

## Information and Application

The Emerging Leaders in Architecture: An Honors Academy of the VSAIA (ELA), develops future leaders in architecture firms, in communities, and in the profession. The goal is to accelerate the growth of emerging architects and provide the tools and experiences needed to advance their careers and serve society as leaders in the community.

The program is designed to:

1. Examine the evolving roles of architects and firms
2. Provide the resources to make informed business decisions about financial and practice management matters
3. Consider the fundamental legal, ethical and societal responsibilities of architects
4. Develop a peer network to serve as an ongoing resource.

It is an intensive program of educational sessions structured around presentations, discussions, team exploration, analysis, consensus-building, collaboration, and case study activities undertaken over the course of a year by a small cadre of participants selected for their potential to be outstanding contributors to the profession and the community. A class project provides participants with a practical opportunity to apply leadership principles from the sessions by completing a real project with a real client. Benefit gained from the project is directly proportional to the time and energy invested. Participants should expect to invest at least 40 additional hours of time beyond the scheduled class time.

Program faculty are established leaders in the building, finance, non-profit, development, university, legal, consulting, and design professions. Each of the seven day-long sessions focuses on essential strategies or skills such as financial management, presentation and communication skills, negotiating techniques, understanding legal and ethical issues, and public service.

## Program Features

Workshops are interactive, drawing on real examples and actively involving participants. They rotate among sites in Roanoke, Charlottesville, Richmond, Alexandria and Norfolk in conjunction with the firms, schools, and the local AIA component in each area. Each workshop includes lunch, refreshments, and a tour.

**Important Note:** Acceptance to the program requires a commitment on the part of the participant and management of his/her firm. Participants are expected to attend all scheduled sessions, personally pay 50% of the tuition and to complete all assignments.

## 2013 Program Outline

### **Inheritance and Inspiration: Jan. 11, Richmond**

The future of architecture and the fundamentals of planning, design, documentation and service in a forward-thinking and fast-changing profession

### **Firm Foundations: Feb. 8, Roanoke**

Firm leadership, ownership, and transition, small business management, financial planning, and business/project financial management standards

### **Class Project Work Session: March 8**

### **Practicing Professionalism: April 12, Alexandria**

Ethics and law, from contracts and codes to professional ethics and standards of behavior

### **Communicating Effectively: May 10, Richmond**

Business and professional communications including public relations, presentations, writing and professional speaking

### **Working Together: June 14, Norfolk**

The role of architects relative to other project stakeholders, including public and private owners, developers, contractors, consultants, financial institutions, and allied professionals, including interior designers, suppliers, vendors, manufacturers, etc.

### **Summer Sessions: July 12 and Aug. 9**

Ongoing work on class project

### **Serving Communities: Sept. 13, Charlottesville**

Community involvement, the role of volunteerism in a market-based society, professional expectations for social responsibility and public service

### **Community Advocacy: Oct. 11**

The role of mentorship, education, economic development, and politics in nurturing creativity, talent and public interest in the arts and architecture as a means of community identity and expression

### **Conclusion: Nov. 7, Richmond**

Participant presentation of the class project at Architecture Exchange East followed by closing ceremony and reception

*Dates and locations subject to change. Sessions are scheduled 10 a.m.–5 p.m.*

*“The program identified the ‘missing links’ that aren’t taught in school.”* – *ELA Participant*

## **How to Apply**

The committee seeks applicants from three categories:

*Component Nominees* Each of the five Virginia AIA local component Boards may nominate one or more individuals for admission to the program. One participant will be selected from each chapter for a total of five.

*Student Nominees* Each Virginia Architecture School (UVA, VT, Hampton, and WAAC) may nominate one or more students for admission to the program. One participant will be selected from each school for a total of four.

*Open Applications* Applicants may apply on their own or be nominated by someone else. Seven participants will be selected from among these applicants.

Each applicant must submit an application in PDF, consisting of the following:

### **For all applicants:**

1. Completed application form
2. A 500-word essay on one of the topics below
  - a. Why would you like to be accepted into the program: what do you hope to achieve from it, what do you hope to contribute to the program, and what will the program allow you to accomplish?
  - b. What are the three most significant issues confronting the profession of architecture?
3. A signed statement committing the applicant to attend all sessions, join the AIA or AIAS (if not a current member), and to personally pay at least 50% of the program tuition.

### **In addition to the form and essay:**

*For Component Nominees:*

A letter of nomination from the component President or executive officer.

*For Students:*

A letter of nomination from the Dean or Department Chair.

*For Open Applicants:*

Three letters of recommendation, two of which must be from licensed architects that are VSAIA members.

Applications must be received by Nov. 16, 2012 at 5 p.m.

Tuition for this program is \$475 for students, \$875 for all others. It is expected that at least 50% of the tuition will be paid by the participant to indicate a commitment to the program.

For information contact:

**Wayne Conners**  
**Director of Professional Development**  
**Virginia Society AIA**  
**(804) 644-3041 x303**  
**wconners@aiava.org**

### **Selection**

Candidates will be selected in order to achieve a diverse class with preference given to students enrolled in a professional architecture degree program, interns on track to registration, and architects licensed for 10 years or fewer.

In addition, the selection committee will look for candidates from diverse backgrounds who demonstrate promise, leadership potential, unique insight, and/or exceptional talent

## VSAIA Emerging Leaders in Architecture Program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Firm or School Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City State ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Present Title or Responsibility:

\_\_\_\_\_ Since (date): \_\_\_\_\_

I am a:

- Student. *School name:* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Component nominee. *Component:* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Open applicant

### I am a member of:

\_\_\_\_ VSAIA \_\_\_\_ AIAS \_\_\_\_ Neither

*(NOTE: if you are not a member, you must join prior to beginning the program)*

### Licensure Status

- Licensed since \_\_\_\_\_  
 Not Licensed

### Education

Name of School/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree/Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: (Month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree/Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: (Month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

### Organizations and Activities

List three architectural, community, civic, professional, business, religious, social, athletic and other organizations of which you are or have been a member. Please provide approximate dates of membership and your role in the organization.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### Honors and Awards

Please list any significant honors, awards or prizes you have received for professional, academic, community or civic achievement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Application for Admission

**All application materials must be submitted in one PDF and received by Nov. 16, 2012.**

Tuition for this program is \$475 for students and \$875 for all others.

NOTE: Send no money now. Tuition will be requested upon admission to the program.

Send all application materials to:

**Virginia Society AIA**  
**Attn: Wayne Conners**  
**2501 Monument Ave.**  
**Richmond, VA 23220-2618**  
**Email: wconners@aiava.org**  
**Fax: (804) 643-4607**

### Agreement Form

I fully understand the attendance and tuition requirements for the VSAIA ELA program and agree to fulfill those requirements if selected.

I am a current member in good standing with the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects or AIAS and will continue to be a member in good standing for the duration of the program. If I am not a member of VSAIA or AIAS, I agree to join and remain in good standing for the duration of the program. I agree to personally pay at least 50% if the program tuition.

Applicant's Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize and encourage the above applicant to participate in the VSAIA Emerging Leaders in Architecture Program and fully understand the attendance and tuition requirements as outlined above.

Signature of Firm Principal:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed/Typed Name and Title of Firm Principal:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_