

JOHN ORSINI, AIA PRESIDENT AIA OHIO 400 W. WILSON BRIDGE ROAD, SUITE 120 WORTHINGTON, OH 43085

06.23.23

RE: MEYERS &
ASSOCIATES, 2023 AIA
OHIO GOLD MEDAL FIRM
NOMINATION

Dear John

It is my distinct pleasure to nominate Columbus firm Meyers & Associates for the 2023 AIA Ohio Gold Medal firm award. This firm sets an example for all architects in Ohio that is worthy of national recognition. Chris Meyers and firm leaders have built a firm that is based on culture of mentorship, and collectively, they design award-winning buildings and interiors that are a model of partnership, experience design, and iconic form.

I first met Chris Meyers when he joined our firm immediately after he completed his architectural education at the Knowlton School of Architecture. An upstate New York native, Chris immediately immersed himself in the Columbus architectural community, establishing a pattern of giving back from the beginning, and became an engaging emerging leader. As he developed professionally, it was clear that Chris was driven by an entrepreneurial spirit, and the founding partners of my firm, Robert Wandel and Thomas Schnell, encouraged Chris to chart his own path. He started his firm shortly thereafter and has continued to innovate, expand, and lead.

Meyers & Associates is a unique firm in Ohio. This team of creative leaders is noteworthy for their outstanding and innovative design. Their work ranges from residential to commercial and institutional and is elevated through a deep exploration of user experience and hospitality. For this reason, many of their projects have received recognition from the greater design community. However, unlike some award-winning design-oriented firms, Meyers & Associates' strongest asset is a culture of mentorship. Chris, firm principals, and their fellow leaders have created an empowering environment where emerging professionals access, build, and hone skills in their own unique way. This approach has led to high employee retention, longevity of service, and dedication to the firm's mission. I believe the Meyers & Associates firm culture is the driving force behind their growing design influence and organizational success.

The AIA Ohio Gold Medal firm award shines a light on exemplary firms. Over nearly 25 years, Meyers & Associates has grown to be extraordinary. They have proven to be more than worthy of this prestigious recognition. This award will demonstrate the potential for firm culture to elevate design, how a positive, nurturing culture and design are not mutually exclusive, and bring national attention to the excellence that exists within the Ohio design community. For this and many other reasons, I strongly encourage the jury to award Meyers & Associates the 2023 AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm.

Yours very truly,

TIMOTHY C. HAWK, FAIA; PRESIDENT

WSA; 982 S FRONT STREET; COLUMBUS, OH 43206



June 27, 2023

AIA Ohio Design Awards Jury 400 W. Wilson Bridge Road Suite 120 Worthington, OH 43085

Dear Jury Members,

I am thrilled to write a letter of support for Meyers + Associates for the prestigious AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award. As an outstanding architecture firm, Meyers + Associates exemplifies the highest standards of design, firm culture, and innovation, making them a deserving candidate for this recognition.

In the category of Design, Meyers + Associates has consistently demonstrated design excellence, creating projects that have a significant impact on society and elevate the standard of design within the profession. Their body of work showcases a cumulative positive impact on the built environment, as evidenced by published work, peer recognition, awards, presentations, and community engagement.

In the category of Firm Culture, Meyers + Associates has emerged as a leader in advancing firm culture within the dynamic and ever-changing design profession. They have fostered a work culture that values mentorship, promotes diversity, and encourages individual growth, leading to the development of future firm leaders. The firm's dedication to elevating its employees and acknowledging their contributions to improving the built environment is evident in their work.

In the category of Innovation, Meyers + Associates has established itself as a trailblazer in the field, consistently developing and implementing significant innovations in the design of the built environment. Through their utilization and application of new approaches to design, planning, research, and materials, Meyers + Associates has demonstrated their commitment to pushing the boundaries of architectural practice. Their pioneering work, backed by rigorous testing, applied research, and field application, has made them a recognized leader in the utilization of innovative techniques, materials, and technology.

Meyers + Associates embodies the spirit of excellence, creativity, and forward-thinking that the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award seeks to recognize. Their exceptional achievements in design, firm culture, and innovation have significantly contributed to the advancement of the architectural profession and the improvement of the built environment. I wholeheartedly recommend Meyers + Associates for the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm.

Graciously submitted,

Jennifer littler

Jennifer Rittler, AIA AIA Columbus President 2023

AIA Columbus 50 W. Town St. Ste. 110 Columbus, OH 43215 т (614) 580 4432

www.aiacolumbus.org



FIRM HISTORY

We are a mentorship-based firm that focuses on human connection, positive transformations, and sustainable outcomes.

Meyers+Associates is a 33-person full-service architecture and interior design firm based in Columbus, Ohio, creating projects nationwide. The firm was founded in 1999 by Christopher Meyers, AIA, with a vision to create an environment that cultivated professionals through the practice of architecture, mentorship, and leadership development. The firm has become a nurturing environment for professionals in the Ohio architecture community.

Meyers sought to establish a practice rooted in a philosophy similar to his architectural training at firms whose foundation was design-focused but driven by strong and influential mentors. His time spent with Jonathan Barnes and Wandel and Schnell (WSA), both prestigious Columbus-based AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firms, shaped his strategy to continue a legacy of mentorship in practice.

The firm's early years saw the arrivals of many exceptionally talented professionals and current principals, Pete Scott, AIA, Shawn Conyers, AIA, and Karen Dwyer, IIDA, each helping shape the firm's culture to chart their paths in the context of collaboration and support.

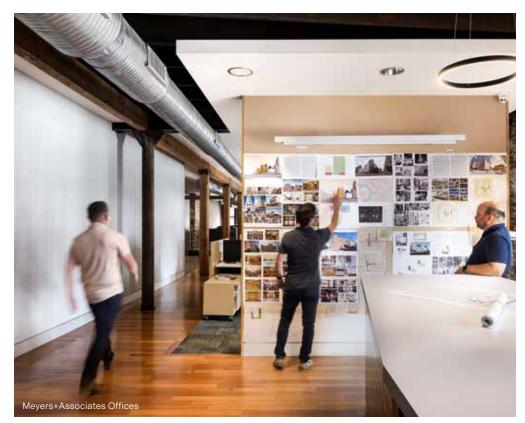
By 2007, the firm started gaining recognition as a notable practice in Central Ohio, winning AIA Honor Awards for its work with Abercrombie & Fitch and becoming the first

architect's office in the State of Ohio to receive LEED certification with its offices at 232 N Third Street.

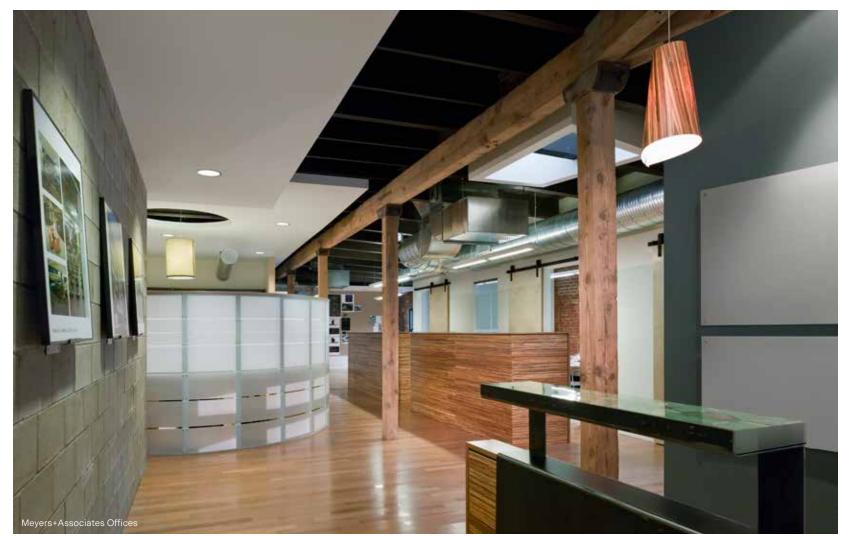
The firm continued to thrive, developing a talented team of professionals eager to grow their skills and design impactful spaces. As global economic conditions started impacting the design profession, the firm leadership saw an opportunity to solidify its practice philosophy. Over the coming years, the firm gained recognition with multiple AIA Honor Awards, publications of successes in practice and projects, and Meyers focused on staff training through mentorship.

