THE BOARD BULLETIN

Society for Design Administration is more than just an association. It's a collection of dynamic men and women committed to furthering the education and issues important to the AEC industry. None of this would be possible without the leadership and commitment of our Board Members – each year volunteering their time and expertise to the success of the San Antonio Chapter. The Board Bulletin is an opportunity to get to know our 2020 Board.

2021 PRESIDENT



BELINDA SANCHEZ, SDA

What are you most excited about for your year as president?

Since the beginning of my membership, I've always admired the volume and quality of professional development opportunities SDA offers. What impressed me even more, was the realization that it is all put together by the local members. Their passion for growth and connection is inspiring and I am most excited to have this opportunity to continue in that tradition but also to challenge our board and members to continue to build our professional development prowess. Because I believe so fervently in the quality of what SDA offers, increasing our chapters visibility to our local AEC community is top of my list. More people should know about the benefits of membership and the scope of its offerings. I'm excited to have the opportunity to lead that effort in 2021.

If you had to think of a one-word theme for the coming year, what would it be?

GROWTH. If there was one positive thing to come out of the 2020 Pandemic, it's the fact that so many had to modify and/or completely change their approach to work. Tasks and procedures that we all knew so well, had to be reimagined and reworked as we all grappled with the phenomena of sudden remote work protocols. Our administrative skills were put to the test and our communication muscles fully flexed. We grew because we had to – the spirt of that growth is what I'd like to continue this year. Growth in opportunity offering, growth in membership, and growth in our continued professional development.

What did you learn during your year as President-Elect that will be crucial to a successful presidency?

Teamwork is the dream work. 2020 was a tough year, but under the leadership of the 2020 President, Loretta Rodriguez, the Board pulled together to change the course of the normal yearly programming to meet the needs of our membership. From switching from in-person to virtual meetings to a successful fundraising event in lieu of our annual CANstruction event. Despite the setbacks of the pandemic, strong leadership is key to continued success.

What does the connection between AIA and SDA mean to you, and how does it impact our industry?

The mission of SDA is to help design firm personnel grow professionally, meaning a good portion of the audience to benefit from our services reside in the offices of the AIA professional membership of architects. Through the AIA network, SDA can tap into the larger audience of AIA to promote events, initiatives, and educational outreach. I firmly believe that the continued relationship and on occasion partnership between AIA and SDA has given our chapter added advantage.



It's always good to see fellow members at meetings. SDA knows how to have fun.

2021 SECRETARY



DANIELLE SALVADOR, CDFA

What's your job title at Merrick and what's your favorite part of your role?

I am a Project Administrator on the High-Performance Facilities team. My favorite part of the role is helping people. I get to help my team & our clients by facilitating successful project communication whether it be permit tracking or team coordination. I just like being a source of assistance (& at times, relief) when I can take a task off someone's busy plate.

What brought you to SDA?

I found SDA online while researching local professional organizations. I wanted to further my career and SDA provides a well-rounded avenue for that. I always aspire to achieve "the next level" and in my professional life, SDA provided that with the CDFA certification, newsletter, and opportunity to become quickly involved.

What inspired you to take the plunge and run for a board position?

I aspire to be a leader in just about anything I do, so a board position was the logical step to appease that appetite I had. I like being a source of information & offering positive input. Going back to my persistent desire to reach the "next level," I couldn't be only a member for long!

What's your favorite SDA event?

My first full year in SDA was 2020…so that's all I'm gonna say about that. Totally missed the boat on experiencing the awesome SDA events, so I'm hoping to experience them next year!

Do you have any pets?

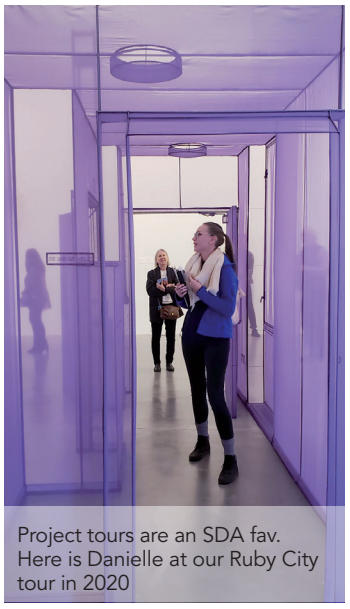
I have a dog, Loki, 8yrs old, who is a chihuahua & dachshund mix. She's one of those "ugly-cute" dogs, very clingy, and sweet. I also have two cats, Sly & Robbie, who are each about 9 months old. I found them only a few days old, living in our trash trailer over Memorial Day weekend. I was so thankful we found them before the trash was hauled away. They love to race each other around the house & playing outside.

What do you do in your free time?

I love hiking, kayaking & camping. Any thing that has to do with a body of water – I'm there for it. I also like to bake, not very well, but it sure is fun to try.

What's your favorite dish to cook?

Home-made macaroni & cheese. Not only because it's delicious, but I also get to snack on the 6 different types of cheeses as I'm making it.



Project tours are an SDA fav. Here is Danielle at our Ruby City tour in 2020