

1. Summary of Achievements

Object 5 | Service to Society



Tara L. Myers,

AIA, NCARB, EDAC, LEED AP® BD+C

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Tara believes that at its core the profession of architecture is a service to society and as architects, we are called upon to serve.

Throughout her career, Tara has used her talents and expertise as an architect to lead, educate, mentor, and drive change. She believes that at its core, the profession of architecture is a service to society and as architects we are called upon to serve. **Architects sit at the intersection between people and the built environment and are in a unique position to foster connections and shape the surrounding world.** In this spirit, she embraces the concept of architects as multi-disciplinary conveners, and the powerful impact they can have on the overall health and wellbeing of our industry and community. The widespread impressions from her work, both in and out of the office, are overlapping and entwined, with the common goal of bringing together individuals and resources to inspire positive change.

Advancing & Educating the Industry through AIA Contract Documents

Since joining the AIA National Contract Documents Committee in 2017, Tara has dedicated hundreds of pro bono hours advancing the practice of architecture, upholding the AIA's recognition as a global leader in fair and equitable construction contracts, and educating the industry on their use. **Her work on the Committee transcends customary service to the Institute and impacts design and construction projects globally.** She shares her knowledge and expertise across the nation, reaching thousands through numerous documents, publications, and seminars that address critical industry issues such as the rapidly evolving risks of sustainable design, the importance of diversity, and the need for increased collaboration across the industry.

2. Accomplishments

Summary Statement

Tara Myers exemplifies the diverse roles architects play in shaping the world. Harnessing the power of collective impact, her servant leadership advances and educates the AEC industry, while championing a collaborative, equitable, and healthy society.

As a part of the AIA Documents Committee, **Tara has played a critical role in the collective creation and revision of over 100 AIA Contract Documents and Guides.** She leads and influences the work of the Committee by chairing Task Group work, advising on the AIA Documents Products Subcommittee and serving on the AIA Document's Committee Management team. **In 2024, Tara will lead AIA Documents Committee as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Management Team.**

Fostering the Next Generation of Diverse Leaders

Tara demonstrates her commitment to mentoring and education through her longstanding leadership in growing and enabling an empowered and diverse pipeline of future industry leaders. **Her work with the ACE Mentor Program has impacted over 2,300 students and raised over \$1M in scholarships.** Her passion for leading the transformation of Metro Nashville Schools through the Academies of Nashville has **increased overall STEM Academy enrollment and female participation by over 400 percent.** Her most recent initiative to develop a thriving Urban Land Institute UrbanPlan program in Nashville has **reached over 150 students, city planners and community leaders in its inaugural year.**

Accustomed to leading the design process with teams spanning across the AEC industry, she draws upon these skills to create the groundwork for new initiatives that unite individuals and groups throughout the community to advocate for a sustained and equitable profession. **She leveraged her experience and connections in building new industry programs, including**

3. Exhibits

Urban Land Institute's Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI), Women in Healthcare and Nashville's AEC Power Women. Once established, she invests her time to develop and bring out the potential of women in these organizations as well as **collaborate and share her expertise with other chapters across the United States, impacting women across the country.**

Promoting Architecture's Role in Community Health

Tara calls attention to the critical role of architecture in community health through her local and national work with the American Heart Association (AHA), where she **advocates for the physical and mental health of our youth on the AHA National Council for Leaders for a Resilient Generation.** She also spotlights it through her community focused projects whose reach extends beyond their site boundaries. These include pro bono work with the non-profit rehabilitation center **The Next Door, which has served over 8,000 women since its opening** and a community development at **Nashville's oneC1TY, that has transformed 18.7 acres of abandoned land into a thriving health and sustainability conscious campus.**

Tara seeks out opportunities to foster collaborations and shared knowledge in all of these initiatives. She works within current program structures to advance organizational missions, while actively searching for ways to cross-pollinate resources and effective strategies between individual groups. **Once united, these partnerships have shown they can respond to issues as a more impactful, collective force.**