



# AIA Committee Charter

*It is the practice of The American Institute of Architects and its members to comply strictly with all laws, including federal and state antitrust laws, that apply to AIA operations and activities. Accordingly, this meeting will be conducted in full compliance with those laws.*

<b>Committee Name</b>	National Honors and Awards Committee (NHAC)
<b>Charge</b>	To provide advice and guidance to the Board on initiatives bearing on the performance assessment, creation, dissolution, governance, and other such management of activities affecting AIA’s portfolio of national awards (Appendix A, Table 1: National Award Programs to be Overseen by the Proposed AIA National Honors & Awards Committee) to ensure individual awards and the portfolio are in alignment with AIA vision, mission, and values.
<b>General Responsibilities</b>	<p>The charge of the NHAC shall be translated into the following responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Provide recommendations to the AIA Board of Directors for the creation or elimination of programs in the portfolio;</li><li>- Provide recommendations to the AIA Board of Directors for creation and assessment of policy(s) impacting program audiences (e.g., applicants, jurors, recipients), including but not limited to items impacting award programs contained within the AIA Rules of the Board (Appendix B, Sections within the AIA Rules of the Board [ed. May 2025] Regarding Programs to be Overseen by the Proposed AIA National Honors &amp; Awards Committee);</li><li>- Develop and implement plans for the evaluation and assessment of program performance at regular intervals (e.g., every three years) to identify and implement program adjustments;</li><li>- Engage with community and constituent groups connected to award programs (e.g., Knowledge Communities, Committees, College of Fellows, member groups, etc.) to solicit and assess feedback on award programs;</li><li>- Create and disseminate educational and informational resources for program audiences (e.g., applicants, nominators, jurors, etc.) and the public;</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop and disseminate training materials, guidelines, and best practices for award advisory panels and individual award jurors;</li> <li>- Assume management of the annual operations of the AIA Jury Development Task Force, charged via the AIA Rules of the Board with creating a standing pool of qualified candidates to meet juror needs for each award season.</li> </ul>
<b>2026 Priorities</b>	<p>The chief priority of the NHAC in 2026 will be the identification and successful onboarding of its inaugural members and Vice-Chair.</p> <p>Once assembled, this body will assume and build upon works initiated by the 2024 and 2025 AIA Awards Task Forces, including items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluate and assess the performance and value of the Collaborative Achievement Award toward recommendations for program enhancement tactics or program sunseting;</li> <li>- Evaluate and assess the performance and value of the Edward C. Kemper Award toward recommendations for program enhancement tactics or program sunseting;</li> <li>- Assess and recommend procedures and format parameters to annually compete a Small Firm Award;</li> <li>- Continued engagement with awards stakeholder constituent groups and program audiences (e.g., applicants, jurors) to collect feedback on program performance;</li> <li>- Create and launch Honors and Awards resources and/or informational session(s) (e.g., component-level webinars, a session at the 2027 AIA Annual Meeting, etc.) for applicants;</li> <li>- Create and launch Honors and Awards resources and/or informational session(s) for award advisory panels and jurors.</li> </ul>
<b>Leadership</b>	<p>Chair - William J. Bates, FAIA, NOMA (2026, 2027)  Vice-Chair - Karen Lu, FAIA, NONA (2026)</p>
<b>Staff Liaison(s)</b>	<p>W. Taylor Monson, MA, Senior Manager, Award Programs  <a href="mailto:taylormonson@aia.org">taylormonson@aia.org</a></p>
<b>Composition</b>	<p>The NHAC shall be composed of nine (9) to twelve (12) members, inclusive of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Committee members will include at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One (1) Board liaison (e.g., Secretary or designee);</li> <li>- One (1) Strategic Council member;</li> <li>- At least one (1) Architect member is less than ten (10) years licensed;</li> <li>- At least one (1) Associate member;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least one (1) previous AIA national people-based award jury Chair;</li> <li>- At least one (1) previous AIA national project-based award jury Chair;</li> <li>- At least one (1) previous AIA Fellowship jury Chair;</li> </ul> <p>And individuals representing the wide array of AIA national award constituencies (e.g., Small Firms, College of Fellows, Knowledge Communities, Committees, and member groups, etc.) and AIA member demographic variables (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, veterans' status, geographic distribution, etc.) with the necessary skills and expertise as the President-Elect may deem appropriate.</p> <p>Additionally, one (1) returning NHAC member shall be annually designated as the committee Vice-Chair, and in so doing assume the role and responsibility(s) of leading and executing the annual AIA Jury Development Task Force. In absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair will support the functions of the Chair as necessary (e.g., facilitate meetings, calls and confirmation of voting items, etc.).</p>
<b>Term Length</b>	<p>To support continuity and overall effectiveness of its works, the terms of appointed members will be such that no more than a third of members are new each year and no more than a third are concluding their term each year. Terms of the remaining members shall be one (1) year, with the option for reappointment up to two (2) additional years, at the President's discretion.</p> <p>The Chair term shall consist of two (2) consecutive years.</p> <p>The Vice-Chair term shall consist of one (1) year.</p> <p>Terms start and end in conjunction with the last Board meeting of the calendar year.</p>
<b>Meeting Cadence/Time Commitment</b>	<p>The NHAC will hold from six (6) to eight (8) virtual business meetings annually for 60-90 minutes and one (1) meeting annually in person.</p> <p>To remain in good standing, committee members are expected to attend two-thirds of total annual meetings, to review materials in advance of meetings and participate during discussions, to remain responsive during peak activity intervals (e.g., resolution and launch of upcoming award season, etc.), to cast votes on committee initiatives, and participate in at least two (2) committee projects per year.</p>
<b>Appointment Process</b>	<p>The President-elect will appoint members to the Committee in conjunction with the annual AIA committee appointment process.</p>

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<b>Quorum</b>	A quorum of the committee is defined as a majority of the voting members present plus one (1).

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# Appendix A

**Table I:** AIA National Awards Overseen by the AIA National Honors & Awards Committee

<b>Award Program</b>
AIA/ACSA Topaz Medallion for Excellence in Architectural Education
AIA/ALA Library Building Award
Associates Award
Architecture Award (AIA Honor Awards for Architecture)
Architecture Firm Award
AIA Award for Excellence in Public Architecture
Collaborative Achievement Award (AIA Honor Awards for Collaborative Achievement)
COTE® Top Ten Award
Design for Aging Review Award
Education Facility Design Award
Edward C. Kemper Award
Fellowship
The Gold Medal
Healthcare Design Award
Honorary Fellowship
Honorary AIA Membership (Honorary Members)
Housing Award
Interior Architecture Award (AIA Honor Awards for Interior Architecture)
Justice Facility Award
Regional & Urban Design Award (AIA Honor Awards for Regional and Urban Design)
Small Project Award
Twenty-Five Year Award
Whitney M. Young Jr. Award
Young Architects Award