

POWERFUL IV

Thursday, **October 5**, 8:00AM-4:00PM

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion - 135 N Grand Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Speaker Biographies



Aaron Reynolds is the Managing Principal of the Los Angeles Office Structural Division and has over 19 years of diverse experience in medical, hospital, and research facilities; seismic retrofit and advanced analysis; education campuses; park projects and art installations. This diverse and complex experience gives him the ability to develop a host of innovative solutions for unique projects. Aaron has a talent for personable collaboration, and enjoys the intricate yet collaborative nature of design and construction. Three of Aaron's projects have won the prestigious Marvin Black Partnering Award for superior teamwork. Excelling at Design-Build pursuits, he is a DBIA Associate Design Build Professional. Passionate about engineering medical facilities, he has worked on many large and complex hospitals in his 20 years of experience as a recognized leader in healthcare design and construction in California. Positive impact on the built environment is of great importance to Aaron, especially surprise moments such as healing gardens that lift the mood of patients in recovery. As the Managing Principal of the Structural Division of the Los Angeles office of KPFF Aaron's forward thinking decision making process helps him to stay on the cutting edge of the industry.



Amanda Daflos is director of Mayor Garcetti's Innovation Team developing new approaches to improve neighborhoods and residents' quality of life – relying on data,

open innovation, and strong project and performance management. Her team is focusing on neighborhood revitalization in low-income areas, with the goal of improving the lives of existing residents and minimizing displacement of long-time residents and local businesses. Previously, Amanda was at Deloitte providing services for governmental agencies and as program director for an international non-profit. She holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Colorado and a Bachelor's from Hamilton College.



[Amy Elaine Wakeland](#) is a political strategist, public policy expert, and advocate for children and families. She is active with organizations and campaigns focused on combating sexual and domestic violence, empowering women and girls, and serving our city's most vulnerable residents.

She recently hosted the Inaugural Los Angeles State of Women & Girls Address and Young Women's Assembly, which brought together civic and thought leaders — as well as 700 girls, young women, and trans youth — for in-depth conversations, panels, and presentations on the state of gender equity in Los Angeles.

Amy has led multiple efforts to grow girls' participation in the city's sports and fitness programs — from a new camp that pairs young women with active duty LAFD female firefighters, to the Girls Play L.A. program, which gets girls involved in sports at an early age to learn leadership skills, gain self-esteem, and stay fit.

She also led successful efforts to fund and complete the City's first-ever data-driven analysis of the status of women and girls and to expand the city's

Domestic Assault Response Teams (DART) to every police division in the city. DART is now a universal city program for the first time since its inception.

Amy helped found the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, which builds green spaces in Los Angeles' most park-poor neighborhoods; the Pobladores Fund, a giving circle that contributes to local grassroots social justice causes; and the XX Fund, which makes annual grants to nonprofit organizations that enable women and girls to strive for economic justice and live free of discrimination. She is a past board member of People Assisting the Homeless, Just Detention International, and the Liberty Hill Foundation, among other social justice groups.

As the First Lady of Los Angeles, Amy has actively partnered with the Getty House Foundation Board of Directors and the Mayor's Office to open Getty House to the public — more than 16,000 visitors to date — and reinvigorate its programming with its Engage L.A. community programming and Women's Leadership Series. Under her leadership, Getty House has served as a platform for major policy achievements, including the successful effort to triple the number of jobs available to L.A.'s youth, and the city's expansive drought education campaign.

Amy's professional career includes positions as Executive Director of the Coalition for Kids, Director of the Progressive L.A. Network, Strategic Planner for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, and work on national, statewide, and local political campaigns.



Carissa Shrock Oyedele, AIA is a Senior Associate at Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners. She received a Bachelor of Architecture degree with a minor in Construction Management from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. Her education provided a solid foundation for solving creative design solutions to various project types, including those with complex programs, schedules, and delivery methods. With project experience ranging from masterplans to competitions, mixed-use, campus, and civic work, Carissa's breadth of experience extends into local, national, and international communities. Currently, her focus is leading various American embassy projects with the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) around the globe. In addition to Carissa's international portfolio, she is an active member and Board of Director of the AIA Los Angeles, an IDP Coordinator, an NCARB Licensing Advisor, and is involved in California Architects Board CSE Development Workshops.



