



2024 Nominees to the Board of Directors Candidate Submission Requirements

Name:	Cary Bernstein, AIA		
Position Nominated for:	VP of Government Relations		
A 100-Word (maximum) summary of your background, education, professional history, and service to the professions.			
<p>-Professional 1997- present Owner, Cary Bernstein Architect 1994-1996 Tanner Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects</p> <p>-Education 1988 M. Arch. Yale School of Architecture 1984 B.A. Dartmouth College (Philosophy + Russian)</p> <p>-Teaching Design: UC Berkeley, California College of the Arts Philosophy: Yale University (Ethics, Philosophy of Architecture, Aesthetics)</p>	<p>-AIA + Related Service 2018-present AIACA Board of Directors 2020-present AIACA Advocacy Advisory Committee 2019-present AIACA Task Forces and Committees: Interior Design + Public Safety; Firm Naming; Emerging Professionals Nomenclature; Resilient Design 2022-present AIASF Public Policy Advisory Committee 2016-18 AIASF Board of Directors 2007-2014 Chair + Program Chair, SFMOMA A+D Forum</p>		
A 200-word (maximum) summary of the candidate’s philosophy, goals, and objectives in serving in this office.			
<p>Throughout my career I’ve advocated for architecture through work, teaching, public service, and service to the AIA. Advocating for the value of architects and practice, justice and the environment, and for improving people’s lives leverages my training and complements my design practice. As Vice President of Government Relations, I hope to strengthen AIA CA’s value to architects through effective legislative action and impassioned membership engagement.</p> <p>In 2020 my independent research initiated proactive legislation to protect architectural copyright and, eventually, our bill became law. Success was due as much to the bill’s merit as to the ability to communicate with lobbyists and legislators who know little about architecture. Communication with people of varied backgrounds is at the heart of effective advocacy, necessary to persuade the powerful and paramount to inspiring members.</p> <p>After many years on the Board and the Advocacy Advisory Committee, I’ve learned how each group functions. I’ve contributed to multiple years-long efforts that are critical to the strategic plan. AIA CA leadership has appointed me to several task forces with faith in my ability to analyze, deliberate, and communicate sensitive and complex subjects. This past work will help ensure a smooth Advocacy Advisory Committee transition for the months ahead.</p>			
Candidates are also permitted to submit a letter of support for their nomination from any individual, AIA member or otherwise. This letter shall not be longer than 2 pages in length, including letterhead. Letters exceeding this requirement will not be accepted.			Nomination and additional supporting documents attached.

Next Steps:

- Candidates will receive the virtual meeting invitation for the Friday, July 12, 2024 Board of Directors meeting where the election will take place.
- Please prepare your speech to be given at the Friday, July 12, 2024 meeting. Each candidate will give a speech not to exceed 3 minutes in length.

PERKINS — EASTMAN

June 20, 2024

AIA California
1931 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
Attention: Sujendra Mishra, AIA, Secretary/Treasurer

Re: Nomination of Cary Bernstein, FAIA
AIACA Vice President of Governmental Relations

Dear Secretary/Treasurer Mishra and Nominating Committee Members:

It is a privilege to nominate Cary Bernstein, FAIA, as a candidate for the office of AIA California Vice President of Governmental Relations to complete Robert Ooley's term until the end of 2024. As a current member of the Advocacy Advisory Committee, Cary is well-prepared and knows and has a deep understanding of the significant role of this position. She will be in-step with Scott Terrell on day one, providing the continuity and integrity that is so critical to the success of AIACA in Sacramento.

Cary is ever present, and is on a diligent life-long journey to lead her chosen platform and professional path to make the political advocacy environment better than the way that she found it. And concurrently, Cary has sustained a successful architectural practice, designing beautiful buildings and interior environments that highlight her talent for her craft. She joined the AIACA Board in 2018, and later joined the Advocacy Advisory Committee in 2020. It has been on that platform that I have had the opportunity to get to know Cary, to see her in action, and to marvel at the passion and creative thought that she brings to every well-crafted comment and position. Through hours-long meetings, Cary has diligently sustained her energy and foresight to address every issue before us as a committee. To acknowledge her accomplishments, former AIACA President Rona Rothenberg honored Cary with a Presidential Citation for her work on behalf of AIACA and California architects. That honor is representative of the dedication that Cary brings to a profound and long-lasting influence on advocacy efforts and accomplishments.

Cary has just been bestowed with her well-deserved AIA Fellowship. I was thrilled to be there representing the College of Fellows to congratulate her at her Investiture, and to welcome her into the College. Cary is that rare and genuine gift to our profession through her proactive and impactful involvement in the advocacy and political arena, and through her unwavering commitment to the future of the architectural profession in California. Her influence is felt State-wide. Please give Cary's nomination your most careful and favorable consideration. She is the most qualified, prepared and deserving candidate that I know.

Sincerely,



Betsey Olenick Dougherty, FAIA, LEED AP
Former AIACC President
Former AIA California Regional Director
Former AIA Secretary
Former Chancellor of the AIA College of Fellows