Meyers+Associates was recognized in 2013 by *Architect Magazine* as a Top 50 Firm and a Top 10 Firm for Sustainability. With that prestigious recognition, the firm began embarking on a series of community-focused projects, further enhancing its mission of sustainability in practice and providing opportunities for emerging professionals to be nurtured in their career development.

In 2021, Meyers+Associates promoted long-time associates Pete Scott, AIA, Shawn Conyers, AIA, and Karen Dwyer, IIDA to principal positions. Their increased leadership provides a path for the future and to continue developing and supporting the community of architects and designers in Central Ohio and beyond.









LEADERSHIP

Led by a team of seasoned professionals, we're building a culture of mentorship.



Chris Meyers, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, is a Principal Architect and the Founding Owner of Meyers+Associates. He leads the firm through innovative mentorship, teaching, and training of architects and designers to create spaces that positively impact the individual and the community.

Chris has cultivated a people-focused practice to make it accessible, approachable, and human. He is an ardent champion of helping others, readily giving his time

and knowledge to civic and professional organizations and mentoring the next generation of architects and designers.

Communities seek him out nationally to develop projects that engage communities in ways that create impactful change.

He has assisted over sixty emerging professionals in registering as practicing architects with an ARE testing success rate of over 95%. As a two-term and current President and member of the Ohio

Board of Architects, he has collaborated with NCARB, the Ohio Legislature, and collegiate programs to implement licensing initiatives that encourage diversity in the field and increase student registration rates in Ohio architecture programs. His role in communicating and mentoring architectural students at the Ohio Board of Architects has impacted the quantity of AXP applicants in the state with a 24% increase within his two terms leading the state board.

The Ohio chapter of The American Institute of Architects has recognized his innovative leadership with the 2021 AIA Ohio Mentor Award. For his business practice, community, and professional impact, Meyers has also been recognized by The Ohio State University College of Engineering with the Distinguished Alumni Award for Career Achievement, and the global non-profit Entrepreneurs' Organization has also presented Meyers with its Leadership in Mentoring Award. He was named Marriott Architect of the Year for Community Impact, Business First Executive of the Year, a 40 Under 40 recipient, and a two-time Corporate Citizenship Award winner.



Our principals have made long-term contributions to the firm through leadership, mentorship, and collaboration. Their elevations from Senior Associates allow Meyers+Associates to expand mentorship opportunities within the firm.

As part of Meyers+Associates for almost 20 years, Pete Scott, AIA, NCARB, has fostered close relationships with key clients to drive a diverse career path leading multifamily and mixed-use developments, health and wellness, retail design, and parks and recreational facilities. Some of Pete's notable achievements include the highly acclaimed Westerville's Highlands Park Aquatic Center, the innovative Quarry Trails development in Columbus, and numerous thriving mixed-use and multifamily projects nationwide.

His expertise and leadership have earned him a respected position in the local design community, where he serves on the Architectural Review Board in Bexley, Ohio. Pete's leadership philosophy centers around a collective approach to design, where collaboration and close engagement with clients is paramount.

Karen Dwyer, NCIDQ, IIDA, LEED AP, has played an integral role in the growth and success of Mevers+Associates' interior design services for the past 16 years. Starting as the sole interior design position, Karen's journey at the firm exemplifies her unwavering commitment and dedication to creating inspiring and transformative interior spaces. She has led numerous projects in the hospitality, office, retail, and mixed-use sectors, consistently delivering exceptional results that exceed client expectations. As a mentor and leader, Karen is dedicated to assisting and nurturing the growth of interior design associates, helping them build their skill sets and reach their full potential.

Karen's commitment to her profession extends beyond her work at the firm. She actively participates in the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and has served as the president of the Columbus chapter. Her contributions to the industry have been recognized, earning her the prestigious *Columbus Business First*'s 40 Under 40 Award.

Shawn Conyers, AIA, NCARB, joined the Meyers+Associates team in 2007, infusing the firm with unwavering positivity and a collaborative leadership approach. With his diverse skill set and experience, Shawn has been instrumental in overseeing a wide range of projects, including hospitality, office spaces, sports and recreation facilities, and adaptive reuse projects. His innate ability to navigate complex and challenging endeavors has positioned Meyers+Associates as a leader in designing built environments that truly nurture and enrich both communities and individuals.

Prior to his architectural career, Shawn was a standout athlete, earning a four-year varsity letter on The Ohio State University's wrestling team. His determination and drive carried him to compete in the 2000 Olympic Trials, showcasing his commitment to excellence both in and out of the architectural realm. Shawn's deep connection to the community is further exemplified through his involvement as a member of the City of Columbus Victorian Village Commission. This role allows him to contribute to the preservation and development of the built environment in a meaningful way. Additionally, as a youth coach within the Bishop Watterson High School Eagle Wrestling Club community, Shawn dedicates his time and expertise to shaping the next generation of leaders.

Following his tenure with Moody Nolan, another AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm, Shawn sought out Meyers for, Shawn recognized the firm's unique ability to foster knowledge-sharing, grow the firm, and elevate the architectural profession. At Meyers+Associates, he found an environment where collaboration thrives, and individual growth naturally translates into the firm's overall progress.



FIRM CULTURE + DESIGN

Nurtured in the legacy and mentorship of prominent firms, our culture is rooted in professional growth through design.



MENTORSHIP THROUGH INNOVATIVE PRACTICE

Meyers+Associates has embraced innovative practices to foster mentorship within their organization. They have established an advanced leadership academy to guide and support their staff in their professional growth and personal commitment to community service.

Employees participate weekly in small group mentoring sessions focusing on various aspects such as career development, professional registration, and community service. The objective is to strengthen the profession, cultivate leadership qualities, and emphasize the architect and designer's role in positively impacting others lives. Additionally, the firm encourages reverse mentorship, where younger professionals share their skills, talents, experiences, and techniques with their more senior counterparts, fostering collaboration and dialogue.

When the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, Meyers+Associates recognized the potential risk to their connections

and professional development due to physical separation. Many emerging professionals felt disoriented amidst remote work, isolation, and global uncertainty. Consequently, the firm shifted its mentoring approach to focus on situational awareness, instilling confidence, and finding stability during the pandemic.

The firm's leadership actively participated in the AIA Columbus ARCHways emerging professionals mentorship program, engaging in panel discussions and interactive sessions with young professionals in the community. Sharing their experiences and projecting a confident tone reassured others and highlighted the potential positive outcomes in difficult situations.

Acknowledging the importance of effective communication in mentoring, Meyers+Associates developed a series of video presentations and an architects forum covering various topics such as communication techniques, exam preparation methods, job site observation standards, and the value of volunteerism in practice. This shift in methodology proved highly successful, enabling the firm to reach a wider audience seeking professional guidance and career development opportunities.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The practice embraces mentorship as a fundamental philosophy that permeates our daily operations. We encourage associates to actively participate in they are intrigued by, allowing younger staff to participate in project assignments, fostering a culture of curiosity and continuous learning.

