



## 2026 Women's Leadership Summit Advisory Group

The AIA Women's Leadership Summit (WLS) is an annual, signature event focused on women empowering women through leadership, knowledge, and community. WLS Advisors will provide recommendations on Summit professional development and educational programming, helping to ensure a well-rounded agenda that aligns with both audience needs and the overall conference goals. Advisors will also help foster a welcoming environment and provide on-site support as needed.

### **WLS Advisory Group structure**

The group of 8 WLS Advisors includes AIA members who are on the cutting edge of practice and can offer innovative content concepts for WLS. Two representatives from the host AIA chapter will bring local insights to content development and serve as advocates encouraging local member attendance.

### **Advisor responsibilities**

- Participation in 1-hour virtual meetings once per month from February 2026 – November 2026
- Serve as a jury member to assist in reviewing submissions from the call for proposals
- Dedicate up to 8 hours outside of regularly scheduled meetings during the call for proposal process to evaluate submissions
- Provide feedback on social and networking functions (i.e., dining experiences, wellness activities, happy hours) as necessary
- Utilize professional connections to recommend speakers and talent when appropriate
- Play a key role in creating an inclusive atmosphere and offering on-site assistance when necessary
- Attend WLS 2026
- Participate in a post-conference debrief and feedback session
- Serve as an ambassador for the event by promoting it through professional networks, social media platforms, and affiliations to boost awareness and attendance

### **Advisor qualifications**

- Must be a current member of AIA in good standing
- Understand AIA gender equity programs and services
- Familiarity with professional development planning or delivery
- Ability to manage unconscious bias in assessments and decisions
- Knowledge of gender equity and women's challenges in the architecture field
- Understanding of AIA and its leadership structure
- Commitment to aligning with organization-wide perspectives and strategic objectives
- Ability to collaborate effectively with a team and AIA staff
- Willingness and ability to travel to WLS

- Previous attendance at the Women’s Leadership Summit desired
- Successfully complete the *AIA Uncovering and Addressing Bias in the Awards Jury Process* training upon appointment.

**Term**

- One year commitment
- If an advisor misses three consecutive meetings or calls, WLS Liaisons and AIA staff may recommend a change in the advisor’s role

**Timeline**

- Advisor role begins in February through November 2026
- Attend WLS 2026 on [DATE TBD]
- Post-conference debrief session following the programs conclusion

**Benefits**

- Complimentary registration to WLS
- Exclusive recognition during the program and on the program website
- The ability to develop impactful programs that empower women, transform lives, and advance the industry

**Selection**

WLS Advisors will be selected through a collaborative process involving AIA staff and key AIA volunteer leaders, ensuring a diverse and balanced representation.

If you have any questions, please contact: Allison Read, Director, Leadership Programs  
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