[Clare DeBriere](#) has recently spearheaded a new company, C+C Ventures, a neighborhood development firm creating places that inspire community. She is also the new Chair of the Urban Land Institute Los Angeles. She recently left the Ratkovitch Company where she served as COO and Executive Vice President and was known for her innovative and energetic spearheading of such projects as the Block in DTLA and the historic transformation of the Hercules Campus at Playa Vista. She has been named on the Los Angeles Business Journal's Women Making a Difference list and has been on the Real Estate – Southern California's Women of Influence list every year since 2003. Clare is also on the Advisory Board of the UCLA History Department; and served on the Executive Committee of the Board of the Los Angeles Conservancy. Clare holds a Masters of Real Estate Development from USC and a BA from UCLA.



[Claudia Carol, AIA](#) is a Firmwide Planning & Urban Design Practice Area Leader and Studio Director in Gensler's Los Angeles office, providing thought leadership and project management for its diverse portfolio of planning and urban design projects. As a licensed architect with many years of experience in landscape architecture and planning, Claudia has an exceptional perspective on the interface of the natural and built environment. Her wide range of experience - from urban revitalization to academic campuses to entertainment destinations and healthcare centers - gives her a unique insight in addressing complex issues. Claudia's passion is using urban design strategies for social good, particularly as it relates to health and wellness. She has won numerous accolades for her work, including awards from the American Institute of Architecture and the American Planning Association for the Willowbrook MLK Wellness Community. Claudia earned a Masters in Architecture degree from UCLA's

School of Architecture and Urban Design, a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree from California Institute of the Arts, and attended the Architectural Association.



Deborah Weintraub is the Chief Deputy City Engineer for the Bureau of Engineering, and the highest-ranking architect in the City. She provides leadership for an integrated architecture and engineering organization of approximately 800 people, with approximately 486 active projects totaling \$3.6 billion. The projects she oversees include fire facilities, police facilities, cultural facilities, transportation facilities, recreational buildings, parks, general office facilities, and bridges. Deborah also has been integral to the Los Angeles River Revitalization effort and the new Sixth Street Viaduct project. Currently she is leading the site design for the 41 acre River-adjacent Taylor Yard open space project, and for the new 12 acre park that will be built as part of the Sixth Street Viaduct.



Diane Hamlin

As a detail-oriented project manager and dedicated client advocate, Diane approaches each project with imagination, foresight, and a high standard of design and execution. With over 20 years of architecture experience, she specializes in complex, multi-user/multi-discipline research facilities across the country. Always improving upon the current standard, she thrives on staying current with emerging trends in workplace strategy, technology and sustainable practices that are transforming the relationship of programmatic elements and requirements as they relate to occupant satisfaction. An integral part of the team, her contagious enthusiasm for using design to enable and inspire clients and team members is evident in all that she does.



[Elissa Scrafano, AIA](#) has been practicing architecture for more than 25 years, and is a registered architect in Illinois, Michigan, and California. Elissa received a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor with a concentration in art history, and a Master's in Architecture from SCI-Arc in Los Angeles. Before establishing her own business, Elissa worked at the offices of Frank O. Gehry and Associates, Eric Owen Moss Architects, Narduli Grinstein Architects, and Landworth Debolske Architects.

Scrafano Architects was established twenty years ago designing corporate offices, commercial retail boutiques, cafes, restaurants, and residential projects of all sizes and scales including new construction, renovation and restoration. Their work appears throughout the globe commissioned by clients from all over the world. The firm has received several AIA Design Awards and has been featured in Dwell, The Los Angeles Times, Chicago Social, Western Interiors, Chicago Tribune, Midwest Home, and other publications.

Scrafano Architects is one office with two locations – Los Angeles and Chicago. Both offices work together as one team sharing efforts, knowledge, and ideas in a collaborative studio environment that encourages open exchange. The majority of the designers are women with specialized talents that range from architecture, interior design, space planning, color theory, furniture and landscape design, sustainability, painting, graphics, music, and writing. They draw from broad and diverse experiences during the entire design process, and are practicing architects, educators, and active in community outreach.

Elissa is honored to be appointed to the Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Commission by Mayor Eric Garcetti, and previously served on the Cultural Heritage Commission.



Emmanuelle Bourlier is a creative, driven and collaborative leader who pursues opportunities for growth and positive impact. She has worked in both Europe and the United States, demonstrating forthright and team-oriented people skills as well as an ability to balance visionary thinking with analytics and business fundamentals.

