



NOMA
UNPLUGGED
20 NASHVILLE 22

October 26 – 30, 2022
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RIDING THE VORTEX 180

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN IN ARCHITECTURE

RIDING THE
Vortex

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

02

HISTORY OF VORTEX

03

DATA

04

PANELISTS

05

CONCLUSION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

DATA

Describe current data on number of licensed men of color, particularly African-American, in the profession and how the numbers have increased.

DEVELOPMENT

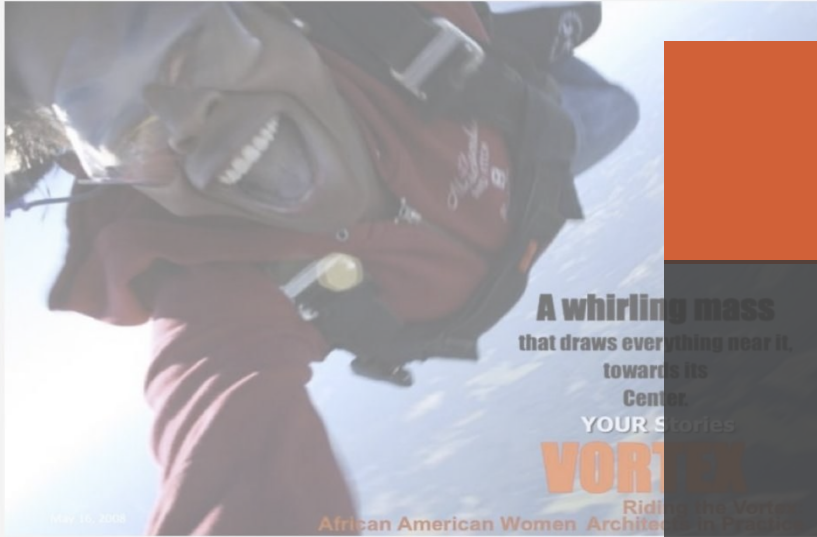
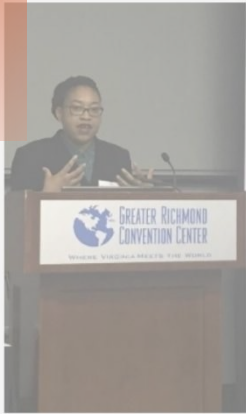
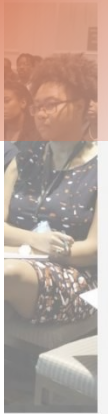
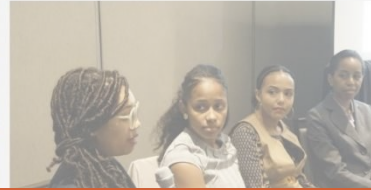
Understand career development preparation and mentoring resources to be successful in the profession

DIVERSITY

Discuss how increasing the diversity of the profession contributes to better communities and built environment.

DISMANTLE

Recognize the barriers to diversity and how to overcome them to advance your career and how to dismantle them to help others



ABOUT VORTEX



ABOUT



"Riding the Vortex" was conceived to inspire students and professionals, to encourage them to establish professional and personal goals, and to provide tools for asking the right questions and for gathering helpful responses quickly.

VORTEX provides opportunities for African-American women to speak and be their true selves in a professional environment which contributes to their **well-being** and feelings of self-worth; ie, the strength to thrive in the male dominated environments which permeate our profession.

VORTEX provides opportunities for African-American women to formulate an understanding of healthy leadership, to **discover** their unique leadership abilities, and to exercise leadership within various aspects of the profession.

By offering programs in a range of venues, **VORTEX** actively contributes to greater acceptance of the unique contributions of African-American women and other POC by the majority community and thus is a critical **change-agent** for our profession.

VORTEX facilitates the establishment of **equitable communities** within all aspects of the profession.

The greatest contribution of **VORTEX** to the profession has been its direct impact on the exponential increase in the number of African-American women licensed to practice from approximately 175 in 2007 to over 500 by the end of the 3rd quarter of 2020 according to the *Directory of African-American Architects*. When audience learns the many ways the Collaborators and panelists have maneuvered through the architecture education and training maze to achieve licensure, it encourages them to stay on the path to achieving their goals.

The numbers of African-Americans practicing architecture has stagnated at approximately 2% of the profession for a couple of decades. Thirty years ago [1990ish] there were just over 1800 active licensed African-American Architects in the United States. Barely 30 of them were women. As of the date of this submission, of the 2435 African American architects, 533 are women. **VORTEX** is a major catalyst for the over 254% growth in the number of licensed African American women architects since 2006.



