



# 2020 **Annual Report**

## A Message from the Executive Director



Dear Members, Partners and Friends,

AIA Pittsburgh is excited to share with you our 2020 Year in Review. 2020 was not all Zoom and doom, though there were days when it may have felt like it. It was a year that gave many of us a hard nudge to learn new things – from technology to terminology to ways of seeing and reflecting on our society and architects' role in it.

While the COVID-19 pandemic hindered some of our Chapter's plans for the year, it also presented new opportunities and identified ways that architects can make a difference in the face of the unexpected. Just one example is the Advocacy Committee exploring how architects could put their skills to use converting spaces for a COVID-19 care surge. The Chapter hosted four Town Halls and two Legal & HR Roundtables as forums to share information and learn from industry experts as everyone tried to adjust to a new normal. The pandemic further brought to light inequities in our communities, workplaces and homes, and spurred important discussions and action steps in our many of our committees. As part of this AIA and ULI hosted our first joint program, Built by Women, and our Equity Diversity and Inclusion group started researching and analyzing member demographics to better understand our community and its needs. We are still too close to 2020 to fully understand how it will change how we think, work, and live with each other, but already we are seeing new spaces designed with health and inclusiveness top of mind.

One of the greatest takeaways of the year is how valuable it is to be part of a community that remains resilient in the face of crisis. Members shared experiences and ideas across firms, local and state Chapters worked together even more to provide opportunities and resources for our members, and we collaborated with our partners to tackle shared challenges. Another great takeaway is that we simply missed seeing each other and the little joys of shared experiences.

Hoping to see all of you soon,

MICHELLE FANZO

Executive Director, AIA Pittsburgh

# Vision, Mission and Values



## OUR VISION

AIA Pittsburgh members play a central role in ensuring healthy and sustainable design and development in all communities in which we serve.



## OUR MISSION

AIA Pittsburgh improves the built environment in which we live, work and play by raising the standards of architectural training and practice, supporting our members efforts to design healthy, safe and connected places and spaces, and promoting the value of architectural services to the public.



## OUR VALUES

Member support and development	Environmental stewardship
Design advocacy	Equity, diversity and inclusion
Civic engagement	Integrity, openness, empathy and patience