We have implemented a rotating internal program to provide direction and foster growth. These training sessions enhance leadership and knowledge sharing in key practice sectors, these organizational teams, such as construction administration, design advancement, document standards, operations, and marketing, deliver comprehensive presentations and updates, with small groups of associates actively participating in these teams to further develop their interests and skills while enhancing the firm's overall ability to mentor.

Quarterly information sharing is a critical element of our transparent and mentorship-oriented approach. This gathering encompasses discussions on financial performance, values, goals, and offers associates the chance to ask questions that deepen their understanding of the business

aspects of the profession. Following the meeting, we actively seek feedback to identify successful elements and areas for improvement, striving for engagement and helping emerging professionals recognize their own value.

In recognition of our unwavering dedication to mentorship, AIA Ohio has honored the firm with the designation of an Early Professional Friendly Firm Plus+ prompting multiple opportunities for Meyers and others to share insights in the methodology and successes of a mentor based practice, not only to other design firms but also in a wide range of other industries.

PATHWAYS TO LEADERSHIP

Meyers+Associates prioritizes creating teams based on long-term client relationships, allowing associates to venture into uncharted territory and develop their skills across various markets, services, and architectural styles. We consciously avoid limiting ourselves to a narrow range of project types, actively seeking challenging and novel opportunities that enable our associates to contribute and further their professional

growth. This approach fosters a sense of curiosity and a continuous drive for learning in their professional development.



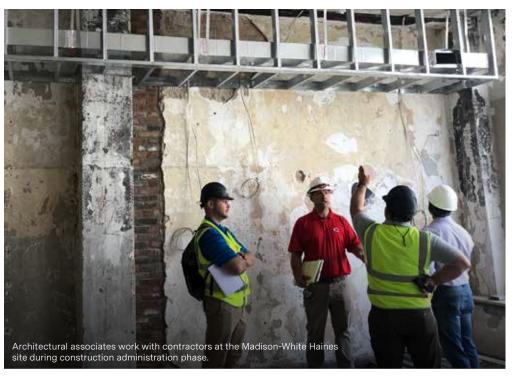
It's not lost on me that I would not be where I am today if I had not been afforded the unique opportunities to grow and learn in the supportive environment that is central to the Meyers+Associates culture.

- Brian Peterson, AIA, Architect

As associates progress in their careers, we ensure they are placed in roles aligning with their career goals and offering increasing responsibilities. A prime example is Architect Brian Peterson, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C, who initially joined the firm as an intern in 2013. After graduation and transitioning to a full-time position, Brian quickly realized that everyone at the firm was encouraged to engage in all project phases, resulting in well-rounded architects. Shortly following his graduation, he obtained licensure and was successfully managing his first project, the AIA awardwinning Graduate Columbus Hotel. He later led the coordination and construction of the Hilton 2.0 tower project, which stands as the tallest building in Columbus in the past 45 years.

Meyers+Associates' strong emphasis on mentorship and staff development contributes to long tenures within the firm. The staff at Meyers+Associates has flourished and remained with the firm due to their ability to share knowledge and facilitate growth. Their dedication to translating their learning experiences to support and empower their colleagues has created a foundation fostering collective growth and advancement.

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FIRM CULTURE + DESIGN CONT'D

We extend the principles of collaboration and support of others seeking growth outside of the workplace through active participation in professional memberships. All our associates are actively involved in esteemed organizations such as AIA, CSI, ULI, USGBC, IIDA, NOMA, and NCARB. Meyers+Associates funds the membership dues to support their professional development, fostering a culture of continuous learning and engagement. We strongly encourage professional licensing and recognize its significance in our industry. As a testament to our commitment, we allocate dedicated time and resources for our staff to pursue licensure. This investment has yielded exceptional results, with an elevated success rate in architectural registration.

CULTURE OF GIVING

Early in the firm's history, the firm leadership saw an opportunity to improve activism and community support by design professionals in Ohio. Hoping to create a meaningful impact, Meyers+Associates launched a firm-based program that encourages staff members to find their passion in serving others and enlist co-workers, friends, and family to participate and experience the benefits of their volunteer efforts in service to the community. This model provides staff up to 120 service hours as a paid company benefit, resulting in associates

participating in over 40 charitable organizations and civic-focused efforts resulting in thousands of service hours being provided to our community throughout the company's history.

We actively seek projects in Ohio that build our community and unite people. Our design work often serves a critical need for non-profits with unmet environmental and facility needs. Recent notable examples of the many projects over the years include The Ronald McDonald House at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, creating the largest facility in the world offering support to families with hospitalized children. The 2nd & 7 headquarters with office space, community reading rooms, and a distribution center to help this organization fight illiteracy and promote reading with thousands of young children. And also, Creative Living which is a residential and support community for quadriplegic and severely disabled individuals seeking an opportunity to live independently and attend Ohio State University.

For these efforts and recognition of Meyers+Associates pro bono and community philanthropic efforts.

Columbus Business First has honored our efforts multiple times with their Corporate Citizen Award.

DESIGN

At the core of our design and practice philosophy is the sincere intention to create meaningful spaces and that architecture is rooted in purpose and context, allowing these fundamental elements to guide and shape our designs.

Our work is driven by a genuine desire to bridge gaps, embrace diversity, and create captivating spaces that encourage human interaction. Through our projects, we have witnessed neighborhoods transform, and communities come together in powerful ways.

We are deeply committed to smart and sustainable design, recognizing the profound impact our work can have on the environment. We actively seek opportunities to incorporate environmentally responsible methods into our practice, constantly striving to advance our industry's approach to sustainability.

We purposefully engage in project opportunities spanning diverse sectors, firmly believing architecture transcends market focuses. This commitment to diversity not only enriches our portfolio but also creates an ever-changing and thought-provoking environment for our team. We embrace the chance to continuously evolve and refine our design process, finding inspiration and growth in the wide-ranging opportunities we encounter.





















meyers + associates

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Abercrombie & Fitch Distribution Center



Karen Dwyer, IIDA, 40 Under 40, Columbus

Business First

Highlands Park Aquatic Center



The Graduate Hotel Columbus



Hilton Hotel Convention Center



Scotts Miracle-Gro Innovation Center

Completion of Six European Projects for Abercrombie & Fitch

Abercrombie & Fitch Building U

Recognized by Architect Magazine as a Top 50 Firm and a Top 10 Firm for Sustainability

Volunteerism Initiative Program, The State of Ohio Citation of Community Service

Global Architect of the Year, Marriott International



AC Hotel Columbus Downtown

Pete Scott, AIA, Shawn Conyers, AIA, and Karen Dwyer, IIDA, were promoted to Principals

Corporate Citizenship Award, Columbus Business First

1999 2005 2010 2020 2023 2015

Firm Founding by Chris Meyers, AIA

Kinsale Golf and Fitness Club

Meyers+Associates moved to 232 N Third

Street, Columbus

First International

Project in

Shibuya, Japan



University of Louisville Student Housing

Shawn Conyers, AIA, 40 Under 40, Columbus Business

> Chris Meyers, AIA, 40 Under 40, Columbus Business First

Meyers+Associates became the first architects in Ohio with a LEED Certified office

Chris Meyers, AIA, Leadership in Mentoring, First Entrepreneur Organization



Arnold Palmer Hotel, Latrobe, Pennsylvania



Penzone Salon + Spa Dublin

Chris Meyers, AIA received the AIA Ohio Mentor Award

Volunteerism and

Mentorship Program,

NCARB Citation

Corporate Citizenship Award, Columbus Business First





Westerville Veterans Memorial



Pinnacle Community Center



600 Broadway, New York City



AC Hotel Louisville Downtown



WOSU Public Media

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Abercrombie & Fitch Distribution Center 2

New Albany, Ohio

Given the overwhelming success of the brand and its global impact, Abercrombie & Fitch urgently needed to satisfy its logistics with the development of this 980,000 SF distribution center with 50,000 SF of administrative offices and a dining area. Challenged with a 9-month completion deadline and the requirement of being consistent with the Abercrombie brand, Meyers+Associates harnessed the power of a design team, logistics systems engineer, and construction team to provide a fast track project with an incredibly efficient process that still offered ample time for design and precision in construction. The project implements corrugated metal siding and warm cedar siding materials, which create a refined aesthetic grounded in diligent detailing, rigorous consistency, and quality execution. In collaboration with &erson.

