

# AIA Ohio Honor Awards

## 2025 Emerging Professionals Award

### Hannah Ewvaraye

AIA, NCARB, NOMA

**Hannah Ewvaraye** is a Senior Associate and Project Architect at Moody Nolan and the current 2024–2025 President of AIA Columbus.

A passionate advocate for mentorship, equity, and knowledge-sharing, Hannah has built a career rooted in service—to her local chapter, the national institute, the profession, and the broader community.

With design practice focused in sports, recreation, and higher education, she has led transformative projects on more than 20 college campuses, including at The Ohio State University, Bowling Green State University and the University of Pittsburgh. As a former Division I student-athlete, Hannah brings unique perspective to shaping environments that reflect institutional identity and elevate student experience.

In parallel with her design work, Hannah is a respected leader and advocate for equity and service in the profession. She has held numerous roles with AIA Columbus and AIA National, including serving on the Board Knowledge Committee and Continuing Education Committee. In 2024, she was honored with the AIA Ohio Foundation's Charles J. Marr Award in recognition of her service and leadership across the profession and community.



# elevate your mission



Honor Awards Jury  
AIA Ohio

June 30, 2024

Dear Committee Members:

I am privileged to enthusiastically nominate Hannah Evwaraye, AIA, for the AIA Ohio Emerging Professional Award. Having worked closely with Hannah on various initiatives since our time together at The Ohio State University Knowlton School of Architecture, I can confidently attest to her visionary leadership, passionate mentorship, and her ability to address complex issues facing the profession of architecture.

Hannah is a dynamic force in our profession, continuously elevating the standard of what it means to be an emerging architect in Columbus, in Ohio, and beyond. Her natural, unforced balance of design and interpersonal expertise elevates the clients and communities she serves. But beyond her design acumen, what sets Hannah apart is her deep commitment to advocacy, equity, and mentorship.

In her many roles within the AIA, Hannah has consistently brought forward conversations that center on inclusion and the future of the profession. Hannah's involvement with the Weight of Architecture, KSA Mentorship Program, and a career-long commitment to leading fundraising efforts for the AIA Columbus golf outing have connected students and emerging professionals with practicing architects and bridged gaps that hinder access to advancement in the profession. Her leadership in organizing programming and commitment to mentorship underscore her impact in elevating others around her.

Hannah's contributions are not limited to the AIA. She is also a powerful mentor and role model for the next generation of architects in her firm – especially young women and people of color – offering encouragement, guidance, and access to opportunity with remarkable generosity and empathy.

Hannah's impact on the architectural profession is vast, irrefutable, and inspirational. She is an innovator, a community builder, and a staunch advocate for architects and emerging professionals in Ohio and beyond. In every setting, Hannah approaches her work with thoughtfulness, energy, and a collaborative spirit. She brings people together, builds consensus, and pushes important conversations forward. I enthusiastically, and without reservation, recommend Hannah for the AIA Ohio Emerging Professional Award. She is exactly the kind of architect our profession needs now and into the future.

Thank you,

**Matt Toddy, AIA, NCARB**

Principal Architect – Elevation Studio  
2025–2027 Director at Large – American Institute of Architects  
2023 Chair – AIA Young Architects Forum  
2022 President – AIA Columbus  
2020–2022 Strategic Vision Director – AIA Young Architects Forum



June 28, 2025

AIA Ohio  
Attn: AIA Ohio Awards Committee  
400 W. Wilson Bridge Road, Ste 120  
Worthington, OH 43085

Dear Awards Committee,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to support the nomination of Hannah Evwaraye, AIA for the AIA Ohio Emerging Professional Award. Hannah exemplifies the spirit of this honor through her leadership, design excellence, and deep commitment to service and equity within the profession.

As the current President of AIA Columbus, Hannah has led with clarity, compassion, and purpose. She stepped into an extended term with resolve, guiding the chapter through a period of transition while expanding our reach and visibility. Her leadership has brought new energy to our programs, fostered stronger connections across the design community, and advanced important conversations about equity and engagement.

At Moody Nolan, Hannah serves as a Senior Associate and Project Architect, specializing in sports and higher education design. Her experience as a former Division I student-athlete brings authenticity and insight to her work, shaping environments that reflect institutional identity and elevate the student experience. She has led transformative projects on more than 20 campuses, demonstrating both design vision and the ability to lead complex teams.

