

# Committee on the Environment

**AIA** Knowledge Community



Harvard University Science and Engineering Complex, Behnisch Architekten Image: Brad Feinknopf



## Letter from the Chair

By Lori Ferriss, AIA

After A'23, I am buoyed by the inspiring energy of this community. COTE's three official sessions brought together 22 speakers, 30+ facilitators, and 800+ participants, while the countless additional programming led by many of you centered themes of climate action, climate justice, and the agency of architects.

[Read more >](#)



## Performing Beautifully: The 2023 COTE Top Ten Winners

By Michelle Amt, AIA

What makes an AIA COTE Top Ten winner? To start, they're innovators, integrators, advocates, and synthesizers, merging design and performance to create places and spaces that ignite the soul.

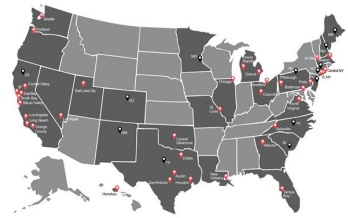
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## REMINDER: The AIA COTE Top Ten Cycle Timeline is Changing!

Please mark your calendars:

The awards call will open on August 8, and the deadline for entries will be 5pm ET on October 26.



## COTE Network Update: A'23 Report

By Bunny Tucker, AIA

This year's COTE Network leader offers a Network perspective on the Open Forum.

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## YAF/COTE: A'23 Report

By Wei Wang, Assoc. AIA

COTE's YAF Liaison, Wei Wang, reports from her first-ever COTE Open Forum at the AIA Conference on Architecture.

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## COTE Open Forum: A COTE Leader Perspective

By Ganesh Nayak, AIA

The Open Forum draws on the collective wisdom of the COTE community, providing a feedback loop to inform its work.

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## A Report from CCADE

By Illya Azaroff, FAIA

The Board-level Committee on Climate Action and Design Excellence (CCADE) shares its perspective on pathways to climate action and updates to the Framework for Design Excellence.

[Read more >](#)

## Resources and Readings

**ULI Report & Webinar: Net Zero for All: A Just Transition for Real Estate**

Our built environment colleagues at the Urban Land Institute have released a new report: *Net Zero for All: A Just Transition for Real Estate*, an introduction for real estate owners, developers, and investors to understand why and how to center marginalized communities in the process and outcomes of achieving net zero—including the business case and market drivers—for an equitable transition. [Download and read](#), and attend our live webinar on July 19 at 1pm ET.

[Register >](#)

### **Architects Must Tackle Embodied Carbon**

By Keith Hempel | Common Edge Collaborative

We need to evolve our understanding of how individual buildings contribute to carbon emissions. It will take an integrated approach to every project, involving engineers, interior designers, and landscape architects from the start of the process.

[Read more >](#)

### **Thinking Through Material Flows**

By Kelly Alvarez Doran | The Architect's Newspaper

Rather than a primary focus on energy efficiency, architects should consider more holistic assessments to reduce the carbon emissions of construction.

[Read more >](#)

### **A Recent Report Shows Decarbonization Successes**

By Edward Mazria, FAIA | ARCHITECT Magazine

The Architecture 2030 founder uses six charts to share a climate change success story for the building sector.

[Read more >](#)

### **Can We Actually Measure for Social Equity?**

By Melissa Daniel | Metropolis magazine

Companies want credit for their justice initiatives. Metropolis magazine asked five insiders if that is the best path to meaningful change.

[Read more >](#)

### **HUD Resilience Guides, Volumes 1-5**

The Natural Hazards Series, the product of a stellar team of AEC experts from across the US, was just released.

[Read more >](#)

## **2023 AIA COTE Partners**





## Partner Content: Coatings Elevate Sustainability of Three Multifamily Projects

By Sherwin-Williams

For sustainable buildings, the choice of coatings can play as important a role as nearly any other element of the structure. Low-VOC options help preserve occupant health, powder coatings add durability, cool-roof coatings increase energy efficiency, and more.

Here's a look at the coatings specified for three green-built multifamily projects around the country.

[Learn more>](#)

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