Completion Date 2006

Project Cost \$80M

Scope 950,000 SF

Staff Member **Engagement-**Mentorship 12

Community Impact 920 New Jobs to Central Ohio

Honors + Awards AIA Columbus Honor Award, 2007

AIA New York Honor Award, 2007



AIA Award

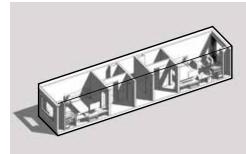




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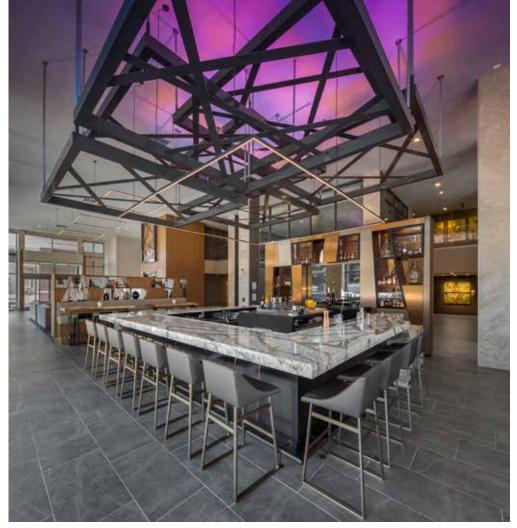






Modular Process

The modular vendor was brought into the design process early, adding significant benefits to the design of the project look, construction, and schedule sequence. The lower lobby floors were built on-site, essentially creating a flat "table" at the second-floor level. The modules were then placed on top of the podium level and stacked on top of each other to create four guestroom floors and 156 total units. The exterior "skin" was applied to the finish surface of the modular guestrooms.



AC Hotel Louisville

Louisville, Kentucky

As a distillery-inspired building in the up-and-coming East Market District of Louisville, Kentucky, the AC Hotel offers 156 rooms with integrated parking and adjacent lease space. The hotel bar and lounge area to be a social hub to engage with the community. This project incorporates pre-fabricated modular guestroom construction that allowed efficiencies in the project. With the modularity of the guestrooms, the overall speed of the project schedule and construction cost consistently benefited and maintained the high-end brand design. AC Hotels are rooted in a Spanish contemporary design approach that provides an upscale gallery-like decor with clean European styling throughout the public space and guestrooms.

Completion Date April 2018

Project Cost \$26M

93,193 SF 156 Keys

Scope

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship Honors + Awards LEED Certified

Building of the Year, Modular Building Institute, 2017

Building of the Year, Marriott Hotels International, 2018

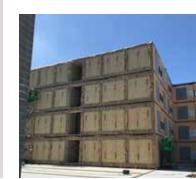
Award of Distinction, Urban Land Institute, 2017



Project includes a community outreach center to support neighborhood initiatives









Graduate Columbus

Columbus, Ohio

Graduate Hotels are known for their boutique, retro appeal, and the way they uniquely celebrate the university communities they're in. This project involved turning an 11-story building with 100 apartments into an iconic 171-room hotel with restaurant and retail space on the bottom level.

A key theme was transformation through technology from design and construction to the ongoing community engagement through interactive public art. The sides of the building feature two augmented reality murals that celebrate local immigrants in the community and act as a reminder that the power of change is often more than meets the eye. The murals are currently the world's largest AR mural experience.

Completion Date December 2019

Project Cost withheld

Scope 94,068 SF 171 Keys

Staff Member **Engagement-**Mentorship

Community Impact Revitalized a condemned building

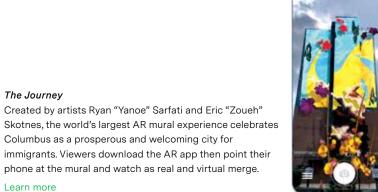
Honors + Awards AIA Columbus Merit

Award, 2020 Award of Distinction, Urban Land Institute,

2020

CODAawards, Public Spaces, 2020











The Journey







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Highlands Park Aquatic Center

Westerville, Ohio

As part of a master plan, the City of Westerville decided to replace its declining, 30-year-old municipal pool facility, Highlands Park Family Aquatic Center, adjacent to protected wetlands, an active soccer field complex, and a traditional residential neighborhood.

With 650,000 gallons of water and an eight-lane competition pool with a diving well, a large leisure pool, a zero-entry toddler pool, small and large spray grounds, a lazy river, and two 30-foot water slides, the Center required a significant amount of equipment to keep up with the daily filtration needs and a robust and sustainable approach. The site's water management strategy involves diverting the storm runoff to a new rain garden, which moves the water to a large retention pond. The retention pond slowly filters the water and returns it to the surrounding wetlands. As the patron moves from the parking lot to the entrance of the Aquatic Center, they cross over a series of boardwalks over the rain gardens that highlight how the building operates. Between the final year of the old complex in 2010 to the first summer of the new complex in 2011, the number of members skyrocketed from 800 to 8,000.

Completion Date May 2011

Project Cost \$9.5M

Scope 40.2 acres

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship 14

Community Impact Created a wetland learning lab Honors + Awards
AIA Columbus Honor

Award, 2012 OPRA Honor Award,

2012

ASLA Honorable Mention, 2012

Design Recognition Award, Architecture Masterprize International, 2018



AIA Award



meyers +associates

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Livingston Park at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Columbus, Ohio

Children's Hospital began plans for an expansion funded by a large donation. The institution quickly realized its role as the neighborhood anchor institution. It partnered with residents and neighborhood organizations to create a more equitable community and improve community public health by decreasing the stressors of a high-poverty environment. An aspect of the partnership was renovating the city's first park, Livingston Park, to increase public health, physical activity, and safety to reflect its community better. As a consultant with MKSK, we worked with neighborhood associations to develop the park's programming and celebrate the community.

The shade pavilion's design pulls its cues from the historic trolley sheds to enhance the 5th elevation. The roof utilized various intervals to create an exciting view above and below as weather conditions change.

Completion Date March 2012

Project Cost \$1M

Scope 9.32 acres

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship

Community Impact Neighborhood crime down 45%

Honors + Awards AIA Columbus Merit Award, 2013

ASLA Ohio & Indiana Merit Awards, 2012

3Form People's Choice Installation Award, 2012

APA-OH Planning Award, 2013





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Penzone Salon + Spa

Dublin, Ohio

Located in Columbus for more than 30 years, the Charles Penzone Salons are routinely recognized for excellence in industry publications such as *Salon Today* and *Modern Salon* magazine, among many others. The newest Grand Salon, located in Dublin, Ohio, offers more than 12,000 SF for hairstyling, manicure, make-up, and spa services in a resort-style setting. Along with these traditional spa services, the Grand Salon also offers a hospitality room, including a full bar for private parties and events.