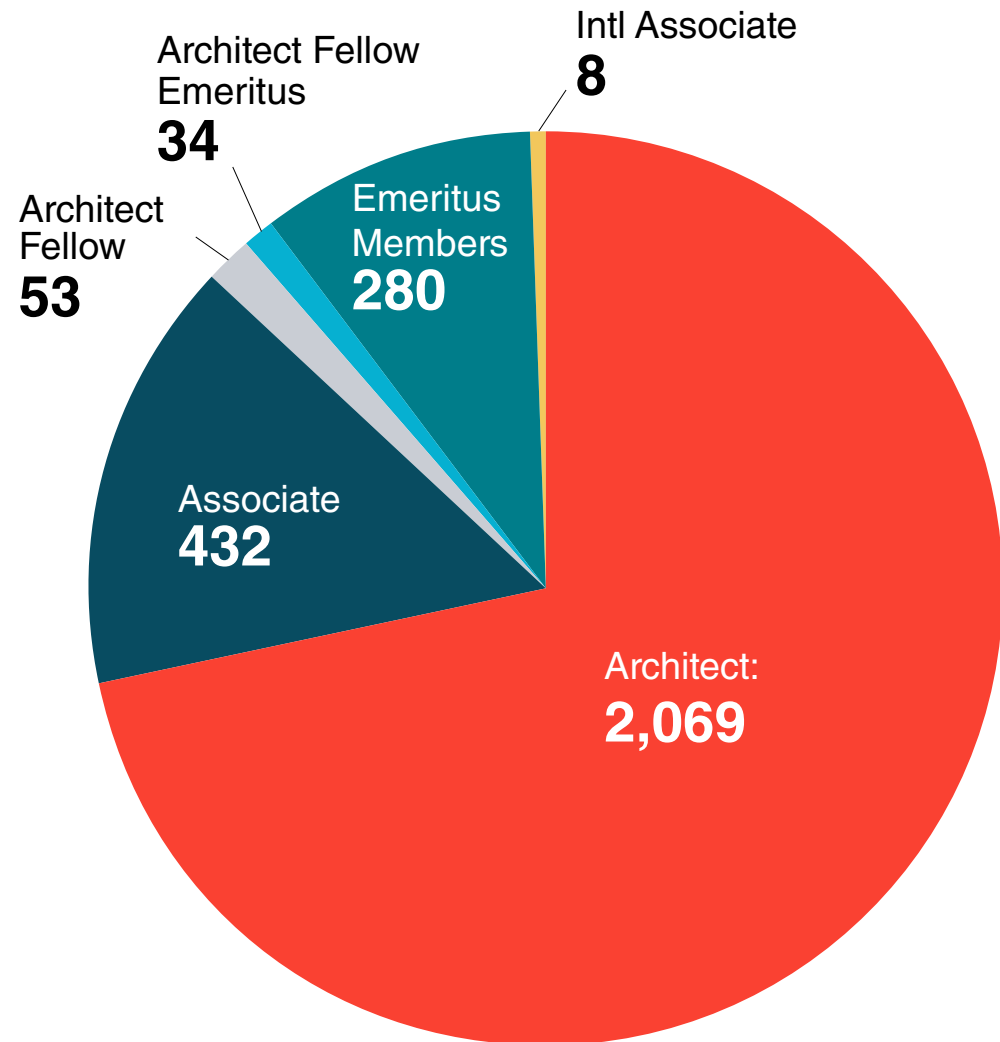


## AIA Pennsylvania Membership

As the second largest chapter in Pennsylvania, we are part of a national network of over **200** AIA chapters representing over **95,000** architects.

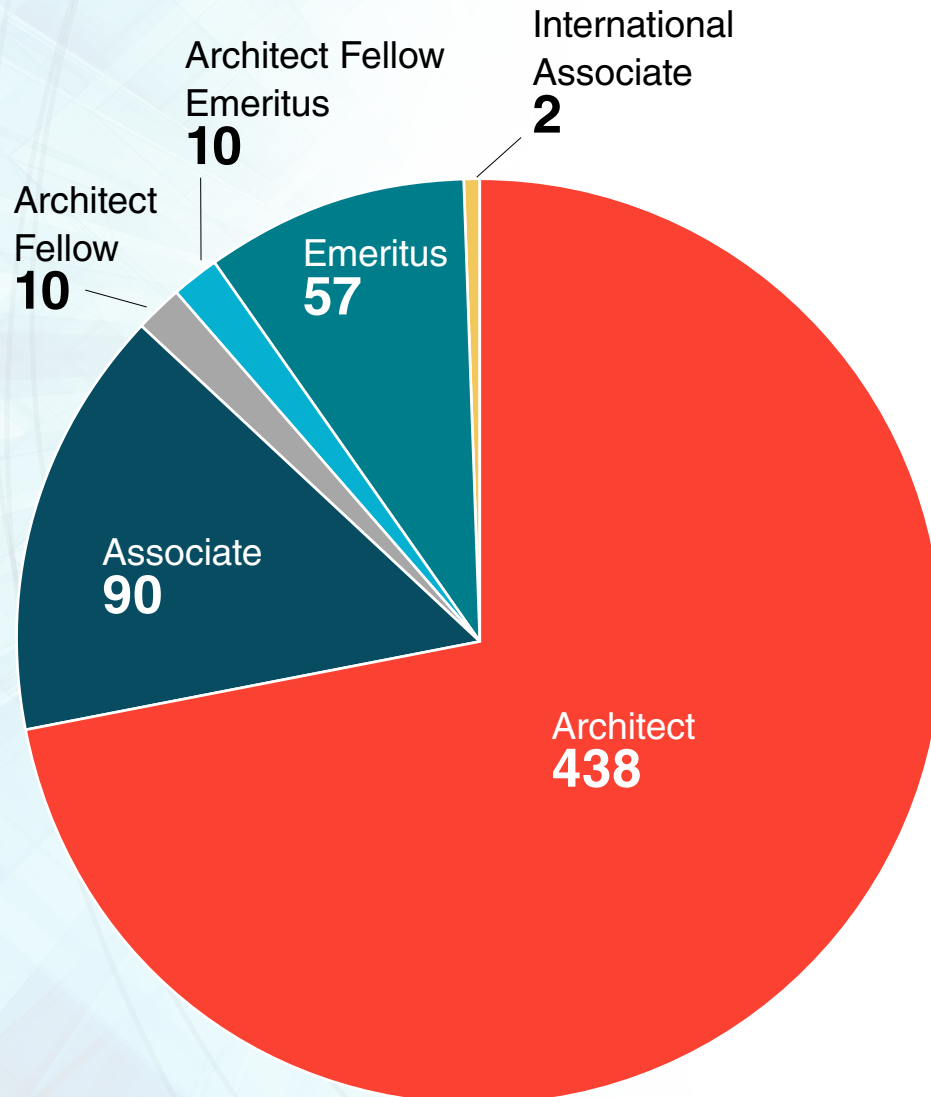
# 2,876

**AIA Pennsylvania Members**  
consisting of:



## Our Pittsburgh Community In Numbers

**607** AIA Pittsburgh Members  
consisting of:



**30+** Industry Partners



### Newly Registered Architects

4 young professionals successfully completed the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) and Architectural Experience Program (AXP) hours to become registered architects in 2020.

