Committee On Design Scholarship

The AIA’s Committee on Design is offering a scholarship to attend our Spring Conference in Palm Springs, California on May 9-12, 2013 -- “Regional Modernism.” The scholarship will provide reimbursement for round-trip economy class airfare and registration to the conference. It will be offered to an AIA Member who has been a licensed architect for less than 10 years.

About the AIA Committee on Design
The AIA Committee on Design (COD) was founded to promote design excellence among members of the AIA, the broader design community, and the public at large, both nationally and internationally. The Committee on Design is led by a volunteer advisory group of eight architects and an adjunct leadership team of 11 additional individuals.

In realizing our mission, we promote a range of activities intended to encourage a dialogue on the art of building. In addition to visits to and consideration of great architecture, COD also nominates candidates for many of the AIA’s most important design awards and organizes design related events at the national convention.

Visit our website for more information.

About the Conference
The COD holds a national conference in the spring and an international conference in the fall. This year’s Focus will be on Modernism: Origins, Regionalism, and Continuing Inspiration. The three-day spring Conference is being held in Palm Springs, California and will be an opportunity to explore the rich collection of new and historic regional modernism found in this area. With about 120 colleagues we will tour buildings, listen to lectures, and have informal conversations all exploring this year’s theme

Travel to Palm Springs will be on Wednesday, May 8th. A pre-conference tour will start at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday with the opening reception on Thursday evening. Guided tours and lectures will be on Friday and Saturday, and the closing event on Sunday morning. Travel home will be Sunday afternoon.

Click here for more details on the itinerary.

How will the recipient be selected?
The goal of this scholarship is to introduce an architect to the Committee on Design and ask them to communicate the value of COD to other architects. We are seeking an individual who is passionate about practicing architecture and who will have an ability to communicate what they learn at the conference to a wider audience. To that end, applicants should have experience in practicing architecture as well communication skills with social media and blogging about architecture.

Applicants must be AIA members who have been licensed architects for less than 10 years. We will limit our selection to those who have not received a travel scholarship from the AIA (local chapter or national) or another AIA Knowledge Leadership Group.

The scholarship is privately funded through a donation. The recipient is selected by the donors and the immediate past, present, and future Chairs of COD. Friends, family, or colleagues of the jury are not eligible.
What are the submission requirements?
Please submit the following in a letter-sized PDF to Tamzin Howerton at tamzinhowerton@aia.org – by 5:00 PM EST, April 4, 2013. The PDF should not exceed 5mb in size or 10 pages in length:

The PDF should contain a brief letter expressing your interest and why you think you are a good candidate to attend the Palm Spring Conference. Include an idea of how you would communicate the value of this experience to a wider audience – a talk at your local AIA chapter about what you learned, for instance.

Also, include your resume, a professional letter of reference, and examples of blog posts, and/or social media pages that you have created indicating your ability to communicate your observations through words, drawings, and photographs.

What the scholarship will provide.
The scholarship will provide reimbursement for round-trip, economy class airfare from within the United States to Palm Springs and transportation to/from the airport to the hotel. It will also cover conference registration, 4 nights of lodging (May 8-11), and meals during the conference.

What we ask in return.
In exchange, we request that you provide us with a written and illustrated 10 page report on one favorite Palm Springs project that will be used on the COD website and social media. In addition, we require you to follow through on the idea for communicating the value of your COD experience to a wider audience which you supplied in your application.

Notification
All applicants will receive an email confirmation of receipt of their application within two business days. If you do not receive an email confirmation, contact Tamzin Howerton at tamzinhowerton@aia.org. All applicants will receive notifications of the jury’s decision by April 11, 2013.

Questions?
Contact Tamzin Howerton at tamzinhowerton@aia.org.