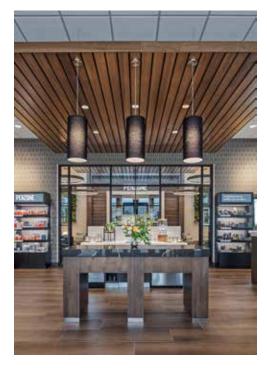
Completion Date 2018

Project Cost \$4.5M

Scope 12,900 SF

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship

Community Impact Provides vocational training to over 100 students Honors + Awards International Salon of the Year, Salon Today Magazine, 2018 International Salon of the Year, Northern American Hairstyling Awards, 2018









SoHo, New York, New York

Situated at the gateway to New York's famed SoHo neighborhood at the corner of Broadway and Houston Streets, this 105-year-old historic building needed a meticulous exterior restoration, requiring approval from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. Exterior facade modifications were unanimously approved in a community meeting, drawing praise from the neighborhood.

The interior became part shopping destination, part tourist attraction, with materials, finishes, and features that align with the brand identity while drawing visitors from near and far. The atrium houses a striking stair tower in a style that unites the store with its historic structure. Large monitors throughout offer a live stream of Huntington Beach from different perspectives.

Completion Date June 2010

Project Cost \$40M

Scope 41,000 SF

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship Community Impact
Restoration and
utilization of a vacant

utilization of a vacant building

Honors + Awards
AIA Columbus Honor
Award, 2010

Urban Land Institute Award of Distinction, 2010





















Abercrombie & Fitch Building U

New Albany, Ohio

Abercrombie & Fitch's Building U houses various office functions, including a data center and recording studio. The second-floor main entry, located in the prominent south façade, is signaled by a dynamic exterior stair leading to the reception area and conference room. Corrugated steel and cedar siding mitigate the scale of the 140,000 SF building while knitting the building into the fabric of the campus. In collaboration with MJS Architects.

Completion Date 2008

Project Cost \$42M

Scope 140,000 SF

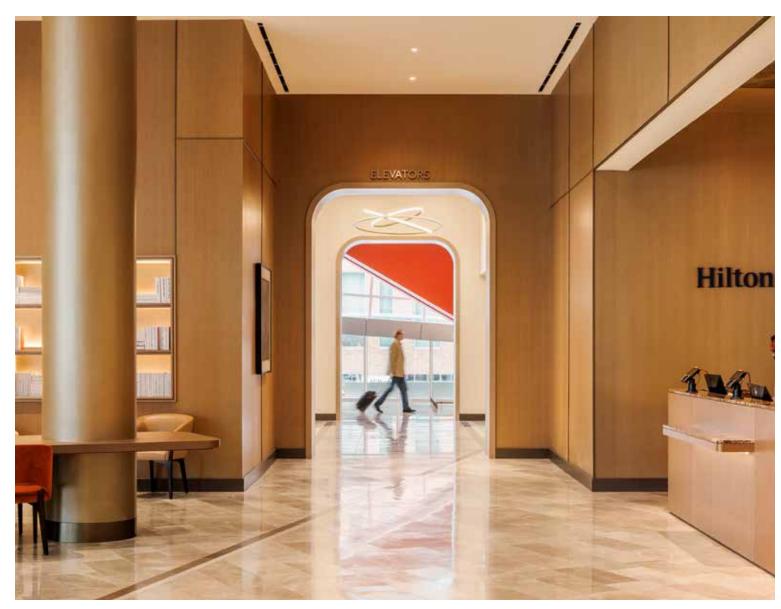
Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship Community Impact
Provided enhanced
sustainability for the 200
acre corporate campus

Honors + Awards AIA Columbus Honor Award, 2008

AIA New Jersey Honor Award, 2008







Hilton Columbus Convention Center

Columbus, Ohio

A massive boom in hospitality and a citywide initiative to host national-level conventions inspired the expansion of the Hilton Columbus Convention Center Hotel to offer 1,000 rooms, making it the largest hotel in Ohio. The 28-story tower is a contemporary counterpart to the existing Hilton and a companion to the Greater Columbus Convention Center through the unique High Street façade, precast concrete color, and window patterning. The tower introduces an additional 463 rooms and 53,000 square feet of meeting space to support the growing demand for the Convention Center. The building offers a vibrant and signature destination for visitors and residents of Central Ohio, including a two-story restaurant, a rooftop bar, and a lounge on the building's top floor.

Its urban location, limited building footprint, weight on a railroad bridge, and multiple points to join the buildings together all presented nuanced constraints to the project. This highly collaborative project has involved over 30 design consultants and multiple city regulatory processes, including reviews with the Downtown Commission and a close partnership with Cooper Carry and Jeffery Beers.

Completion Date Fall 2022

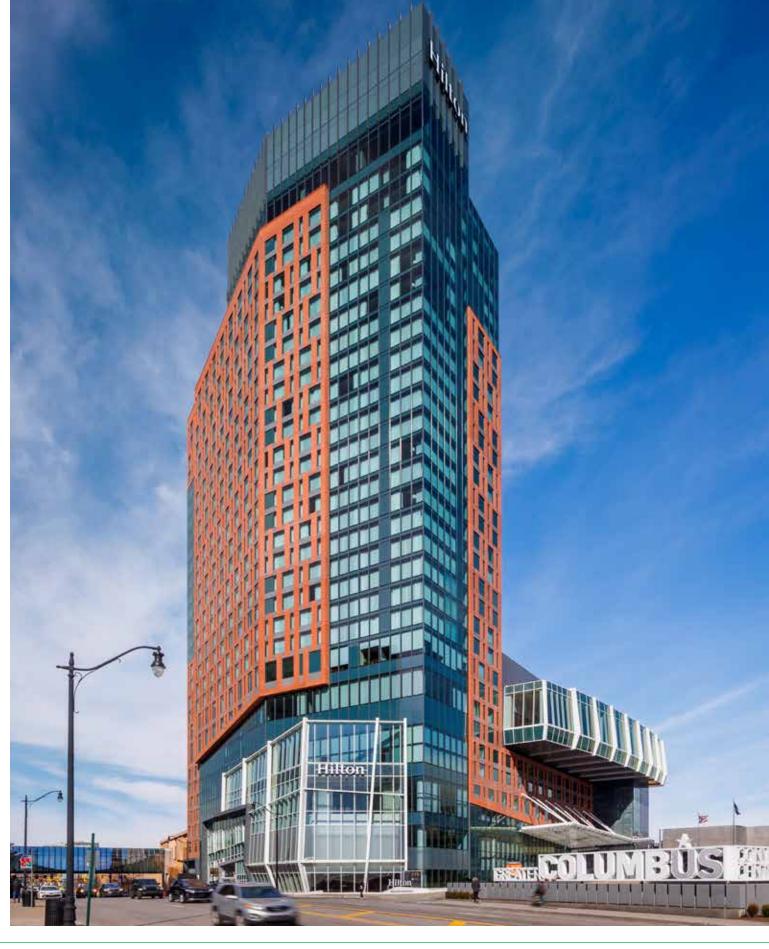
Project Cost \$255M

Scope 460,000 SF 463 Keys

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship Community Impact Facilitates civic revitalization