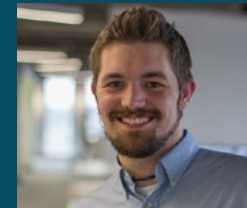
Congratulations to:



Kara Berteotti



Matt Dawson



Brian Karcher



Parva Markiw

# AIA Pittsburgh's 2020 Board of Directors



Joe Chaffin, AIA  
President



Dina Snider, AIA  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



Bea Spolidoro, AIA  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



Sean Sheffler, AIA  
Secretary



George Rieke, AIA  
Treasurer



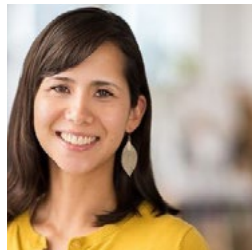
Stephen Winikoff, AIA  
Immediate Past President



John Ryan, AIA



Lisa Carver, AIA



Patricia Culley, AIA



Nickie Cheung  
Assoc. AIA



Quintin Kittle, AIA



Catherine Wick, AIA



Lawrence Fabbri, AIA



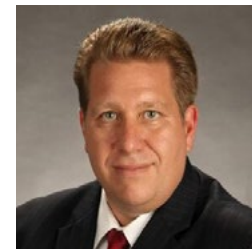
Amanda Markovic, AIA



Lena Andrews  
ACTION-Housing



Grant Ervin, Department  
of City Planning



Michael Cremonese, Esq.



Michelle Fanzo  
Executive Director



Stephen Lee, AIA  
Head, CMU School of  
Architecture  
(through July)



Omar Khan, Head, CMU  
School of Architecture



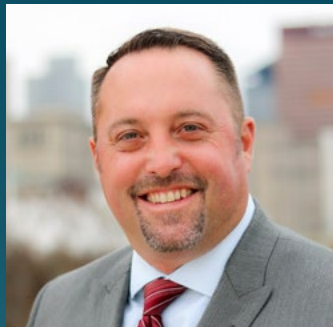
Chitika Vasudeva  
AIAS President  
(through July)



Carly Sacco  
AIAS President



“We believe collaboration and trust are very important for the AEC industry and community stakeholders. Through AIA Pittsburgh, we have been able to collaborate and establish long term business relationships and friendships based on trust. We have been involved with AIA Pittsburgh for many years thorough our sponsorships and participation on the Committee on the Environment. The best is yet to come!”

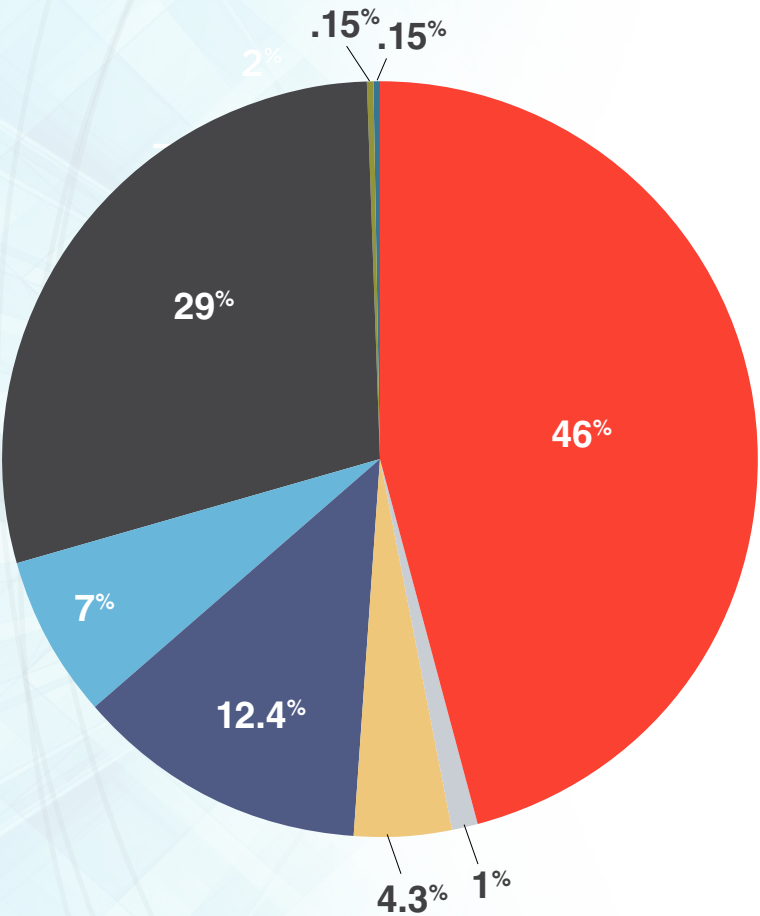


David C. Price, PE  
Senior Vice President  
Allen + Shariff Engineering, LLC



Diane E. Bookwalter, PE  
Vice President  
Allen + Shariff Engineering, LLC

# 2020 Finances: Income

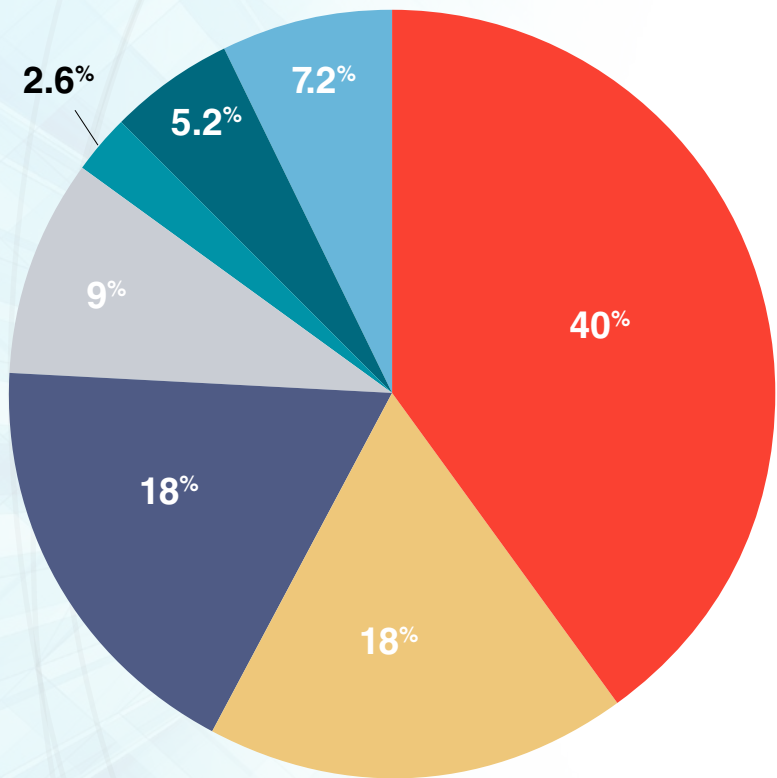


- \$184,919 Dues
- \$4,500 Industry Partnership & Support
- \$17,375 Continuing Education & Member Events
- \$49,902 Build Pittsburgh
- \$27,974 AIA Contract Documents & Revenue Share
- \$115,640 Design Pittsburgh
- \$600 Marketing & Advertising
- \$560 Miscellaneous + Office Rentals

**\$401,470** TOTAL INCOME



# 2020 Finances: Expenses



- **\$146,639** Administrative & Operating Expenses
- **\$65,695** Build Pittsburgh & Continuing Education
- **\$68,353** Design Pittsburgh
- **\$33,528** Communications
- **\$19,633** Member Services & Programs
- **\$27,124** Board & Committee Expenses
- **\$9,705** AIA Contract Documents

**\$370,677** TOTAL EXPENSES

# AIA Pittsburgh's Young Architects Forum

YAF organizes a number of Building Tours, ARE Review Series, and cross-disciplinary events and opportunities throughout the year.

YAF participates in the ACE High School Mentorship program and partners with students through AIAS at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh.

## Events in 2020

- 49 Sketch Challenge Submissions
- 11 Monthly Meetings
- 8 Yax Presenters
- 6 Carpenter Training Courses
- 5 Board Members
- 4 Virtual Game Nights
- 3 ARE B-Side Sessions
- 3 Building Tours
- 2 Studio Competition Submissions



Carpenters Training Workshop



AIAS Crit Night



YAX



Sketch Challenge



YAF Meeting



Building Tours



# AIA Pittsburgh's Young Architects Forum

## 2020 Officers



Anastasia Markiw, AIA  
Chair



Cassandra Osterman, AIA  
Mentorship Chair



Michael Sweterlitsch,  
Assoc. AIA  
Fellowship Chair Co-Chair



Jason Andrews, Assoc. AIA  
Fellowship Chair Co-Chair



Walt Haim  
PR Chair



Eric Phillips, AIA  
Past Chair

"YAF is vital for the sustainability of the AIA membership. We are future architects, future principals, and future industry leaders. The emerging professionals in this committee have such energy, vigor, and talent that provide a bright future for AIA Pittsburgh. Having a larger network of like-minded young professionals was important to my personal professional growth. AIA Pittsburgh and YAF are building blocks to licensure and the connections made through YAF and the AIA end up being significant relationships that last years."

- Anastasia C. Markiw, AIA  
2020 YAF Chair



**Connect with YAF:**



@YAFpgh



Facebook



# Pittsburgh Architecture Foundation

Our mission is to advance architects' meaningful and collaborative involvement throughout the Pittsburgh region: fostering civic activism and leadership, sustainability, and the well-being of our communities.

## THE PITTSBURGH ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION FOCUSES ON THREE MAIN POINTS:

### The Leadership Institute

Since 2016 this leadership program, developed for our Chapter's young and mid-career architects, has celebrated **79** graduates and the motivational influence they bring to the architecture and engineering professions. Due to COVID-19 restrictions there was no 2020 class, however classes are expected to resume in 2021.



### Public Outreach

AIA Pittsburgh is convening an important conversation - how the built environment affects the health and wellbeing of our region. Our Blueprint for Better initiative received a **\$11,000** grant from the Staunton Farm Foundation to further our work in 2020.



### Community Engagement

The Façade Renovation Program, begun in 2019, helps small, locally owned business in under-served communities re-envision their storefronts. The community-based work was put on hold for 2020 and program volunteers focused on developing a ToolKit for the program. The Program and its AIA Pittsburgh volunteers were featured in the national AIA magazine, [YAF Connection](#).

