The 6th Annual 1.5°C Symposium on Climate Change challenges our industry to explore the power of beauty in sustainable design to bridge the practicality of building construction with our desire to live in harmony with the natural world. There has been a paradigm shift that beauty is only a consideration of formal aesthetics; true beauty in architecture must inherently be grounded in an integration of physical form with community connection, livability, equity, resilience, and adaptability.
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Committee on the Environment

AIA Los Angeles
1.5°C PROGRAM

8:00 am Breakfast & Networking in the Courtyard

8:30 am Theater Opens

8:45 am Welcome

Megumi Hironaka, AIA, AIALA COTE 2023 Chair – Associate Principal, HED
Leslie Sydnor, AIA, 2023 AIALA Board President – Director, Cumming

9:00 am Presentation – Dimensions of Architectural Experience

Introduction by Brendan Bailey, AIA – Project Architect, Torti Gallas + Partners
Anjan Chatterjee, PhD. – Director of the Penn Center for Neuroaesthetics, University of Pennsylvania

9:30 am Presentation – Adapt to Change – The 5 Rs

Introduction by Fabian Kremkus, AIA, LEED GA – Design Principal, CO Architects
Barbara Buser – Architect and Town Planner, Zirkular Gmbh

10:10 am Presentation – "I Want You to Have Nice Things"

Introduction by Tahmores Zandi, AIA, AIA/LA COTE 2023 Vice Chair – Senior Associate Principal, SOM
Russell Fortmeyer, LEED AP BD+C – Global Sustainability Leader, Woods Bagot

10:40 am Presentation – Architecture & Moral Beauty

Introduction by Michael Bulander, AIA – Design Principal, HED
Loriane Icibaci, AIA – Director, Superuse Studios North America

11:10 am Panel Discussion – Radical Pragmatism: Paths to Mass Timber Success

Introduction by Christopher James, Associate AIA – Business Development Manager, Holmes
Abbey Ehman – Vice President, Lincoln Property Company (Moderator)
Amy Leedham, AIA – Associate, Atelier Ten (Panelist)
Jonathan Heppner, AIA – Principal, LEVER Architecture (Panelist)
Michelle Kam-Biron, PE, SE, F. SEAOC – Commercial Business Development, Manager Boise Cascade (Panelist)
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm LUNCH THINK Table Leaders:

ESG - Good Design + Responsible Action
Anthony Brower, AIA - Global Climate Action & Sustainability Practice Area Leader, Gensler & Adjunct Professor, USC School of Architecture

Embodied Carbon - The Inevitability of Concrete
Mitchel Le Heux - Senior Project Director, Englekirk Ety Benichou, Associate Principal, Englekirk

Decarbonization of Existing Buildings
Lance Collins, AIA, NOMA - Director, Partner Energy

Whole Life Carbon: Considering a Building’s Total Carbon Impact
Pablo La Roche, AIA - Principal, CallisonRTKL

Energy and Daylight Modeling to Inform Design
Vikas Shrestha, PhD, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, LFA - Associate Principal/Director of Sustainability, Steinberg Hart

Social Impact of Building Materials
Avideh Haghighi, AIA - Sustainable Design Lead, ZGF

Adaptive Reuse: Elevating Our Existing Building Stock
Jed Donaldson, AIA, AIALA Board Director - Principal, Johnson Fain

Net Zero is Dead; Long Live Net Zero!
Dave Intner, AIA - Senior Advisor, Southern California Edison

AIA 2030 Challenge Confessional
Paul Poirier, AIA - Principal, Poirier + Associates Architects Keith Hempel, FAIA - Chief Design Officer, LPA

Things to Consider When Using Mass Timber
Linda Chung, AIA, LEED AP - Senior Project Architect, Lever Architecture Michelle Kam-Biron, PE, SE, F. SEAOC - Commercial Business Development Manager, Boise Cascade
1:30 pm AIA|CA Update

Avideh Haghighi, AIA - Sustainable Design Leader, ZGF Architects
Simone Barth-Auster, Assoc. AIA - Associate Principal, Mithun

1:40 pm Presentation – Creative Resilience: Housing for People on a Warming Planet

Introduction by Sabrina Yuen - Associate, ZGF
David Baker, FAIA - Principal, David Baker Architects

2:10 pm Presentation – Dignity Building Blocks Panel

Ismar Enriquez, AIA, LFA, LEED AP, AIALA Board Director - Senior Associate, Steinberg Hart (Moderator)
Gauri Rajbaidya - Principal, SERA (Panelist)
Michael Bohn, AIA - Partner, Studio One Eleven (Panelist)
Audrey Peterson - Holos Communities, f/k/a Clifford Beers Housing (Panelist)

3:00 pm Presentation – Our Climate of Racialized Space

Introduction by Casey Castor - Associate, GGA+
Christopher Locke - President and Co-Founder of Designing in Color

3:30 pm Closing

Tahmoiras Zandi, AIA, AIALA COTE 2023 Vice Chair - Senior Associate Principal, SOM

3:40 pm HAPPY HOUR!
2023 1.5°C Symposium on Climate Change

Chair: Megumi Hironaka, AIA – Associate Principal, HED
Vice Chair: Tahmores Zandi, AIA – Senior Associate Principal, SOM
Past Chair: Miranda Gardiner, Assoc. AIA – Global Manager – Data Center Sustainability, Meta

Symposium Committee Members

- Brendan Bailey, AIA, NCARB, LFA, EcoDistricts AP - Project Architect, Torti Gallas + Partners
- Michael Bulander, AIA, LEED AP - Design Principal, HED
- Casey Castor, Associate AIA - Building Science Analyst/Environmental Designer, GGA+
- Linda Chung, AIA, LEED AP - Senior Project Architect, LEVER Architecture
- James (Jed) Donaldson, AIA – Principal, Johnson Fain
- Liz Duray, AIA - Sustainability & Wellness Lead, SuperLA
- Ismar Enriquez, AIA Board of Directors, LFA, LEED AP - Senior Associate, Steinberg Hart
- Christopher Fenton, AIA, LEED AP - Senior Project Architect, Gensler
- Christopher James, Associate AIA - Business Development Manager, Holmes
- Fabian Kremkus, AIA, LEED GA - Design Principal, CO Architects
- Michael Martin, FAIA
- Blake Patten, AIA - Associate Principal, Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners
- Kathy Pray, Affiliate AIA - Marketing Associate, PBS Engineers
- George Reilly - West Coast MEP, Buro Happold Engineering
- Susan Stolting, AIA, LEED GA - Architectural Designer, Fitwel Ambassador
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- Kathy Wishard, Associate AIA - Principal, LRM Landscape Architecture
- Sabrina Yuen, AIA - Associate, ZGF Architects

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