Original VORTEX Collaborators
Barbara Laurie, Kathryn Prigmore, Katherine Williams, Kathy Dixon



VORTEX Collaborators
Kathy Dixon, Katherine Williams, Kathryn Prigmore, Melissa R. Daniel

IMPACT



14 Years



3 AIA Conferences



13 NOMA Conferences



17 US Cities



24 Unique Programs



25 Presenters

Riding the **VORTEX** engages a nation-wide network of African American women architects to include local women as panelist. Below is the list of participants throughout **VORTEX's** history.

San Antonio, TX	2007	Kathryn T. Prigmore, FAIA; Barbara G. Laurie, AIA;
Boston, MA	2008	Kathy Dixon, FAIA; Katherine Williams, AIA
Washington, DC		
San Francisco, CA		
St. Louis, MO	2009	Aisha Densmore-Bey, Assoc AIA; Michelle Chin
Boston, MA		
Boston, MA	2010	Aisha Densmore-Bey, Assoc AIA
Washington, DC		
Atlanta, GA		
Washington, DC	2011	Roberta Washington, FAIA; Anna McCorvey, AIA
Detroit, MI	2012	Tiffany Brown Assoc AIA
Indianapolis, IN	2013	Tiffany Brown Assoc AIA; Crystal J. Satterfield, AIA
Philadelphia, PA	2014	Roberta Washington, FAIA; Tya Wynn; Nea Maloo, AIA
New Orleans, LA	2015	Rashidah Williams
Los Angeles, CA		
Richmond, VA	2016	Ashley Mack, Assoc AIA; Mia Gilliam; Nea Maloo, AIA
Houston, TX		
Richmond, VA	2017	La'Veesha Allen Rollins; Pascale Sablan, FAIA; Camille Jackson; Devanne Pena, RA
Chicago, IL		
New York, NY	2018	Maya Bird-Murphy, Assoc. AIA; Tiara Hughes Assoc. AIA; Tiffany Brown, Assoc. AIA; Roberta Washington, FAIA
Virtual	2020	Rasheda Tripp, AIA; Melissa R Daniel Assoc. AIA; Devanne Pena, RA; Roberta Washington, FAIA; Ramatoulie Sallah-Muhammed AIA
Virtual	2021	Sharon E. Sutton, FAIA, Allison G. Williams, FAIA, Ivenue Love-Stanley, FAIA, NOMAC, Kathryn T. Prigmore, FAIA, NOMAC (Moderator), Cheryl McMea, FAIA, NOMAC, Roberta Washington, FAIA, NOMAC

IMPACT

LOCATIONS

San Antonio, Texas
 Boston, Massachusetts
 Washington, DC
 Kansas City, Missouri
 San Francisco, California
 Indianapolis, Indiana
 St. Louis, Missouri
 Atlanta, Georgia
 Detroit, Michigan
 Indianapolis, Indiana
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 New Orleans, Louisiana
 Los Angeles, California
 Richmond, Virginia
 Houston, Texas
 Chicago, Illinois
 New York, New York
 VIRTUAL Oakland, California
 VIRTUAL Miami, Florida
 VIRTUAL Atlanta, Georgia

VENUES

AIA Conferences (2007-2009)
 NOMA Conferences (2008, 2018, 2020)
 Build Boston (2009)
 Design DC (2011)
 ArchExchange East (2016, 2020)
 America's Hidden Gem (2020)
 NAACP CESBS (2020)
 National Technical Association (2020)

VOICES



*"The rules for entering the field of architecture are no different for African Americans than for any other ethnic group in America. We just need to inspire young people to pursue such a wonderful career path."
Kathy Denise Dixon, FAIA, NOMAC, LEED AP+ CDT, NCARB*

The community of African American women in our profession includes many unheard voices and stories that need to be told. Riding the **VORTEX** sessions are also seen as a "safe place" for open discussion about the experiences of BIPOC in the profession. These sessions are welcoming and inclusive. Additionally, men have been very supportive from the beginning and offer their perspectives. Participation from the audience is as important to the success of **VORTEX** as the individual speaker presentations. **VORTEX** audiences are invigorated by the presentations and invited to actively participate.

VOICES



Top Left: 2016 NOMA Conference in Los Angeles, CA audience member Dr. Kwesi Daniel.

Top Right: 2016 ArchExchange East in Richmond, VA Panelist Nea Maloo

Bottom: 2016 NOMA Conference in Los Angeles, CA audience member Ryan Snow



VISIBILITY



VORTEX is the source for current information on the status of African-American Women architects and on our contributions to the discipline and practice of architecture.

The VORTEX Collaborators are sought by mainstream media (including *Architect* and *Architectural Record* magazines), by J.E.D.I. program organizers, and others as the voice of African American architects. The exposure from these opportunities and the candor of our perspectives contributes significantly to eliminating misperceptions about the contributions of African Americans to the discipline and practice of architecture.

