

# **AIA LOUISIANA ELECTION FOR OFFICES IN 2021**

*Election will be held during the AIA Louisiana Virtual Annual Business Meeting,  
Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Video Conference*

## **President-Elect Rex Cabaniss, AIA will be the 2021 AIA Louisiana President**

Rex Cabaniss is a Partner plus Planning + Design Director with WHLC Architecture in Baton Rouge, LA and Fairhope, AL.

With degrees from Texas A&M University and University of Oregon, he's worked with firms in Portland, Austin, San Antonio, Houston, New Orleans, and London; sized from 2 to 200. This experience in a rich variety of urban centers guides his work on civic design issues. For the past 25 years, he's practiced in Baton Rouge with a focus on a broad range of community-based developments and urban design master plans.

Actively involved in AIA on local and state levels, Rex has served on the AIA Baton Rouge Board of Directors for 7 years, and the AIA Louisiana Board of Directors for 4 years. Current service in the public sector includes: Baton Rouge Area Chamber Executive Committee, Complete Streets Advisory Council, Mid City Redevelopment Alliance, Quality of Place Committee, Smart City Committee, and The Walls Project. Such roles allow direct community group engagement and outreach to governmental leaders on the value of collaborative planning & design to enhance the built environment.

Honored to serve AIA Louisiana, Rex looks forward to building upon the legacy of AIA leadership into 2021 as a respected professional voice to the public and a value to our 1,100 members.



# **FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT-ELECT**

*The nominee elected to this office will become  
President of AIA Louisiana in 2022*

## **Mischa Farrell, AIA**

Mischa Farrell is principal of Mischa Farrell Architect, LLC. Her firm is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year in business.

Mischa relocated from New Mexico in 1997, where she worked for Antoine Predock Architect as an intern and a project Architect. She is NCARB certified and is licensed in both Louisiana and California. Mischa earned her Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin in 1989 with additional architectural studies at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad in Copenhagen. She worked in Boston during her University years with Machado and Silvetti and Associates. Mischa's firm serves a broad range of public and private clients. Her works include Public Libraries, University Buildings, Historic Renovations and adaptive reuse. She focuses on creative design solutions embracing environment and client needs.

Mischa has been active with the AIA at the local and state level for the past seven years. She has served on the Executive Committee of AIA at both the State and local level from 2013 to 2020. Mischa is a current member of the Board of Regents for the Louisiana Architecture Foundation. She interacts with the community by running monthly events, including, Sketch the City and local lectures about architecture. She is actively involved in LAF's current movie project to highlight the modern architecture of the Wiener brothers from Shreveport and many other LAF events.

### **Candidate Statement**

We are facing some challenging times, perhaps unprecedented for 90 years. My experience with the Louisiana American Institute of Architects has prepared me to lead this organization through the next few years. I am aware of the many types of firms we have in this state and am ready to advocate for all through this difficult time.

You all know how time consuming our profession can be. I am grateful AIA LA continues to advocate for the architects at both houses of the state legislature so that we don't have to have that task constantly on our to do list. Our state agency is doing a great job assisting our Louisiana architects. I am here to assist you and your firms to continue to energize our profession for the future.



# FOR THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY/TREASURER

*(2-year term / 2021-2022)*

## Whitney B. LeJeune, AIA, LEED AP

Whitney is currently an Associate with RHH Architects in downtown Baton Rouge since 2007. Whitney received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1992 and was licensed in 1996. She has served as design/project architect on projects up to the \$100 million range. Notable projects include Baton Rouge Magnet High School, The Advocate, Bullion Primary School and the 19<sup>th</sup> District Judicial Courthouse. Whitney has served on the AIA Baton Rouge Board beginning in 1999 holding the positions of delegate, treasurer (2-year term), president elect, president, past president, and state delegate. In her capacity as board member, she has reviewed annual and event budgets and participated in strategic planning, both at the State and local level. As chairperson/committee volunteer for the Rose Awards (AIABR design awards) for more than a decade, she has worked hard to transform the program into a highly celebrated and publicized event. Recently her focus has been serving as the co-chair on the AIABR Public Policy Committee as well as co-chair for the Rose Awards Committee.



### **Candidate Statement:**

As Secretary/Treasurer for AIA LA, I hope to serve our chapter not only as the financial officer keeping a close eye on budgets and spending, but also as a member of the executive committee. The task of the executive committee should be focusing the board's attention to important issues that directly affect the architectural profession. We need to raise public awareness of the profession while at the same time providing real value to our membership. Our annual goals must reflect current conditions such as health safety, disaster recovery, rising construction costs, a shrinking employment pool and legislative issues. A changing world economy dictates a change in the way we provide services to the membership. Considering the devastating effects of COVID 19, the AIA LA board will need to focus on short- and long-term goals to help our members recover and learn to live in this new reality. The socioeconomic impact to our communities will be far reaching and as the leaders in our profession we need give guidance and expertise to our community leaders. I humbly ask for your support for the position and hope to continue serving AIA Louisiana to best of my ability.