### Leadership Pipeline

PAF and the Chapter jointly supported two scholarships for members to attend the 10-week National Intercultural Leadership Training program developed by AIA Minnesota.

# 2020 Committee Accomplishments

## Committees are where the action is!

AIA Pittsburgh supported ten committees / initiatives in 2020. All are forums for discussion, new ideas, and professional growth. These next pages highlight the major 2020 activities for each committee. Click below to see a more detailed list of committee goals and purposes. Interested in learning more or joining a committee? Let us know and we can connect you! The more members that participate, the more our Chapter can achieve together.

<https://aiapgh.org/aia-community/committees/>

## Advocacy Committee

Identifies, explores and advocates for issues that impact architects and the built environment in western PA. The group provides outreach to and discussions with local legislators, decision-makers and partners. Highlights of committee accomplishments in 2020 include:

- Established quarterly meetings with the new Director of the Dept. of Permits, Licensing and Inspections (PLI)
- Began developing a 2-year local advocacy platform for the Chapter

## AIA-MBA Joint Committee

Promotes collaboration between the design and construction industries and supports cooperation and learning between the two groups. In 2020:

- Published a paper and brochure for [First-Time Building Owners](#)
- Created a task force to identify and address issues and best practices with PLI.

## Blueprint for Better

Builds on recent and developing research in neuroscience, sociology and psychology about how space impacts human wellbeing and how people perceive space. The initiative promotes architecture as a foundational element in what kind of city/ region we are and for whom.

- Presented a session at Build Pittsburgh and received an \$11,000 grant to continue its work in 2021.

## 2020 Committee Accomplishments (continued)



Education Committee Procrastinators Day



Outreach Committee Happy Hour

### Committee on the Environment (COTE)

Serves as the community and voice on behalf of AIA Pittsburgh architects regarding sustainable and resilient design. The group advances design practices that enhance a building's quality and performance, and promote human wellbeing. In 2020:

- Held 3 seminars and established 3 sub-committees: Education; Tall Timber; Deconstruction & Reuse
- Began planning a 2021 Seminar Series on the Framework for Design Excellence.

### Design Pittsburgh Committee

Plans and executes AIA Pittsburgh's signature program, Design Pittsburgh, which includes the Design Awards competition, exhibition and celebration. The committee seeks to engage the public in the value of good design in our communities. In 2020, the group helped shape a highly successful event with:

- 52 projects from 22 firms
- 1000+ virtual attendees
- 3 Social Impact Awards
- A Design Awards jury from AIA Baltimore

### Design Research + Practice Group

Infuses research into the practice of architecture in Pittsburgh and beyond and openly shares emerging data and knowledge with our community. The group hosts a lunch + learn format, speakers and online resources.

- Held presentations of research and projects
- Applied for research grant



## 2020 Committee Accomplishments (continued)



YAF ARE Kickoff



YAF Building Tour

### Education Committee

Directs the planning and / or development of AIA Pittsburgh's continuing education programming, including Build Pittsburgh, Procrastinator's Day, and ad hoc trainings. In 2020:

- For Build Pittsburgh, attracted 274 attendees and 44 presenters for 17 courses
- Held Procrastinator's Day with 10 CEU sessions in December

### Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Explores and fosters diversity, equity and inclusion issues in the architecture profession in our region. In 2020:

- Collected and analyzed member/ PA architect statistics to better understand our community.
- Shared resources.

### Healthcare Committee / AIA Academy of Architecture for Health (new)

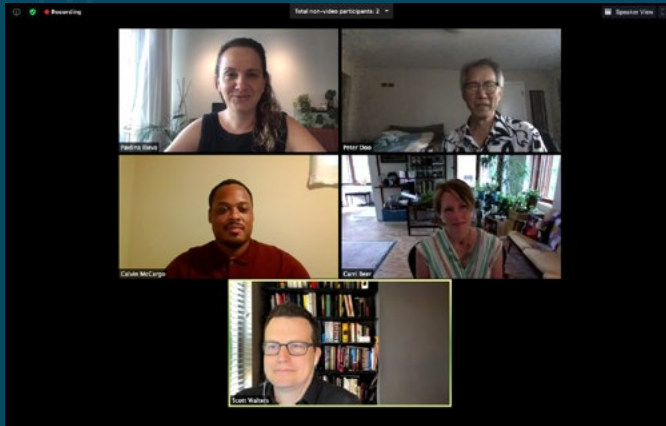
Shares knowledge and collaborates to improve health design education, connect to health design resources, strengthen the pipeline of architects for health/ wellness design, and provides advice to the wider community. In 2020:

- Established 3 sub-committees: Knowledge, Emerging Professionals, Collaboration
- Hosted frequent guest presenters to share knowledge and opportunities