As the co-founder and CEO of Panelite, Emmanuelle's focus is on developing high-performance, beautiful materials for architecture - primarily light-weight, light-transmitting, energy-efficient composite panels. Panelite is a leader in the architectural application of honeycomb technology, holding six US patents. The company's ClearShade honeycomb glazing was selected in 2011 by Lawrence Berkeley National Labs (LBNL) / Department of Energy (DOE) as a promising energy-saving façade, skylight and clerestory solution and has been integrated into LBNL's building performance analysis tools.

Panelite works with renowned design firms including OMA, Gensler, HOK, and Perkins + Will, for clients such as JetBlue, Google, Illinois Institute of Technology, Audi, Target and many corporate offices, hospitals, schools and universities.

Prior to founding Panelite, Emmanuelle was a designer in the offices of Groves & Co. in New York and Christian Biecher Architectes in Paris. She holds a B.A. in Architecture from UC Berkeley, an M. Arch from Columbia University and a Certificate in General Management from UCLA's Anderson School of Business (Executive Program). Emmanuelle is a member of WiA (Women in Architecture) a sub-committee of American Institute of Architects (L.A. Chapter), and has been a steering committee member for the Powerful conference series and a speaker at Powerful II and Powerful III on the subject of entrepreneurship. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and seven-year old son.



[Erin Besler and Ian Besler](#) are cofounders of Besler & Sons, LLC, a Los Angeles based practice that works to expand the definition of architecture through active participation with amateur creators, construction trades, and design software. They work to create new audiences and opportunities for social engagement. Their work has been published in *Log*, *Pidgin*, *FutureAnterior*, *Project*, *San Rocco*, and *Perspecta*. Their work has been exhibited internationally. They were finalists for *MoMA PS1's Young Architects Program*, participants in the *Chicago Architecture Biennial* and the *Shenzhen and Hong Kong Bi-City Biennial of Architecture/Urbanism*.

Erin holds a Bachelor of Arts from *Yale University* and a Master of Architecture with Distinction from the *Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc)*. She is a Lecturer at the *University of California Los Angeles* in the Department of Architecture and Urban Design where she was the 2013-2014 Teaching Fellow. Ian holds a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the College of Media at the *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* and a Master of Fine Arts from *ArtCenter College of Design* in Pasadena, where he was the 2014 Milken Family Foundation Post-Graduate Design Fellow. He is a Lecturer of Design at the *University of Southern California* and *Santa Monica College*.



[Gabriela Carrillo](#) is a Mexican architect, partner of the multi-awarded Taller Mauricio Rocha + Gabriela Carrillo. Among the number of projects developed in the

office are the Museum of Cinema, the San Pablo Academic and Cultural Center, the School of Visual Arts of Oaxaca and the Library for the visually impaired.

Recollection and place, would be two of the words that describe Gabriela Carrillo's approach to architectural problems, another discovery would be, but none would allow even glimpses of the sensations created and the evocations provoked in the spaces achieved by this young and multi-awarded Mexican architect

Gabriela Carrillo Valdez, completed her architectural career at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), obtaining honorary mention in 2001. From then until December 2011, she was project director at the *Architecture Workshop Mauricio Rocha*, becoming a member of the latter from the year 2012, and changing the name of the office to *Taller Mauricio Rocha + Gabriela Carrillo*. This office, advocates for teamwork, collaborative and horizontal organization, both in functions and ideas. The latter emanate from the everyday, observed details, flaws, gestures, cracks, and in general everything that is happening.

Gabriela Carrillo, has a great commitment to the academy, participating in workshops and talks both in undergraduate and postgraduate studies, among which is her collaboration in the Extraordinary Chair Federico E. Mariscal of the UNAM, in the Extraordinary Chair Enrique Manero Peón de la Universidad Marista de Mérida, both in 2013 and in the 3rd. Architecture Symposium at the Autonomous University of Yucatan (2015), among many others. Since 2003, he has been teaching at UNAM in the same workshop where he studied, the Jorge González Reyna Workshop where he works under the principles of respect, creativity, discipline and originality, in order to contribute to the education of architecture in terms. She has also been invited as speaker in several cities in Latin America, North America, Europe and the East.