Hannah's contributions extend beyond her firm and chapter. At the national level, she serves on AIA's Continuing Education and Knowledge Committees, has juried national programs, and presented at the 2024 Women's Leadership Summit. She also mentors students at the Knowlton School and writes on the role of design in promoting wellness and inclusion. Her recent recognition with the AIA Ohio Foundation's Charles J. Marr Award reflects her growing influence across the state.

Hannah is an inspiring emerging leader—thoughtful, dedicated, and driven to make a lasting difference. She is exactly the kind of professional this award seeks to celebrate.

Graciously submitted,

*Erin Reilly-Sanders, AIA*

Erin Reilly-Sanders, AIA  
AIA Columbus President-Elect  
2025

## EXPERIENCE

**Moody Nolan Inc.** | Senior Associate, Project Architect  
2019 – Present

Architect specializing in sports and higher education design, with experience spanning over 20 campuses. Leveraging experience as a former Division I student-athlete to create innovative, sport, and brand-driven environments that enhance athletic and academic experiences. Leading complex collegiate projects, managing teams, client relationships, schedules, and multi-phase project execution.

**BHDP Architecture** | Project Architect, Associate Architect  
2011 – 2019

Architect on the Higher Education team, focusing on private and public projects. Experience in proposals, interviews, preparing documentation for all design phases, leading design and consultant teams through new construction and renovation projects, LEED submissions, and project estimating.

## INVOLVEMENT

**American Institute of Architects** | Columbus Chapter  
2024, 2025      President  
2021 – Present      Executive Committee  
2017 – 2020      Board of Director  
2020 – Present      Women in Architecture  
2013 – Present      Outing & Scholarship Committee

**American Institute of Architects** | National  
2024 – 2025      Board Knowledge Committee  
2022 – Present      Continuing Education Committee

**Upper Arlington High School** | Girls Golf Coach  
**Bowling Green State University** | Women's Golf Team

## ENGAGEMENT

**Athletic Business** | Contributor, March 2025  
*"Game Changers: Four Female Architects Share Thoughts on Women's History Month"*

**AIA Women's Leadership Summit** | Speaker, October 2024  
*"Enhancing Equity & Collaboration Through Firm Partnering"*

**AIA National Jury Assignments** | Juror, Fall 2024  
UpJohn Research Initiative  
AIA25 Conference Submission

**Campus Rec Magazine** | Author, September 2022  
*"The Holistic Impact of Wellness Centers"*

## EDUCATION

**The Ohio State University** | Knowlton School of Architecture  
Master of Architecture

**Bowling Green State University**  
Bachelor of Science in Architecture and Environmental Design



As the **2024-2025 AIA Columbus President**, Hannah has guided the chapter during a critical period of growth and strategic reengagement, of which has included the launch of the chapter's latest **Strategic Plan**, setting a vision for member engagement, professional development, and community impact.

Her leadership has focused on strengthening the professions role with the **community leaders and civic partners**, reinforcing the profession's relevance in shaping inclusive, sustainable cities.

In her presidency, Hannah has also prioritized advancing equity in practice, supporting climate action initiatives, and reinforcing connections between emerging professionals and firm leaders. Under her direction, the chapter has also aligned more closely with national AIA priorities while cultivating a vibrant local network.

Her support for affinity groups has been equally impactful—she has helped champion equity-driven initiatives such as the **Women in Architecture** committee and the **LGBTQIA+ Alliance Group**, helping ensure these platforms are resourced, visible, and active in shaping the chapter's culture. These efforts exemplify Hannah's belief that service to the institute begins with creating an environment where diverse voices are heard, valued, and empowered to lead.

Hannah has played a pivotal role in expanding AIA Columbus's programming and visibility. She has helped shape the chapter's **Design Lecture Series**, including bringing national voices like Alyson Steele, FAIA, of Quinn Evans, Billie Faircloth, FAIA, Evelyn Lee, FAIA, and Ryan Gann, AIA to the local stage. She has also elevated knowledge-sharing through building tours and immersive events that connect design to real-world application and build on the annual Architecture Design Awards.





Hannah and Jennifer Rittler were selected to present a session at the **2024 Women's Leadership Summit** in Chicago, sharing strategies on collaboration and equity through firm partnerships. The session explored how clear teaming strategies and can enhance collaboration, resilience, and advancement for women in the profession.

Hannah currently serves on the **AIA Board Knowledge Committee** (2024–2025) and the **AIA Continuing Education Committee** (2022–Present). Her work contributes to shaping continuing education policy and strategy at the national level, while elevating knowledge-sharing within the profession.