## 2020 Committee Accomplishments (continued)



COTE Seminar



Design Awards Committee

### Outreach Committee (the “OC”)

Engages new and existing members of the AIA community through a variety of events. The group seeks to create an engaged, knowledgeable, and diverse membership of architects and related professionals. In 2020:

- Held the second En Masse Design Mixer to welcome new members
- Supported an International Architects Facebook Page

### Young Architects Forum (YAF)

Supports and encourages young professionals in the field of architecture to: obtain their license, become involved with career development opportunities, engage allied professionals through collaboration, and have fun. In 2020:

- Held Sketch Challenge
- Provided ARE support
- Organized Building tours
- Held Young Architects Studio Competitions
- Hosted game nights

[Click here to learn more about the Committees](#)

# Social Media & Website Stats





# Social Media & Website Stats

## Top 5 Visited Pages on aiapgh.org

1

[AIA Pittsburgh Job Board](#)

2

[Design Pittsburgh 2020 Online Exhibit - View & Vote](#)

3

[Directories](#)

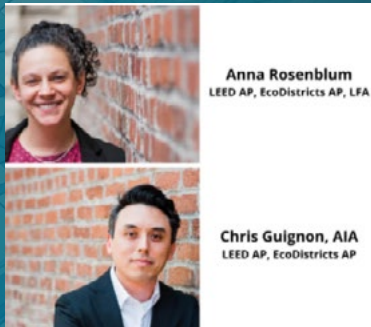
4

[Design Pittsburgh](#)

5

[Architect Directory](#)

## Most Viewed COLUMNS Articles



[From the Firms – May 29, 2020](#)



[The House Next Door: Architects Eric Fisher and Bea Spolidoro design a life in Shadyside](#)



[Design Pittsburgh 2020 Award Winners](#)



[Architects, designers rethink the office of the future](#)



[Architect behind iconic Pittsburgh buildings and Penn State alum Louis Astorino reflects on career](#)

# PechaKucha Night Pittsburgh

PechaKucha night was held on February 20 at museumlab with a wide variety of creativity.

Since 2008, PKN is held in collaboration with AIGA Pittsburgh and the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council. They are informal, informative and fun and are held in more than 1,000 cities worldwide.



[PechaKuchaPgh Facebook page](#)



[PechaKuchaPgh Instagram](#)



[20 Slides. 20 Seconds Each. Experience It.](#)



*PechaKucha Night*™  
20 X 20  
IMAGES SECONDS



## Advocating for Architects

AIA Pennsylvania hosted the second Architects Tele-Action Day. In one day, AIA Pennsylvania members and AIAS students, including many from Pittsburgh, met virtually with legislators. They advocated for issues and policies that impact the built environment and architects, and shared policy briefs and educational materials with over 200 state representatives and senators. Members discussed the Statute of Repose, Anti-Indemnification, and High Performance Buildings.



### HOW TO TELE-ADVOCATE

#### 1 Identify Your Legislators & Do Some Research

Find your legislator's information by inputting your home address in the "Find Your Legislator" feature. Once you have inputted your home address, click on the linked name of your PA House and PA Senate legislators to locate their district office phone number on their profile pages' left column.

Take to google, [Legis](#), a site dedicated to all things concerning PA's General Assembly, or your Legislators' official webpages to familiarize yourself with their backgrounds. Can you draw any personal or professional associations/shared experiences from their backgrounds? Use any anecdotes to strike up the conversation, build rapport, and emphasize any local community connections.

#### 2 Pick Up the Phone & Make Your Calls

Call your State Senator and Representative's district office between the hours of 9 am – 5pm on Tuesday, March 23rd.

#### 3 Introduce Yourself to the Office Gatekeepers

Introduce yourself and explain your relationship to the Senator or Representative. If you have an established relationship with your Senator or Representative, play that card. If not, no worries! Getting acquainted with constituents is part of legislators' day-to-day obligation as your elected official. Introduce yourself as a constituent and mention you are a member of AIA Pennsylvania, representing nearly 3,000 architecture industry professionals across Pennsylvania.

Proceed to be transferred to your legislator or their staff or schedule a time to do so at a later date. Make a point to thank the office gatekeeper for their time and coordination.

Read on for a sample script.



## Build Pittsburgh 2020



### RAISING THE STANDARDS

AIA Pittsburgh's 19<sup>th</sup> annual continuing education conference and exhibitor show - 1<sup>st</sup> ever virtual!

Attendees could earn up to 13 hours of Continuing Education credits.

Brought together architects and built industry professionals to engage in learning, collaboration and networking.

Provided cutting-edge programming beneficial to architects, engineers, owners, and other design industry professionals.



274  
Attendees

44  
Presenters

17  
Courses

1  
Virtual  
Platform

# Design Pittsburgh 2020



Design Pittsburgh 2020 featured a juried Design Awards competition (with a Baltimore jury), including the Young Architects Studio Competition; a public voting opportunity for the coveted People's Choice Award; more than 1,030 virtual attendees who were members, affiliates, design enthusiasts, and guests; and a ceremony recognizing the winners of the prestigious AIA Pittsburgh Design Awards hosted by AIA Pittsburgh Board President, Joseph Chaffin, AIA and Vice President, Dina Snider, AIA.

