



AIA

Small Firm Exchange LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SUMMARY

AIA Virginia - Emerging Leaders in Architecture, an Honors Academy

AIA Virginia
Richmond, VA

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The AIA Virginia ELA program develops future leaders in architecture firms, communities, and the profession. It accelerates architects' growth, provides information needed for the successful practice of architecture, service to society, and community leadership. There are seven intensive, day-long seminars focusing on essential, professional skills such as financial management, presentation and communication skills, negotiation techniques, legal requirements, ethical issues, and community service. The program also incorporates a year-long project with three, dedicated work-days, all concentrating on a real-world project with a real client so that the participants learn to apply the knowledge and skills from the sessions.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Type of Program: | Monthly | Number of Program Graduates: | 110 |
| Duration, Number of Sessions: | 10 | Tuition: | 975 |
| Program Audience: | State | Program Expenses/Cost: | 25000 |
| Session Locations | State-wide | How Created: | Volunteers |
| Admission: | All of the Above | How Run: | Volunteers |
| Selection: | All of the Above | Length of Sessions: | 8 hours |
| Year Started: | 2009 | Mentor- or Participant-Driven: | Mentor-Driven |
| Number in each Session: | 16 | Project Included: | Yes |
| Number of Years Conducted: | 7 | Community Service Included: | Yes |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

A class project provides participants with a practical opportunity to apply leadership principles from the sessions on a real project with a real client. The project lasts a year with three, dedicated work-days where they learn to apply the knowledge and skills from the sessions.

PROGRAM IMPACT:

In 7 years, over 110 participants have completed the program. Dozens have become elected officials, local/state AIA officers, appointed commissioners, community advisors, and firm owners. The state and five local components work effectively together to deliver the program.

PROGRAM FEATURES: (Sessions, Speakers, Topics, etc.)

The program is designed to

1. Examine the evolving roles of architects and firms,
2. Provide the resources to make informed business decisions about financial and practice management matters,
3. Consider the fundamental legal, ethical and societal responsibilities of architects, and
4. Develop a peer network to serve as an ongoing resource. Program faculty members are established leaders in the building, finance, non-profit, development, university, legal, consulting, and design professions. Each of the seven day-long sessions focuses on essential strategies or skills such as financial management, presentation and communication skills, negotiating techniques, understanding legal and ethical issues, and public service.