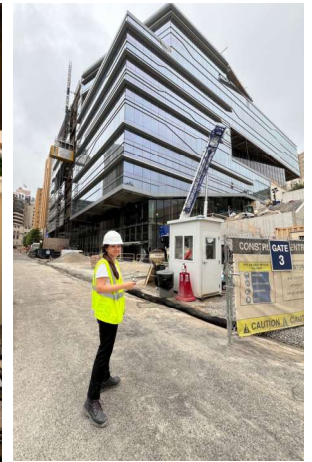
Hannah was selected to serve on two national juries as a peer reviewer: The **2024 AIA Upjohn Research Initiative**, which provides annual research grants for projects that enhance the value of design and professional practice knowledge. Most recently, the **2025 AIA Conference on the Architecture & Design proposal jury**. Her role on the jury reflects her expertise and commitment to advancing architectural knowledge on a national platform. Hannah helped shape the conference agenda to focus on design excellence, sustainability, equity, and innovation. Through which, Hannah ensured that the profession's most pressing challenges are addressed through programming and discourse that is thoughtful and diverse.

Over the last three years, Hannah has actively represented the Institute at the **AIA Leadership Summit**, engaging with peers and policymakers to advance the voice of the profession. In her leadership roles, she has participated in sessions at both the state and national levels with elected officials to discuss issues such as climate action, resilient infrastructure, affordable housing, and equitable tax policies that impact architectural practice. These efforts reflect her commitment to shaping policy that supports healthy, sustainable, and inclusive communities through the built environment.





Hannah has been a dedicated mentor to architecture students as part of opportunities like the **OSU Knowlton School Mentorship Program**, offering guidance on licensure, practice, and career development. She has also remained closely connected to her alma mater, **Bowling Green State University (BGSU)**, serving as a guest lecturer, design studio critic, and member of the architecture program **NAAB accreditation review team**. Her continued academic engagement reflects her belief in investing in the next generation of architects through mentorship and education.



Recently, Hannah contributed to the **renovation and expansion of the Slater Family Ice Arena at BGSU**, a project that brought her full circle—combining her background as a former student-athlete with her passion for sports design. Working with the team at Moody Nolan, she helped shape a high-impact venue that supports both athletic excellence, campus life, and community.



She has also played a key role in the **University of Pittsburgh Recreation and Wellness Center**, a facility that will transform student health and recreation on campus. The center emphasizes holistic wellness and sustainable design. Her work across these projects illustrates her commitment to designing spaces that foster community, well-being, and long-term institutional value.

At Moody Nolan, Hannah has co-led the firm's internal **Professional Development Series** and **Execution Summit**, both continuing education opportunities that help strengthening knowledge-sharing across studios and elevate the standards of quality in architectural delivery. Hannah was instrumental in identifying and visioning potential courses to opportunities for continued learning.



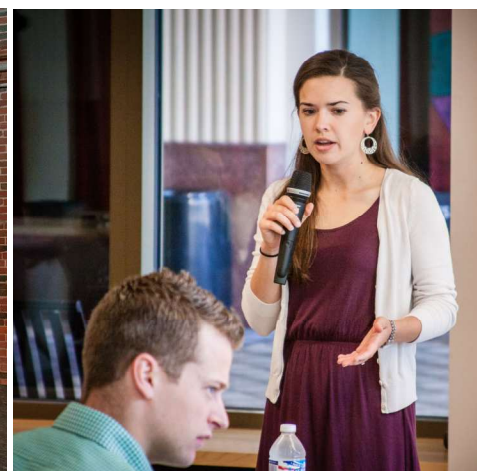
As a thought leader in sports and higher education design, Hannah authored a 2022 feature in **Campus Rec** on wellness design on campuses, and recently was profiled in **Athletic Business** (2025) for her voice on equity and mentorship.



As an active board and committee co-chair, Hannah played a key role in advancing the annual **AIA Columbus Golf Outing Scholarship fundraiser**. This signature event helps raise scholarship funds for architecture students at OSU Knowlton School of Architecture, and generates funding for the chapter's mentorship programs, initiatives, and knowledge-based scholarships. Her leadership has helped strengthen both the financial impact and reach of the community.

Hannah Ewvaraye has demonstrated a sustained commitment to community service through her involvement with the **Weight of Architecture** program, a design service grant initiative of AIA Columbus. The program pairs architects with nonprofit organizations to provide design services that support community revitalization, equitable development, and public engagement.