Design Pittsburgh highlights the importance of good design and how our members, sponsors, partners, and the public support and promote the value of architecture and design in the places where we live, work, and play.

22  
firms submitted  
a total of 52  
projects

3,261  
votes cast for the  
People's Choice  
Award

16  
Awards Presented

1,000+  
Award ceremony  
viewers!

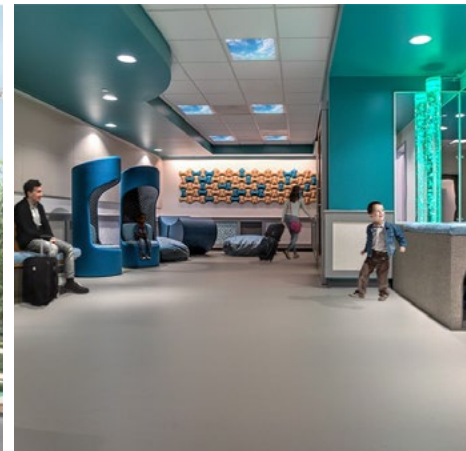
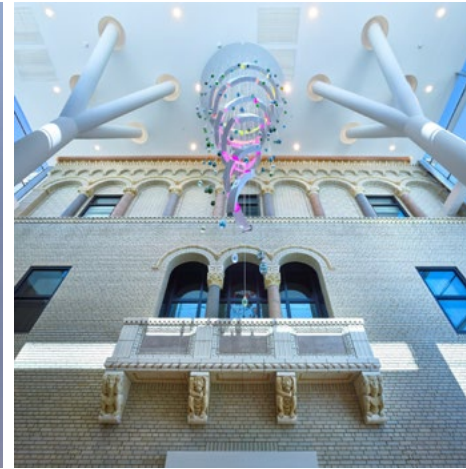
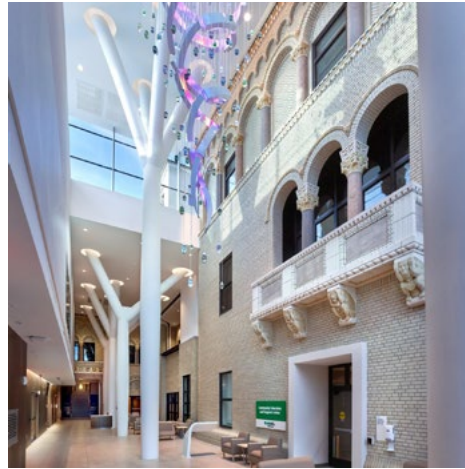


"Our firm was honored to receive AIA Pittsburgh's People's Choice Award in 2020, including receiving a record-breaking number of votes for the new sensory-friendly suite at Pittsburgh International Airport. It was affirming to receive this reaction from the community on our profession's focus to meeting a real need in our society. The People's Choice Award gives the local community a voice as well as an avenue to learn more about the top-notch architecture projects in our region, and this award was a real testament to the importance architecture holds in improving everyday lives. It was very rewarding for our firm to work with the Airport Authority and the autism community to design this unique project; it was even more affirming to see the public's response."

Kevin Hayes, AIA  
Hayes Design Group Architects



# Design Pittsburgh - View the 16 Winning Projects in 2020



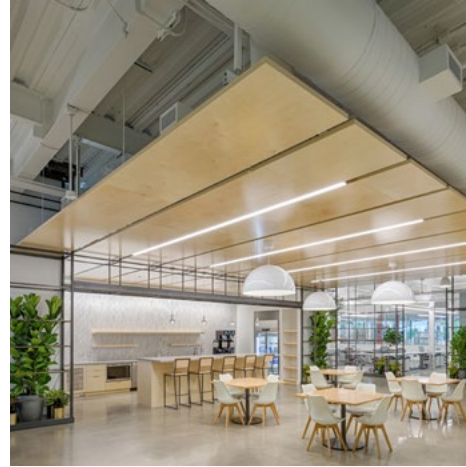


## Design Pittsburgh - View the 16 Winning Projects in 2020 (continued)





## Design Pittsburgh - View the 16 Winning Projects in 2020 (continued)



[CLICK HERE TO  
VIEW ALL 16  
WINNERS ONLINE](#)