Two Collaborators presented at the 2018 NOW WHAT?! *Advocacy, Activism and Alliances in American Architecture since 1968* symposium. They and other panelists are also contributors to the NOW WHAT?! traveling exhibition.



Above: Vortex session showing March 2007 cover of ARCHITECT... Right: BAC Exhibit 2008 and NOW WHAT?! *Advocacy, Activism and Alliances in American Architecture* Exhibit

VISIBILITY

Now We are ...

- 14 **2018**
 - Current Progress in Architecture and Design: A State of the Profession
 - Black Women in Architecture: Current Professionals
 - Black Women Architects: Looking Forward Into the Future
 - Structure of African American Architects
 - J.E.D.I. and Beyond
 - Building the Future
 - 2008 Symposium
- 49 **2016**
- 133 **2011**
- 214 **2007**

NOW WHAT?!
ADVOCACY
ACTIVISM and
ALLIANCES
 in **AMERICAN**
ARCHITECTURE
 since **1968**

1968

WANTED: BLACK WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE

1991

ALL THE FORCE ON WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE

2007

2008

NEEDY? WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE: A STATE OF ACTIVISM

ROBERTA ARGENTI

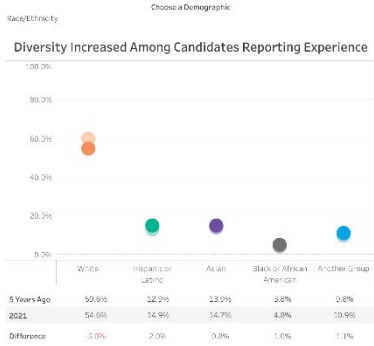
2018

NEEDY? RIDING THE VORTEX

2018

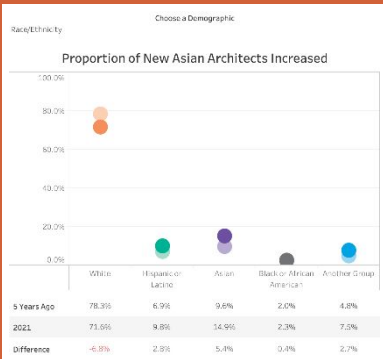
REPORTING EXPERIENCE

4.8%
1.0% increase



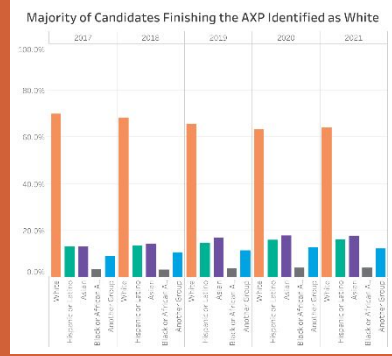
COMPLETING LICENSURE

2.3%
0.4% Increase



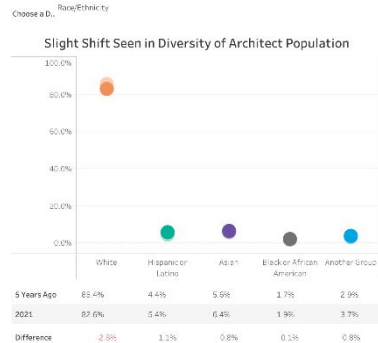
AXP COMPLETIONS

4.1%
0.1% Increase



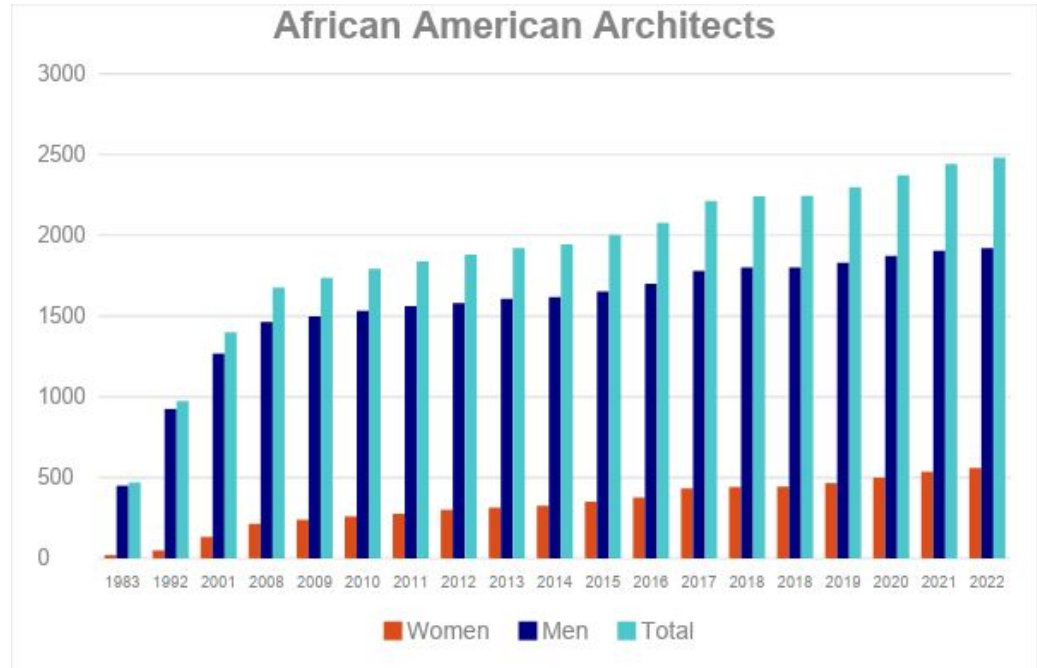
ARCHITECT POPULATION

1.9%
0.1% Increase

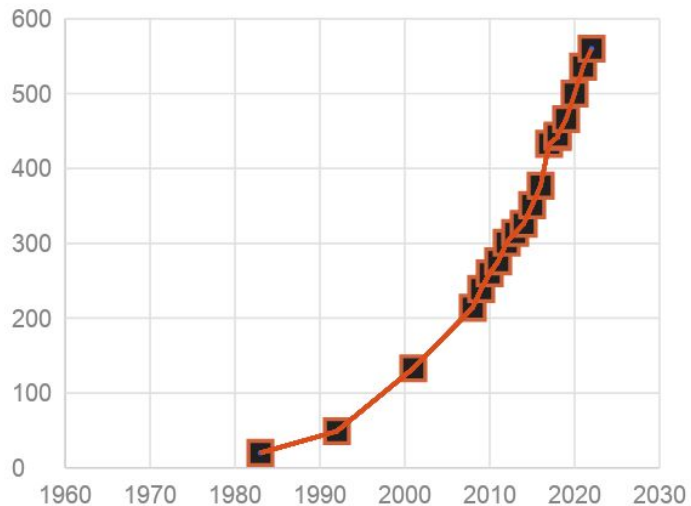


DATA
 AA as percentage of the whole
 Source: NCARB By the Numbers 2022
<https://www.ncarb.org/btn2022>

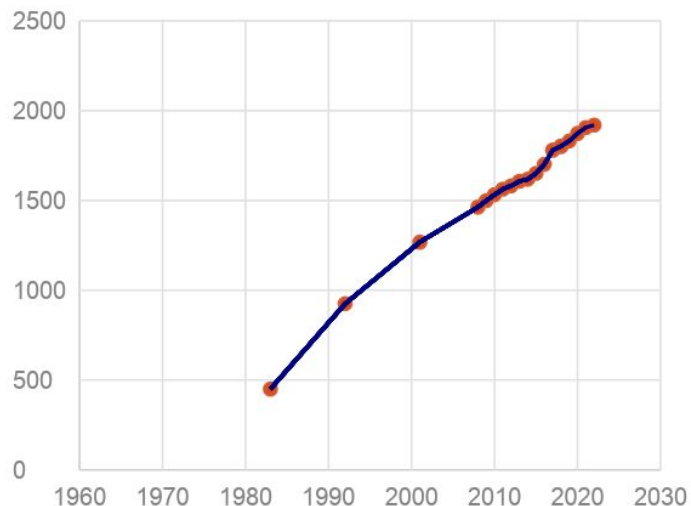
	Women	Men	Total
1983	20	450	470
1992	49	925	974
2001	133	1268	1401
2008	214	1463	1677
2009	239	1499	1738
2010	260	1532	1792
2011	276	1563	1839
2012	301	1581	1882
2013	272	1607	1921
2014	326	1618	1944
2015	351	1651	2001
2016	377	1701	2078
2017	433	1780	2213
2018	444	1802	2246
2019	466	1831	2297
2020	500	1873	2373
2021	536	1906	2442
2022 ytd	560	1920	2480



