

This cover section is produced by the AIA Archives to show information from the online submission form. It is not part of the pdf submission upload.

2022 AIA Fellowship

Candidate Alicia Belton
Organization Urban Design Perspectives
Location Minneapolis, Minnesota
Chapter AIA Minnesota; AIA Minneapolis

Category of Nomination

Object 5 > Service to Society

Summary Statement

Alicia Belton is a citizen architect and servant leader whose civic activism and humanitarian work builds social equity, expands the diversity of voices in architecture and public art, and enriches human potential locally and abroad.

Education

Name: University of Illinois
Location: Champaign-Urbana, Illinois
Number of Years Attended: 2 years
Degrees Received: Master of Architecture and Master of Business Administration

Name: University of Illinois
Location: Champaign-Urbana, Illinois
Number of Years Attended: 4 years
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies

Licensed in:

Minnesota License No. 26709

Employment

Urban Design Perspectives, Inc.
January 1999 - Present
22 years

Grant and Hurst Design and Development
January 1997 - December 1998
2 years

3M
September 1992 - December 1996
4 years and 4 months

University of Illinois
September 1990 - June 1992
1 year and 9 months

MR. STEVEN SPURLOCK, FAIA
CHAIR, AIA 2020 COLLEGE OF FELLOWS JURY
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1735 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006-5292

design^{LLC}

September 25, 2021

RE: FAIA Nomination Sponsorship for Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA

Dear Mr. Spurlock and Honor Awards Jury Members,

Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA is more than deserving of elevation to FAIA Fellowship. Her life experiences, architectural leadership, service and practice **broaden the stakeholders in the field, providing openings to underserved** individuals and communities.

As architects and members of the AIA College of Fellows, we have been recognized for our purposeful professional career achievements and involvement. Yet few of us have focused our service on healing the inequities surrounding race, education, access to opportunity, gender, and wealth. How many of us personally understand the realities of social prejudice?

Alicia's submission, without doubt, exhibits her impact in our profession and society through "**Service, Leadership, and Equity**". Her tenacious journey to serve others began long before society and our profession paid any attention to the inequities that exist across American life.

Alicia's intelligence, gentle spirit and acute historical awareness open uneasy but important discussions within the profession about its past and future roles. Through architecture, Alicia supports communities and clients in learning how they can "**listen, see and act**" with newfound confidence to shape their environments.

Alicia's architectural and social leadership give voice and color to those who have long been ignored in our profession. Her manifold impact cannot simply be measured by the number of her built projects or the awards she has received. Instead, she is an embodiment of the ideals of the profession, with her professional and service work bringing people and communities together.

Through mentorship and support for underserved communities, she uses her voice, expertise and guidance to better our world.

Alicia's FAIA letters of support are all written by people who have worked and served with her. They have seen firsthand her powerful organizational and leadership abilities in AIA committees, fundraising, and public design.

Please review Alicia Belton's FAIA submission with a sense of the subtle and often hidden walls that she has surmounted throughout her life and career. She has spent a lifetime in lifting up people and communities who seek nothing other than dignity, respect, and support. She is a rare and gifted architect whose values, inner strength and talent make her eminently worthy and deserving. I have seen each particular attribute from knowing Alicia since her second year of college as her professor, professionally as a teaming consultant to Perkins+Will, and working with her as the owner of design-LLC, but more importantly, with admiration, proud to see her gifts sought after.

Our professional responsibility, then, is to acknowledge Alicia Belton AIA's contribution. She deserves our highest honor of recognition through elevation to the AIA College of Fellows.



Charles Daniel Knight FAIA, CID, LEED AP

Owner design-llc, former Perkins+Will board member



Section 1

Summary of Achievements

OBJECT 5: SERVICE TO SOCIETY

“Beyond just building buildings, Alicia builds community from disparate parts.”

— *Shawntera Hardy, Former Commissioner, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development, Co-Founder of Civic Eagle and Fearless Commerce, Founder of Policy Grounds Consulting*



Alicia Belton is a citizen architect and servant leader whose civic activism and humanitarian work builds social equity, expands the diversity of voices in architecture and public art, and enriches human potential locally and abroad.

SERVICE

As the second African American woman architect in Minnesota, trailblazer Alicia Belton, AIA, brings an important mix of cultural and professional insights for community service at municipal, state and international levels.

In 2017, Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton appointed her to serve as the first African-American on the Capitol Area Architectural Planning Board (CAAPB) — a powerful committee guiding all state projects within a 50-block radius of the Cass Gilbert-designed state capitol. Now, as Co-Chair of the CAAPB Executive Committee, Belton brings new, worldly perspective to reviewing the recently adopted 2040 Comprehensive Plan — a vision that will shape St. Paul and state government for decades to come.

Belton plays an important role as a member of the Governor's Public Engagement Task Force for Public Art — a position from which she advocates increased participation of artists and citizens from marginalized communities.

Over the years, Belton has volunteered her time and expertise in many advisory service roles such as the Hennepin County's Designer Selection Committee where she reviewed hundreds of proposals for projects including libraries, public safety buildings,

and medical facilities costing over \$300 million in the state's most populous county.

Belton's humanitarian service extends globally by empowering communities in Sierra Leone, India and Kenya through twenty years of infrastructure investing to provide housing, clean water and schools that help families thrive.