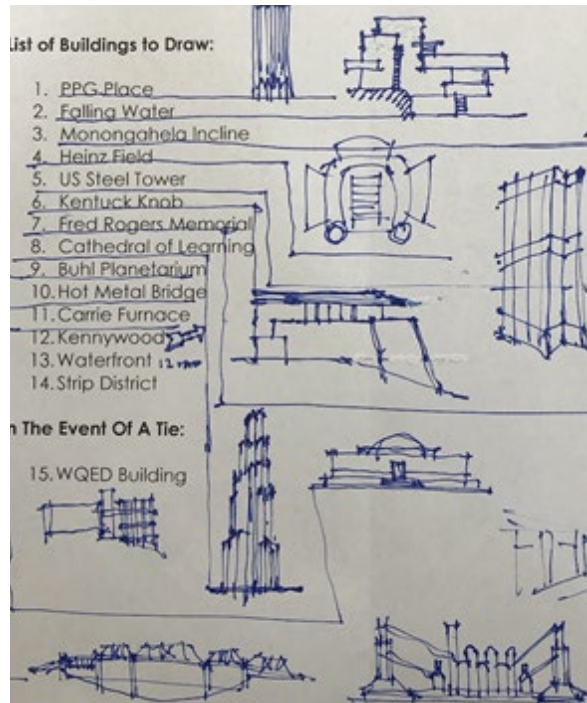


# Annual Meeting Celebrates our Community in 2020

AIA Pittsburgh members gathered virtually for the Annual Meeting & President's Party, which began with a cocktail and mocktail demo and concluded with a round of very competitive Architecture Pictionary. Members voted in four existing Board members for second terms:

- Nickie Cheung, Assoc. AIA (1-year term)
- Quintin Kittle, AIA (3-year term)
- Sean Sheffler, AIA (3-year term)
- Bea Spolidoro, AIA (3-year term)
- Anne Chen, AIA was voted onto the AIA PA Board (3-year term)

The meeting also welcomed 20 new AIA Pittsburgh members, honored five retiring architects and celebrated four newly registered architects. 2020 Chapter highlights were shared, noting the shift to virtual events, committee accomplishments, and cost-cutting measures due to revenue loss. The Board Presidency was transferred from Joe Chaffin, AIA to Dina Snider, AIA; and the YAF Presidency was transferred from Anastasia Markiw, AIA to Cassandra Osterman, AIA.



Sketches by Chip Desmone, AIA in preparation for Architectural Pictionary



2021 President Dina Snider, AIA receives the ceremonial Golden triangle, glasses, and snow globe



Christian Pegher, AIA demonstrates how to make a Fussfungle cocktail



AIA members gather virtually to celebrate



## Tools & Resources

AIA Pittsburgh provided access to a variety of tools, knowledge and resources to strengthen our members' practice. Here are quick links to a few of the most popular.



### AIA Pittsburgh Resources

[Industry Resource Directory](#)

[Member Firm Directory](#)

[Job Board & Resume Bank](#)

[COVID-19 Resources:](#)

[AIA Pittsburgh](#)

[AIA Pennsylvania](#)

[AIA National](#)



### AIA Pennsylvania Resources

[Architect's Advocacy Day in Harrisburg](#)

[PA Architects PAC](#)



### AIA National Resources

[AAH \(Academy of Architecture for Health\)](#)

[Framework for Design Excellence](#)

[Where We Stand](#)

[AIA Message Book: How to talk about architecture with clients and the public.](#)

[Business Intelligence & Tools: including surveys, market research reports, best practice guides, and articles.](#)

[Small Firm Exchange](#)

[Advocacy Action Center](#)

[AIA KnowledgeNet](#)

[CES Discovery](#)



“2020 brought the world closer together through the shared experience of COVID-19 while physically dividing us through social distancing. Our strategic vision of ensuring healthy, sustainable and resilient design and development in Western PA became amplified through conversation and discourse that was made more accessible through virtual meetings. The architect as a problem solver and the AIA as a facilitator put us at the table as a leader in efforts to understand and address new challenges related to practice, design and community that we were unaware of as 2020 began and will forever be changed in the future.”

**Dina F. Snider, AIA**

2021 AIA Pittsburgh President, and Principal of Strada Architecture

# Thank you to our 2020 Sponsors

The following sponsors have contributed to both Build Pittsburgh & Design Pittsburgh



[www.axa.com](http://www.axa.com)



## In-Kind Sponsor



[gregcollcreative.com](http://gregcollcreative.com)

## Build Pittsburgh Sponsors

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Building Point Ohio Valley

EPIC Insurance Brokers & Consultants

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Providence Engineering

R.I. Lampus Company

RJ Bridges

Stephany Associates

Schluter Systems

Turner

Vitro Architectural Glass

## Design Pittsburgh Sponsors

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Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

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Elite Lighting

EPIC Metals

Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc.

Fenner & Esler

Flooring Solutionz

Franklin Interiors

H.F. Lenz Company

HDR, Inc.

Hilbish McGee Lighting Design

Hope Furrer Associates, Inc.

Iams Consulting, LLC

Indoff Inc.

Keystone Structural Solutions

Lam Partners

Massery Photography, Inc.

Master Builders' Association of Western PA

McKim & Creed, Inc.

Michael Baker International

Mistick Construction Company

Nello Construction

Perkins Eastman

PJ Dick

Repco II

Rothschild Doyno Collaborative

Rycon Construction, Inc.

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Taylor Structural Engineers, Inc.

The Gateway Engineers, Inc.

Tower Engineering, Inc.

WBCM

Whiting Turner

Wilke & Associates, LLP

WNA





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