In 2014, Hannah was part of the *Homeport* project team selected through the WoA program. Her team collaborated closely with the organization to explore design solutions that could better serve the community and revitalize their center. That year, the project was honored with the **AIA Columbus Excellence Award** for its collaborative approach, demonstration of architecture's civic value, and the positive impact it had on community dialogue. Hannah's participation in the Homeport project exemplifies her belief that architecture can be both a service and a strategy for social change.







---

ERIC PROS, AIA  
PRESIDENT, AIA OHIO

—  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
ARCHITECTS OHIO  
400 W. WILSON BRIDGE  
ROAD; SUITE 400  
WORTHINGTON, OH  
43085-2259

06.30.25

RE: HANNAH EVWARAYE,  
AIA; LETTER OF  
SUPPORT

President Pros and members of the AIA Ohio Emerging Professionals Jury:

It is my distinct pleasure to nominate Hannah Evwaraye, AIA, for the 2025 AIA Ohio Emerging Professionals Award. Hannah and I first met as part of her leadership of AIA Columbus where she has served as an officer for the past five years. Hannah has always impressed me with her focused approach and persistent pursuit of shared goals for the chapter. Under her leadership, AIA Columbus has expanded engagement in our knowledge communities where member participation has soared, particularly among the emerging professional population.

Hannah serves AIA National as a member of the Board Knowledge Committee and Continuing Education Committee, which has allowed her to connect AIA Columbus to national trends and strategies which elevate member access to knowledge. Of note is her effort to increase the number and quality of educational opportunities for AIA Columbus members. Since taking the helm leading the chapter Hannah has expanded a building tour series that introduces members to valuable knowledge and expertise through real world, immersive experiences. Members can explore their curiosity in various design areas, enriching their individual career growth.

As a practitioner, Hannah has worked diligently to hone expertise in the design of collegiate sports and recreation facilities on campuses across America. Through this work Hannah explores the impact of design on personal wellness, a timely topic of great personal interest to her and vital importance to student bodies across college campuses. As a result, her designs are far more than an exercise in formal building design and increase access to wellness for entire student populations.

Hannah embodies the spirit of an emerging generation of architects interested in design that provides impact and transforms behavior. Hannah is a design champion, mentor, and natural leader. She has shaped a career which is influencing peers and shifting society's understanding of the architect's role. For these reasons and many more, I strongly encourage you to recognize Hannah Evwaraye, AIA with the 2025 AIA Ohio Emerging Professionals Award.

Yours very truly,

TIMOTHY C. HAWK, FAIA; PRESIDENT

—  
WSA; 235 N 4TH STREET; SUITE 200; COLUMBUS, OH 43215

July 1, 2025



To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to highly recommend Hannah for her exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to the Institute and the profession. Throughout her tenure on the board, Hannah has demonstrated remarkable dedication in every role she has undertaken, from serving as a committee member on the golf fundraising committee to her current position as a two-term president of the Chapter.

Hannah's commitment to the Institute and her enthusiasm for advancing equity and justice in the architecture profession, key pillars of the AIA Columbus strategic plan, have been evident every day during her term as Chapter President. Her leadership was particularly tested when, after nearly a full year as president, the incoming president had to step away for personal reasons, leaving a void in the chapter's leadership. Hannah selflessly volunteered to serve a second year in the position, which is typically a one-year term.

As a past president of the chapter, I can personally attest to the significant workload and responsibilities that come with the role of president. I am in awe of Hannah's ability to not only guide the chapter through a second consecutive year as president but also excel in her professional capacity at her firm while managing her responsibilities as a parent alongside her husband.

Hannah's dedication, leadership, and ability to balance multiple demanding roles make her an outstanding candidate for any opportunity she pursues. I have no doubt that she will continue to make significant contributions to the Institute and the profession.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael J. Vala, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael J. Vala, Jr, AIA, NCARB  
Partner



**Moody Nolan**  
300 Spruce Street, Suite 300  
Columbus, OH 43215  
614.461.4664  
moodynolan.com

June 2025  
**AIA Ohio Board of Directors**  
400 W. Wilson Bridge Road,  
Ste. 120  
Worthington, OH 43085  
[aiaohio@asnoffices.com](mailto:aiaohio@asnoffices.com)  
614.221.0338

Dear Members of the AIA Ohio Board of Directors,

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend **Hannah Ewvaraye** for the AIA Ohio Emerging Professionals Award. Hannah exemplifies what it means to be an impactful early-career architect—balancing excellence in design and delivery with visionary leadership within the profession. Her contributions to practice and service are not only worthy of recognition but serve as a model for the next generation of architectural leaders in Ohio and beyond.