S. Gail Goldberg, FAICP, is the Executive Director of the Urban Land Institute - Los Angeles. Gail brings to the table her many years of experience leading the planning departments of two of the world's most significant cities, Los Angeles and San Diego. She is a native Californian and holds a degree in Urban Studies and Planning from the University of California San Diego. She currently serves on the Board of Advisors for

the USC Center for Sustainable Cities and the USC Price School Masters of Planning Program as well as the Advisory Board for the UCLA Lewis Center for Public Policy, Advisory Board for the University of California District 9 Transportation Center, Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Friends of Park 101 and the Pershing Square ReNew Advisory Committee.



[Gina Chang, AIA](#), EDAC, is an associate principal and healthcare architect at CO Architects who has successfully led large teams through ambitious design and construction projects. At the firm, she leads several initiatives including: Women of CO (WoCO) - an initiative that champions the professional development of, and leadership opportunities for, the firm's female employees, CO University - an internal professional development program, and the Mentorship program. At home, she spends her time with her husband and two sons, 6-year old Dylan and 4-year-old Max.



[Heidi Creighton, AIA](#) is an Associate at BuroHappold Engineering and is a registered architect, a LEED AP with BD+C and O+M specialties, and a WELL AP. Her work focuses on sustainability and wellness strategies and certifications for academic,

healthcare, commercial, and residential projects. She provides sustainability consulting services at the building and masterplan scales, as well as 3rd party certification management (LEED, Living Building Challenge, and WELL), post occupancy evaluation, and health and wellbeing-focused design. Heidi is a passionate advocate for a restorative built environment, delivering socially, economically and environmentally sustainable developments.

Heidi has led multiple initiatives within BuroHappold dealing with internal sustainability, wellness and diversity. The LA office received LEED-CI Platinum certification and Los Angeles Green Business certification. In 2014, Heidi led an internal happiness workshop for the LA office that resulted in a number of improvements including better lighting design, solutions to heating and cooling problems and a weekly office yoga program. In support of a firm-wide diversity initiative, Heidi proposed that BuroHappold U.S. pursue the JUST Label. BuroHappold U.S. now has its JUST Label, accomplished through the policy, diversity and pay-scale data needed for reporting to this transparent database. This label underlines BuroHappold's commitment to and engagement with our employees, today and in the future. She has also been instrumental in the launch of a Diversity & Inclusion Forum at BuroHappold, intended to promote understanding and appreciation of diversity within the office.

Heidi has been active in the green building industry for more than 15 years and has served on the USGBC-LA Board of Directors since early 2013. She is an Officer of USGBC-LA in the position of Secretary. Recent speaking experience includes: Not Why, But How: Diversity, Equity and Sustainability at MGBCE Keynote (2017); Healthy and Happy: The Importance and Value of Human Capital at Greenbuild (2016); Alphabet Soup: Deciphering Sustainability Rating Systems and Lessons Learned at the Neighborhood Scale at APA California (2016); Healthy and Happy: The Importance and Value of Human Capital at AIA National (2016); Integrated Health and Wellness: WUSTL's Hillman Hall at MGBCE (2016); USC Comprehensive Post-Occupancy Evaluation Study: The Impact of Indoor Environmental Quality on the Building Occupants' Behaviors at MGBCE (2016); Health, Wellbeing and Productivity in the Workplace at USGBC-LA (2016); Workplace Changes and the Effect on Acquisitions at NAREIM (2016); Designing Your Life: Finding Balance at AIA-LA Women Leading Design (2015); The Value of Diversity at AIA-LA Women Leading Design (2015); Healthy and Happy: The Importance and Value of Human Capital at MGBCE (2015), and The Added Value Women Bring to the Design Profession at AIA-LA Women Leading Design (2015).



[Ingalill Wahlroos-Ritter, AIA](#) is an architect, educator, and design consultant specializing in the building envelope and the experimental architectural use of glass. Dean of the School of Architecture at Woodbury University, she has previously taught at Yale, Cornell, UCL Bartlett School of Architecture, and SCI-Arc. Underscoring her value in supporting a broad-scope of architectural inquiry, Ingalill also serves as Director of WUHO, the Woodbury University Hollywood gallery, a venue for exhibitions, installations, and public dialogue, and on the LA Forum Board of Directors.

