TORCH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM
Empowering CommUnity
AIANY Emerging New York Architects & AIANY College of Fellows
Panel 4 – Equity Redux: Changemakers
September 14, 2021
6:00-7:30pm

Join the TORCH Mentorship Program as we spotlight the changemakers reshaping the profession and its conversations around diversity, equity, and justice at both the grassroots and institutional levels. Our panel of distinguished leaders will speak to the initiatives they are spearheading on EDI, education, and ethics to highlight the many ways emerging and experienced designers can effect change throughout our field, including the Emerging Professional Justice Group, JEDI Design Network, Dark Matter University, new AIA resolutions on the Code of Ethics, and more.

BIOS

Moderator:

Venesa Alicea-Chuqui, AIA, NOMA, is a registered Architect in New York State, Founding Principal of NYVARCH Architecture, and brings over 15 years of experience designing multi-family sustainable affordable housing developments. She is committed to working with local communities to develop good design, both sustainable and socially conscious. Committed to design justice, she’s an active contributor to Dark Matter University and Design as Protest. She’s the New York representative to the AIA Small Firm Exchange, and President of the Architecture Alumni Group of the Alumni Association of the City College of New York, her alma mater, where she also taught Coop Internship and Professional Practice classes.

Panelists:

Emily Grandstaff-Rice, FAIA, is an architect at Arrowstreet in Boston with experience on a broad range of academic, hospitality, institutional, and commercial projects. Her leadership includes serving as the elected 2018-2020 Director-at-large for the AIA Board of Directors, 2014 president of the Boston Society of Architects, and chairing the Equity in Architecture Commission. In June, she was elected as the AIA 2022 First Vice President/2023 President-elect. Emily’s innovative design work reinforces that a building is more than its shell; it is an experience. As a frequent speaker and writer on the future of architectural practice, Emily is fascinated by how technology, the social economy, and environmental urgency are addressed in architectural practice.

She was elevated to the College of Fellows of the AIA in 2016.

Gabrielle Bullock, FAIA, NOMAC, oversees Perkins&Will’s Diversity, Inclusion, Engagement program, which works to support and strengthen a firm-wide culture that embraces justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Her role as award-winning principal and Director of Global Diversity enables her to combine her passion for architecture and social justice to effect positive change at a micro and macro level.

Gabrielle has been a key player in Perkins&Will’s success for nearly three decades. She’s worked in both the New York and Los Angeles offices and became the first African American and first woman to rise to the position of Managing Director of the Los Angeles office. Over the course of her career, she has led numerous complex and
high-profile projects, most recently Destination Crenshaw, a project that combines all the elements that Gabrielle believes makes for a successful groundbreaking project.

She is Fellow of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), a member of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), 2018-2019 President of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA), and a recipient of the 2020 Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award by the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

She was elevated to the College of Fellows of the AIA in 2014.

William J. Stanley, Ill, FAIA, Hon. FRAIC, NOMAC, is the founder and principal for design for Stanley, Love-Stanley, P.C. He was the Chancellor of the AIA College of Fellows in 2014, the South Atlantic Regional Director from 2007-2009, President of AIA Georgia, and the 1995 recipient of the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Citation, given as one of the Institute’s highest honors to the country’s most socially-conscious architect. AIA Georgia bestowed upon him the Bernard Rothschild medal – the state’s highest award. AIA Atlanta presented him with the Ivan Allen Senior Trophy its highest Award. The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) elevated him to Honorary Fellowship in their College.

Since 1978, Bill has practiced at Stanley, Love-Stanley, P.C., with his wife, Ivenue Love-Stanley, FAIA, Hon. FRAIC. The firm is the second oldest African-American practice in Georgia, providing architecture, planning, program management, and interior design throughout the U.S. and abroad. He has more than 50 award-winning projects to his credit.

Bill has been past National President of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), President of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, on Architectural Record Magazine’s Advisory Board, Georgia Tech’s National Advisory Board and its Alumni Association Board of Trustees, former Chairman of the Herndon Foundation Board, Vice Chairman of the Atlanta Life Financial Group Corporate Board, and the National Board of Planned Parenthood. He is a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity’s Kappa Boulé, The Atlanta Guardsmen, the NOMA Council and the NOMA Foundation.... Activist Architect.

He was elevated to the College of Fellows of the AIA in 2014.

Rosa T. Sheng, FAIA is a Principal at SmithGroup, serving multiple roles as Higher Education Studio Leader in Northern California, and national Director of Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI). She is also the founder of Equity by Design [EQxD], and the first Asian American Women to serve as AIA San Francisco President (2018) in the organization’s 136 year history. Recognized as a designer, architect, strategist and thought leader, she is known for delivering design solutions with transformational impact in the built environment.

When asked "What type of Architecture do you do?" Her answer, “The kind that’s never been done before.” This mindset has resulted in a variety of award-winning and internationally-acclaimed projects, including the aesthetically minimal, highly technical glass structures for Apple’s original high-profile retail stores - revolutionary workplace design in the Pixar Animation Studios Steven P. Jobs Building – and current work to advance equitable and sustainable design solutions for institutions of higher learning in California. These include the Lorry I. Lokey Graduate School of Business at Mills College, and projects at UC Davis, SF State, and many Community Colleges to advance underrepresented student in academic persistence and future ready resilience.

Rosa has presented both nationally and overseas including "Why Equity Matters for Everyone: A New Value Proposition for Architecture" and in 2020 -The J.E.D.I. Agenda – An Intersectional Approach to Designing a Just Future”. In 2019, Rosa was honored by Metropolis Game Changer. Additionally, she has been featured in Architect Magazine, Architectural Record, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, including talks at Harvard GSD, Stanford University, SXSW, TEDxPhiladelphia, KQED/NPR and the Cannes Lions Festival.

She was elevated to the College of Fellows of the AIA in 2018.
Shalini Agrawal, AIA, brings over 25 years of experience in community-engaged practice, and has dedicated her career to bringing diversity and equity in design, art and architecture. She is founder and principal of Public Design for Equity, a practice that re-envision and activates new systems towards equity-driven outcomes.

Shalini is also Director of Programs for Open Architecture Collaborative, and Director of Pathways to Equity, a leadership experience for responsible community-engaged design. Pathways to Equity is a recipient of the 2020 NOMA NAACP SEED Award for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. She is further on the board of Architects Designers and Planners for Social Responsibility, and Association for Community Design, as their Director of Fellowship.

Shalini is an award-winning educator at California College of the Arts as Associate Professor in Critical Ethnic Studies, Interdisciplinary Design Studios and the Decolonial School. Her research and practice focuses on revealing the historical legacies of colonization in architecture and design and dismantling its lasting impacts.

Dyana Berthaud, Assoc. AIA, is a native New Yorker who received her Bachelor of Architecture from New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), and works at Building Studio Architects as a Junior Associate.

Her talents around design are based on helping those who are in need of space that provides safety, community, and allows for recuperation. Projects that allowed for this exploration included her academic thesis on Emergency Disaster Relief Housing toward the 2010 Earthquake in Haiti, a competition submission for Tiny Homes for Homeless College Students in Chicago, and a crowd-funded travel project of Tiny Homes for Homeless People across the US.

These interests were further strengthened once Dyana was accepted into AIA New York’s Civic Leadership Program as a Civic Leader in 2018, and appointed Program Advisor in 2019.

Since then, Dyana has transitioned her focus to the relationship between mental health and equity in the profession, which led to the co-creation of the JEDI Design Network in 2020 — an online network, resource, and anonymous platform for design professionals dealing with injustice, inequity, and bias in the workplace.