

NOMA

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF MINORITY ARCHITECTS | MAGAZINE, FALL 2024





**BUILDING ON
BELONGING**

NOMA **NCARB**

How to Find an Employer Who Supports Your Licensure Goals

Through NCARB and NOMA's joint *Building on Belonging* initiative, we have developed a guide to help you navigate firm culture while working toward your licensure goals.

The guide includes:

- The best questions to ask firms during the interview stage
- Tips to help you advocate for licensure support while working at a firm
- Pros and cons of working at different kinds of firms

Check out our full guide at www.ncarb.org/candidate-guide

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AND PROFILES

NOMA
MAGAZINE
FALL 2024

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PROJECT PIPELINE

Design Your Career With Us

To create equitable and inclusive places and spaces, we must strive to build a firm with people who represent the diversity and authenticity of the cities we reimagine.

Gensler + NOMA Sponsorship Program

The Gensler + NOMA Sponsorship Program aims to improve the education, recruitment, and advancement of historically underrepresented design professionals. Gensler actively supports team members' involvement and engagement with NOMA in various ways:

- Diamond Level Sponsorship of the annual NOMA conference
- Coverage of annual membership dues for active NOMA members within Gensler
- Gensler sponsorship & engagement of NOMA's annual HBCU Professional Development Program (PDP)
- Reserving 15% of our student summer internships for NOMAS members
- Empowering passionate team members to actively engage with their local NOMA chapters
- Learn more about Gensler's NOMA sponsorship at our booth!



Join us in our mission to create a better world through the power of design at [gensler.com/careers](https://www.gensler.com/careers).



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT FALL 2024



Welcome NOMA members and allied partners to Baltimore as we join together for the annual NOMA Conference, *the eXchange: Local Ideas. National Impact*. This gathering embodies the powerful idea that our voices are strongest when united. NOMA's leadership team is honored to welcome you, unified in our mission to diversify the architecture and design industry, eradicate the effects of racism, and increase the economic opportunities of BIPOC architects and designers. We extend our gratitude to the national conference planning team and the local Bmore NOMA chapter for their dedication and hard work in bringing this event to life.

These two years serving as your NOMA President have gone by quickly, and I feel fortunate to have been able to lead the organization through its continued growth, working side-by-side with many of you to

elevate our purpose. The 2024 conference theme emphasizes the need to collaborate, engage and dialogue in order to foster change in the industry, with Conference serving as a powerful opportunity to come together for these conversations. Now, unlike any other time, connection and dialogue matter. As an organization rooted in a rich legacy of activism, NOMA's mission is to empower our local chapters and membership to foster justice and equity in communities of color through outreach, community advocacy, professional development, and mentorship. Active participation is at the heart of this mission, and it fuels our organization. Our eXchanges in Baltimore will be filled with energy and enthusiasm as we celebrate the work of our peers, learn from leaders in the industry and are inspired by those doing the extraordinary.

Our leadership team prioritized extending our voices to influence our alliance partners, design organizations and beyond in support of increasing the visibility of the issues that matter to our members. We visited the campuses of the seven Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) with accredited architecture programs this fall alongside the National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB) to talk with students about the path to licensure and the resources available to them. We attended partner industry events hosted by the International Interior Design



Project Pipeline in New York City, August 2024.



TOP: T. Brown, P. Sablan, J. Cephas, N. Henderson, R. Belizaire, J. Pugh, J. Holland at NeoCon
 ABOVE: P. Sablan addressing students at Prairie View A&M University during HBCU tour.

Association, American Institute of Architects, and NCARB. We met with White House leadership to discuss continued partnership and support and to encourage access to our members for design needs around the country. Each connection and conversation leads to providing NOMA access and a voice in spaces where we previously were not.

#NOMASTANDUP AND VOTE

We are electing new NOMA officers for the 2025 Board of Directors this year in the categories of *President-Elect, West Regional Vice President, Midwest Regional Vice President, Northeast Regional Vice President* and *Treasurer*. NOMA has worked hard to make the responsibilities of each board role more clear and consistent. Over the past two years I've consistently asked "Who's Next?" We have some incredible candidates from across our entire membership stepping up to lead. In some of the positions we have multiple candidates for you to choose from! NOMA, it is your responsibility to vote for the next wave of NOMA leadership to support the Presidency of Bryan C. Lee Jr.,

which starts in 2025. The importance of voting can not be over emphasized!

One week after we return from the conference is the November 5th historic Presidential Election. The voter suppression tricks and tactics are being deployed, from disqualifying eligible voters to leaving candidates right off the ballot. We hope you've already registered to vote or requested an absentee ballot. Now is not the time to become complacent as voter suppression is real. That is not just exercising your civil liberties to vote but, in some instances, and in some states, it will require you to fight and defend those rights! In this election year, it means voting for the policies that support our mission. Our call to *eXchange* continues beyond our programs and our conference walls, extending to our need to engage through civic engagement by being good citizens and stewards of the places where we work and live. It means #NOMASTandUp in our communities by volunteering on boards, acting as election inspectors, running for local or higher office, or assisting in planning projects that help build better neighborhoods,

liveable communities, regional infrastructure and national programs that benefit all of us.

My last conference as your NOMA President, I will savor this conference appreciating the partners and members who walk these halls with us, knowing we are stronger together. I hope you will continue to #NOMASTandUp and take on a leadership role, mentor a young professional, share your wisdom and always be an advocate for the industry.

Be Revolutionary,

PASCALE SABLAN, FAIA, NOMA, LEED AP
 NOMA President 2023–2024
 CEO, New York Studio, Adjaye Associates
 Author, *Greatness: Diverse Designers of Architecture*
 AIA Whitney M. Young Jr. Award Recipient 2021
 AIA Equity and the Future of Architecture
 Committee Member

HDR

Ideas Transform Communities

HDR is proud to partner with NOMA as a sponsor of the 2024 Annual Conference and Barbara G. Laurie Student Design Competition. Visit us in the exhibit hall to learn how we're working with clients to discover what's possible.

hdrinc.com

Brendan Iribe Center for Computer Science and Engineering, College Park, MD

Adjaye Associates

See You at NOMA!

Anthony Winston III, P.E., P.Eng. and Senior Director of Engineering

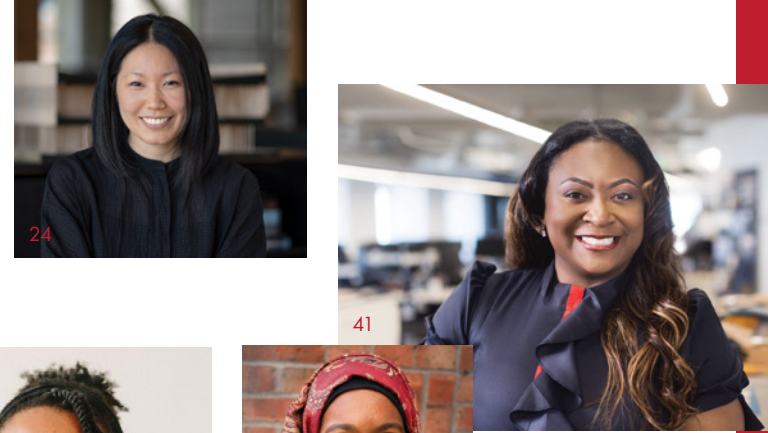
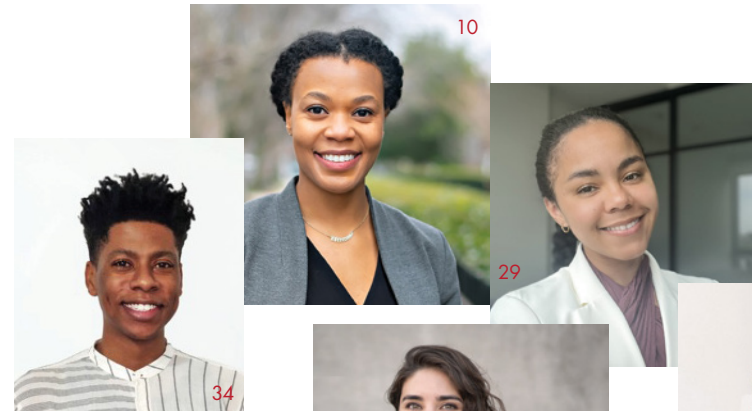
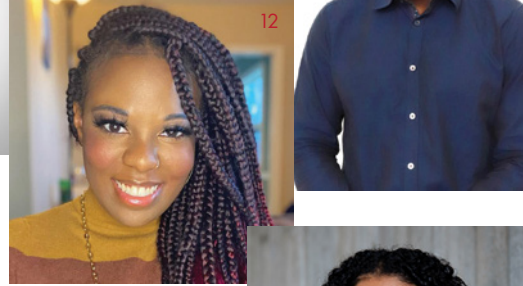
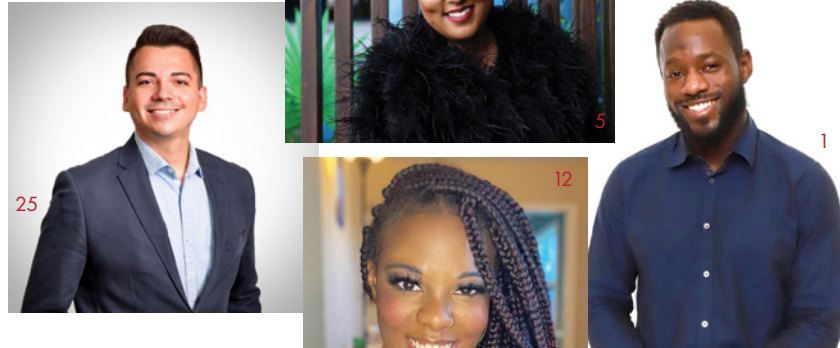
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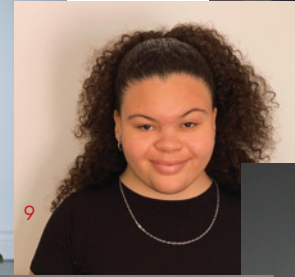
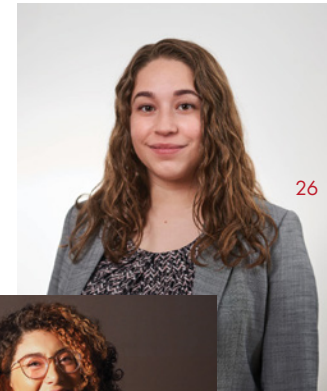
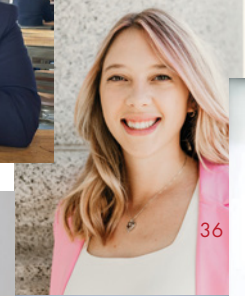
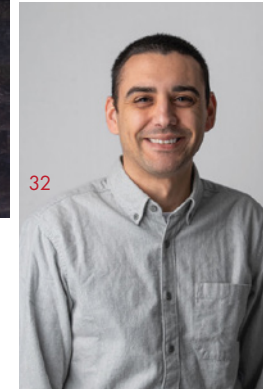
**NOMA CONGRATULATES
NEWLY LICENSED MEMBERS**



CONGRATULATIONS!

NOMA is honored to recognize the accomplishments of its members who achieved architecture licensure in 2023 and 2024. Conference attendees who have recently passed their ARE exams will be recognized at a pinning ceremony for their accomplishment.

