Regional Representative Letter

This year has been unprecedented; our lives and businesses are changing as we come to accept the new normal. It is encouraging to see the outpouring of support that Virginians have shown our neighbors. Architects have begun the process of reimagining how the built environment can evolve to meet current society needs. As leaders in our profession, I know each of you are working to improve our communities, and for that I am very thankful. – Valerie Hassett, FAIA

Rescheduled 2020 Fellows Fete

Although the Fellows Fete had to be rescheduled, there are special features planned to make the event truly memorable. The Fellows Fete has been rescheduled for November 5, when it will coincide with Visions for Architecture. Visions celebrates the achievements of AIA Virginia’s Honors Awards recipients. This year Visions is being planned as a smaller event and the Fete will be part of the celebration. Your ticket will include a reception for the Fellows, the Visions presentation (with a planned special guest), and dinner. If the new date is not convenient, please contact AIA VA and your tickets will be refunded.

Historic Preservation Manager Al Cox, FAIA Retires

Best wishes to Al Cox, FAIA, who has retired after working 28 years for the city of Alexandria. During that time he was the professional architectural support to the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review, involved with projects in Old Town and beyond. Prior to moving to Virginia, Al was a partner for nearly a decade in a Texas firm focused on historic preservation.

“My small part in that adventure over the past 28 years was to try to help them through the design review process in order to preserve and complement our extraordinary historic resources as an integral part of a vibrant living city.” -- Al Cox

Al was also active with AIA Northern Virginia, having served as chapter president and chair of the Fellows Committee for nearly 10 years. Al also developed and frequently leads the wildly popular AIA walking tours of Alexandria.
The purpose of the College of Fellows is to stimulate a sharing of interests among Fellows, to promote the purposes of the Institute, to advance the profession of architecture, and to be of ever-increasing service to society.

AIA Virginia Recognized by the General Assembly

AIA Virginia was acknowledged by the General Assembly along with ACEC Virginia.

“As Virginia responds to a changing climate, both architects and engineers are working together to respond to these effects by designing sustainable and resilient structures that reduce their impact upon the natural and built environment, and protect the life and property of all Virginians.” -- Del. Betsy Carr

Meet the Fellows 2020

The American Institute of Architects elevated five AIA Virginia members to the College of Fellows, for their exceptional work and contributions to architecture and society. The newly elevated members are: Corey Clayborne (Richmond), Robert Easter (Richmond), Randy Holmes (Richmond) Gregory Rutledge (Hampton Roads), and Kenneth Wiseman (Northern Virginia).

R. Corey Clayborne, FAIA is the Executive Vice President of AIA Virginia. Corey has created a sustainable leadership pipeline to the profession by accelerating the transition of students into practice, reshaping the path toward licensure, and empowering young architects to leave a legacy.

The career of Robert Easter, FAIA has focused on service to the profession. He was the 15th National Organization of Minority Architects president. Robert is committed to expanding the representation of marginalized communities within our profession. After a 25-year career as a design principal, Robert became the chair of the Department of Architecture at Hampton University. He is an ordained minister and has pastored for two churches.

H. Randolph Holmes Jr., FAIA is the President and Senior Principal at Glavé & Holmes Architecture in Richmond. Randy is a historian admired for his dedication to honoring the attributes of architectural classicism and creating spaces that elevate the human spirit.

Greg Rutledge, FAIA is a design principal with Hanbury in Norfolk, Va. His practice is focused on preservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings. Greg’s knowledge of architectural history is evident in a portfolio that spans from Colonial America to Mid-Century Modern architecture. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee.

W. Kenneth Wiseman, FAIA is Design Principal for Cannon Design in Washington. His work focus is designing inventive, high-performance sports facilities. Kenneth has created new conceptual models and planning standards now adopted by sports institutions worldwide.

Submit articles or photos for consideration to info@valeriehassett.com