

AIA Alabama Emerging Professional Award

Final – approved by AIA AL ExCom on 4/26/23; updated for ExCom consideration 5/1/2026

I. Purpose

AIA Alabama's Emerging Professional Award is the highest award bestowed upon an Associate Member whose leadership, service, and contributions have directly benefitted the profession and AIA Alabama. The Recipient's service may have benefitted their local or state AIA component, their community, professional organizations, and/or the design and construction industries. The Award is also to be instrumental in assisting the **Recipient** in receiving well-deserved recognition and honor from others.

II. Eligibility

The award is open to any individual who is:

- A graduate of a NAAB-accredited school of architecture, and
- An Associate Member of AIA Alabama practicing 10 years or less, and
- Not licensed to practice architecture by the submission deadline.

III. Criteria

Nominees will be evaluated based on information submitted relating to one (1) or more of the following:

- Contributions made to the advancement of architectural design and design discourse
- Contributions made to the advancement of AIA and its leadership, through local, state, or national components
- Contributions made to the advancement of architectural education
- Contributions made to the betterment of the local community
- Nurturing / mentoring of less experienced peers and/or co-workers

IV. Nominations / Submissions

Any component of AIA Alabama may nominate an individual for this award. The nominee must be a member of the nominating component. Components may submit more than one Nominee annually. Nominations shall be submitted via email to the email address determined by AIA Alabama; nominations must be received by the date/time determined by AIA Alabama. (The Nominator may notify the Nominee, and the Nominee may assist with the nomination information.)

Each nomination shall substantiate the candidate's eligibility and contain sufficient detail to support the nomination. Each nomination shall contain:

- A nomination letter from the nominating AIA component (not to exceed one page), to include:
 - Clearly identify the criteria upon which the nomination is based.
 - Describe the leadership / service / contributions relating to these criteria.
 - The first 25-35 words of the nomination shall be a concise statement of the nominee's achievements and will serve as the introduction at the presentation of the Honor.
- A bio, resume, or curricula vitae of the Nominee (2 pages maximum)
- A digital image of the nominee (approx. 600 pixels wide x 600 pixels high; approx. 72 dpi; .jpg format); generally head and shoulders of the nominee; and labeled with nominee's first & last name.

Additionally, each Nominee shall fully execute AIA Alabama's "Credited Individual Declarations" and submit the completed form with the nomination.

Each nomination may also include:

- Exhibits substantiating the individual's achievements, contributions, architectural designs, etc. Include images, drawings, and/or other materials that best demonstrate the Nominee's outstanding accomplishments. (For architectural design projects, include confirmation the candidate was responsible for the projects listed.)
- Up to two (2) one-page letters in support of the nomination. Letters should explicitly recommend the Nominee and contain specific reasons supporting the candidate's nomination. Letters should be written on company letterhead [signed with original or electronic signature].

V. Presentation:

The Award will be presented annually at a time / venue / manner determined by the AIA Alabama Executive Committee to befit the occasion.

VI. Selection:

Selection shall be by AIA Alabama's Honor Awards Committee.

VII. Symbol:

The symbol(s) of the award shall be such as to distinguish the recipient in his or her daily business attire as well as to be appropriate for wear at formal or semi-formal occasions. The recipient should also receive a token of the award suitable for display on wall or desk of the recipient's place of business.

(End.)