African American Women Architects



African American Men Architects



DATA
Rate of increase

Source: Directory of African American Architects

PANELISTS



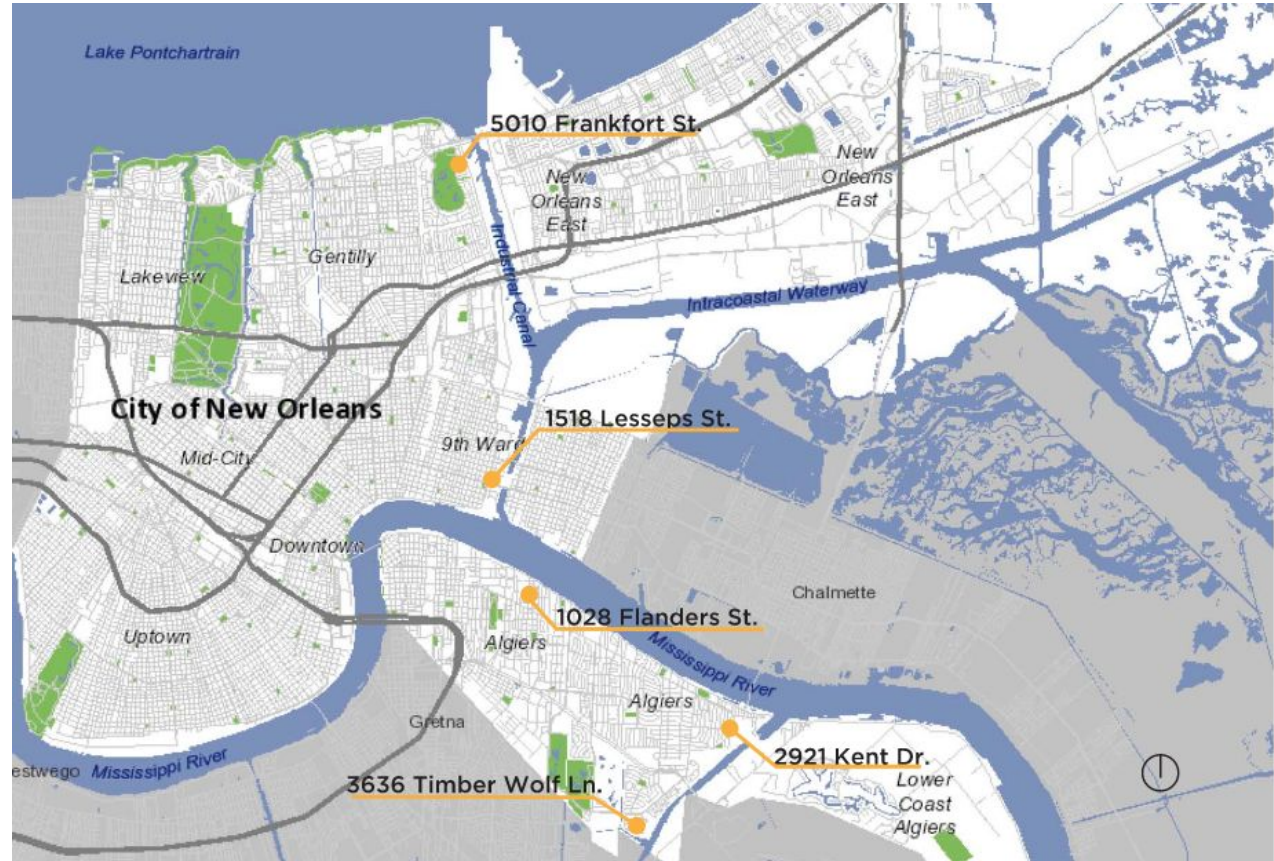
PANELISTS

NICHOLAS FOREST



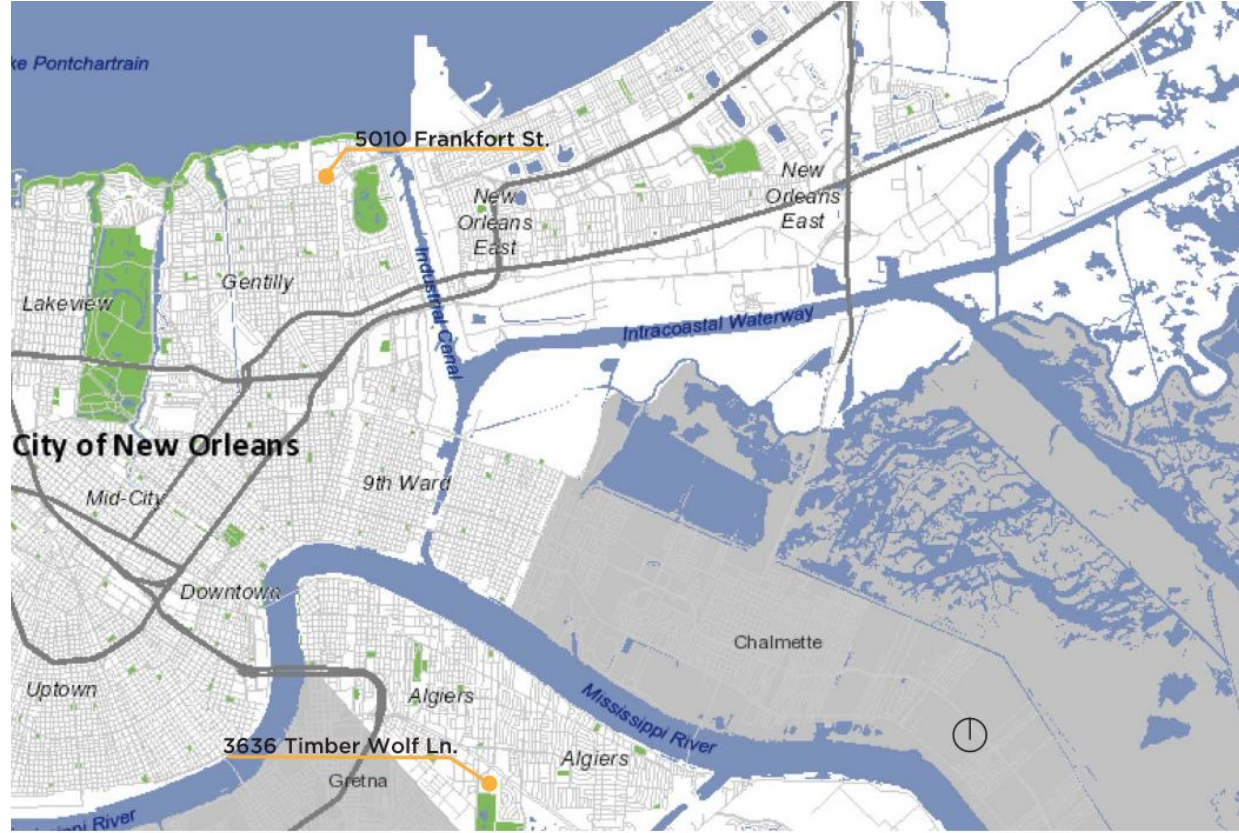
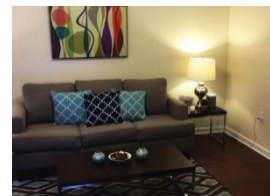


Americorps Vista Member New Orleans, LA



● House Location

- Map provided by City of New Orleans Property Viewer 5.



House Location

- Map provided by City of New Orleans Property Vie



Rose Fellowship

Alumni 2000-2022



Over the course of 22 years, the Rose Fellowship has paired passionate and talented design professionals with innovative community developers to find new ways to design and build affordable housing that is beautiful, sustainable, and promotes pride, power and belong if its residents.

Rose Fellowship Alumni

Katherine Williams

2005 - 2008

Visitation Valley CDC &