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1 Dominick Abbott
TEXAS | 11 Brian Gore
VIRGINIA | 22 Musa Muhammed
ILLINOIS | 32 Zach Ross
KANSAS |
| 2 Bangseh Akuchu
GEORGIA | 12 Jade Heiler
MICHIGAN & ILLINOIS | 23 Jacob Murphy
COLORADO | 33 Daniela Tai
MARYLAND |
| 3 Nasreen Al-Tamimi
WASHINGTON | 13 Dyesha Holmes
GEORGIA | 24 Rio Namiki
WASHINGTON | 34 Darral Tate
GEORGIA |
| 4 Diego Bazzani
GEORGIA | 14 Ijeoma D. Iheancho
NEW YORK | 25 Cameron Nayman
ILLINOIS | 35 Brian Temple
MISSOURI |
| 5 Stacey Boynton
FLORIDA | 15 Isabella Joseph
NEW YORK | 26 Fontyne Evelina Pagán
OHIO | 36 Amy Tetreault-Nelson
UTAH |
| 6 Olga Bracamontes
ARIZONA | 16 Janey Madamba
CALIFORNIA | 27 Alexander Person III
COLORADO | 37 Samuel John Tibbs
OHIO |
| 7 Felicia Burton
ILLINOIS | 17 Jeremy Mano
TEXAS | 28 Kristin Pitts
GEORGIA | 38 Stephanie Vaz Ferreira
CALIFORNIA |
| 8 Ephraim Fields
LOUISIANA | 18 Jasmine McNeil
WASHINGTON | 29 Carleigh Pope
WASHINGTON DC | 39 Julia Weatherspoon
CALIFORNIA |
| 9 Kanisha Fowell
FLORIDA | 19 Alyssa Mitchell
WASHINGTON | 30 Courtney Prentiss
MASSACHUSETTS | 40 Montel Wells
OHIO |
| 10 Alanna Gladney
VIRGINIA | 20 Jamar Moore
MARYLAND | 31 Malachi Pursley
NEW YORK | 41 Charisma Williams
COLORADO |
| | 21 Stephanie Morales
OREGON | | |





FEATURE STORY

WOMEN LEADERS

Being Revolutionary

Edited by Amber LaCroix



Women today make up 29 percent of all C-suite positions, with women of color representing only 7 percent of these roles, according to the

Women in the Workplace report conducted by McKinsey & Company in partnership with LeanIn.org. Women remain underrepresented across all levels of the corporate pipeline, which makes this a historic time for minority female leadership in the United States. For the first time in U.S. history, a Black and Asian-American woman—U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris—is the Democratic nominee for U.S. President. In our own industry, former NOMA President Kimberly Dowdell, AIA, NOMAC, LEED AP served as the AIA's first Black female and millennial president. Elected minority women are leading at allied

industry organizations including Arquitectos; American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA); American Planning Association (APA); American Indian Council of Architects and Engineers (AICAE); International Interior Designers of America (IIDA); and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

We honor the diverse women who are leading during this historical moment, but also acknowledge the challenges that being the first or only can bring. Serving as NOMA's 5th female president, **Pascale Sablan**, NOMA, FAIA, LEED AP, 2023–2024 NOMA President, asked our sister leaders in these associations about their experience.

We need leaders who believe in the power of others as leaders and see the hard work where some may not. We are all better when more women are at the table and leading projects that impact our communities. Thank you to the women leaders leading the way.

Participants

PICTURED OPPOSITE, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT AND TOP TO BOTTOM

Tamarah Begay, AIA, NCARB, AICAE, CDT, LEED AP BD+C

*Indigenous Design Studio + Architecture, CEO/Principal-in-Charge
American Indian Council of Architects + Engineers (AICAE) President*

Ronnie Belizaire, FIIDA, RID

*HKS, Inc., Studio Practice Leader and Principal
International Interior Designers of America (IIDA) Immediate Past-President*

Angela D. Brooks, FAICP

*Corporation for Supportive Housing, Illinois Director
American Planning Association President*

Kimberly Dowdell, AIA, NOMAC, LEED AP

*HOK, Principal
American Institute of Architects President & Cornell University Trustee*

Anyeley Hallová

*Adre, Founder
United States Green Building Council (USGBC) Board Chair
Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) Chair*

SuLin Kotowicz, PLA, FASLA

*VIRIDIS Design Group Senior Landscape Architect
American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) President*

Taylor K. Scott

*National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) National Chair
University of Cincinnati, M.S. Cosmetic Science (in progress)
University of Michigan, B.S. Chemical Engineering*

Maria José Tasada, AIA, NCARB

*Gensler Associate and Technical Director
Arquitectos INC President
Chicago Women in Architecture Vice President*

MODERATOR

Pascale Sablan, FAIA, NOMA, LEED AP

*NOMA President 2023–2024
Chief Executive Officer, New York Studio, Adjaye Associates*

PASCAL SABLAN: It's been an impressive year for women in leadership in our industry. What has been most the surprising part of your journey to, or in, leadership?

TAMARAH BEGAY: The most surprising part of my journey has been about celebrating women in leadership roles. It's time for us to reflect on the importance of having a very diverse, a very collaborative approach in leadership, and that's what happens when we have women in leadership in all backgrounds, from being Indigenous to Hispanic, roles that people can see and encourage others to be in those roles in the future.

ANGELA D. BROOKS: There are things that come with national leadership in these types of organizations only others who have served will understand. Having other dynamic Black women in my rolodex to call or text is invaluable. As I look back, nothing suggested that EVER in my life I would serve in this position. The lesson I learned as a leader is you have to constantly be looking to identify future leaders, some of whom the idea of leadership won't even cross their minds. We must open people's eyes to the possibilities.

KIMBERLY DOWDELL: I had not set a goal of becoming AIA President before I was encouraged to run in 2021. I completed my two-year term as NOMA President and I was honestly looking forward to taking some time to focus on my personal life. It became clear that I had some unfinished business in the realm of organizational leadership, and specifically through AIA, which had not ever elected a Black woman as president. I accepted the challenge of running for this position in 2022 because I firmly believe that representation matters. If we want to see more Black women enter this profession, then we need to see more Black women in the highest levels of leadership. Beyond representation, I have a proven track record of impactful leadership spanning three decades of experience. I have been most surprised by the level of scrutiny that I have encountered compared to my predecessors this year.

PASCAL SABLAN: As a woman in leadership, what have you lost or had to give up in order to be in this position? What have you gained?

ANGELA D. BROOKS: Time is the biggest challenge. Early in my term I had to evaluate what I could offload for my two-year term. I am very involved in my Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, grad chapter, my Links chapter and Jackson State

University alumni chapter. I learned quickly that those would have to take a backseat. Not to mention balancing my career and caregiving for my father in another state. My gains are great. I have traveled near and far connecting with planners throughout the world. I have co-chaired APA's Housing Supply Accelerator to come up with solutions to increase housing supply, and I have been stretched out of my comfort zone and had to play an extrovert more than I would ever pick.

KIMBERLY DOWDELL: Time management is probably my biggest challenge. I set ambitious goals personally and professionally, which requires a significant amount of time and effort to achieve. As a woman of color, there are also extra layers of responsibility and demands on my time. At different times, I have been involved with groups for women, people of color, women of color, and for everyone. Managing these many commitments alongside my core responsibilities can be difficult. I'm still working on finding the right balance. Prioritizing my health and well-being is essential amidst these competing commitments and is an area that needs greater attention. While I have lost the opportunity to spend time with loved ones over the course of my term in office, I have also met many incredible people all across the globe this year. It has been said that growth and comfort rarely coexist. This position has offered me so much growth.

SULIN KOTOWICZ: Being a volunteer leader takes a lot of time and focus. Since there's only 24 hours in each day, sacrifices had to be made in every other aspect of my life. My focus was predominantly external. When your purpose is to serve your members, work, other volunteer efforts, family time and self-care end up being lower priorities. Throughout my year as ASLA President, I gained a vastly expanded professional network, both domestic and international. I've gained and developed new skills. I have a bigger world view and a better understanding of how landscape architects practice in different parts of the country and the world. I've had a platform in which I've been able to highlight and amplify our members. I'm a better person for this opportunity and hope I've left ASLA a little better than when I began.

MARÍA JOSÉ TASADA: As a woman in leadership, I've often had to balance personal and professional goals. Sometimes, I felt like I was sacrificing personal growth for career advancement. However, I've also gained

“My legacy is not about breaking records, but rather about recording breakthroughs and fostering the confidence in others to do the same.”

KIMBERLY DOWDELL

invaluable experiences and opportunities that have shaped me into the leader I am today. Moving to a new country and immersing myself in a different culture requires immense courage and adaptability. While putting personal goals on hold is challenging, my dedication and hard work have paid off. Finding a supportive workplace like Gensler and mentors who believed in me was key to my success. Remember, there is always time to pursue personal goals. I feel my journey is a testament to the resilience and determination of women in leadership.

PASCALE SABLAN: What are the leadership qualities that women uniquely bring to organizational leadership?

TAMARAH BEGAY: I think being open and being able to see all aspects of collaboration. Women need to be able to think in a way that incorporates other leadership qualities, as well as uniquely modify the way they strategically think. Women in leadership have to have thick skin because they often get looked down on. It's also important that women bring something unique to leadership roles.

Ronnie Belizaire: I believe women bring a certain empathy to leadership that allows them to better connect to the individuals that they are leading. The connection born out of empathetic leadership allows those being led to feel seen, heard, and understood which ultimately builds trust and makes them want to follow their women leaders into the depths of the unknown because they know that their women leader will protect them and their wellbeing along the way.

ANYELEY HALLOVÁ: I believe we've only experienced the tip of the iceberg when it comes to fully realizing the potential for women's organizational leadership. Traditionally, women have had to conform to systems that were neither created for us nor had women in mind. Yet, because we were never included within the rigid, boxed

thinking of traditional organizations, perhaps women can more easily think “outside the box.” It's only by having more women in leadership positions with adequate power, authority, agency, and support that we'll see structural changes and reimagined industries that reflect more inclusivity and creativity. This is evidenced by the outstanding level of building innovation led by women in the Women of Carbon documentary. Getting there requires innovation, teamwork, and collaboration which offers societal benefits and addresses our most pressing challenges such as climate change, seismic resiliency, housing shortage, and inequality.

MARÍA JOSÉ TASADA: Women leaders rock! They bring a unique mix of empathy, teamwork, and resilience to the table. Their ability to connect with people on a personal level fosters strong relationships and a supportive work environment. I've witnessed this firsthand in inspiring female leaders who've made a huge impact. Their leadership style is a perfect blend of compassion, collaboration, and strength.

PASCALE SABLAN: It's a constant challenge to balance excellence with the understanding that mistakes are part of growth. As women in leadership, do you feel like you are given the grace to be leaders who are growing?

TAMARAH BEGAY: The general public is very hard and critical of women. You have to let people make mistakes in order to grow, to be who you are now. We have to understand that it's okay to be thought of differently. As we make mistakes, we have to acknowledge that internally. Give yourself the opportunity to feel it and understand it and grow from it. No matter what people say, we are going to make mistakes.

RONNIE BELIZAIRE: I'm currently in a position where I am surrounded by other women leaders who recognize the need to support one another through our professional

journeys and give grace where needed for all the balls we juggle in life. That has not always been the case. I've experienced unfair expectations and unconscious biases related to the notion of my being a “strong black woman” who is tough as nails and is not deserving of softness and being protected in the workplace and through my professional growth journey. It wasn't easy for me to learn how to navigate my strength all while being vulnerable enough to share that life isn't always kind and that I sometimes need my “soft pause” in order to recuperate and give myself grace in my professional development journey.

ANYELEY HALLOVÁ: Real estate development requires lots of upfront and ongoing risk. We have to manage and account for unpredictable changes in politics, regulations, and financing—things beyond our control while owning a business and raising investment capital. There are many high-profile examples of white, male founders raising immense amounts of capital, losing the capital due to unforeseen market factors, and then being given more funding for their next venture. But we don't see this latitude given to women or people of color. We're not given the same space to make these inevitable mistakes or the privilege of being entrusted with the same confidence by funders. I'm one of the less than 1 percent Black developers in the U.S., and I haven't experienced that grace. Instead, I feel a greater pressure to excel in everything I do, which is an unfortunate reality.

MARÍA JOSÉ TASADA: As women in leadership, we often face unique challenges, including the pressure to be perfect and the fear of making mistakes. While striving for excellence is important, it's equally crucial to acknowledge that mistakes are a natural part of growth. I believe that we should be given the grace to learn and evolve as leaders. By embracing our imperfections and using them as opportunities for growth, we can become stronger, more resilient, and ultimately more effective leaders. It's essential to create a supportive environment where mistakes are seen as learning experiences rather than failures.

PASCALE SABLAN: What do you wish other non-minority women or men understood about the importance of this moment or your leadership?

TAMARAH BEGAY: In this time, non-minority women and men look at you based on your looks, if you're too short, too tall, too thin, too wide, if your color is not right. We

are discriminated against because we are not the ideal figure in this world. Leaders come from all walks of life. A leader can also be a child. I would hope that everyone understood the importance of having diversity in leadership to be able to move forward. We bring our cultural and personal backgrounds that should be welcomed and embraced.

KIMBERLY DOWDELL: I would want people who come from different backgrounds than myself to understand that the celebration of this AIA milestone—being the first Black woman and Millennial President—is not at all about devaluing the contributions of others. Rather, this is about acknowledging that there are segments of our population that are rarely valued and empowered appropriately in certain spaces. By giving voice and visibility to the historically undervalued, we ultimately empower everyone. This moment in my leadership journey is not about me at all, actually. I represent something far beyond Kimberly Dowdell. I represent those who have not had a seat at the table. My job right now is to set the table for those coming after me. I knew that this was not going to be an easy year, and that has proven to be true. I also knew that it was time to demonstrate that we have the capacity for so much more than we are given credit for by the majority. That is partly why my slogan for AIA this year was #MoreIn24.

TAYLOR K. SCOTT: The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) was founded in 1975 by the Chicago Six. NSBE, originally created to help Black engineering students matriculate through engineering programs, now also encompasses pre-collegiate academic excellence, professional success, and positive impacts on our local and at-large communities. In an industry where Black women constitute less than 5 percent of the talent, it is important to note that an organization founded by all men is now led by all women. Our organization is a testament to the benefit of investing in marginalized groups. NSBE is the epicenter for Black STEM talent, and our ability to expand offerings for our stakeholders amid anti-DEI efforts stamps our fortitude now and beyond.

MARÍA JOSÉ TASADA: I wish others understood the unique challenges and opportunities that minority women face in leadership. While we share many experiences with our non-minority counterparts, we often navigate additional barriers related to race, gender, and stereotypes. It's important

to recognize that our leadership is not just about individual achievement but also about breaking down barriers and paving the way for future generations. By supporting and amplifying the voices of minority women leaders, we can create a more equitable and inclusive workplace for all.

PASCALE SABLAN: What legacy do you hope you can leave behind or what is the one thing you hope you can change during your time in office?

TAMARAH BEGAY: The legacy I would like to leave behind is that women can be leaders no matter our shapes or colors, children or non-children, family or non-family. We should be judged by true commitment to our profession. That tends to be overlooked. People are very judgmental and start bringing

“By supporting and amplifying the voices of minority women leaders, we can create a more equitable and inclusive workplace for all.” **MARÍA JOSÉ TASADA**

in issues that have no relevance to the job. You're doing a good job and trying to make a difference. I want to inspire women and minorities so that those types of people can dream and do it no matter where you are from.

RONNIE BELIZAIRE: I hope that my legacy in any professional space I find myself in is that I am seen as a leader who inspires, grows and (most importantly) cares about my people. I want people who are led by me to remember how I made them feel while working with me.

TAYLOR K. SCOTT: As NSBE celebrates its 50th year, my legacy is creating the framework to steer the organization forward. I inherited a strategic plan that's success hinged on the buy-in and execution of chapters and members. Building off the momentum of our anniversary, I will revitalize our stakeholders to take up the mantle of propelling the new strategic plan to fruition. The key objective of this strategic plan is to make NSBE more adroit to match the rapid changes of the world and, thus, the needs of our membership.

ANYELEY HALLOVÁ: I hope my legacy is one of opened doors and forged avenues – fueled by the opportunities I had to fight for, discover, or create for myself: While studying at Cornell, MIT, and Harvard, I helped increase minority enrollment and visibility for Black high schools in admissions. I've also worked to introduce the built environment to youth of color, evidenced by my recently published book, *A Kids Book about Real Estate Development*, which demystifies the industry for kids and their grownups. As United States Green Building Council Board Chair, I hope to foster a more inclusive organization and expand green building benefits to Black, Indigenous and People of color, and low-income communities. As LCDC Commission Chair, I hope to create equitable outcomes in land use policies for all Oregonians, especially for the historically disadvantaged.

SULIN KOTOWITZ: As the American Society of Landscape Architecture's first woman of color to serve as President, I am thrilled that we can now say our 125-year-old organization's members value diversity and representation in our leadership. I proudly represented the profession of landscape architecture on a domestic and global stage. In a conversation with a member earlier this year, we discussed the concept that kids can't be what they can't see. Youth from statistically underrepresented communities may not see themselves in leadership, STEM professions, in the construction industry or in the landscape architecture profession. By being the face of the profession this year, breaking glass ceilings, it is my hope that we can grow equality in our A/E industry, continuing to break barriers for women, people of color and LGBTQ+ people in pursuit of a bright future.

KIMBERLY DOWDELL: My legacy is about helping people envision new possibilities for themselves and for others. I want people to see a version of themselves in me and feel empowered to go after that thing they are unsure of. I wanted people in positions of authority to see me excel in this position so that they might hesitate less when the next woman or person of color is being considered for an opportunity. I wanted young people to envision themselves pursuing roles that they feel like they may need more time to prepare for. I was encouraged to run for NOMA President when I was 33 years old. Five years later, I ran for AIA President. My legacy is not about breaking records, but rather about recording breakthroughs and fostering the confidence in others to do the same.

35 WORDS

Architecture as Revolution

President Pascale Sablan has asked NOMA members to stand up and be revolutionary in order to advance NOMA’s mission. What would it look like if architecture was revolutionary? How are you proud of architecture’s ability to make change?



“Being revolutionary involves stepping out of our comfort zones and taking on more projects of impact that foster equity and elevate people, letting go of design dictatorship and channeling other often ignored voices in the design process.”

Wale Falade, AIA, NOMA

PRINCIPAL LOCUS ARCHITECTURE, FOUNDER FIFAN DESIGN+ARCHITECTURE, MSP NOMA PRESIDENT

Minneapolis, Minnesota



“Architecture or revolution,’ Le Corbusier famously stated. There is so much inequality and architecture is implicated in these injustices. We architects need to act. Who gets access to what and how is the basic question that we should all be asking.”

Eman Siddiqui, AIA, NOMA

GSBS ARCHITECTS, ARCHITECT
NOMA UTAH FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Salt Lake City, Utah



“Architecture is revolutionary when it impacts an individual or the wider community or makes a nation proud. Architecture affects all seven senses: the visual, the auditory, the gustatory, the olfactory, the vestibular, the proprioceptive, and the tactile.”

Kenneth Johnson, Esq., MCP, AIA, NCARB, NOMA

ARCHITECTURE, URBAN DESIGN, AND POLICY LLC OWNER/
MANAGER, PHILANOMA PRESIDENT

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



“Revolutionary architecture would tear down barriers, demanding radical inclusivity and equity. It would design spaces that dismantle inequality, empower marginalized communities, and ensure that every structure serves as a beacon of justice, humanity, and belonging.”

B. Karina Ruiz, AIA, NOMA, LEED AP

BRIC ARCHITECTURE, INC. PRINCIPAL
NOMA PDX BOARD PRESIDENT

Portland, Oregon



“Being revolutionary in architecture challenges norms that prioritize human and environmental well-being. I’m proud of our profession’s ability to inspire social change, create inclusive spaces, and address urgent global challenges.”

Joshua Cato, M. RUD, Assoc. AIA, NOMAS, AIAS

NOMA NATIONAL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE,
DCNOMA STUDENT MEMBER & UDC NOMAS
CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Washington, D.C.



Role of Connection

The 2024 NOMA Conference theme, **The Exchange**, is focused on the sharing of ideas, partnerships and collaborations to grow communities and make connections. What are you looking forward to collaborating on or exchanging with this year?



“As local board members, we often focus on our chapter’s needs, unaware that other chapters may face similar challenges. Sharing resources and ideas across NOMA chapters can reduce duplicated efforts and strengthen our collective impact. Let’s collaborate effectively.”

Sally Plunkett, Assoc. AIA, NOMA

HORD COPLAN MACHT
DESIGNER, BMORE NOMA
VICE PRESIDENT, AND NOMA
2024 CONFERENCE CHAIR

Baltimore, Maryland



“I’m excited to share insights on the built environment at the Exchange and learn from trailblazers who’ve broken barriers for minority architects. Their wisdom, combined with innovative ideas, will be an invaluable resource for my growth and practice.”

Alethea Ganaway, NOMA

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
PROGRAM MANAGER, ENGINEERING,
NOMACLE PRESIDENT

Cleveland, Ohio

“I’m excited to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and be inspired by a community of diverse design professionals. Together, we’ll address systemic injustices, honor differences, and practice architecture with dignity, respect, and a truly revolutionary impact.”

Jakiel Sanders, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

CORGAN PROJECT ARCHITECT; NOMATLANTA MEMBER;
ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION OF GEORGIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
VICE CHAIR; NCARB EXAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

Atlanta, Georgia



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



QUESTIONS WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tiffany Brown, MBA, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, became NOMA's Executive Director in 2021. Serving NOMA in the position for two and a half years, Tiffany knows one thing to be true—NOMA members exude the passion and resilience to move mountains, which is exactly what is needed to fulfill NOMA's purpose. We sat down with her to get an update on the mission.



Board of Directors at NOMA Q3 Board Meeting hosted by the NOMA Cleveland Chapter at Moody Nolan Design in Cleveland, Ohio, August 2024.

It's been quite a year! NOMA achieved its highest membership goals yet, launched new partnerships, held a meeting at the White House on behalf of NOMA members. With so many milestones, what are you most proud of this year?

As an organization that is over 50 years old, we remain true to our mission to bring equity to the profession. As membership grew, more women and fellow minorities found a home with NOMA. We are committed to evolving inclusively, expanding membership for professional members, and supporting the pipeline for emerging professionals. We are also excited to soon unveil the next version of jobs.noma.net, which will reflect the diverse talent of our membership base and provide endless career opportunities.

With the help of our board, we have completed a new strategic plan based on member feedback, which will help us stay

focused on our mission and prioritize programs that benefit both professional members and emerging professionals. In alignment with our strategic plan's emphasis on educational resources, we restructured our licensure training partnership with Black Spectacles in support of the 2030 Challenge. The challenge aims to double the number of licensed African American architects by 2030. We also created the NOMA Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) Scholarship to recognize NOMA's Associates and Emerging Professionals and provide financial assistance for them to complete their architectural licensure examinations. To foster mentorship, we created an ARE AXP member community and encourage members to use the platform to ask questions and get advice on their path to licensure. We want to continue to enhance mentorship opportunities, a core value of NOMA. To find out more about NOMA's services to support

licensure, visit noma.net/licensure.

I began as interim executive manager in 2020, accepting the full-time role of executive director in January 2021 as NOMA's first employee. Since then, it has been my goal to implement and enhance infrastructure within the organization, make membership more beneficial to our members, provide resources and access to the industry, and build relationships with other organizations that shape the profession. I am most proud to see the fruits of those efforts unfold successfully this year.

The NOMA board has worked much more closely together over the past few years. What did leadership learn from the process? What will NOMA members most gain from the plan?

I am extremely proud of the work we have done as a board. One of the greatest strengths of NOMA's leadership is that many of our board members have previously served in chapter and regional roles before joining the national board. This experience gives them a deep understanding of the hard work and dedication of our members, and they truly value that commitment. Leadership comes from the people in the room. We went through board training and created new board position descriptions which outlined expected roles and responsibilities for national leadership roles. Everyone comes to the board with energy and heart, but we have to make sure that core business comes first.

We brought in experts on fundraising and governance to help us become more efficient. Our current and incoming presidents now attend the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) CEO Symposiums with me to define annual priorities and determine how to work better together. We attended ASAE's Exceptional Boards training together to also help them feel confident in their ability to lead and ask more of our leadership to support them. The result is a common understanding and commitment to the key components of successful governance, strategy, and organization.

The professionalism and continuity fostered by these initiatives have significantly improved our ability to recruit new board members. Where we previously had to actively seek out board candidates, we now see multiple high-quality candidates expressing interest in joining us. This is a testament to the strength of our organization and the value of our leadership.

We have also greatly benefited from President Pascale Sablan's leadership. Her operations experience, new role as a CEO, and her laser-sharp focus have been instrumental in strengthening our board. Thanks to her dedication and vision, we are a more robust and effective organization.

As we gather in Baltimore, what do you look forward to at the conference and what do you hope NOMA members, allied partners, and friends will take away from this conference?

I look forward to NOMA's conference every year - a new theme, new and renewed partnerships, impressive content and catching up with lifelong and new friends. We are always looking for ways to present an interdisciplinary experience across the design field, as well as cultivate connections and talent, with our emerging chapters and increased membership with similar interests and aspirations. Most have heard me say finding NOMA was like finding Wakanda. I love looking out into a sea of professionals who look like me at our awards banquet and other signature events.

The conference itself has grown every year, which brings new challenges such as finding the right spaces, partners and systems that can fit our needs. My focus has been to be proactive in planning ahead, and I'm pleased to announce that we have already secured the host hotel and event venues for NOMA 2025.

In keeping with NOMA's tradition, the local chapter will reveal their city at the conference. While I won't spoil the surprise, I'm elated to share that the dates for next year's conference are October 8–12, 2025. Save the date!

NOMA remains neutral in Presidential elections, however, the nomination of Vice President Kamala Harris is historic as the first Black and Indian female presidential candidate. What are you hopeful about for the next year?

I've been in the industry for about 20 years, and I've never seen as many minority and Black women in leadership roles as I do today. I give NOMA credit for cultivating and trusting Black women in leadership early on. In the rest of the industry and world, it's still a struggle.

It's been an honor to serve alongside NOMA President Pascale Sablan, as we watched former NOMA President Kimberly

Dowdell become the first Black female president of AIA. We have seen these first across allied associations including the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and American Planning Association. We know we are stronger together and have made a concerted effort to reach across aisles and create or strengthen partnerships.

Beyond elected leadership, I am also thankful for the seasoned support of IIDA Executive Director Cheryl Durst and several other executives who stood up as a mentor to me when I was named NOMA Executive Director, and for the continued support and friendship of AIA Executive Director Lakisha Woods who brought me into the fold of ASAE while she was their Board Chair. Women in leadership, and particularly



Black women, share a unique sisterhood. We understand firsthand what it means to be entrusted with organizational leadership while often facing skepticism about our decisions. NOMA remains a vital source of support, helping us to grow as leaders and designers.

As for the Presidential election, I can't help but acknowledge this moment in history! Seeing Madam Vice President Kamala Harris' name on the ballot as a presidential candidate is something I wasn't sure I'd see in my lifetime. Not only is she my sorority sister (shoutout to the illustrious sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.), but she is an inspiration to grade-school Tiffany who never imagined the opportunity to vote for someone like her, someone like me, would be possible. By next year, the moment will have passed, but for now, I want to take it in. I will continue to be hopeful and find joy in the moments presented to us.

NOMAS CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

NOMAS 2023 CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY



NOMA PROFESSIONAL CHAPTERS SPOTLIGHT

NOMAS chapters have continued to grow across the country, seeing a seven percent increase since last year, now with 125 NOMAS chapters across the country. This growth trend is following a broader interest in the study of architecture and design as more Generation Z, also called Zoomers, enter into higher education. While Gen Z is attending colleges at lower rates than prior generations, more Gen Z students are enrolling in architecture and design programs, according to the Universities and Colleges Admissions Services.

The interest in the profession creates a continued opportunity through NOMAS to reach young BIPOC students as they begin their journey to licensure, fostering an environment of learning and mentorship to help advance their careers. The organization applauds all NOMAS chapters for their commitment to grow as young professionals, and NOMA will continue to provide the support and resources to grow the pipeline.

Welcome New 2024 NOMAS Chapters

- MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN
- FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY (*Reinstated*)
- UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AUSTIN
- TEXAS TECH
- DREXEL UNIVERSITY
- PASADENA CITY COLLEGE

TOP: Receiving NOMAS Chapter of the Year in Portland. BOTTOM: NOMAS UDM members created "Did you know?" installation of statistics during Black History Month, 2023, to acknowledge and bring awareness to disparities Black people face in the design field.

The University of Detroit Mercy NOMAS chapter (NOMAS UDM) was awarded the 2023 NOMAS Chapter of the Year. With 40 local members and a commitment to recruitment, the chapter has focused on growing its awareness with the Detroit architecture community, including NOMA Detroit, NOMAS LTU, and local AIAS Chapters. The NOMAS University of Detroit Mercy chapter managed several professional events that drove member engagement and fostered professional opportunities, such as multiple portfolio and resume workshops, tours of 10 Detroit-area firms, including nontraditional firms that focus on various design process aspects, and professional headshot workshops, giving away 25 free headshots to student members. To celebrate Black History Month, the chapter organized a lecture series focused on architects, designers and professionals who contributed to the industry, allowing students to develop relationships with local professionals, and created posters with statistics on BIPOC architects.

As a student, social events are important to create community. NOMAS UDM organized a variety of social activities, including back-to-school barbeque and the Masquerade Ball. The chapter worked hard to resurrect school events that had stopped during covid, including Tape the Dean and Pie the President fundraisers, which garnered attention across campus. They also partnered with NOMA Detroit on a mixer in support of Love NOMA Day.

Attending NOMA Conference as a NOMAS chapter and participating in the Barbara G. Laurie Student Design Competition was a highlight for many of their members. And NOMAS UDM looks forward to continuing to attend and represent Detroit Mercy at the conference moving forward.



"Being a member of NOMAS has deepened my connection with my peers as well as my connection with architecture. What sets us apart from other NOMAS chapters is our desire for collaboration, growth, and spreading the message of acknowledgment and inclusivity. We left our mark on the school and Detroit, and hope to leave it on the region and country."

Hadassah Monky
NOMAS UDM President, 2023

NOMA is excited to highlight the exceptional contributions of its local chapters, which are essential to the organization's growth and impact. As the network of NOMA chapters expands, more

BIPOC architects and designers are becoming engaged, benefiting from and contributing to the organization's mission.

The dedication of local chapters is evident through their efforts to uplift professional members and inspire emerging professionals in architecture and design. Each year, in conjunction with the national conference, NOMA honors a large chapter (with 51 members or more) and a small chapter (with 50 members or fewer) for their outstanding achievements.

This year, we are proud to recognize NOMA South Florida (**SoFlo NOMA**) and NOMA of Central Texas (**NOMA CenTex**) for their exceptional programming and significant impact on their communities. Their dedication and hard work exemplify the spirit of NOMA and its commitment to advancing the field of architecture and design. Congratulations to both chapters for their remarkable accomplishments!



NOMA 2023 CHAPTER OF THE YEAR Large Chapter

SOFLONOMA

NOMA chapters thrive because they are built on the foundation of their members—individuals who come together as a family to learn, support, and uplift one another. SoFloNOMA in Southern Florida exemplifies this sense of community. The chapter, relaunched in 2019, has seen its membership grow as it remains committed to fostering justice and equity in communities of color through outreach, community advocacy, professional development, and design justice.

SoFloNOMA President **Stacey Boynton**, NOMA, NCARB, Assoc. AIA, is immensely proud of the chapter's achievements. To guide the chapter's goals for 2024, the executive team introduced an easy-to-remember acronym—**SMILE more in 2024:**

- S STRONGER** CONNECTIONS TO OUR STUDENT CHAPTERS
- M MORE** EFFORTS TO GET US LICENSED
- I INCREASE** MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT
- L LATINE** — INCREASE OUR LATINE MEMBERSHIP
- E ESTABLISH** ORDER TO ENSURE OUR CHAPTER LEGACY

"Team work makes the Dream work," says Boynton. "Our chapter has grown in a positive way since its relaunch in 2019 and this would not be possible without the members in leadership that share the same passion to do great things."

SoFloNOMA members are deeply engaged in their surrounding community, from educational outreach to advocacy. They understand the power of collaboration and how working with partners and affiliated organizations can amplify their impact and create new opportunities.

Key Initiatives of SoFloNOMA

Education and Outreach

The chapter engages in educational initiatives to highlight opportunities in architecture by collaborating with organizations such as Black Architects in the Making (BAM), the Boys & Girls Club of Broward, the Urban League of Broward, and Florida A&M University (FAMU). Members participate in Career Days, STEM nights, and serve as volunteers and mentors.

Growth in Project Pipeline

In its third year, the chapter's Project Pipeline summer camp saw significant growth in volunteer and camper participation. While few students say they have met an architect, by the end of the camp, all students have had that experience. This four-day camp is a rewarding experience for both the campers and the volunteers.

Continues on next page >>>

Community Affairs and Advocacy

The chapter supports legislative actions aligned with NOMA's goals and engages FAMU students through BAM to emphasize the importance of advocacy. They work with AIA Miami's Advocacy Committee, fundraise for the Florida Architects Political Action Committee, participate in Capitol legislative days, and support the Dade Heritage Trust.

Drive Awareness of Minority Architects

SoFloNOMA is proactive in increasing visibility and awareness of minority architects within the local community. Key initiatives include Women's History Month Trivia night and 'By the Numbers', Black History Month

statistics and social media campaign, Say it Loud Florida Exhibition and DEI panels, AAPI Month statistics and 'Architects you should Know.' SoFloNOMA prioritizes visits to local large firms, such as Perkins&Will and Gensler Miami, to grow the chapter's local relationships. The chapter supports emerging professionals through scholarships for ARE test takers and students, providing up to \$5,000 annually.

Professional Development and Networking

The chapter values professional development and networking. They collaborate with organizations such as AIA Miami, AIA Fort Lauderdale and IIDA, with many members

serving on boards and committees. The chapter established Practice Excellence events, an opportunity for members to lead business sessions that provide beneficial skills valuable to designers and architects, including *The Architect as a Developer* and *A Conversation on Mindset*.

Networking events include pickleball clinic fundraisers which support NOMAS students attending conference, and industry mixers and wellness events, such as cycling classes

SoFloNOMA's commitment to these initiatives highlights their ongoing dedication to creating a meaningful impact in their community and the field of architecture.

NOMA 2023 CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Small Chapter

NOMA OF CENTRAL TEXAS

In 2020, NOMA of Central Texas was established to address the needs of Architects and Designers in San Antonio and Austin, two rapidly growing Texas cities that lacked a professional NOMA chapter. The chapter was founded with a mission to uphold the legacy of NOMA's founding members by enhancing visibility, support, and solidarity for under-represented people in architecture and beyond.

Under the leadership of **Gregory Street**, RA, NOMA, NCARB, the chapter was created during a period of heightened social awareness. Street, who was also a student leader with the NOMAS chapter while studying at the University of Texas School of Architecture, collaborated with a multi-disciplinary steering committee of diverse professionals and students from all across the Central Texas Region. Today, NOMA of Central Texas is making significant strides with various initiatives and programming.

Key Initiatives of NOMA CenTex

Project Pipeline

The chapter has partnered with the University of Texas School of Architecture, the University of Texas at San Antonio College of Architecture, and most recently, Texas Southmost College in Brownsville to host Project Pipeline camps. These camps are central to the chapter's community engagement and K-12 programming. They provide youth with opportunities to explore

architecture, while also allowing students to volunteer and network with professionals. The curriculum includes affordable housing and policies on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), with partners City of San Antonio, City Makers, and AARP, who help provide a platform for campers to submit their designs for ADU competitions.

Empower Speaker Series

This annual event highlights the voices of NOMA CenTex members and other under-represented professionals who are making notable contributions in architecture, construction, and design.

Empower Design Symposium

A new initiative that expands the Empower Speaker Series, this symposium and mini conference brings together members to share their research and leadership through short-format presentations around topics on Architecture, Design, Advocacy, and Justice.

Housing Education

The chapter hosts discussions on Central Texas housing issues focused on affordability, built environment, policies, and BIPOC communities impact.

ARE Support Initiatives

To strengthen the pipeline of credentialed Black and Minority Architects in the region, the chapter offers study guides, subscriptions to course prep services, study groups, and ARE scholarships.

