

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 20, 2019 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Katherine Williams 804-601-4365 // <u>bwa.brunch@gmail.com</u> https://bwa-network.com

Black Women in Architecture to gather for fifth annual event in Washington DC

Washington, DC – On September 21, 2019, over 40 black women in architecture will gather for what has become an annual networking event. The event will be held at the historic Octagon House in downtown Washington DC.

Organized by a team of volunteers, this annual event is an opportunity for black women in architecture to gather and network with each other to foster working relationships, build future partnerships and support each other. In the profession, black women make-up only 0.4% (462) of the over 110,000 licensed architects in the United States. The event serves to connect women who could easily be working in environments where they rarely see other black women.

Additionally the event is a fundraiser for the Desiree Cooper ARE Scholarship fund. The fund currently provides scholarships for those who need financial assistance to complete the licensure process. To date, the fund has awarded five scholarships to exam candidates.

This year's event will include a brunch buffet and a panel discussion with women from allied professions. The 2019 event is possible with the sponsorship from the Architect's Foundation, E&G, OTJ Architects, CURE Architecture and VMDO. For more information, to sponsor, or to purchase a ticket to attend visit <u>https://bwa-network.com</u>.

About Katherine Williams

Katherine Williams, NOMA, AIA, began hosting the Black Women in Architecture brunch in 2015. This event builds on a decade long history of black women in the profession initiating events to gather and network, especially in Washington DC and New York. Katherine is a licensed architect. She has served as a volunteer in multiple positions with National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA).