

2025 AIA Rochester Honor Awards

Mentor of the Year Award



AIA Rochester is pleased to solicit nominations for its Mentor of the Year Award. This new award is intended to recognize the efforts of a member within the chapter who has dedicated their time and effort to develop the next generation of our profession. Mentors provide meaningful insight, share experience and lessons learned, and impart wisdom on those who plan to follow their path.

Mentorship is a key aspect of learning how to be an architect and can manifest itself in many ways:

- providing exposure to an elementary student who doesn't know what an architect does,
- providing shadowing opportunities & exposure to a high school student interested in the profession,
- providing critical feedback and guidance to a budding designer in an architecture program,
- taking the extra time to answer a question for an emerging professional, and
- helping somebody take the next step in their career.

Nominees shall be evaluated based on their positive impact on those growing in the profession including their willingness to share, teach, explain, and support the development of others. Activities for which the nominee received compensation and/or are considered part of the nominee's employment shall be considered since so much of how we learn is through the act of practice, but exemplary applications should demonstrate additional examples beyond traditional supervisory/management roles.

Eligibility

All AIA, Associate AIA, and Emeritus members who are in good standing with AIA Rochester are eligible to be nominated. At the time of nomination, the recipient must be active in the profession of architecture within the region served by AIA Rochester by means of lawful employment/consultation in the architecture community or active as Emeritus Member.

Submission & Consideration

Applications must be received by no later than the date indicated on the nomination form. This is intended to give the Jury adequate time to fully consider and thoroughly evaluate all nominees. Annually, individuals will be considered after the Chapter receives a written submission from any AIA Rochester member in good standing of the AIA Rochester Chapter. Individuals may self-nominate. In addition, the current Chapter President and Board of Directors may also present individuals for the Jury's consideration and the Jury may consider any other eligible individual deemed worthy of the award. Candidates can continue to be considered each year and amendments to their submissions can be made at the discretion of the candidate, with the candidate's consent.

Jury

The Chapter Board of Directors shall meet to consider candidates for this award, serve as the jury, and ratify the selection. The jury shall meet as required to consider all candidates beginning a minimum of forty-five (45) calendar days before the scheduled presentation of the award. The Jury may select one individual by a clear majority of the entire Jury.

Notification of Award

The winner will be notified by the AIA Rochester Chapter President and invited as a guest of AIA Rochester to the Chapter's Annual Meeting in the fall, where the winner be publicly recognized and receive the award.

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Publication

The name of the recipient will be published in the AIA Rochester Chapter Newsletter and in any other publication deemed to be appropriate. A press release will be sent to the Democrat & Chronicle, Rochester Business Journal, AIA New York State and AIA National. This shall occur in advance of the presentation to act as notification to the membership and as an invitation to attend the award presentation.

Award

The recipient will receive a specially designed certificate, signed by the Chapter President and Jury Chair, to commemorate this award as well as two complimentary tickets to the AIA Rochester Chapter Annual Meeting where the award will be presented.

The Board of Directors and the Honor Awards Committee of AIA Rochester reserve the right to make final selections for this award.

Questions may be directed to AIA Rochester Executive Director Michelle Murnane, AIA at mmurnane@aiaroc.org.



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Submission Form

Please fill out the information below, using separate sheets as necessary, and return this form and additional required information via email to AIA Rochester Executive Director Michelle Murnane, AIA at mmurnane@aiaroc.org by **August 22, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

Nominee Name (for notification of Award):

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Original Submission Date: _____

Status: Associate AIA Architect (AIA) Emeritus

Mentorship Involvement/Commitments: Summarize in 200 words or less.

Optional: Attach nominee business resume, nomination letter, and any letters of recommendation. A maximum of three (3) letters of recommendation, plus the nomination letter will be considered.

Nominated by _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

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