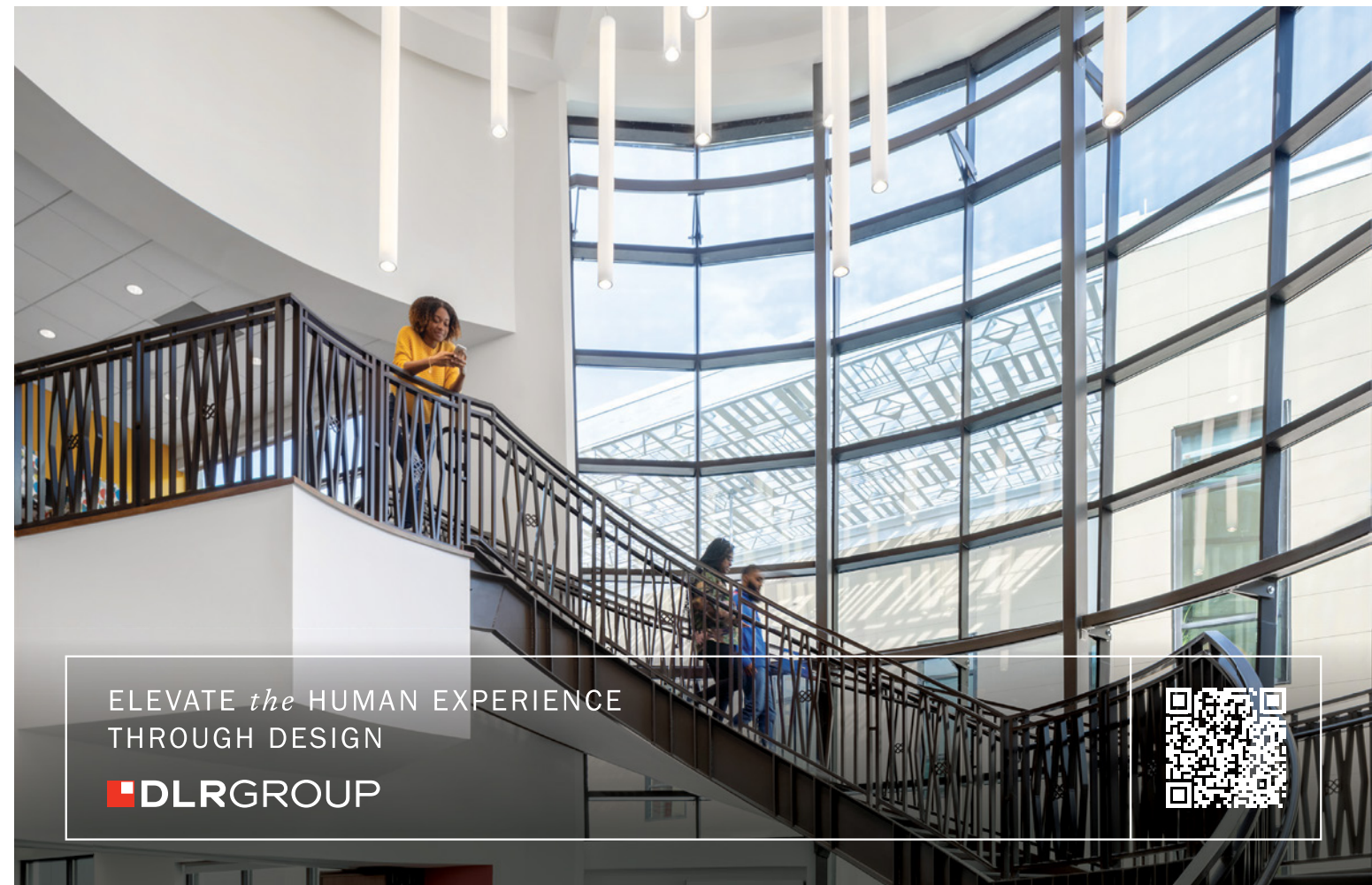


This fall, the chapter hosted its first Black Resilience Bike Tour. "We had fun, but we also learned about the oppression and perseverance of Austin's Black Community from past to present. We continue to be inspired by the excellence achieved, in spite of the countless inequities and barriers put in place."

To build bridges and foster impactful relationships, the chapter introduced a Wellness Retreat Weekend. The retreat was conceived as a midyear opportunity to collaborate, connect, rejuvenate, and engage with NOMA membership across the state. The 2023 retreat was held in Austin. Houston NOMA will host the 2024 retreat.

The Wellness Retreat is more than just a break; it serves as a vital platform for members to build strong connections, share experiences, and collectively advance the mission of diversity and equity in architecture.

Through these initiatives, NOMA CenTex is making a significant impact on the architecture community, providing essential support and creating opportunities for under-represented professionals in the field to connect and have professional development and leadership opportunities outside of their workplaces.



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THROUGH DESIGN

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IN MEMORIAM

Honoring the Legacy of Two Esteemed Community Members

This past year, NOMA mourned the loss of beloved members who left an indelible mark on the field of architecture. As we reflect on their contributions, we are reminded of the profound influence they had on our profession through their dedication to education, design, and activism.

These remarkable individuals were architects, mentors, leaders, and visionaries who shaped the trajectory of architecture with their passion and commitment. Their work extended beyond the confines of buildings and projects; it transformed communities and inspired countless others to pursue excellence in the field. Their legacy is woven into the fabric of our profession, and their contributions continue to resonate through the innovations they championed and the lives they touched. We are grateful for their tireless efforts to advance the practice of architecture and advocate for greater diversity and inclusivity within the profession. As we honor their memory, we also celebrate their achievements and the lasting impact they have made. May their memory inspire us to continue their work and uphold the values they held dear.

Ganesh Nayak *A Beloved LEED Expert from Atlanta* April 24, 1967–July 24, 2024

Ganesh Shroff Nayak, AIA, NOMA, LEED AP, GGP, NGBS, an architect with over 25 years of experience in planning, design and project management, passed away peacefully in his home at the age of 57. As a principal at Metier Inc, in Atlanta, he consulted on sustainable design and was directly involved in the LEED certification for major projects totaling over four million square feet, across a variety of project types.

Nayak led teams in the master planning, design and CD of projects representing over \$300 million in value and had considerable expertise in sustainability. He was honored by the US Army Corps of Engineers (UCACE) for managing the LEED program of a facility with over 35 buildings at Fort Stewart, GA and was certified by the International Code Council as Accessibility Specialist and Plans Examiner.

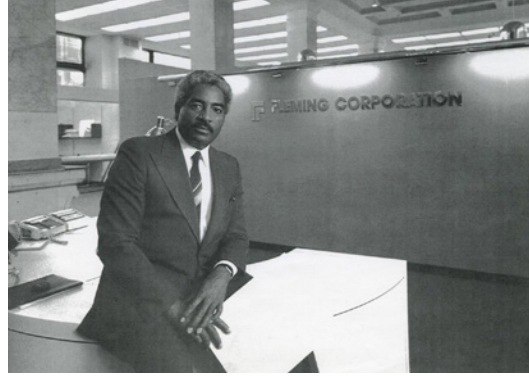
He held a Master of Architecture degree from Kansas State University and was widely published. He taught and presented extensively



on architecture, sustainability, and leadership. With experience and expertise in quality control on federal projects, he was awarded USACE's Charles Trainor team award for excellence and was a founder-editor of *34 AR*, the design magazine of AIA Kansas.

He served in several AIA Georgia positions, including interim secretary, and chair of AIA Atlanta's Committee on the Environment (COTE). He was also chair of the Georgia Department of Special Education's State Advisory Panel on developmental disabilities.

Born in Coimbatore, India, Ganesh was the youngest of four brothers. He treasured long hikes and cross-country drives, instinctively choosing paths less traveled. He is survived by his wife, Sitara and son, Ishan Nayak.



Charles Fleming *A Trailblazing Modern Architect* September 1, 1937–July 8, 2024

Charles Fleming, a celebrated modern architect, died on July 8. He was 86 years old. In 1960, he was the first African American to graduate from Washington University's architecture program. He went on to establish his own practice, Fleming Corporation, the first Black-owned, full-service architecture firm in the state of Missouri.

Fleming was born in St. Louis County, MO. His grandfather was a laborer, specializing in wallpapering and painting. Fleming said he was influenced by visits with his grandfather to job sites and witnessing his craft. A kindergarten teacher also encouraged him to pursue his interests in art and design.

In 1955, Fleming graduated from Douglass High School in Webster Groves. Afterward, he worked by day as a draftsman for a local construction firm. At night, he studied architecture at Washington University College (now the School of Continuing & Professional Studies). Fleming completed his architecture degree in 1961.

Four years later, he cofounded Urban Housing Foundation—a nonprofit that combated racial discrimination in housing—together with Richard Montgomery, who cofounded Washington University's Urban Design Program with Fumihiko Maki.

Fleming worked for HOK before founding his own practice, Jenkins-Fleming, with California-based architect Carey Jenkins in 1968. That office had six locations throughout the U.S. Fleming designed buildings on Bennett Avenue in his hometown of Richmond Heights, one of the only suburban streets that catered to Black consumers due to redlining.

Important projects by Jenkins-Fleming include Gateway National Bank, the first minority-owned bank in the state of Missouri, and the physicians dormitory at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. General Community Hospital in Watts, Los Angeles.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Janice Reef-Fleming.



PROUD TO SUPPORT NOMA

Our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion equips the next generation of designers to positively impact the communities of tomorrow.

HBCU PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NOMA CONTINUES TO GROW ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

NOMA's Historically Black College & University (HBCU) Professional Development Program (PDP) was launched in 2020 by partnering with the seven HBCUs with accredited architecture programs to advance equity in the architecture and design industry. The program aims to assist in building a pipeline of HBCU students with award-winning firms across the country, support students from HBCUs in securing entry-level positions with these large-scale architecture firms, and develop a community of professionals in architecture that will continue to support equity and diversity within the profession through continued mentorship of students from HBCUs.

Each year, the HBCU PDP develops a series of workshops and seminars for students and firms to participate in throughout the year. These monthly events focus on topics ranging from interviewing tips to salary negotiations, a speed networking workshop, and a career fair.

Prescott Reavis HBCU PDP Grant

To recognize students for their commitment to the HBCU PDP program, the Prescott Reavis Grant was established. The Prescott Reavis Grants are awarded based on each student's active involvement in the program, their demonstrated financial need, and their commitment to giving back. The 2024 Prescott Reavis HBCU PDP grant recipients are featured on the opposite page.

The grant, made possible by the generous donations of the HBCU PDP firm sponsors, is in honor of **Prescott Reavis (1972–2022)**, NOMA, NCARB, LEED AP, SEED, an HBCU architecture graduate, NOMA leader, spatial activist, architect, planner, award-winning educator, and dedicated supporter of architecture students and emerging professionals. To celebrate his contributions to the industry and legacy, the Prescott Reavis HBCU PDP grants are awarded to support the repayment of student loans, moving expenses, cost of living expenses for interns working in cities away from home, and other expenses that can be associated with the transition from school to the profession. Managed by the NOMA Charitable Education Foundation, grants are awarded based on an individual student's HBCU PDP participation, demonstrated need, and recognition of the need to give back through their pursuit of the field of architecture. Since the grant was established in 2022, 28 grantees have been awarded.

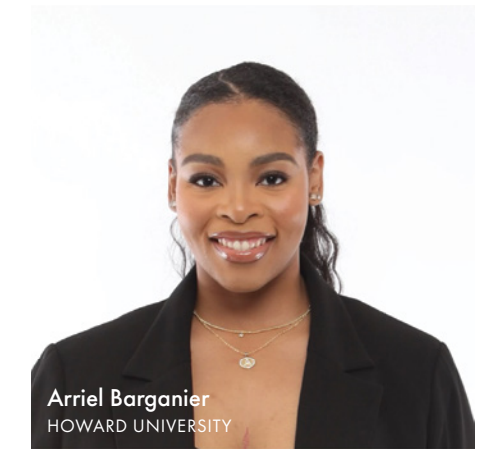
"Reflecting on the profound impact Mr. Prescott Reavis had on everyone he encountered fills me with a deep sense of aspiration," said 2024 Prescott Reavis HBCU PDP grant recipient Kaylah Phillips, a student at Prairie View A&M University. "I am inspired to strive for that level of influence in the lives of those who surround me. Receiving his grant is not only an honor, but a reminder of the legacy I aim to build. As I progress in my professional journey, I will keep his spirit alive through my actions."