In partnership with Roland Wahlroos-Ritter, her architectural practice WROAD, navigates transdisciplinary territory in the diverse type and scale of projects. She has collaborated on multiple award-winning projects including as façade consultant on *Bloom* with DoSu Architects, the *Portland Aerial Tramway* with AGPS, the Centre Pompidou exhibition, *Continuities of the Incomplete* with Morphosis, and as project architect for the Corning Museum of Glass with Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects.

Ingalill is the 2016 recipient of The American Institute of Architects, California Council (AIACC), Educator Award.



[Jayna Zweiman](#) is a multidisciplinary artist and designer. Zweiman's independent practice combines architecture, art, and new media to focus on experiences that overlap physical, virtual, and conceptual spaces. She is the co-founder of *Pussyhat*

Project, an international network and movement of women's rights supporters. As evident at its overwhelming popularity in the 2017 Women's Marches, it is one of the largest crowd-sourced art advocacy projects ever. Zweiman is the founder of *Welcome Blanket*, a new crowd-sourced artistic action that reimagines the 2000-mile length of the proposed border wall dividing the US and Mexico as an inclusive 2000-mile length of yarn. *Welcome Blanket* invites participants to knit, crochet, or sew individual welcome blankets for new refugees and other immigrants coming to the States, and include personal notes of welcome and stories of immigration to the Smart Museum of Art.

Zweiman received her AB from Brown University in visual arts and economics and her Masters in Architecture from Harvard University Graduate School of Design. She lives and works in Los Angeles.

[Jenna Didier](#), in pursuit of a new approach to the built environment, believes that each city is an organism whose life force is the network of communities that live within it, sustaining it through the infrastructures they create. A lifelong interest in the creation and use of public space led her to a career in public art. The trajectory of her path began with the development of technical skills in robotics, engineering, and metal fabrication to create mechanical effects, sculpture, and large public water features, and has evolved into an active engagement in place-making. Many of her projects discover the invisible but powerful forces influencing a site and dramatize them through embedding interactive lighting, fog, water, or mechanical effects.

Fifteen years ago, she founded a non-profit called Materials & Applications(M&A) in Los Angeles, California that develops immersive public environments and experiments with materials and techniques through socially-engaged programs. It is located in front of her former studio as a testbed for art, architecture, and public engagement. M&A has partnered with other organizations to address blight, pollution, social injustice, and economic depression by activating sites through public art actions in collaboration with local communities. They transform disused sites into vibrant places and produce bold beautiful environments with leading edge architects and designers.



[Jenna Knudsen, AIA](#) is a principal at CO Architects. As a principal and senior project manager, Jenna has dedicated her career in pursuit of new and better ways for architects, engineers, owners and contractors to work together to achieve continual process improvement and innovative design solutions. Her experience and leadership on award winning projects has placed her at the leading edge of digital technologies and integrated project delivery, for which she has spoken extensively and received national recognition. Within CO Architects, Jenna leads the Women of CO (WoCO) initiative that champions the professional development of, and leadership opportunities for, the firm's female employees. In addition, Jenna leads firm wide hiring and staffing initiatives. She has practiced architecture for 18 years, 16 with CO Architects.



[Jia Gu](#) is an architect and curator with a special interest in critical practices in architecture and design. She has worked for over a decade in developing new possibilities for architectural and spatial interventions in the city, new cultural infrastructures for architects and designers, and collaborative models to transforming sites, situations, and practices.

Her past projects include The Institute of _____ a temporary knowledge exchange center for Barcelona's Festival of Architecture with Valentina Karga, Pieterjan Gandry, and Rosario Talevi; raumlaborkorea, an intervention and research unit for the Anyang Public Art Project; and House of Contamination, an experimental museum designed to host Artissima's curatorial programme, in collaboration with raumlaborberlin.

In Los Angeles, as recently appointed Director of Materials & Applications, she has curated and programmed TURF: A Mini-Golf Project; The Kid Gets Out of the Picture, a pictorial intervention in the M&A Courtyard; and Zoning & Its Applications, a public program exploring the social and political implications of zoning with the Los Angeles Poverty Department and Rosten Woo. Her upcoming project Privacies Infrastructure with Aurora Tang explores the visual culture of privacy and privatization in Los Angeles' residential landscape.

She holds a B.A in Visual Arts from UCSD and a Master of Architecture from UCLA. In 2015, she was appointed Director of Materials & Applications. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Architecture at UCLA and directs the creative studio Spinagu.