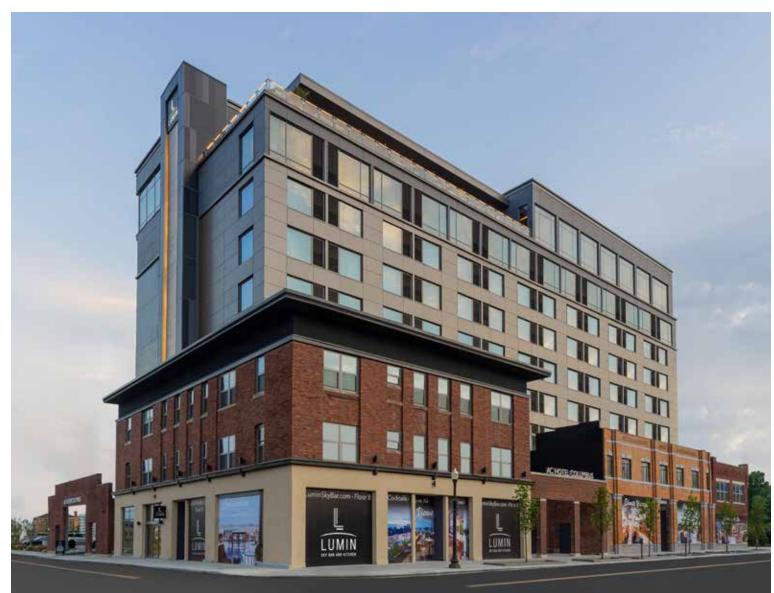
Awards

Harrison W. Smith Award, Columbus Downtown Commission



meyers +associates

Ala Ohio Gold Medal Firm | 15



AC Hotel Columbus Downtown

Columbus, Ohio

Located on the edge of the North Market Historic District, the eight-floor, 160-room AC Hotel Columbus celebrates the neighborhood's history by restoring and incorporating a cohesive group of buildings at the streetscape level and meeting the City's objective of maintaining the historic character of the district while satisfying the owner's programmatic requirements. The hotel building above is set back and minimal in its articulation, serving as a backdrop to the existing buildings below, allowing the most significant historic feature of the buildings - the scale of the landmark streetscape elements - to be maintained and understood along Park Street and Spruce Street.

The organic shapes and textures of adjacent Goodale Park and the Olentangy and Scioto rivers join the solid forms of historic structures, creating a timeless and progressive journey as the guest travels through the space. It features a unique rooftop bar with a spacious outdoor patio, expansive views, and a double-height lobby space with two entry points to accommodate foot traffic and valet parking. The upper floors provide extensive meeting and lounge spaces.

Completion Date Spring 2021

Project Cost \$31.5M

Scope 110,000 SF 160 Keys

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship Community Impact
Adaptively incorporated
3 vacant structures

Honors + Awards IIDA Columbus Play Honor Award 2021 IIDA Ohio Kentucky Chapter Play Honor Award 2022

Neighborhood Legacy

The building honors the neighborhood's legacy by restoring and incorporating a cohesive group of buildings. The hotel building serves as a backdrop to the existing buildings below, allowing the most significant historic feature of the buildings - the scale of the landmark streetscape elements - to be maintained and understood at street level.







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Westerville Veterans Memorial

Westerville, Ohio

The Westerville Veterans Memorial blends history, culture, art, and recreation with the existing sports environment at the Westerville Sports Complex to create a new signature space to honor and celebrate those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Working with urban planning firm MKSK, we contributed to the park's overall design through the development of The Values Pavilion. The Values Pavilion strengthens the memorial's presence on the street through its vertical character. It creates a composition using two spirited roof planes strengthened by a concrete form to represent the connectivity of family and the military.

Completion Date Fall 2022

Project Cost \$1.8M

Scope 2,100 SF

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship

Community Impact
Provides a support
resources for veterans

and their families





Ronald McDonald House Charities

Columbus, Ohio

With an existing building constructed in 2007 and expanded in 2013. From a code standpoint, we took an innovative approach to the current expansion by treating each addition as separate buildings joined back to the existing facility by circulation-only connectors. Through this approach, we maximized the facility size so that RMHC of Central Ohio could reclaim its title as the largest Ronald McDonald House in the world. The pedestrian connectors also bridge over existing public utility infrastructure that needed to remain in place from an alley that used to split the site. These connections required extensive utility/infrastructure evaluation and complex easement coordination but resulted in a seamless experience for guests moving throughout the facility.

A large consultant team and interface with other entities were necessary for successful project delivery. Flexibility was required in the project delivery method to manage project budget goals and influences from varied project funding sources. There was a significant amount of work related to donor engagement to assist the house in securing funding by tailoring specific areas of the project to each distinct donor group.

This expansion includes modifications to the current offerings to create a campus of buildings with 80 guestrooms, an enlarged commercial kitchen, dining, meeting, and event spaces. This expansion will serve an additional 2,000 families per year and add over 100,000 SF, almost doubling the size of the current campus.

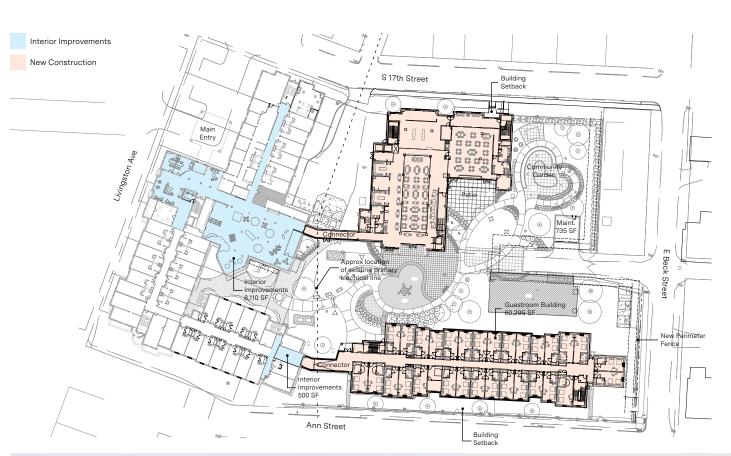
Completion Date under development

Project Cost \$25M

Scope 107,000 SF

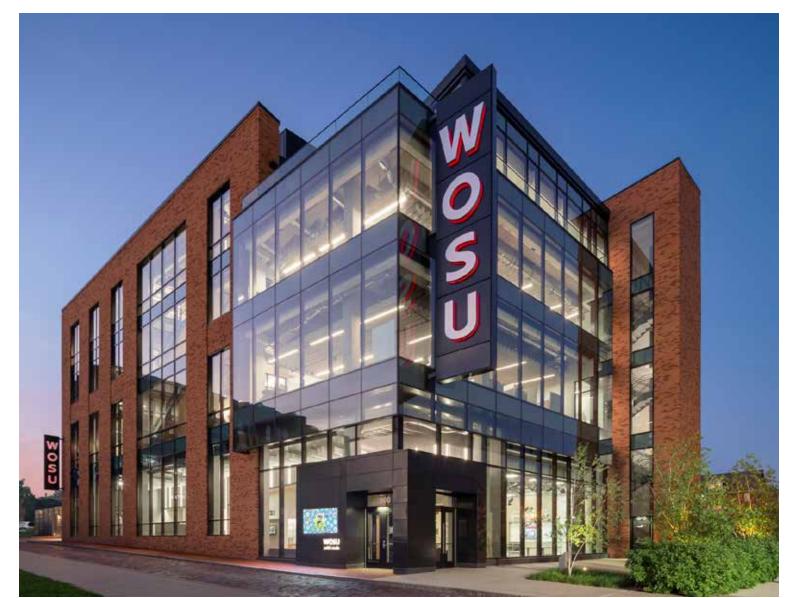
Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship 14

Community Impact Supporting over 500 families per year





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WOSU Public Media

Columbus, Ohio

The new facility for WOSU Public Media is a state-of-the-art, digitally functional, flexible operation that connects to the students from the Ohio State University and the surrounding neighborhood through its design. Pushed back from the property's setback line activates the area with an outdoor amenity while accommodating tight site constraints. Visible is the creative stacking of the programming and a grand staircase, offering the visitor a sense of light and clarity of the organization. The staircase connects the abovegrade floors, embracing natural lighting and encouraging interpersonal connection.

