



## Member Benefits

*Architect Members (AIA)*

*Associate Members (Assoc. AIA)*

*International Associate Members (Int'l Assoc. AIA)*

AIA Northern Virginia provides professional resources that enable you to collaborate with colleagues, broaden your professional knowledge and compete more effectively in the local market. The Chapter offers you the opportunity to make a significant difference for yourself, your community and the profession as a whole.

And when you join AIA Northern Virginia, you also receive valuable benefits through Virginia Society AIA and the National AIA. The following information gives you an idea of the benefits you will receive as an AIA member.

### **Join now and receive free registration to the AIA 2012 Convention in Washington, DC.**

*This offer is valid only for first-time new Architect, Associate, and International Associate members who join the AIA between now and the May convention. Lapsed members of five years or more who join the AIA again are also eligible. Membership dues must be paid in full to receive convention registration.*

## Information

Be more effective by staying informed of the latest events, trends and issues in the design profession through our newsletters, informative websites (including the 'members only' section of AIA.org), event calendars, membership directories and social media connections.

You will receive numerous publications, free of charge, as a benefit of membership including:

*AIA Northern Virginia News*

*BLAST*

*Inform Magazine*

*Virginia Society's newsletter*

*ARCHITECT*

*AIArchitect*

*EcoHome*

*eco-structure*

*Residential Architect*

## Education

Expand your knowledge and satisfy your continuing education and licensure requirements through professional development offerings, such as forums, seminars, building tours, lunch series, ARE Prep workshops and conferences. AIA Northern Virginia offers many free or inexpensive continuing education opportunities throughout the year.

Enjoy member discounts to:  
AIA National Convention  
Architecture Exchange East  
DesignDC

Members also receive free access to AIA CES Discovery. This online platform tracks your continuing education record, provides a transcript which can be used to document your credits for license renewal, helps you find the best courses and generally makes your professional education journey a little easier.

## Networking

AIA Northern Virginia offers you networking opportunities throughout the year, helping you connect and collaborate with your colleagues and your community.

Events include our annual open house, happy hours, mentoring events, firm tours, Pecha Kucha nights, our design awards gala and our annual dinner. We offer the opportunity to participate in numerous Chapter committees to discuss topics of common interest, plan events, get to know your fellow members and enhance leadership skills.

It is also important to connect with the community as responsible citizens and to demonstrate the value of architects and design to the public. AIA Northern Virginia organizes several outreach programs including Architecture Week, our annual Construction<sup>®</sup> competition, Architecture in the Schools program, a Rebuilding Together team and numerous programs with the local architecture schools.

AIA Knowledge Communities are your opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals to learn, collaborate and share ideas in areas of professional interest. Knowledge Communities help to increase your understanding of a specific area of the profession, from sustainable design to technology in practice.

AIA KnowledgeNet is a social networking platform that emphasizes member to member communication, including blogs, discussion forums and professional resources authored by members.

## Practice

Having AIA after your name presents a recognizable symbol of your professional standing to your clients and colleagues. Your membership can also help increase the visibility of your practice and drive new business to your firm through collaboration with fellow members and marketing opportunities provided by the AIA. You will be kept informed of the latest professional and business news and trends, allowing you to be better equipped to make wise business decisions.

Business Development:

- Free access to both the AIA Northern Virginia online referral service and AIArchitect Finder, a national online database where potential clients can search for architects within their geographic area and by areas of specialization
- Notification of RFPs, RFQs, competitions and design awards
- Firm and individual recognition by local, state and national design awards and honors programs

Practice Tools:

- Up-to-date practice information in local, state and national publications
- Discounts on AIA Contract Documents

- Discounts on industry publications, such as the *Handbook of Professional Practice*
- AIA Advantage discounts on valuable business products and services with companies nationwide
- AIA Trust services, including insurance and retirement programs and legal information
- Navigating the Economy information
- Free job postings on AIA Northern Virginia's online job board
- Free classified ads for employment opportunities in *AIA Northern Virginia News*
- Access to the Chapter's resume bank
- Access to the AIA Compensation Report, AIA Firm Survey and the Architecture Billings Index

#### Career Development

- Help finding professional and internship opportunities to advance your career
- Resume bank and employment opportunity information
- AIA Northern Virginia's Small Firm Roundtable, Young Architects Forum and Women in Architecture Committee
- AIA Career Center
- Networking opportunities
- Mentoring
- Professional skills classes

## Advocacy

The AIA represents its members before Congress and with federal agencies to help shape the issues that determine how our members practice and the business climate in which they practice. Members working with the National AIA Advocacy Office have developed a legislative agenda that calls on Congress and the Administration to pursue policies that will stimulate work for architects. The AIA continually works to educate the public about the value of architects and the profession's role in the building industry.

Virginia Society represents architects at the state legislature and regulatory agencies. They keep you informed about state concerns and decisions that affect your professional practice, while AIA Northern Virginia watches issues that affect your practice and business locally. The Chapter also strives to elevate the public's exposure to and appreciation of architecture and design through public outreach programs like Architecture Week and our Canstruction® competition.

You can easily keep abreast of advocacy issues through the AIA publication, *The Angle*.