Dr. Judith Segal is a coach, internal mediator, lecturer and consultant who works with globally based companies in all aspects of Human Relations, Management Development, Assertiveness Training, Leadership and Communication Effectiveness. Her clients include counties, cities, shipping and container lines, health care and health management organizations, trusts, museums, national associations, accounting firms, architectural firms, restaurants, for profit and non profit boards of directors, real-estate development and management companies, and manufacturers in the United States, Europe and Asia.

She works with CEO's, corporate presidents, partners, high potential managers, technical experts, supervisors, team leads and entire teams. She also specializes in working with individuals who are looking for a balance between work and personal life, are technically strong but interpersonally challenged, find themselves in positions

for which they have had little or no preparation, and/or have made costly people or leadership mistakes. She is known for her success in facilitating strong comebacks from negative situations.

In addition to being a trainer and keynote speaker, Dr. Segal specializes in developing and implementing performance planning and review systems tailored to specific organizational cultures and customized coaching programs that address issues related to relationship building and maintenance, conflict resolution, communication, team process and leadership, management styles, organizational change and performance feedback.

Born in Canada, Dr. Segal received her BA from Concordia University, her MA in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College and her PHD in Human Development from the Fielding Graduate Institute. She also completed the Human Sexuality Program at the Kinsey Institute at Indiana University.

Dr. Segal has taught in the Management Development Program at University of Southern California, and has also taught and done presentations at Concordia University, University of California Los Angeles and Pacific Oaks College.

Presentation topics include: Confronting Problem Behavior; Six Keys to Building or Rebuilding Effective Teams; How to Streamline Rapid Growth Transitions; The Effective Discussion Workout Session; Direct Mediation for On the Spot Conflict Resolution; Developing and Optimizing Leadership Talent and Skills; How to De-Bully the Workplace; Strategic Assertiveness and, Help for People Who Don't Like to Work with People.

She has been a regular business contributor to CBC Radio Canada and CJAD Radio Canada, has appeared on television shows including FOX and has been featured in Entrepreneur Magazine, Redbook Magazine, The Los Angeles Times and other newspapers across the United States and Canada.



Kate Diamond, FAIA is HDR's Civic Design Director and a Design Principal in the Los Angeles office. Kate brings a breadth of experience and passion for translating the aspirations of a diversity of clients into beautiful, high performance projects that encompass: justice, federal, state and local government, K-12 through university,

transportation and infrastructure, community building / commercial, residential and mixed-use, and planning and urban design. Additionally, she brings a lifetime personal commitment to sustainable design within the urban context as a key generator of design excellence.

Prior to joining HDR, Kate built a strong design reputation as Principal and Lead Designer of several larger practices including HMC, NBBJ, RNL and her partnership with Margot Siegel, AIA, Siegel Diamond Architecture. Siegel Diamond Architecture and its predecessor partnership Siegel Sklarek Diamond was, at the time, the largest entirely woman owned partnership in the US.

In 1996, Diamond was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). From 1993 to 1994, she served as the first Woman President in 99 years of the AIA's Los Angeles Chapter. She also served as President of the Association for Women in Architecture from 1985 to 1987. She continues to serve on the National Peer Review Council for the GSA Design Excellence Program. In the past, she frequently taught design studios at the University of Southern California, School of Architecture and continues to give guest lectures at various schools of architecture across the country.



Marisa Kurtzman, Architect, LEED AP is an Associate at Frederick Fisher and Partners, where she specializes in programming, planning, and concept design. Marisa has over 14 years of experience helping clients such as schools and universities, museums, and civic entities identify and develop visions for their upcoming building projects. A "people person" by nature, she loves finding out what makes organizations tick, and then translating those values into design strategies that are beautiful, functional, and expressive of unique institutional identities and goals. Marisa received her BA from Wesleyan University, and her Master of Architecture from Yale. Outside of work, she enjoys seeking out quirky cultural activities around town, reading, listening to public radio, and travel.