San Francisco Housing Dev. Corp.
San Francisco, CA

Nicholas Forest

2018 - 2020

Quest Community Development
Atlanta, GA





MARCH 5, 2018

Partner News: CHRIS 180, Atlanta Habitat for Humanity and Quest Community Development Unveil New Home for Local Homeless Family

CHRIS 180, Atlanta Habitat for Humanity, and Quest Community Development Organization have announced a new partnership and collaboration which culminated Friday with...

[Read More >](#)



Welcome

Nick
Forest

Project Manager



CBRE

REAP **Project REAP**
THE REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATE
PROGRAM



PANELISTS

ERNEST BELLAMY



Grade School



Undergrad –
Illinois Tech



Architecture –
Private Practice



Grad School –
Carnegie Mellon

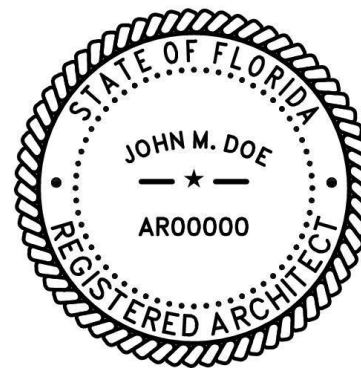
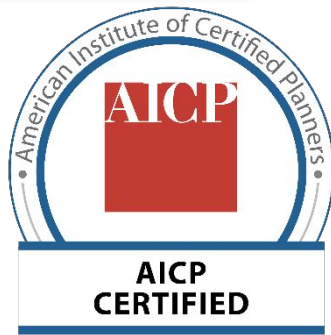
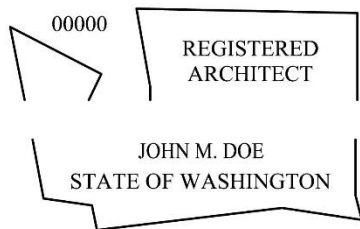
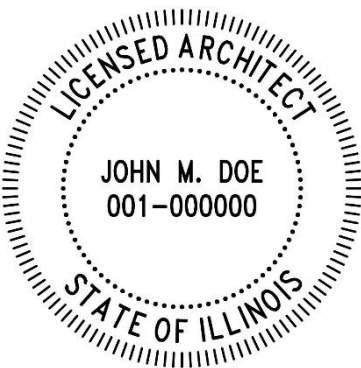


