



## The American Institute of Architects

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By the time you read this, I may be in Vegas. Not for vacation – I’m not much of a gambler – I’m going for the AIA Conference on Architecture, our national design conference. It’s a packed few days with 24 workshops, 150+ seminars, another 150 tours, and an expo floor that will take hours to see it all. Thousands of architects, designers, students, their spouses, and vendors of all sorts of materials and services.

The Conference is a special celebration. It is truly the event that brings together the full range of architects and architecture-related interests. Custom residential design? Yup. Sustainable design and Committee on the Environment? Definitely. Women in Design brunch? I’ll see you there. Emerging professionals, Young Architects Forum, new AIA Fellows, regional design, interfaith architecture... It really doesn’t matter the interest; you can find your tribe here. Even the universities get in on the activities by hosting alumni receptions.

The Conference is also a time for AIA to conduct business, namely elections of our key officers. There are five AIA members who are running for office: two for at-large director, two for first vice president/president-elect, and one for treasurer. All of them are exceptional candidates, people who great careers and still devoted years of volunteering to AIA, and we are lucky to have such a splendid slate. Many of those groups and committees I mentioned above also run their business meetings during the conference as one of the few chances people get to meet face to face.

Lest you feel left out if you can’t attend the Conference on Architecture, remember that many of the keynotes and seminars are recorded for later viewing. AIA will send information during and after the conference, just keep an eye out in your email and you’ll find the opportunities.

I encourage you to go to the national Conference at least once. It moves around to a variety of cities across our country - next year it will be in Los Angeles, and the year after in Philadelphia. Make a plan to attend!

Onward and upward,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen Nyht". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Kristen" on the top line and "Nyht" on the bottom line.

Kristen Nyht, AIA, AICP, LEED AP