Markaysa Lipscomb-Miller
FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY



Jayden Woullard
TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY



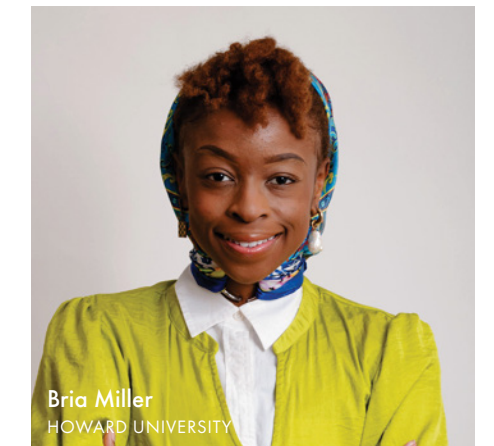
Arriel Barganier
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



Kaylah Phillips
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY



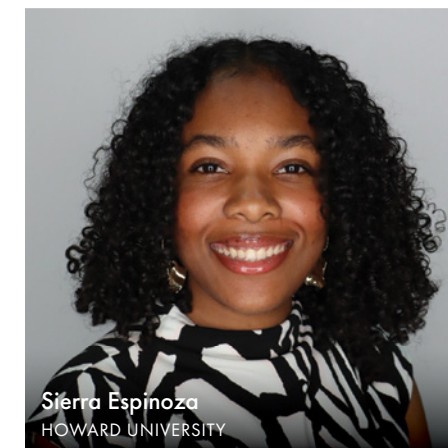
Kayla Cuffy
FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY



Bria Miller
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



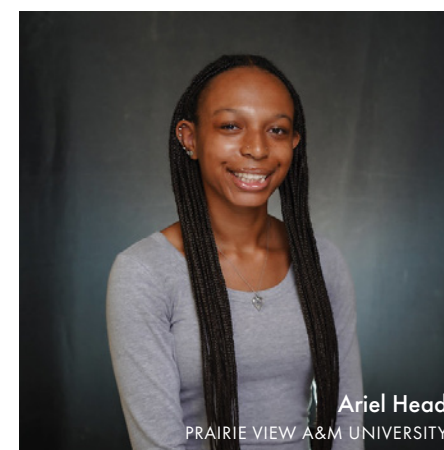
Christian Gilbert
FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY



Sierra Espinoza
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



Dallas Brooks
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



Ariel Head
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY



Isaiah Lee
FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY



Calla Adams
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

Participation has been strong since the HBCU PDP began in 2021. Since then we've had:

More than **550** student program registrants

284 student cohort members

More than **500** participating firm representatives and volunteers

Partnered with more than **50** participating architecture firms

25% of the 2024 HBCU PDP cohorts received internships or full-time positions

2023 CONFERENCE RECAP



NOMA MEMBERS AND ALLIES GATHERED IN PORTLAND FOR A SOLD-OUT 2023 CONFERENCE

Uniting in the Call to Build Bridges and Remain Revolutionary



“We will stand shoulder to shoulder, advocating for justice, and creating a profession that mirrors the breathtaking diversity of our society.”

PASCALE SABLAN

The National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) hosted its national conference, *Building Bridges Towards Just and Joyful Futures*, in Portland, Oregon, October 11–15, 2023, with attendees engaging in thought-provoking seminar sessions, connecting with industry experts and celebrating member achievements. More than 1,550 NOMA members, allies and students registered for the sold-out conference, making it the largest yet, with representation from 38 states, one U.S. territory and four countries, including NOMA’s newest chapter in the United Kingdom. Industry voices including **Toshiko Mori**, FAIA; **Nina Cooke John**, AIA, NOMA, NCARB; and **Olalekan Jeyifous** inspired attendees through discussions, addressing the need for a more inclusive and diverse architecture industry that advocates for justice and a profession that mirrors the diversity of our society.

“Our gathering in Portland symbolizes a powerful opportunity to come together, exchange ideas, and foster meaningful connections,” said **Pascale Sablan**, FAIA,

NOMA, LEED AP, 2023–2024 NOMA President. “It’s a time for engaging lectures, transformative workshops, and a chance to celebrate the outstanding contributions of our members. Together, we have built a rich legacy, overcome formidable barriers, and created bridges over various forms of oppression. Each one of you brings unique perspectives and experiences, and collectively, we form a dynamic, shared space that fuels our collective learning. The impact of this conference reaches far beyond these few days, resonating in our local communities and echoing through the halls of history.”

Held at the Hilton Portland Downtown and organized by NOMA national staff, volunteers and the NOMA Portland (PDX) chapter, the five-day conference offered more than 50 educational sessions, tours including the Portland Japanese Garden, Nike Worldwide Headquarters, Meyer Memorial Trust Headquarters, PAE Living Building, and networking events to connect, inspire and motivate participants.

“Portland was a wonderful host, and we cannot thank our local chapter, NOMA PDX, enough for their warm welcome and commitment to creating a memorable and inspiring conference,” said **Tiffany Brown**, MBA, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, NOMA Executive Director. “It was historical and important to bring a NOMA Conference to the location where civil rights activist Whitney M. Young Jr. delivered the 1968 AIA Convention keynote that challenged architects to address issues of diversity and social responsibility in the profession. It inspired NOMA’s founding,

and this week, provided us the inspiration we need to continue our work.”

Conference highlights included the announcement of the first NOMA international chapter in the United Kingdom, an unprecedented number of NOMA members, 29, receiving their licensure, and the representation of 38 National Organization of Minority Architecture Student chapters in the Barbara G. Lurie Student Design Competition, the most participants ever.

“NOMA Conference is a moment in time to reflect and recharge on our choices of why we were called to become architects,” said Sablan. “As architects, we’re often seen as the creators of spaces and designers of buildings, but we are also the architects of change. We are the builders of hope and the creators of opportunities. Our role extends far beyond blueprints and structures; it encompasses the responsibility to shape the environments where people live, learn, work, and dream.”

Sablan left NOMA Conference attendees with a message of encouragement to continue the fight and engage within their local communities. “As we stride forward, let us remember our journey is far from its conclusion, “We will stand shoulder to shoulder, advocating for justice, and creating a profession that mirrors the breathtaking diversity of our society. We remain revolutionaries, never wavering in our pursuit of a more inclusive architecture industry, where every voice is not only valued but cherished, and every talent is celebrated with passion.”



2023 NOMA AWARDS GALA

NOMA HONORS AND RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AT 2023 AWARDS BANQUET

The NOMA annual awards banquet was held October 13, 2023, at the NOMA 2023 Conference, a time to honor exceptional leadership of NOMA professional and student members. The evening's mistress and master of ceremonies were **Danei Cesario**, NOMA, AIA, and **Antoine Bryant**, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, APA, respectively. Awards given included the NOMA Phil Freelon Professional Design Awards and NOMA Barbara G. Laurie Student Design Competition, as well as individual and chapter honors and recognition of the 2023 licensed architects.

RECOGNITION HIGHLIGHTS

New NOMA leadership was elected and announced

- Brien Graham**, South Region Vice President
- Julia Weatherspoon**, Recording Secretary
- Ameera Ashraf-O'Neil**, Parliamentarian
- Joshua Cato**, Student Representative

NOMA President's Award

Tyrone Marshall, NOMA Atlanta

Member of the Year

Ralph Raymond, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

NOMA 2023 Chapters of the Year

SoFloNOMA (large)

NOMA of Central Texas (small)

The following members were inducted into NOMA Council (NOMAC)

- Carla Flagg**, AIA, NOMAC, NCARB
- Rod Hemni**, FAIA, NOMAC, LEED AP
- Prescott Reavis** (posthumously), NOMAC, NCARB, LEED AP, SEED
- Heather O'Neal**, AIA, NOMAC
- Dr. Betty Williams**, wife of NOMA founder Harold Williams
- Mrs. June Campbell**, wife of NOMA founder Wendell Campbell





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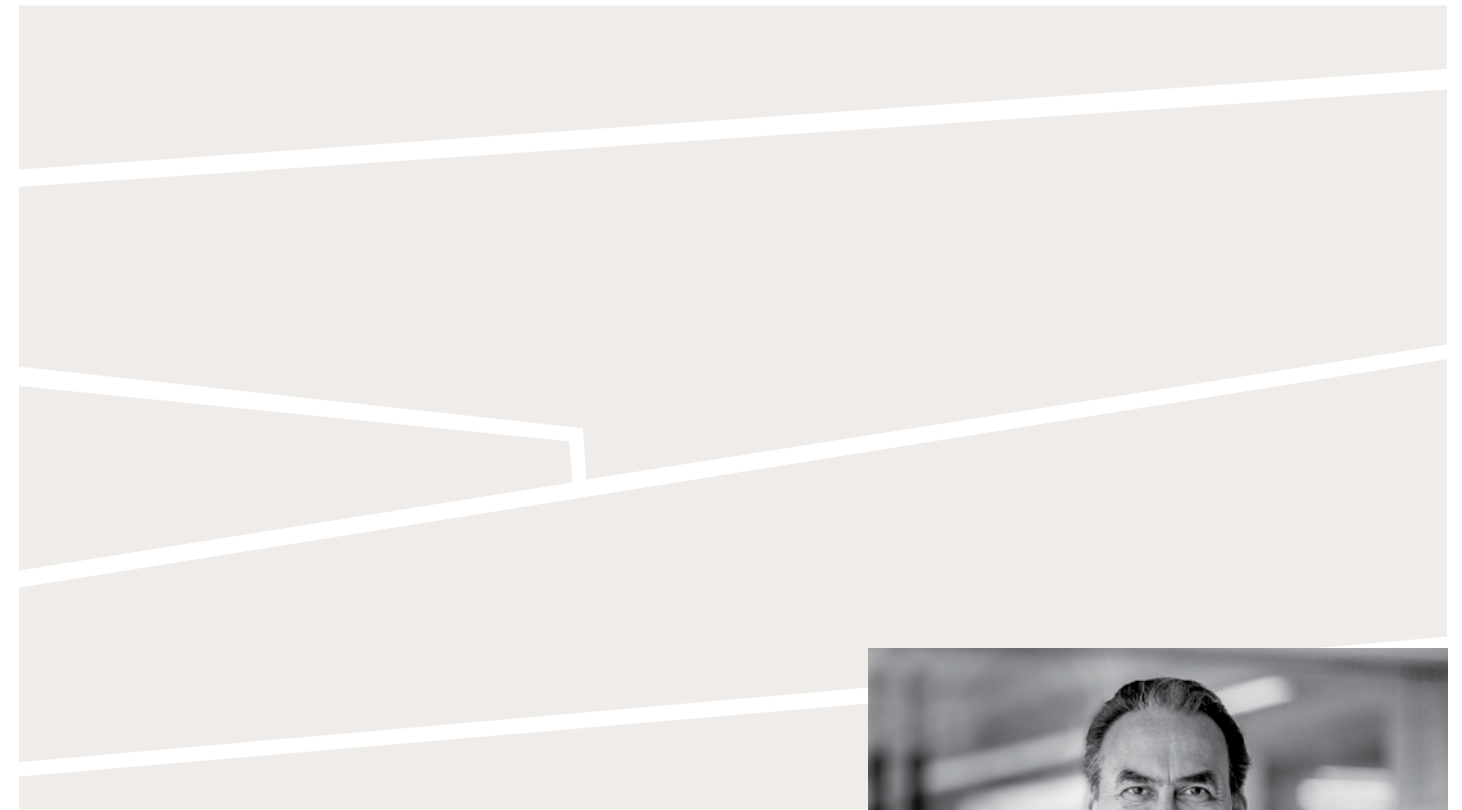
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Freedom Park showcases the words of influential Black North Carolinians. Located a block from the State Capitol in downtown Raleigh, the park invites visitors to engage with quotes engraved on walls that are the color of North Carolina's red clay soil.



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PHIL FREELON PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARD 2023 WINNERS



The National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) announced the winners of one of its most anticipated awards, the Phil Freelon Professional Design Awards, at the NOMA Awards Banquet held October 13, 2023.

With a legacy of recognizing outstanding architectural design work, NOMA renamed the decades-old prestigious design awards to honor of the notable career of Phil Freelon (1953–2019), recognizing him as one of the most influential African American architects of our time.

Entries could include new construction, rehabilitation, restorations, additions, adaptive reuse, or conceptual work in the following award categories: Vision; Built Work; Historic Preservation, Restoration and Renovation; Unbuilt Work; and Small Projects.