At Moody Nolan, Hannah has taken on roles that extend far beyond project execution. Internally, she has been instrumental in advancing the firm's commitment to mentorship and lifelong learning. She led the development of the **Professional Development Series**, a robust internal initiative that provides meaningful, ongoing education and support for architects at all stages of licensure. Through her thoughtful curation of content and speakers, she has created a culture where growth is intentional, accessible, and directly tied to practice. Additionally, Hannah was a driving force behind the **Execution Summit**, a firm-wide gathering focused on sharing best practices in project delivery. This past year's summit, featuring sessions like "**The Road to CA – Success is Always Under Construction**," demonstrated her exceptional ability to bring people together around quality, consistency, and innovation in architectural execution.

Hannah's project work speaks for itself as well. She has been featured in *Campus Rec* and *Athletic Business* for her leadership in delivering complex, high-performance facilities, such as the **BGSU Slater Family Ice Arena** and **University of Pittsburgh Recreation and Wellness Center**. She thrives in the challenges of large-scale athletic and campus environments, where collaboration, precision, and adaptability are essential. Yet what makes Hannah truly stand out is her ability to lead with both clarity and care—ensuring the process is as thoughtful and inclusive as the final product.

Even beyond the walls of our office and projects, Hannah is a steadfast advocate for women in the profession. She is, in the best sense of the phrase, a *girls' girl*—lifting up her peers, speaking openly about the challenges women face in architecture, and celebrating their successes. At the **AIA Women's Leadership Summit**, she took center stage to speak about the power of partnerships between diverse firms, offering a compelling vision of equity through collaboration. Her voice is deeply rooted in a belief that architecture can—and will—be more inclusive.

In many ways, Hannah embodies the spirit of the Early Professional Honor Award: she leads with purpose, serves with humility, and practices with excellence. It is a joy to highly recommend her for this award. Please feel free to contact me should you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

  
**Alexandra Oetzel, AIA**  
Associate, Project Architect  
Moody-Nolan, Inc





July 1, 2025

**Re: AIA Ohio Emerging Professional Honor Award for Hannah Evwaraye, AIA**

**AIA Ohio**

Honor Awards Committee  
400 W. Wilson Bridge Road, Ste. 120  
Worthington, OH 43085

**Dear Members of the Honor Awards Committee,**

Thank you for your commitment to supporting emerging professionals within our Industry in The State of Ohio. I am writing to endorse and recommend Hannah Evwaraye, AIA who is an exceptional emerging professional in the field of architecture. Over the course of her career, Hannah has demonstrated remarkable leadership, dedication, and a profound commitment to both her profession and her community.

As a leader within The Columbus Chapter of The American Institute of Architecture, Hannah has consistently shown her ability to inspire and guide her peers as Chapter President for two terms and in many other impactful roles. Her tenure in her leadership roles has been marked by innovative initiatives and collaborative spirit that has significantly advanced the goals of the AIA. Her efforts have not only strengthened the organization but have also fostered a sense of unity and forward progress amongst the members.

In addition to her leadership within the AIA, Hannah has been a driving force in community engagement. She has led numerous projects on a national scale that have created a lasting impact on communities and major universities. She has demonstrated her commitment to using architecture as a tool for creating positive change. Her work has been characterized by a deep understanding of community needs and a creative approach to addressing them.

Hannah has a strong dedication to mentoring other young professionals and students. Her mentorship has been instrumental in the professional development of many architects, providing guidance and support needed to succeed in their professional journey. She brings an approachable method of shared experience as a tool to engage with others offering wisdom towards professional pathway planning, management techniques in balancing life and work commitments all with a kind and encouraging demeanor.

I have had the great pleasure of working with so many emerging professionals throughout my career. Hannah rises to the top of the list for her demonstration as a highly talented and dedicated professional whose commitment to the profession, the community and others is truly commendable. I am certain we are a better Institution and Industry as a result of her efforts and accomplishments.

You will certainly be considering many talented individuals for this recognition. I implore you to select Hannah Evwaraye, AIA for this distinguished honor for she is an exceptional example of what our profession needs to celebrate. I am also quite confident that Hannah will utilize this recognition to continue to build her meaningful impact on others with outstanding rigor and commitment representing the quality that The American Institute of Architects seeks to demonstrate.

With regards,

**Christopher Meyers, FAIA NCARB LEED AP**

Principal Architect and Founding Owner  
2021 AIA Ohio Mentor Award Recipient  
2023 AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award Recipient