



AIA

Small Firm Exchange LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SUMMARY

AIA Chicago - Bridge Mentorship Program

AIA Chicago
Chicago, IL

Kelsey Kirkley, Zurich Esposito
Events Mgr. / Executive VP

esposito@aiachicago.org
312.376.2760

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

This program intends to Bridge the gap between the need for mentorship in our profession and the ability of experienced architects to pass on what they have learned to the future generation of architects. Each selected Bridge participant will be paired with a local AIA Fellow acting as their mentor. The program will incorporate informal social events and organized mentorship discussions focusing the conversation on past experiences, career development, and the future of the architectural profession. Participants will develop communication and relationship skills, advance professional skills, expand professional and personal networks, experience team performance, and develop community leadership.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Type of Program:	Annually	Number of Program Graduates:	~80
Duration, Number of Sessions:	5 sessions	Tuition:	0
Program Audience:	Local	Program Expenses/Cost:	500
Session Locations	Local	How Created:	Committee
Admission:	Application	How Run:	Component Staff
Selection:	All of the Above	Length of Sessions:	2-3 hours
Year Started:	2010	Mentor- or Participant-Driven:	Participant-Driven
Number in each Session:	14-16	Project Included:	No
Number of Years Conducted:	6	Community Service Included:	No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

<http://www.aiachicago.org/community/bridge>

PROGRAM IMPACT:

Graduates of the program have become more involved with AIA.

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

Throughout the program, the mentors and their mentees also meet in a one-on-one setting to informally discuss specific professional goals while further developing and strengthening their relationship. The program benefits include an opportunity to be mentored by experienced professionals and FAIA members.

- Topics include: Future of the profession, The profession in review
- Speaker: Lee Bey, University of Chicago Arts Incubator