Planning –
Private Practice



Planning –
Public Sector









- Be Kind to Yourself
- Stay Focused
- Never Stop Learning
- Your Only Competition is Yourself
- Life is a Marathon

PANELISTS

COREY CLAYBORNE



**Don't Let Where You Are Today Define Your
Destiny**













Family First

Continue to Self-Improve – Relentless Pursuit of Excellence

Give Second Chances

The Menial Work Often Comes Before the Glorious Work

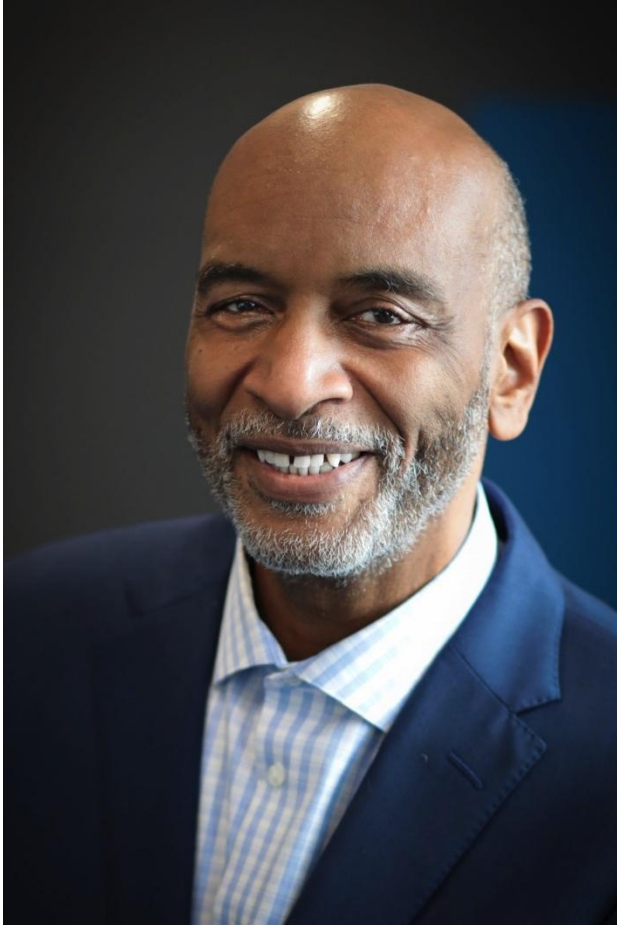
Bring Others Along With You

Thank You.

PANELISTS

JUAN SELF





Juan R. Self, AIA, NOMA, CSI

- Founding Principal, Self + Tucker Architects
- Passion for Historic Preservation, Sustainability and Ecclesiastical Design