[Marsha Maytum FAIA](#), LEED AP, is a founding Principal at Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects (LMS^A) in San Francisco, winner of the 2017 National AIA Architecture Firm Award. For over 35 years Marsha has focused her career on community, cultural, and socially-responsible projects that promote sustainable design. Her work has included the creation of new buildings, rehabilitation of historic buildings, and adaptive reuse of existing structures. LMS^A has received over 100 regional, national and international design awards and has been recognized by organizations including the American Institute of Architects, Urban Land Institute, National Trust for Historic Preservation, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Green Building Council, and the 2014 ICC National Leadership in Sustainability Award. Eight of the firm's projects have been named AIA COTE Top Ten Green Projects in the U.S. Marsha is a frequently invited juror and critic and has lectured nationally on the topics of sustainable design and adaptive reuse. She is a current member of the National AIA Committee on the Environment Advisory Group and has been the Pietro Belluschi Visiting Professor at the University of Oregon, the Howard A. Friedman Visiting Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and a visiting professor at the California College of the Arts.



[Mathew Chaney, AIA](#) is a Partner at Ehrlich Yanai Rhee Chaney Architects, recipient of the prestigious 2015 AIA National Architecture Firm Award. Mathew has served as Principal-in-Charge for some of the firm's largest and most complex projects ranging from commercial to institutional developments. He lends his

expertise in alternative delivery methods within the firm and throughout the A/E/C industry by lecturing frequently Design/Build and Integrated Project delivery across the country. Mathew recently oversaw the design and documentation of the Sunset Time hotel and condominium development in West Hollywood, currently under construction.



Melanie Freeland, AIA is a licensed Architect, LEED BD+C certified, and an active member of the AIA. Her portfolio includes over a dozen built projects in the US and overseas in a variety of scales and program types.

Melanie brings an infectious enthusiasm for creativity and diligent work ethic to the profession. She is a founding member of The Breakfast Club, a gender equity initiative started at Gensler LA now examined to offices around the world. She has been invited to speak at women empowerment events including Lady Boss at the Ace Hotel and is Vice Chair of the WiA AIA|LA and co-Chair of Powerful 2017. Melanie is enthusiastic about mentoring and promoting a culture that fosters growth in and outside of the studio.

A 15-year Angeleno, Melanie is passionate about the role of design and the pedestrian in the city. She recently co-authored a piece for the AIA/LA newsletter, Architecture and Civic Engagement, A Call to Action. In 2016, she was elected to the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council to represent the community of 60k plus residents.

Outside of the office, you might find her exploring the city on two wheels with her husband and young son.



Renee Dake Wilson is an architect and leader creating homes, institutional buildings and communities throughout Southern California neighborhoods, where she has practiced since 1998. Her community building efforts focus on improving social equity and conserving nature. She has helped to achieve real and innovative results for Los Angeles in these areas through work with professional and civic organizations.

Renee Dake Wilson is a Principal and founder in 2002 of Dake Wilson Architects, an architecture firm with an environmental focus on middle-income single family residences, small commercial, civic, and institutional projects. Renee is a vigorous collaborator and balances design talent with strong technical and construction administration experience. As a LEED-accredited professional, she is committed to the seamless incorporation of environmentally-responsible design and construction techniques in every project.

In 2013 Mayor Eric Garcetti appointed Renee Dake Wilson to the Los Angeles City Planning Commission, first serving as President and currently as Vice President. The CPC is responsible for reviewing all discretionary large projects and policy matters within the City of Los Angeles.



Simone Barth, Associate AIA, was born in Ueberlingen, Germany, following a family tradition, and completed a carpenter apprenticeship before she studied and

gained her master of architecture and diploma of engineering from the University of Applied Sciences Stuttgart.

Simone joined Moore Ruble Yudell in 2003, where she gained valuable experience with diverse project types. As project manager and integral member of the design team Simone contributed to the planning and execution of a wide range of award-winning civic, academic and educational buildings. Simone has been leading Moore Ruble Yudell's sustainability and research portfolio group for over ten years and is responsible for education, implementation and administration of the firm's sustainable principles and values.

With over thirteen years of professional experience and a strong interest in craft, stewardship and innovation Simone's talent lies in the synthesis of management, uncompromising attention to detail, and strong design sensibility.

A dedicated collaborator, she has the enthusiasm and energy to develop and execute contemporary planning and design solutions appropriate to culture, site and climate. During the recent completed UMKC Henry W. Bloch Executive Hall for Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Kansas City and the Brown School of Social Work Hillman Hall at Washington University in St. Louis, Simone effectively coordinated large client and consultant teams, fast - track schedules and complex programs with attention to design, constructability and budget.

