Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA Fellowship

PURPOSE
The AIA Fellows of Virginia have honored the service and accomplishments of Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA by initiating an endowed Fellowship to both commemorate and continue her efforts in providing young architects with opportunities to learn and grow professionally. Throughout her career, Helene has championed the unique needs of emerging professionals, and advocated on their behalf as President of AIA Blue Ridge, President of AIA Virginia, Regional Director for the Virginias, as a staff Vice President at the American Institute of Architects, as Secretary of the Institute and finally as National President of the American Institute of Architects.

This Fellowship fund is intended to give emerging professionals access to opportunities they might not otherwise have due to cost limitations, knowledge of the profession, or access to a network of peers to help them along their path.

TERMS
The Fellowship is awarded to one individual or team every other year. The award is for a maximum of $1,000 and is meant to cover basic expenses to allow the recipient time for focused inquiry and exploration in the field of architecture or design. Collaborators may submit joint applications, but each individual must meet eligibility requirements. Joint applications must be submitted as one package.

DECISION
The jury will announce the award in April during Virginia Architecture Week.

HOW TO APPLY
The application will consist of the candidate’s curriculum vitae/resume, a proposal describing their planned activities, anticipated project costs, a timeframe, and the expected deliverable. Completed applications are due by 5 p.m., March 1, 2019 and can be submitted online at www.aiava.org/hcdf.

DELIVERABLES
Each Fellowship recipient will be asked to share their findings in a format that is most appropriate to the activity. The format of the final report may vary from year to year based on the specific topic being explored. For example, the final deliverable may be a YouTube video, a presentation or a blog about your experience. The jury would like each recipient to recommend the appropriate deliverable as part of their proposal. The deliverable becomes the property of AIA Virginia.

PAST AWARDS
2017 Shelia Christian, AIA
Shelia’s research explored heightened environmental sensitivity among combat veterans with a goal of developing design guidance for facilities housing veterans and others.

SAMPLE IDEAS
Since the fellowship program is new, these ideas are offered as suggestions to show the kind of projects that the selection committee would view favorably. Applicants are encouraged to submit their own proposals and are not limited to the ideas shown here.

Student Toolkit
Create tools to enable students entering architecture school to make the transition to design thinking.

Community of Design Professionals
Establish connections among students or emerging professionals or both that allows meaningful dialogue and fellowship and that advances the profession as a whole.

Community Design
Create a community outreach program to convey the power of design.

Virginia Design Forum
Attend (or present at) the AIA Virginia Design Forum.

Firm Culture
Visit 10 firms to learn how similar or different they are and why.

Young AIA architects
Identify ways that emerging professionals can be recognized and given a voice within the AIA.

Research Project
Explore a topic that interests you to build a database of information that can be shared with others.

Mentoring program
Start a mentorship program that pair senior architects with emerging professionals in a structured program.

What I didn’t Learn in School
Embark on learning a skill you need but didn’t learn in school.

Young Professionals Toolkit
Create tools to help emerging professionals make transitions from school to practice.