longevity within the AIA: Opportunities for networking, continuing education, and mentorship all contribute to one’s personal goals and the goals of the organization.

Emerging professionals will be following those of us with decades of membership in the AIA, and will continue to support them, carrying forward the profession and providing resources to our members in service to society.

Thank you all!

Jerry

Jerome Leslie Eben, FAIA

Jarmel Kizel Architects & Engineers

AIA-NJ Archi PAC Chair

AIA-NJ 2007 Past President

AIA-NJ 2011-2013 Regional Director





AIA New Jersey

414 Riverview Plaza
Trenton, NJ 08611

For over 100 years AIA New Jersey has been serving New Jersey architects and the public. Its mission is to “serve the public’s needs and build awareness of architects and the profession through education and advocacy”.

In 1896, the Society of New Jersey Architects was formed. A few years later in 1900 this society was disbanded when a chapter was granted to New Jersey by The American Institute of Architects (AIA). For many years the New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and The New Jersey Society of Architects conducted business side by side. The society and chapter merged in July, 1965, and the name was officially changed to the New Jersey Society of Architects of the American Institute of Architects.

Today, AIA New Jersey continues to be a local Chapter and Region of the national AIA. In 2000, the AIA-NJ Chapter celebrated its 100th anniversary. The chapter is divided into six local sections that help connect AIA with over 2000 individual NJ members and are involved in their communities in unique ways. The Sections are the Architects League of Northern NJ, Central, Jersey Shore, Newark & Suburban, South Jersey and West Jersey.

Founded in 1857, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) consistently works to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings, neighborhoods, and communities. Through a dynamic network of more than 250 chapters and more than 95,000 member architects and design professionals, the AIA advocates for public policies that promote economic vitality and public well-being. Headquartered in Washington DC, AIA is now a worldwide organization with Chapters and Regions in Europe, Asia and Australia. Members adhere to a code of ethics and conduct to ensure the highest professional standards. The AIA provides members with tools and resources to assist them in their careers and business as well as engaging civic and government leaders and the public to find solutions to pressing issues facing our communities, institutions, nation and world.

For more information, please visit www.aia-nj.org

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**AIA New Jersey
Chapter & Region**



**AIA New Jersey
Sections**



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