Simone pairs her architectural expertise with in-depth knowledge of large - scale urban and campus planning projects. Her sensitivity to place, culture and client needs combined with the ability to coordinate and facilitate multi-faceted client, consultant team and user groups was applied on a variety of institutional, residential, and mixed use urban projects.

Nurturing a strong commitment to outreach, mentorship and teaching Simone taught a design studio at UNITEC in Auckland, New Zealand and Jinan University , China in 2013 and participated as assistant at the 2010 Glenn Murcutt Master Class in Sydney. Since 2004, Simone has taught with James Mary O'Connor in the Architecture & Interior Design Program at University of California, Los Angeles Extension.

Simone lectured at UNITEC in Auckland, New Zealand, UTS in Sydney, Australia and the University of Applied Sciences Stuttgart, Germany and has been invited as a guest critic at Woodbury University , the University of Southern California and the 2013 Glenn Murcutt Master Class.

As current Vice - Chair of the AIA COTE (Committee of the Environment) Simone maintains strong connections with the design community at large. She is an active member of the AIA Los Angeles Chapter as well as the USGBC - LA Chapter.



[Susan Bartley](#) is an Associate Director at SOM. She is an accomplished project architect with an extensive background in all aspects of the creative and technical process. She brings her diverse set of skills, strong leadership, and ability to coordinate with clients and consultants to large-scale projects. Prior to joining SOM's Los Angeles studio, Susan led the architectural teams on the LAPD Headquarters, the 11-Acre Los Angeles Public Safety Metro Site Master Plan, the British Columbia Headquarters for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police near Vancouver, a Public-Private Partnership (P3) project, and the Long Beach Courthouse, which pioneered the P3 building delivery process in the United States.

Most recently she managed the architecture team for the New United States Courthouse, a design-build project in downtown Los Angeles. Her ability to adapt and react quickly aided the team on this fast track, design-build project.



[Tania Van Herle](#) is the Corporate Systems Leader for Harley Ellis Devereaux', and is responsible for the operation of the firm's key systems: Legal, Human Resources, Finance and Information Technology. With experience in the technical, management and business development areas of the practice, she is the Corporate Treasurer for the firm and has served on the Board since 2006.

With over 20 years of experience in architecture, Tania served as the Managing Principal for the Los Angeles practice for several years until taking on her new role in January of 2017. In that capacity, she provided leadership for the design and construction of K12 Education, Higher Education, Corporate & Commercial and Science & Technology projects.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Tania earned a Bachelor and Masters of Science in Civil Engineering, followed by a Masters of Architecture I, all earned at UCLA. Tania is currently serving as the Vice President/ President Elect of AIA Los Angeles, she is a past graduate of the 2013 Southern California Leadership group, and is serving on the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles.



Tanya Paz joined CAMA in 2016 to launch a West Coast office, marrying her interest in design, wellness, and health policy with CAMA's mission to empower well-being through design.

Tanya's previous work took her from Rwanda to Latin America, notably as a Fulbright Scholar funded to evaluate new processes for design and health access in resource-limited settings. She later spent several years building MASS Design Group's US practice, deploying human-centered design methodologies to support the delivery of care domestically and abroad. Much of her work focused on applying knowledge gained from their projects overseas to health facilities in the US. Tanya leveraged this process joining SOM and later Gensler in the Health & Wellness Practice Area. Tanya received her Bachelor of Arts from Tufts University and her Masters in Architecture from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design.



[Tara Bauer](#) is a licensed Architect, and provides project support and high-level design for Jensen + Partners. Tara works directly with master planners, and manages programming, concept costing, architectural test ts, and digital model-making. Tara has built many relationships with planning, building, and re departments and other consultants. She is adept at balancing client needs, budgets, engineering requirements, and municipal constraints. Throughout her career she has been involved in the development of construction drawings from schematic design through job completion, and her uency in this process is a valuable asset to Jensen + Partners' clients.



[Whitney Wyatt](#) is a Principal at Ehrlich Yanai Rhee Chaney Architects, recipient of the 2015 National AIA Architecture Firm Award. Whitney has served as the lead Architect and Designer on many of the firm's award-winning education projects, including the recently completed Otis College Campus Expansion which achieved LEED Platinum and a National SCUP Design Award. Her passion for design emerges from the belief that architecture can participate in and impact people's everyday lives and thus it involves exploration of and full integration with the interior design as well as landscape regardless of the project type or scale.

**We're thrilled to hear from these
speakers among others on
October 5th!**