

# Committee on the Environment

an **AIA** Knowledge Community

## Dear COTE Colleagues:



This is my last newsletter to you as 2017 COTE Advisory Group Chair—I spent some time reviewing the past year's issues to see what I could find. Many of our messages centered on COTE's advocacy for the critical programs and policies that are threatened by current legislatures. That role has taken on new and important significance this year and COTE members are rising to the occasion. One terrific example is the [current discussion](#) on COTE's KnowledgeNet forum about the importance of a fact-based

understanding of the role that buildings play in contributing to climate change. The dialogue is very relevant and informative with contributions from many sustainable architect leaders across the country. It exemplifies the important role that architects can and must play in engaging on a topic that is critical to our times.

This month's newsletter contains important end-of-year messages:

- Several great articles about the COTE Top Ten and COTE Top Ten for Students competitions which close January 17. We hope your firm will consider submitting one or more projects to this very popular design awards program.
- A recap from AIA Asheville of their recent important “Where Building Science meets Climate Science” symposium.

I've enjoyed writing my 11,000 plus COTE colleagues this year. Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts with all of you. I look forward to continuing our good work together in 2018. Until then, happy holidays to all.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MAL".

Mary Ann Lazarus, FAIA  
2017 Chair, Committee on the Environment



## These four COTE Top Ten Award recipients represent design excellence

By AIA's sustainability leaders

In advance of the 2018 COTE Top Ten Awards submission deadline, AIA's sustainability leaders explain what made these previous COTE Top Ten Award recipients so special. [Read more »](#)



## COTE Top Ten submissions are open

COTE Top Ten is the industry's best-known award program for sustainable design excellence. Each year, ten innovative projects are recognized for their integration of design excellence with environmental performance.

**Deadline: January 17 by 5pm ET, [Learn more and submit »](#)**

### Webinar: Demystifying the COTE Top Ten Awards

What does it take to enter COTE Top Ten? Hear from two firms with successful track records in the program. They will share insight into processes and documentation that support a successful COTE Top Ten submission. December 6 at 1pm ET. [Register »](#)



## Top Ten things you can do with your COTE Top Ten submission

By Karen Robichaud

There are clear benefits if your project earns recognition like national attention and press opportunities. However, there are a number of benefits to simply submitting, whether you receive an award or not. [Read more »](#)



## COTE Top Ten for Students registration closes soon

This year's collaboration with Architecture 2030, INNOVATION 2030, is a design-and-ideas competition focused on addressing and designing for the future impacts of climate change. **Registration deadline: December 6,** [Learn more »](#)

## Top architecture firms offer students paid summer internships

For the 2018 program, 28 top architecture firms in the US and Canada are offering paid summer internships to COTE Top Ten student recipients. [Learn more about the firms »](#)



## Building science and climate science in Asheville

By Emily Coleman-Wolf, AIA

With such a strong foundation in climate research in the region, The Collider, a nonprofit innovation center, saw an opportunity to create a place where business and science “collide” to create market-driven solutions for climate change. The members are focused on understanding how our environment is changing, what we can do to predict it, and how we can adapt.

[Read more »](#)



## Attaining the AIA 2030 Commitment benchmarks (ARCHITECT Magazine)

By Brian Libby

ARCHITECT spoke with five signatory firms about how they attained such energy savings—and why it matters. [Read more »](#)



## Survey: AIA Materials Matter feedback

AIA is launching Materials Matter, a resource architects and other design professionals can use to tackle the complex sphere of materials transparency. Your participation in this survey is critical to developing great content. [Take the survey »](#)





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