Our purpose
As the philanthropic partner of The American Institute of Architects (AIA), the Architects Foundation’s purpose is to harness the irrepressible spirit of architects to support and empower a next-generation design community to create places that make us all better people.

Our mission
The Architects Foundation leads philanthropic efforts that lay the foundation of architecture’s future by attracting, inspiring, and investing in a diverse next generation of architects to have positive impact in the world.
Support the Architects Foundation

Our success depends on your support. In addition to investments in specific Architects Foundation programs, unrestricted support allows us to respond to the needs of our scholars as they pursue their education and professional growth. Unrestricted support also allows us to innovate and grow, enhancing our value as the philanthropic partner of AIA.
The Architects Foundation is making great strides thanks to the generosity of our donors and our board’s work in 2018 to focus our promise for the architectural profession, the communities we serve, and the next generation of design professionals. In addition to delivering on national programs already in progress, we stated our purpose and in doing so, unlocked great potential for the future.

Enclosed please find a snapshot of the year, including information on the Diversity Advancement Scholarship Program, the Richard Morris Hunt Prize, and programs and exhibits at the historic Octagon. As you learn more about our work, I invite you to think about how your passion meets our purpose.

2018, my first full year at the helm of the Architects Foundation, was a year of listening to and learning from the Architects Foundation staff, board, committee members, scholars, alumni, donors, potential donors, colleagues across the AIA network, and the community. It was a year to build infrastructure, benchmark performance, and take advantage of unexpected opportunities that came our way to test our new, focused mission and to celebrate the Octagon.

At our December board retreat, the Board finalized our “manifesto,” an examination of our vision, mission, values, and purpose, and the guiding principles that bring our values to life. These tools provide a lens through which to evaluate opportunities and make decisions on programs, partnerships, and possibilities, putting us on solid ground to harness the irrepressible spirit of architects to support and empower a diverse next-generation design community.

Please enjoy this look at our year in review and support our work to cultivate, nurture, and empower aspiring architects from diverse backgrounds to ensure the architectural profession of tomorrow reflects the society in which we live, work, and play.
Expenses were greater than revenues in 2018 primarily due to the disbursement of restricted contributions received in previous years. In 2018 the Architects Foundation recorded a net expenditure of $114,311 for direct grant and scholarship payments. The Architects Foundation measures its financial sustainability primarily based on its change in net assets without donor restrictions. In 2018, the Foundation recorded an increase in net assets without donor restrictions of $29,920.
In 2018, we laid the groundwork for the growth of our scholarship programs, actively administering, developing, and taking on scholarship programs that support and empower architects at different career stages—stages that often end up being barriers to professional success as an architect. We also began to develop new ways to engage and empower our growing family of scholars.

Last year, we awarded $432,600 in scholarships. And we more than doubled the number of scholarship programs to better support the career pipeline.

2017 Scholarship programs
01. Diversity Advancement Scholarship
02. Payette Sho-Ping Chin Memorial Academic Scholarship
03. Jason Pettigrew Memorial ARE Scholarship

2018 Scholarship programs
01. Diversity Advancement Scholarship
02. Payette Sho-Ping Chin Memorial Academic Scholarship
03. Jason Pettigrew Memorial ARE Scholarship
04. Yann Weymouth Graduate Scholarship
05. Richard Morris Hunt Prize
06. AF/McAslan Fellowship
07. a/e ProNet David W. Lakamp, AIA Scholarship
SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS

2018

Jason Pettigrew Memorial ARE

104 applications 10 awards

2019–2020

Diversity Advancement

330 applications 10 awards

Payette Sho-Ping Chin Memorial Academic

70 applications 01 award

Yann Weymouth Graduate

26 applications 01 award

Sho-Ping Chin Women’s Leadership Summit Grant

75 applications 05 awards

a/e ProNet David W. Lakamp, AIA

26 applications 02 awards

AF/McAslan Fellowship

8 applications 02 awards

SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINES

May–July 2019

Jason Pettigrew Memorial ARE Scholarship

November 2019–January 2020

Diversity Advancement Scholarship
Payette Sho-Ping Chin Memorial Academic Scholarship
Yann Weymouth Graduate Scholarship
a/e ProNet David W. Lakamp, AIA Scholarship
AF/McAslan Fellowship
Sho-Ping Chin Women’s Leadership Summit Grant

May–July 2020

Jason Pettigrew Memorial ARE Scholarship
Richard Morris Hunt Prize
As the first home to The American Institute of Architects in Washington, DC, The Octagon symbolizes both historic architectural significance and the value architects and architecture bring to culture and social impact.

**Events**

We hosted visitors at The Octagon for special events and meetings, helping to expand the museum’s visitor base. The Octagon maintains a decades-long relationship with the Historical American Building Survey, partnering on summer internship events, and the Association for Preservation Technology continues to hold lectures and meet-ups in the building.

Last fall, the museum had the honor of hosting a brunch for the “Black Women in Architecture” group as part of a National Museum of African American History and Culture symposium titled “Shifting the Landscape: Black Architects and Planners, 1968 to Now.”

**Recent exhibits**

*50 Years After Whitney Young Jr.*

Jointly curated by AIA, The Octagon, and the Architects Foundation, the “50 Years After Whitney Young Jr.” exhibit explored civil rights leader Whitney Young and his impact on the architecture profession five decades after his keynote speech at the 1968 AIA National Convention, where he challenged architects to address social issues.

The exhibit—which included a detailed companion website that remains live today—commemorates Young and recognizes the architects and organizations who tirelessly advocate and champion social issues. The show subsequently traveled to AIA Portland in fall 2018 and will be on view at AIA San Francisco and AIA Dallas in summer 2019.

*Victor Lundy: Educating an Architect + Preserving Modern Architecture*

This special exhibit offered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view drawings and paintings from the private collection of an influential American architect. A leader in the Sarasota School of Architecture, Lundy designed renowned modernist buildings, including the US Embassy in Sri Lanka and the US Tax Court Building in Washington, DC. Curated by Houston-based architect and academic Donna Kacmar, FAIA, this unique exhibit was on view at The Octagon through February 2019 prior to being catalogued at the Library of Congress.
VISITORS BY THE NUMBERS

3,953
total visitors
in 2018

2,441
general admissions

1,164
special event guests

348
private tour guests
Octagon exhibits

**CODAworx Awards**
May–August 2019

**Without Regard to Sex, Race, or Color**
October–December 2019

**50 Years After Whitney Young Jr.**
AIA San Francisco, June 20–July 19, 2019
AIA Dallas, June 28–August 2, 2019