Interior materials are honest and raw, exposed rather than hidden away, and these workings showcase the spirit of the building's connectivity through the display of its technology within. Below grade is home to two TV studios, control rooms, and edit suites. Radio, performance, production studios, and the newsroom find their home on the second floor. The third and fourth floors offer edit suites, workspaces, podcast recordings, and a media learning lab accessible to community members. Controlling sound isolation, room acoustics, and noise and vibration control were essential to the success of the television and radio broadcast facility.

Completion Date Summer 2021

Project Cost

\$29.7M

Scope 53,000 SF

Staff Member Engagement-Mentorship 12

Community Impact Hosts community

engagement events weekly

Awards

AIA Columbus People's Choice Award, 2022





Community Integration

Design techniques adapted from sports & recreation planning are applied at the street level, pulling the community in to experience WOSU's offerings while maintaining control points to more private areas. Two entrances, at the front and rear, are offered to the public through their generous use of glass contrasting with the exterior brick wrapper. This public "free zone" for the visitor, along with a reception area and flexible community studio on the ground floor, helps maintain private and secure spaces for the staff while developing a dialog with the visitor.





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RUTH M. GLESS, FAIA Emeritus 41 East Lincoln Street Columbus OH 43215

24 June 2023

John Orsini, AIA President, AIA Ohio Board of Directors 400 Wilson Bridge Road Worthington OH 43085

Re: Meyers+Associates 2023 AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award

Dear AIA Ohio Board,

I am honored to support Meyers+Associates for the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award. For me it has been interesting and a singular pleasure to observe the 25-year development of Meyers' nascent practice into one which sets an extraordinary example for others. Three factors make this true – internal professional development, a commitment to community service, and enviably great design.

From the beginning the Meyers firm cultivated professionals through mentorship and leadership development. This is not haphazard. The firm has developed internal mentorship programs and a regular schedule of implementation. They advocate for mentorship by sharing these outside the firm via video and participation in AIA programs. In addition, the firm encourages associates to engage in community service of their own choosing. A notable example of this is Shawn Conyers' long membership on the Victorian Village Commission. (As a former member of the Italian Village Commission, I am well-aware of the commitment this requires.) These efforts have resulted in longevity of staff and a strong firm culture.

Meyers' staff development and knowledge sharing protocols encourage associates to develop strong client relationships and expertise in building types. This and a collaborative culture have resulted in a an award-winning design firm – an outcome visible to all. Rarely has a firm grown to become so extraordinarily successful on many fronts in such a short period of time.

Meyers+Associates has created a collaborative firm culture that engages in its community and produces award-winning architecture. It is an example to all and should be recognized with the 2023 Gold Medal Firm Award

Sincerely,

annoise

Ruth M. Gless, FAIA Emeritus 2021 AIA Ohio Gold Medalist

Chair, AIA Columbus Fellows Committee

Co-Chair, AIA Ohio Young Architects Award Advisory Committee

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

27 June 2023

AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award Review Committee 400 W. Wilson Bridge Road, Ste. 120 Worthington, OH 43085

Re: Meyers + Associates AIA Ohio Gold Medal Submission

Dear Committee:

I am extremely pleased to support Meyers + Associates in their nomination for the AIA Ohio Gold Medal. I have known the firm since its inception and can easily attest to the contributions that firm members have made to the profession and the community at large. In addition to their design prowess, the firm is well known for its service to both the architecture and local civic communities.

One of their primary ways of supporting the professional community, which has been recognized by AIA Ohio, is through mentorship. They not only mentor members of their firm, but also pre-architects through internships and financial support, and underserved communities by encouraging young community members to consider architecture as a career. As one of the leaders of the firm, Chris Meyers has reached far afield in developing future architects by both his leadership in NCARB and his presidency of the Ohio Architects Board. A good example of the success of his efforts is that under his leadership the pass rate for Ohio licensure increased by 17% in one year.

There is also the firm's enormous amount of pro-bono work, for multiple non-profit organizations. Again, not only have they served particular constituents; they have created a model for other individuals and organizations to develop their own commitment to volunteerism. As one of their unique programs in support of volunteerism, the firm provides its staff 120 service hours, as a paid company benefit, to help each employee discover the value of assisting those in need.

In their support of local communities, the firm has truly transformed under-served neighborhoods in Central Ohio with such projects as The Columbus Aquatic Centers and Livingston Park. They have also enhanced more affluent communities with his Highlands Park project in Westerville, Ohio, the university neighborhood with the WOSU building, and the Short North with the new Hilton Hotel. What each project has in common is its transformational impact within the larger community and its being emulated by other cities or organizations.

Among other accolades, the firm has been recognized both for its sustainability efforts and general acumen by being listed as one of the country's top 50 firms by Architect, the magazine of AIA National. Always a leader, Meyers + Associates was the first architecture firm in Ohio to have its offices LEED certified.

One example of a firm's stature is the recognition that it receives in awards and publications. Meyers + has done exceedingly well in being so recognized both in the professional and community press.

There is little question that Meyers + Associates is one of the leading architectural firms in Ohio and as such it seems appropriate that they receive the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award for the quality of their work and for representing and serving the profession and the American Institute of Architects in an exemplary way.

Sincerely,

RNOW S MUSTON

Robert S. Livesey FAIA Professor and Director Emeritus

> Columbus, OH 43210-1138 +1 684-292-1012 Mwin

Austin E. Knowton School of Architecture



June 1, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Meyers + Associates Architecture for the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award.

I serve as president of Prater Engineering Associates, Inc. We are currently one of the largest MEP Engineering firms in Central Ohio. During our 23 years in business, we have had the opportunity to work with many talented architects across the country.

We have worked with Meyers + Associates for 20 years. They quickly rose to the top of our preferred list of architects, because they possess that extremely rare quality of being able to create beautiful buildings and spaces for their clients while at the same time produce accurate and organized documents through a process that treats their clients and consultants as highly valued members of their team.

We consider Meyers + Associates an architectural firm that is "set apart". They have a culture that is client centered without minimalizing the efforts of their team members. There are no ignoble parts on one of their teams. They understand the hidden components of a building are as important as its physical beauty.

Meyers + Associates buildings are certainly award winning aesthetically as evidenced by their many awards. Concern for the intangibles - sustainability, comfort, integrity, safety, personal development, team relationships, building longevity, fiscal responsibility, etc. - those are the things that make them deserving of the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award.

Chris Meyers and his team have built a firm that is a great steward of the architectural profession. That is a rare quality in the fast paced, bottom line drive construction industry. Recognition as the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award will validate their ongoing efforts to make the profession the best it can be.

AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm | 20

Respectfully,

Prater Engineering Associates, Inc.