NOMA presented awards to a number of NOMA member firms whose work you can enjoy on the following pages. >>>

The 2023 Phil Freelon Professional Design Awards Jurors

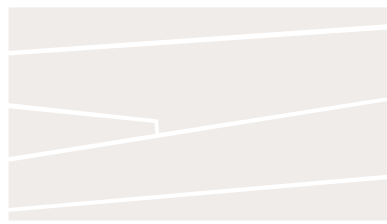
DEEP CHANIARA, NOMA, AIA, NCARB, PICKARD CHILTON

JONATHAN NAVARRO, NOMA, AIA, NCARB, LEGAT ARCHITECTS

B. KARINA RUIZ, NOMA, AIA, LEED AP, BRIC ARCHITECTURE, INC.

DAYTON SCHROETER, NOMA, AIA, SEG, SMITHGROUP

EMAN SIDDIQUI, NOMA, AIA, NCARB, ARCHITECT AT GSBS ARCHITECTS



2023 PHIL FREELON
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS
BUILT CATEGORY

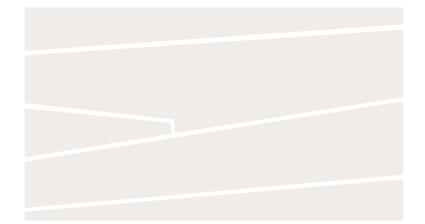


HONOR AWARD

HINES ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

DAIMIAN HINES, NOMA, AIA,
Principal Design Architect

African American Memorial at Bates M. Allen Park
Kendleton, Texas



2023 PHIL FREELON
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS
UNBUILT CATEGORY

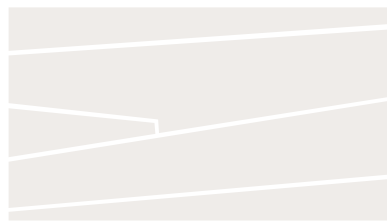
HONOR AWARD

PERKINS&WILL

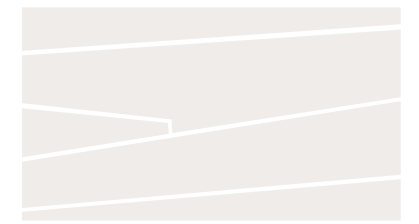
JARED SERWER, NOMA, AIA, LEED AP BD+C
Architect of Record

Morrow High School
Ellenwood, Georgia





2023 PHIL FREELON
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS
VISION CATEGORY



2023 PHIL FREELON
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION,
RESTORATION & RENOVATION
CATEGORY**

HONOR AWARD

YNL ARCHITECTURE

YU-NGOK LO, NOMA, FAIA
Principal Design Architect

Freeway on Ramp Reclamation
Los Angeles, California



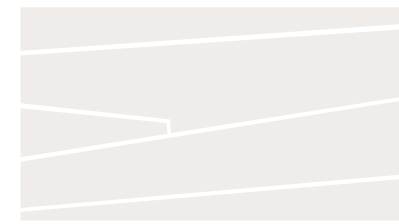
HONOR AWARD

MOODY NOLAN

Architect of Record

**Friend Health Family Health and
Wellness Center New Headquarters**
Chicago, Illinois





2023 PHIL FREELON
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS
SMALL PROJECTS CATEGORY

HONOR AWARD

**STORYN
STUDIO OF
ARCHITECTURE**

EVERALD COLAS, NOMA, AIA
Architect of Record

The Salty Charlotte
Charlotte, North Carolina



SMALL PROJECTS
**STUDIO COOKE JOHN
ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**

NINA COOKE JOHN, NOMA
Principal Design Architect

**Shadow of a Face —
The Harriet Tubman Monument**
Newark, New Jersey



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION,
RESTORATION & RENOVATION**

**STORYN STUDIO
OF ARCHITECTURE**

EVERALD COLAS, NOMA, AIA
Architect of Record

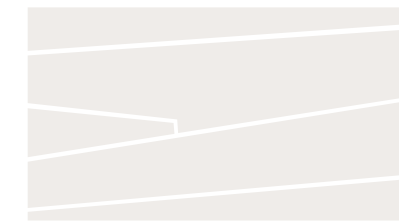
Elm Street
Dallas, Texas

VISION

DLR GROUP

Principal Design Architect

**Semillas Y Raices (Seeds & Roots):
The Future of Farming Communities**
Visalia, California



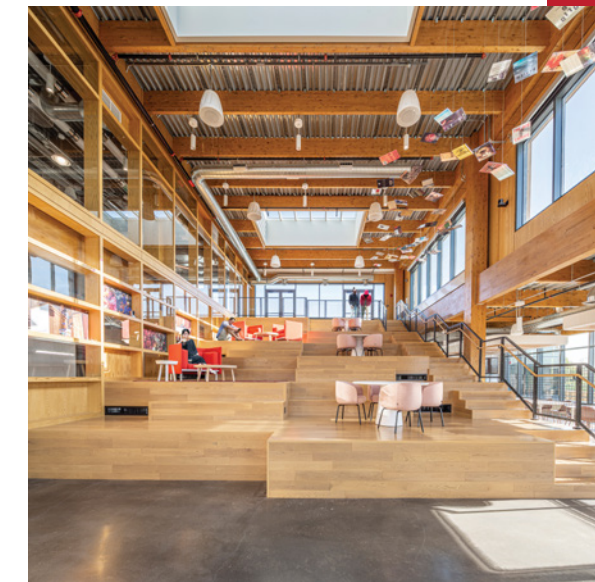
2023 PHIL FREELON
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS
CITATION WINNERS

BUILT

S9 ARCHITECTURE

SITAL PATEL, NOMA
Principal Design Architect

Cleveland Foundation Headquarters
Cleveland, Ohio



UNBUILT

NBBJ

Architect of Record

Montage Health Ohana Center
Monterey, California



2023 NOMA STUDENT AWARDS

Every year, NOMA recognizes leadership excellence in their student chapters. Led by NOMA professionals across the country, the liaisons work with the NOMA Board to identify emerging talent in their student chapters. The 2023 National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS) Student Member of the Year was **Dana Austin Bass** from University of Washington. The NOMAS Chapter of the Year winner was **University of Detroit Mercy**.

The 2023 NOMA Barbara G. Laurie Student Design Competition, sponsored by SOM, Stantec and HDR, brings together students from diverse backgrounds to collaborate, innovate, and reimagine the built environment with a live jury experience providing real-time engagement. Named after Barbara G. Laurie, an accomplished architect and a dedicated advocate for diversity and equity in the profession, this year also commemorated the 10th anniversary of her passing and naming the competition in her honor to celebrate her legacy.

FIRST PLACE

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Reclaiming Albina's Legacy: Carving as a Catalyst for Healing



The competition and jury was organized by NOMA's University Liaisons: **Melanie Ray**, NOMA, AIA; **Andreea Vasile-Hoxha**, NOMA, Assoc. ASLA; **Atianna Cordova**, NOMA; **Jamilla Afandi**, NOMA, AIA, APA

Thirty-eight NOMAS chapters participated, the largest number in its history. Student chapters were asked to design a concept for the Williams & Russell Project, a restorative justice project that addresses systemic injustices against Portland's Black community on land condemned by Prosper Portland and the City of Portland in the early 1970s for an expansion for Emanuel Hospital (now Legacy Health). The development needed to honor Portland's Black community, create wealth, and carry on Legacy's good health mission for the community all while creating a cohesive site encompassing mixed-income housing, commercial/retail tenants, and community spaces.

Jurors for the student competition included: **Kimberly Dowdell**, 2024 AIA National President and HOK; **Aeron Hodges**, Santeq; **Adede Amenyah**, SOM; **Olin McKenize**, SOM; **Brian Kowalchuk**, HDR; **Justice Rajee**, Williams & Russell CDC and Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center; and **Regina Batiste**, PLACE Landscape Architecture.

The top winners are featured here.

SECOND PLACE

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Nexus



THIRD PLACE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Growing Forward: Planting Generational Roots



A COUNCIL OF COUNSELORS

By Michael Rogers, NOMAC Class of 1995



By the early 1990's, NOMA had become well established having completed two decades of not only existence, but growth. As new officers came into NOMA leadership there were ongoing discussions regarding the observed reduced levels of participation by the senior members of the organization, particularly

the founding members and past presidents. The 1992 NOMA Vice President **Robert Easter** recalls, "We recognized that many (elders) were attempting to make way for the younger emerging leadership to plot the path for the organization; many may have felt that their contributions were no longer appreciated. The Board felt differently! We had grown under their leadership, were motivated by their commitment, and were inspired by their wisdom. We recognized that we needed their active participation in order for NOMA to thrive."

In 1992, current President **William Stanley**, President-Elect Easter, Founding President **Wendell Campbell** (1971–1974) and a NOMA board committee engaged in discussions that suggested the creation of a new honor and distinction for the elders and prime contributors of NOMA. A lifetime achievement honor for NOMA that parallels the prestige of AIA Fellowship, with clear emphasis on devotion to NOMA and commitment to solutions aligned with NOMA's purpose.

Among the concepts reportedly discussed in the formation of this distinction was one rooted in African traditions involving essential knowledge passage to succeeding generations by elders who have wisdom, experience, and skills. Those honored would therefore be bestowed the designation of "counselors" and collectively be called NOMAC. Wendell Campbell, the very first NOMAC inductee explained while moderating an early class induction ceremony, "We are very careful in the spelling of the word counsel as counsel and not council. We would like to remain as advisors and not be charged with the responsibility of making the decisions." The expressed emphasis was clearly on esteemed honor, advisory capacity, and leveraging tenure for fundraising assistance for NOMA.

The inaugural class occurred in 1993 at the NOMA conference in New York during the presidency of Mr. Easter. The class included the 13 NOMA Founders (5 posthumously) who attended the 1971 original

summit in Nassau, Bahamas. (See the NOMA newsletters of January 1994 and Jan 1995 which featured briefings with photos.) After this inaugural class, it became the sole discretion of NOMAC to identify and articulate the merit, place into nomination and collectively confirm additional members. The following year, October of 1994 in Chicago, saw all past presidents to date nominated and inducted. They also nominated and inducted Easter as the outgoing President completing his term. The induction of outgoing presidents has from that point become a tradition at the conclusion of their devoted presidency.

Among the other ceremonial traditions that have emerged are its prominence at NOMA conferences, adorned in medals, pins, and cultural kente stoles. One inspirational conference highlight is the tribal onstage gathering and celebration for incoming NOMAC inductees. Throughout the calendar year there is an imparting of wisdom and support occurring both formally and informally at chapter activities and various locations across the country.

It came to be, after decades of NOMAC existence, that so many NOMA members became accustomed to mistakenly saying or writing "NOMA Council" that a consensus of NOMAC members agreed to adjust the name of the group to meet that pronunciation. New medals were made that adjusted the name but carried over a key feature, the ruby red jewel in the center of the logo which is symbolic of the "blood of NOMA," to be worn uniquely by those elevated to NOMAC status.

Perhaps in the simplest terms, NOMAC can be thought of as a NOMA Hall of Fame, Wisdom, & Devotion. Each member has demonstrated traits that bring sustained spirit and life to the profound and qualitative purposes of NOMA that are enduring.

Collectively the NOMA Council remains well positioned to offer advisory counsel, historical perspective, and introductory orientations that may ground and assist emerging or incoming leaders. NOMAC perspectives provide incredibly valuable foundation for all NOMA members. Currently, NOMAC engages in quarterly teleconferencing and other periodic committee discussions on assorted topics of interest or relevance. The art of leveraging the accomplishments of the past, creatively embracing the challenges of today, and leaving a legacy for a better future should always be in practice jointly by NOMA, NOMAS, and NOMAC.

Active NOMA Council Members

- Leon Bridges**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Standford Britt**, FAIA, NOMAC
- William M. Brown, III**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Gabrielle Bullock**, FAIA, NOMAC
- William Davis, Jr.**, AIA, NOMAC
- Drake Dillard**, AIA, NOMAC
- Kathy Denise Dixon**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Kimberly Dowdell**, AIA, NOMAC
- Robert Easter**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Carla Flagg**, AIA, NOMAC
- Richard Franklin**, AIA, NOMAC
- Ronald Garner**, AIA, NOMAC
- Sanford Garner**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Anzilla Gilmore**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Brad Grant**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Daniel Christopher Hall**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Andrew Heard**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Rod Hemni**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Kevin Holland**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Bryan Hudson**, AIA, NOMAC
- David Hughes**, FAIA, NOMA
- R. Steven Lewis**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Dennis Mann**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Kenneth Martin**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Charles McAfee**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Cheryl McAfee**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Clarence Mobley**, AIA, NOMAC
- Curt Moody**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Heather Philip-O'Neal**, AIA, NOMAC
- Kathryn Bradford Tyler Prigmore**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Jason Pugh**, AIA, NOMAC
- Marshall Purnell**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Michael Rogers**, AIA, NOMAC
- Carlton Smith**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Charles Smith**, AIA, NOMAC
- William J. Stanley III**, FAIA, NOMAC, Hon. FRAIC
- Paul Taylor**, AIA, NOMAC
- Andrew Thompson**, AIA, NOMAC
- Jack Travis**, FAIA, NOMAC
- James Washington**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Roberta Washington**, FAIA, NOMAC

NOMA Council In Memoriam

- William Brown II**, NOMAC
- Leroy Campbell**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Wendell Campbell**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Kenneth Casey**, NOMAC
- Earl Kai Chan**, NOMAC
- John Chase**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Paul Devroux**, FAIA, NOMAC
- James Dodd**, NOMAC
- Phillip Freelon**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Louis Fry, Sr.**, AIA, NOMAC
- Kenneth Groggs**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Nelson Harris**, NOMAC
- Jeh Johnson**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Pedro Lopez**, AIA, NOMAC
- Mortimer Marshall**, NOMAC, FAIA
- Robert Nash**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Harry Overstreet**, AIA, NOMAC
- Prescott Reavis**, NOMAC
- Harold Williams**, FAIA, NOMAC
- Robert Wilson**, NOMAC

NOMAC LEGACY PERSPECTIVE

By William M. Brown III, FAIA, NOMAC



I am a proud member of NOMAC from the Class of 2022, a 1977 graduate of the Howard University School of Architecture, and a resident of Verona, New Jersey. My father, the late **William M. Brown Jr.**, AIA, and his partner, the late **Reginald C. Hale** (both Howard University School of Architecture alumni), established the first black architectural firm in Newark, New Jersey, Brown and Hale Architects. My father was one of the fourteen founding members of NOMA, which was established in 1971. As the son of a Legacy Member, I have a heartfelt connection to NOMA.