BACKGROUND



ECCLESIASTICAL DESIGN



Riverside MBC



St. Andrew AME Church



MASON VILLAGE



THE NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM



LEGACY

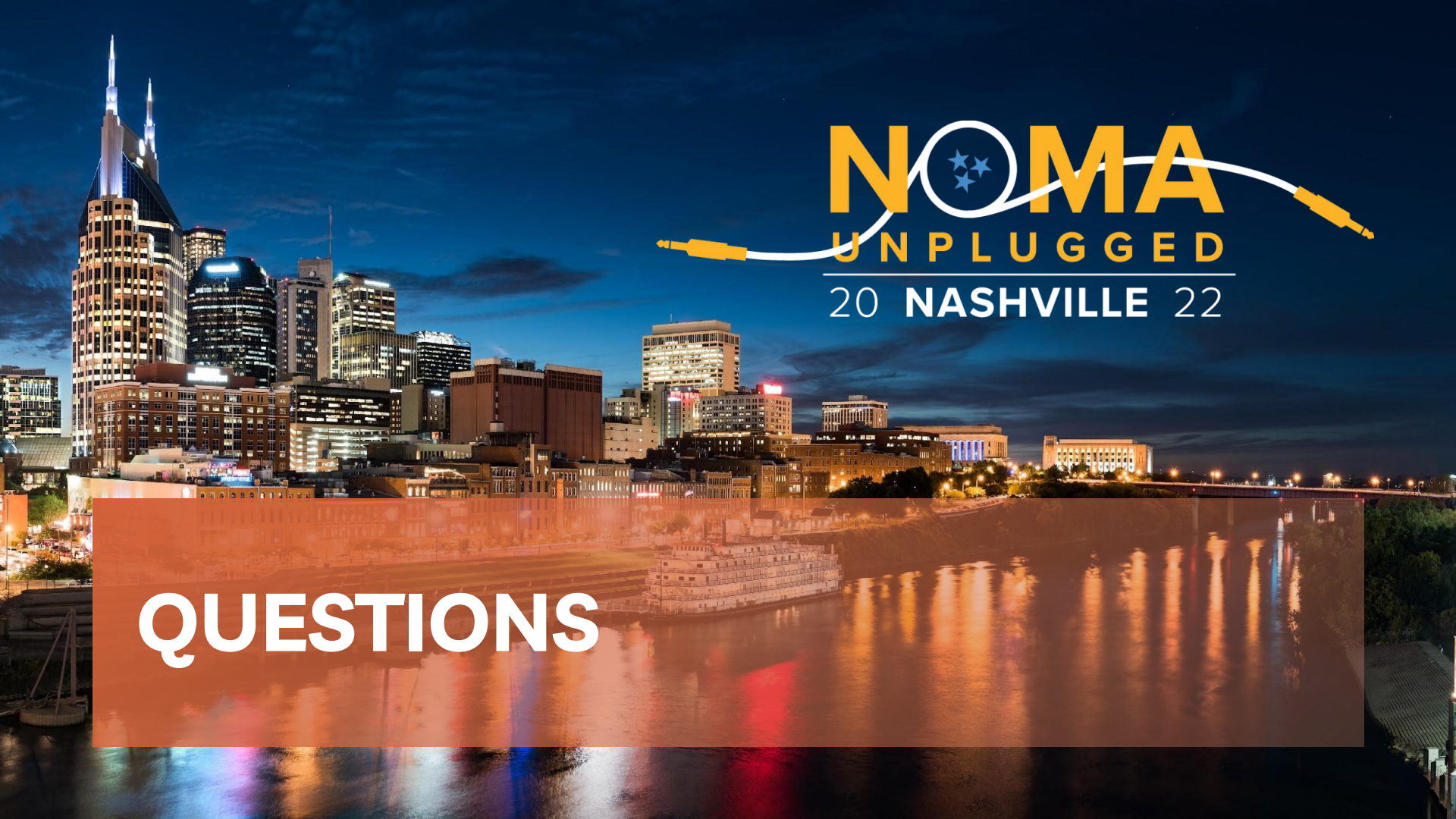


STAY CURIOUS

STAY FOCUSED

BE UNDENIABLE

IT IS NOT WHAT YOU
RECEIVE THAT
COUNTS, IT IS WHAT
YOU GIVE. THIS IS
YOUR LEGACY.



NOMA

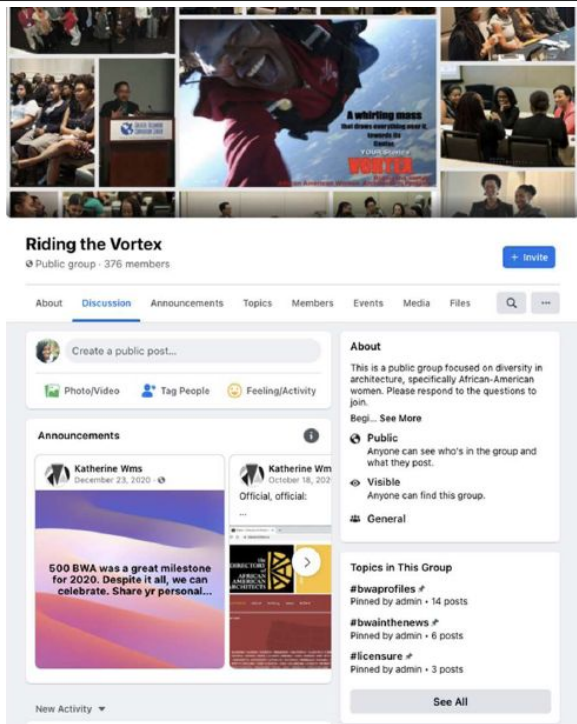
UNPLUGGED

20 **NASHVILLE** 22

QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- Riding the Vortex Web / FB page
 - <http://bwa-network.com/initiatives/riding-the-vortex/>
- Katherine Williams
 - Katherine_rw@yahoo.com / katherinerw.com
- Juan Self
 - jself@selftucker.com
- Corey Clayborne
 - coreyclayborne@aia.org
- Ernest Bellamy
 - ernest.e.bellamy@gmail.com
- Nicholas Forest
 - nick.forest.nf@gmail.com



Thank you.

RIDING THE
Vortex