Tim Prater, P.E., LEED AP



Knowlton — School

Dorothée Imbert

Director and Hubert C. Schmidt '38 Chair

AIA Gold Medal Firm Award Review Committee AIA Ohio 400 W. Wilson Bridge Rd, Ste. 120

Worthington, OH 43085

06/28/23

Dear Members of the AIA Gold Medal Firm Awards Review Committee,

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter in support of the nomination of Meyers+Associates for a 2023 AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award. The firm's decades' long commitment to developing and sustaining a culture that promotes community engagement, mentorship, and leadership development, and its long and sustained history of design excellence make Meyers+Associates the ideal candidate for this prestigious award

The impact of Meyers+Associates is both broad and deep. Since 2007, the firm has won nearly 50 awards from organizations such as the Urban Land Institute, the State of Ohio, professional and industry groups including the American Society of Landscape Architects, the American Institute of Architects (New York, New Jersey, and Columbus Chapters), the Association of Builders and Contractors, as well as from professional publications such as Architect Magazine, which named it a Top 50 Firm in the United States in 2013. In addition, Architect Magazine ranked Meyers+Associates the 7th best firm in the country for its commitment to sustainability. The Columbus Aquatic Centers was also recognized for its community impact by several state and local civic and governmental organizations. In 2020, the firm won a National Council of Architectural Registration Boards Citation for its unique Volunteerism and Mentorship Program.

Under the leadership of Principal Architect Chris Meyers, who founded the firm in 1999, the firm has developed its ethos of "volunteerism and mentorship." Meyers+Associates is known for its pro bono work and its mentorship of organizations in service of others, such as Creative Living and Damascus. With Chris' direction, Meyers+Associates has created a model for individuals, firms, and organizations to develop an engagement with service. To encourage volunteerism and mentorship, Meyers+Associates offers its staff up to 120 service hours as a paid company benefit, to help each employee discover the reward of outreach and support.

In 2011, global non-profit Entrepreneurs' Organization presented Chris Meyers with its Leadership in Mentoring Award. Ten years later, Chris won AIA Ohio's Mentor Award, which recognizes "demonstrated strong leadership, guidance, and service in the support of mentorship to fellow professionals." Illustrative of that commitment to mentorship, in 2021, Meyers+Associates promoted to principal three long-time associates Shawn Conyers, Peter Scott and Karen Dwyer.

As the Director of the Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture, I have witnessed firsthand the impact of Chris and Meyers+Associates on our MArch students through mentoring, the presentation of best practices, and the creation of internships. Meyers+Associates has sponsored twenty graduate students through the school's Office Associateship Program, which not only provides financial support to graduate students.

Knowlton School Knowlton Hall 275 West Woodruff Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210 614-247-9591 knowlton.osu.edu



Knowlton — School

Dorothée Imbert

Director and Hubert C. Schmidt '38 Chair

dents, but also one-on-one engagement and networking opportunities that are invaluable as students transition into a professional architectural career.

In addition, Chris has helped facilitate alternative pathways to architectural education and careers for minoritized populations by serving on the Columbus State Community College advisory board. He mentors students at all five of Ohio's schools of architecture.

Serving his second term as a member of the State Board of Architects of Ohio where he is currently Board President, Chris promotes the development of emerging professionals seeking registration. He has pushed for refinements in the registration process through the AXP mentorship program and has served as an AXP Mentor to over 60 individuals, 97% of whom have become licensed architects. Chris has created NCARB programs that have been adopted by other states for their proven success in developing mentorship-based approaches to advance the profession.

I have engaged with Chris on many occasions and have come to deeply appreciate his value as a role model and the work of Meyers+Associates in promoting community engagement and professional development through human connection, positive transformation, and sustainable outcomes. Meyers+Associates's diverse collection of built projects across Ohio and beyond have been recognized for their design excellence. I would advance that the firm's impact on the communities it has served and the individuals it has mentored will be long-lasting and far-reaching.

The AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award is the highest honor AIA Ohio can bestow on a firm. Chris Meyers and Meyers+Associates speak of excellence and societal and professional sustainability and I hope that you will give this nomination your most serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Dorothée Imbert

Knowlton School Knowlton Hall 275 West Woodruff Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210 614-247-9591 knowlton.osu.edu





RENARD, LLC

June 27, 2023

AIA Gold Medal Firm Award Review Committee AIA Ohio 400 W. Wilson Bridge Road, Suite 120 Worthington, Ohio 43085

Dear Committee Members:

I am thrilled to write this letter of support for Meyers+Associates, a firm for which I hold great respect. Meyers+Associates utilizes their creative talents to not only design significant places, but to create a firm that perpetuates dedication to serving community by impacting people. That impact is evident within the firm's personnel, mentored with a perspective for building the firms culture of design quality, ethical practice and strength through knowledge. However, it is also demonstrated externally in the community through service and leadership.

Meyers+Associates is well known to me as a result of their distinctive design work over the past 24 years, with a great range of project types stretching from corporate to hospitality, and park development to retail, new construction to restoration, and local to international. I've truly come to admire the firm most because of their culture: encouraging and mentoring their employees to serve and to continuously grow in their knowledge and confidence. I've had the chance over the past eight years to watch the firm's founder and principal as we serve together on the Ohio Architect's Board. Mr. Meyer's efforts to encourage new registrants, to make the registration process more seamless and his personal involvement with recent graduates is commendatory and reflects the values he and others instill in this firm.

The firm has demonstrated a new benchmark for mentorship, values, encouragement, and caring in the profession, while establishing itself as a creative design organization of the first degree.

I can testify that Meyers+Associates is a servant organization expanding the concept of the profession to reach beyond design, embracing individual commitments with a goal of establishing a cultural perspective that encompasses community leadership through ethical practice and individual dedication. The result has been the creation of both physical and intangible improvements for all the citizens they serve. Architects who have worked at Meyers have transported this mission to a broader society. As you review Meyers +Associates materials please take notice of the impact their culture has generated beyond the firm itself.

Meyers+Associates is a wonderful choice for AIA Ohio's Gold Medal Firm Award, and I urge you to act favorably on their submittal.

Douglas L Steidl, FAIA

2005 President, The American Institute of Architects

2009 President, The National Architectural Accrediting Board

Dean Emeritus, The College of Architecture and Environmental Design, Kent State University

2492 Main Street, Peninsula, Oh 44264-330-962-3801-dlssrs72@roadrunner.com



June 2, 2023

Dear AIA Ohio:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Meyers+Associates in Columbus for the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award. The firm is the architect of WOSU Public Media's \$29 million headquarters and studios under construction as part of the transformational $15^{\rm th}$ & High project east of the Ohio State campus. WOSU has a long history as one of the early educational broadcaster with a century of service as of 2022. Today, we provide PBS, NPR, and local news and cultural content through multiple channels.

Meyers+Associates has designed a building that will be a catalyst for change in the university district. The new HQ will embrace and energize the neighborhood, university and community with hundreds of annual events, activities, workshops, debates and public forums. The first floor reception, community space, and streetscape terrace has been designed as a welcoming, open place we see as clearly reflecting our public media values of trust and transparency. The studios and open office space provide flexibility for the future and new space to partner with the community to create media.

The team at Meyers+Associates has gone well beyond the norm to support our nonprofit organization. They produced fly-through visualization, 3D models, and presentation materials that has had a phenomenal impact on our philanthropic work. WOSU has raised over \$9.6 million toward our \$12 million capital campaign goal thanks to these efforts. The Meyers team was involved with imagery including 3D views as we announced our campaign at a special event. Chris Meyers even attended a major giving house party for a group of important prospects to outline the unique architectural design. His presence and notable excitement for this project impressed many of our key donors.

The entire facility was designed to embody our mission to provide community focused programming and community facing events and experiences that engage, inform, and inspire our citizens. I couldn't be more pleased with the impressive work of Meyers+Associates through every step of the process as we literally lay the foundation for public media's next century of service in central Ohio. Thank you!

Sincerely.

Tom Rieland, General Manager tom.rieland@wosu.org

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