I have fond memories of the time when NOMA was established. I used to go to some of the meetings with my father, and although I was too young to enter the meeting rooms, on several occasions, I could hear our Founding Members debate strategies for developing best practices for demanding better paying projects and advocating for legislation through Congress and the Congressional Black Caucus that would benefit NOMA members.

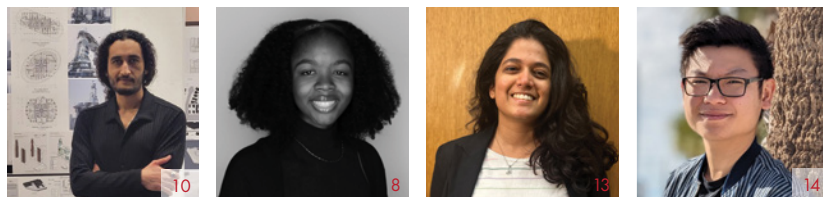
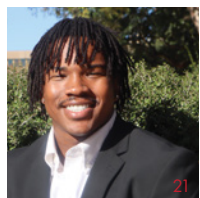
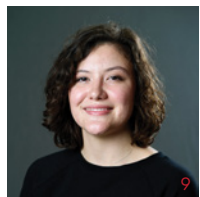
Paul Andrews, **Julian Ross**, and I tried to establish a student version of NOMA when the organization was formed. However, we were not able to sustain our group of architectural college students financially, nevertheless, we were inspired to be affiliated with the NOMA organization.

The Founders and their wives were a close-knit group, who would often vacation together. My mother, **Wilhelmina Brown**, often joked that, while on a housing bus tour during the 1971 AIA convention in Detroit, the wives became fast friends and influenced their husbands to meet each other. This helped serve as a catalyst to the formation of NOMA. On various occasions throughout the years, members such as **Wendell Campbell** (our first NOMA President) and his wife, **June**, of Chicago, **Charles McAfee**, **June and Leroy Campbell** of Washington, D.C., **Bob Cole**, **John and Drucie Chase**, and **Nelson and Dorothy Harris** would stop by our house in Newark—often during flight layovers at Newark International Airport. These and other Founding Members always had an encouraging word for me as I was pursuing my architectural career. I will never forget their sacrifice, dedication and commitment to NOMA and the architectural profession.

The Legacy of NOMA has always been an inspiration for me—especially when I served as New Jersey's first NOMA President from 2010–2014, when I was inducted into NOMAC in 2022, and being honored as the 2022 NOMA Member of the Year. My commitment to NOMA also carries into my community service in roles such as mentoring our youth and young Architects while serving as Chair and Mentor in the NAACP ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Scientific, Technological, Scientific, Olympics) Program for high school students in the Oranges and Maplewood Branch. Also, during COVID, I conducted a virtual *Introduction to Architecture* workshop series for high school students.

Currently, I am serving as the Scribe to NOMAC. To be affiliated with my colleagues, who have vast experience and knowledge of NOMA and our architectural profession, is a blessing. We are committed to working in collaboration with the NOMA Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and our members in advancing the mission of NOMA by providing mentorship in best practices, wisdom and inspiration regarding the goals and objectives of the organization and the architectural profession. for generations to come. It is important that NOMA continues to grow and be a strong voice for its diversified membership in the architectural profession and the building industry.

2024 NOMA FUTURE FACES



NFF 2024

As part of NOMA's efforts to foster opportunities between underrepresented students studying architecture and architecture firms, NOMA announced its sixth cohort of the NOMA Future Faces Fellowship (NFF). This summer, 25 students and recent graduates gained professional development experiences and internships across the country at architecture firms, further bridging the gap between underrepresented students and the architectural profession and offering a pathway towards future employment in the field.

NFF is a two-month summer fellowship hosted at leading architecture firms across the country, running from June 3–July 26, 2024. The fellows engaged in design research, project work, and firm mentorship, for many of whom it was their first internship experience. They received a \$2,450 relocation reimbursement and are eligible to receive a \$1,000 licensure stipend once they become a licensed architect.

The program, with a purpose to develop and propel forward the next generation of Black and minority architects who will be designing for the future, plays a crucial role in providing valuable professional experience to underrepresented students.

NFF stands out as the inaugural initiative following the introduction of the American Institute of Architects Large Firm Round Table (AIA LFRT) 2030 Diversity Challenge. This challenge urged the architectural industry to elevate the count of licensed Black architects from 2,300 to 5,000 by 2030, effectively doubling the representation from two percent to approximately four percent of licensed architects in the United States. The AIA LFRT has committed its funding through 2030, specifically aimed at expanding the fellowship program. The funding enables NOMA to award and support a greater number of fellows.

To date, 121 fellows have been placed at 114 firms, with students representing 89 colleges and universities across the U.S.

The 2024 summer fellowship cohort, which was open to all National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS) members in good standing, includes the following architecture students and graduates placed at design firms across the U.S.

1 Rosalinda Adams
CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP

2 Elise Baranco
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
CannonDesign

3 Syndee Crawford
HOWARD UNIVERSITY
HDR

4 Kaitlyn Dacpano
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
Page

5 Derek Davis
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY
LPA Design Studios

6 Isabella Gallitto
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
LS3P

7 Laiqa Gitosuputro
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Hord Coplan Macht

8 Worlikema Golijikaye
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
The SLAM Collaborative

9 Brice Gutshall
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
Ennead Architects

10 Youssef Hachchane
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE
Corgan

11 Brad Hughes
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
Multistudio

12 Kaleb Jenkins
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
KTGY

13 Rushali Joshi
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
HED

14 Caleb Kwok
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Perkins&Will

15 Asya McDaniel
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA
Solomon Cordwell Buenz

16 Amaya Moss
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Populous

17 Andrea Muchori
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
DLR Group

18 Nke Adwowa Opoku
NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MG2 Corporation

19 Elise Park
NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Bjarke Ingels Group

20 Noelle Robinson
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
SmithGroup

21 Jerund Sanders
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Populous

22 Kashka Senat
WENTWORTH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
ZGF Architects

23 Ethan Taylor
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE
McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture

24 Avery Vuong
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
NAC

25 Dilara Yesilte
NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
HLW International LLP

“This fellowship was *transformative* in my journey toward licensure, providing invaluable mentorship and a strong sense of community. It empowered me to break barriers and contribute meaningfully to the architectural profession.”



Congratulations to MALACHI PURSLEY, RA, AIA, the first NFF fellow to become a licensed architect. A student at Louisiana State University and member of the LSU NOMAS Chapter, Pursley was a fellow in the 2020 summer cohort, working at host firm Ennead Architects. He became a licensed architect in 2024 in New York and currently works at Corgan.

PROJECT PIPELINE

PROJECT PIPELINE SWEEPS THE NATION

NOMA concluded its 19th summer of Project Pipeline Summer Camps, hosting 30 camps across 36 cities in the United States and engaging nearly 1,100 youth in the fields of architecture and design. Launched in 2006 to create pathways for more Black architects, these camps underscore the vital role of mentorship and early exposure in guiding students towards careers in the built environment. This year, Project Pipeline increased its registrants by almost 200 students, the largest group of participants since the camps began. Participating cities spanned from New York City to Portland, with the largest camps located in Los Angeles and Manhattan.

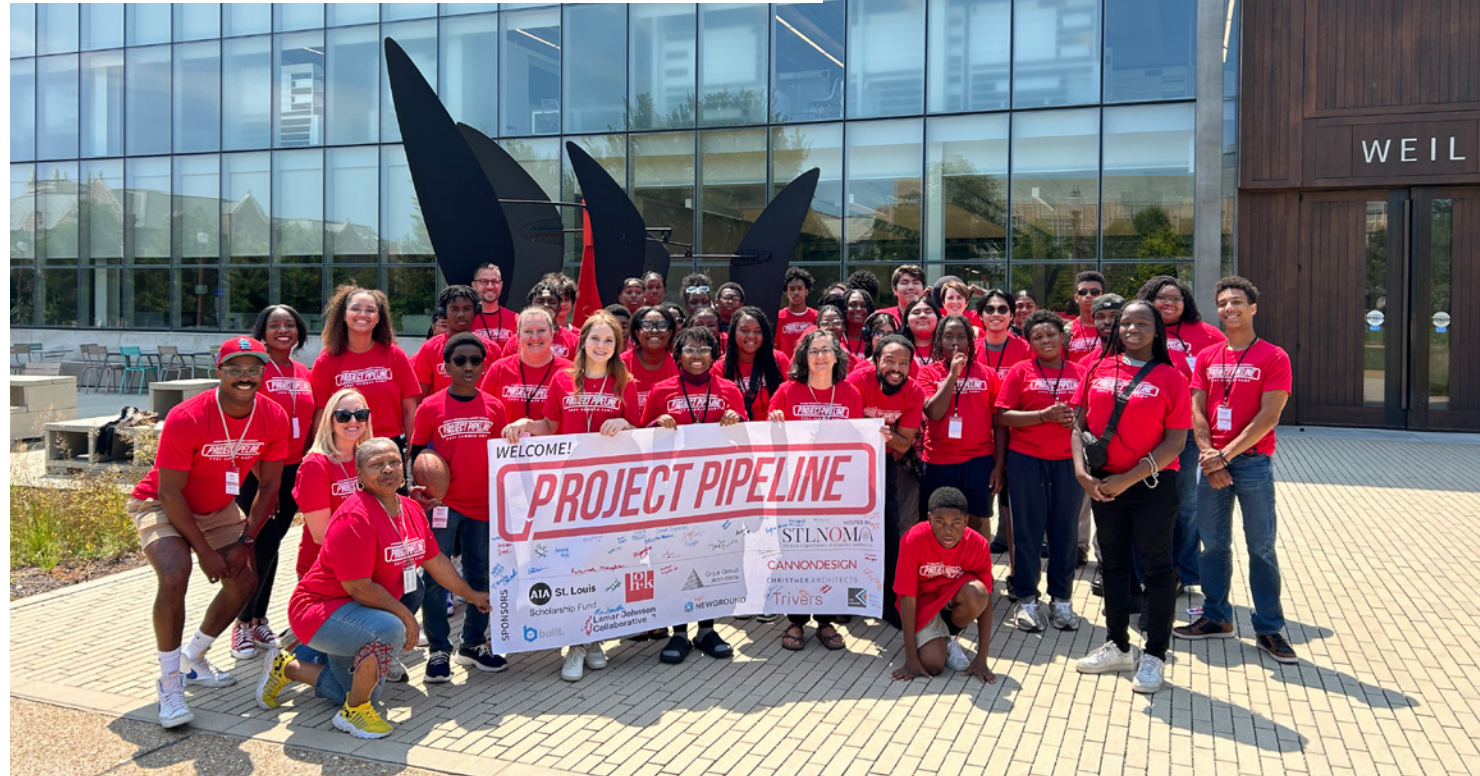
Thank you to all the NOMA chapters who make this program a success and to **Richie Hands** and **Bryan Bradshaw**, NOMA National Co-Chairs of Project Pipeline.

30

CAMPS reaching
1,000+ students!



Across the country, from Los Angeles to Manhattan, this year's Project Pipeline increased its registrants by almost 200 students, the largest group of participants since the camps began.



KPF is proud to support NOMA and its mission to foster justice and equity in communities of color.

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Design with Impact

Image: Jenkins Hall @ Morgan State University in Baltimore

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