



December 6, 2021

YOUNG ARCHITECTS FORUM REGIONAL DIRECTOR (YAR) APPLICATIONS OPEN

Are you an AIA Member interested in the issues confronting young architects? Would you like to help the Young Architects Forum (YAF) address these issues? Then, you may be just the person we're looking for.

Every two years, AIA Virginia (formerly part of the Region of The Virginias) selects an AIA member licensed for less than 10 years to represent the state as YAF Young Architect Representative (YAR). Applications are now being accepted for the 2022 – 2023 YAR term.

This is a tremendous opportunity to take on a larger leadership role within the AIA. This rewarding experience will allow you to be actively engaged in shaping the future of the profession and to grow your network within the AIA locally, state-wide, and nationally.

If you think you may be interested, please read on. If you know of an AIA member who may be interested, please forward this information to them.

YAF Purpose

The AIA YAF is the voice of recently licensed Architects and a catalyst for progress within the profession. The national YAF Advisory Committee (AdCom) encourages development of programs for young architects and supports the creation of YAF groups within local and state components. YAF programs, activities, and resources provide young architects with information and leadership; excellence through fellowship with other professionals; and mentoring to enhance individual, community, and professional development.

YAF Vision

- We ENGAGE recently licensed Architects in leadership to become agents of change within the Institute and the profession overall.
- We INSPIRE professional growth among recently licensed Architects through fellowship within the Institute.
- We ADVOCATE for issues of particular relevance to recently licensed Architects to the Institute.
- We SERVE to make AIA memberships meaningful to recently licensed architects through programs and services that effectively anticipate, meet and exceed their needs.
- We PROMOTE mentorship at all career stages to enhance personal growth, community involvement, and professional development.

More information about the YAF can be found here:

www.aia.org/cep

YAF Responsibilities

The YAR is the primary connection between local and state AIA components and the national YAF Advisory Committee.

The Young Architect Representative communicates information from AIA National to local emerging professionals groups and vice versa by:

- Maintaining quarterly communication with all YAF chapters within their state
- Serving as a conduit between local YAF chapters and the AdCom

The Young Architect Representative contributes to the direction and planning of the YAF by:

- Participating in the YAF Annual Meeting and attending YAF full committee conference calls.
- Working with the AdCom on various national issues through participation in at least one YAF Focus Group.
- Attending AIA Grassroots and AIA National Conference when possible.

The Young Architect Representative serves young architects at the state level by:

- Serving on their state Board of Directors, if required by the state
- Providing reports regarding the activities of YAF and emerging professional groups when requested
- Maintaining quarterly communication with the following counterparts from their state: National Associate Committee (NAC) state representatives, Strategic Council representative, and College of Fellows (COF) regional representative.
- Attending monthly AIA Board Visibility Network calls
- Suggesting or encouraging young architects for nomination to state or national awards, positions, or committees/subcommittees.

YAR Commitments

AIA National Commitments (plan for a number of events to be held virtually during pandemic) are as follows:

- YAF & NAC Joint Annual Meeting (Q1)
- YAF Full Committee Conference Calls – 2 hour each/frequency TBD
- YAF Taskforce/Workgroup Conference Calls – 1 hour each/frequency TBD
- Regional Reports – Quarterly

AIA Virginia Commitments are as follows:

- Architecture Exchange East Conference (typically the first week in November in Richmond)
- Emerging Professionals Roundtable (quarterly; virtual)
- Component Leadership Roundtable (quarterly; virtual)

Other recommended engagement:

- AIA Grassroots (virtual in February 2022)
- AIA Conference on Architecture (Chicago, June 23-25, 2022)

YAR Funding

National AIA covers the costs for YAR travel, food, and lodging to attend the YAF Annual Meeting (if in person). In addition, YARs will have the opportunity to attend AIA Grassroots and the AIA Conference, but

expenses for these events, along with any other costs associated with other travel or conferences, are the responsibility of the YAR.

There are supplemental stipends available from AIA Virginia.

Application Requirements

AIA Membership – Applicant must be an AIA member in good standing within AIA Virginia (AIA Blue Ridge, AIA Central Virginia, AIA Hampton Roads, AIA Northern Virginia, and AIA Richmond) and must be licensed not more than 10 years at the time of submission.

Letter of Interest – From Applicant. Indicate understanding of the position, qualifications/experience, and reasons for seeking election. Limit one-page.

Letter of Nomination – From an AIA local or state component Board Member. Indicate connection between the YAR position and the Nominee’s leadership qualities. Limit one-page.

Letter of Recommendation – From an AIA member. Indicate Nominee’s qualifications for the YAR position. Limit one-page.

Letter of Support – From Employer. A Principal (or Officer) within the candidate’s firm must commit to supporting the candidate in fulfilling the role’s obligations. Limit one-page on company letterhead.

Personal Resume – Indicate education, employment history, organizations, activities, honors, and awards. Limit two pages (It is NOT in the applicant’s best interest to simply submit a firm resume with project experience).

Deadline

Completed applications must be submitted by email as a single PDF to Donna Dunay, FAIA, Region of The Virginias Representative to AIA Strategic Council (ddunay@vt.edu) **AND** Corey Clayborne, FAIA, Executive Vice President of AIA Virginia NLT **Thursday, December 30, 2021.**

Selection Process

The AIA Board of Directors will elect the YAR during its Board retreat scheduled for January 7-8, 2022.