LEADERSHIP

The 2021 President-Elect for AIA Minnesota, Belton honors history while leading change. She has long supported fund-raising for scholarships and equity through leadership in the Minnesota Architectural Foundation — serving as President, Treasurer and Chair on the Wigington Committee — that guides a growing AIA scholarship endowment for students of color. Under her leadership, Belton restructured the program to expand annual contributions and the number of scholarships offered.

As a citizen architect, Belton volunteers her time, skills and influence to organizations serving communities of color. In 2017, for example, she co-led development of Sanctuary Church, her 500 seat urban congregation in Minneapolis, as a volunteer throughout the entire process from land acquisition to finished construction.

ALICIA BELTON, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

At her alma mater, the University of Illinois, Alicia served as a founding officer in Illinois' NOMA Student Chapter — now one of the most awarded student chapters in the nation.

EQUITY

A bridge builder for equity in the profession and built environment, Belton is a founding officer of the Twin Cities NOMA chapter and Treasurer for its predecessor group, the Assembly of Architects. As an advocate for equity and small firm practice, Belton served as one of the founding chairs of the AIA Minnesota Small Firm Committee — a knowledge hub that shares best practices.

In 2012, she co-founded a multicultural family organization, MOSAIC, at her children's school, Minnehaha Academy, focused on cultural competency.

In 2018, she started a STEM CAMP SEE for middle school girls of color, serving 20 students a year by building their awareness of their carbon footprint while reinforcing essential math skills.

This balance of climate understanding and math skills is critical because Belton's state, Minnesota, ranks last in the nation for graduating African American high school students within four years.

In architectural education, she continues as an active mentor to two Wigington Scholars — providing ongoing guidance and work experiences on their paths toward licensure.



Section 2 Accomplishments

OBJECT 5: SERVICE TO SOCIETY

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK

- Professional Experience
- Service

2.2 SIGNIFICANT RECOGNITION

- Awards and Honors

2.3 PUBLICATIONS

- Publications about Nominee and Nominees' work
- Other media



Belton with Chancellor Robert J. Jones of the University of Illinois.



Belton with classmates and Prof. Kathryn Anthony (center), AIA/ACSA 2021 Topaz Medallion, at Revealing Presence, Women in Architecture at the University of Illinois, 1874–2019 exhibit, which received the 2021 Diversity Achievement Honorable Mention from ACSA.



Belton at Revealing Presence exhibit.

EXPERIENCE

Urban Design Perspectives, Inc. Founding Principal, January 1999–present

Owner of a small Minneapolis-based architecture, project management and community engagement firm focused on adaptive reuse of workplace, churches and housing.

Grant and Hurst Design and Development Partner, January 1997–December 1998

Co-founder of a small Minneapolis based architecture firm.

3M, Advanced Project Engineer, September 1992–December 1996

Project manager within the corporate real estate department focused on managing teams from planning through construction.

University of Illinois, Graduate Advisor College of Engineering, September 1990–June 1992

Worked with undergraduate students to provide academic support and counseling.

ALICIA BELTON, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

EDUCATION

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana Master of Architecture 1992

Two year dual masters program with the Business School.

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana Master of Business Administration 1992

Two year dual masters program with the School of Architecture.

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies 1990

Four year undergraduate program in architecture.

L'Ecole d'Architecture de Versailles, 1988–1989

One year study abroad program.

CERTIFICATIONS

NCARB Certificate No. 49653

Minnesota License No. 26709

"I believe that using what you have — your time, talent and treasure, are the foundation of being of service to others. It is a part of my ethos as a citizen-architect to contribute to society in the everyday places where I am involved."

— Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA, NCARB



2020: A Year in the Life of Women in Design and Construction

Home | Event | 2020 A Year in the Life of Women in Design and Construction

As we are rethinking the physical environment that we design and build, so too can we reflect on our professions. Women already had an uphill climb in our professions in this panel we will discuss how we can use lessons from the past year to make our design and construction professions better for all professionals.

Panel Participants:
Roberta Oldenburg, LEED AP, DBIA - Project Development Manager at Mortenson Construction
Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA - Principal at Urban Design Perspectives
Kelly Hensler, AIA, NCARB - Design Leader at B+BWB
Tina Gordon, NCIDQ, IIDA - Principal at Dimension IV

Moderator:
Andrea Cecelia, AIA, LEED AP - Partner at Grunwaldt and Halverson



Roberta Oldenburg, LEED AP, DBIA

With nearly 20 years of construction industry experience, Roberta is well-versed in what it takes to get a project done. A strong negotiator and relationship builder, she is skilled at bringing together the right partners to ensure success in everything she is involved with. Currently a Project Development Manager with Mortenson, Roberta serves as a customer liaison during the project pursuit phases, through the design and construction process, and beyond. She helps to develop and support positioning strategies with existing and potential customers with a goal of work acquisition. She is focused on becoming a trusted resource for those who need construction services of any size. With deep roots in the community, she has been actively engaged in many professional and non-profit organizations.



Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA

With over 30 years of experience, Alicia Belton is Founding Principal and Chief Creative Officer of Urban Design Perspectives. She leads this African American women-owned architecture firm committed to environmental stewardship, client advocacy and equitable practices. The firm creates equitable and sustainable spaces where people work, live and worship with a specialty focus on adaptive reuse. A University of Illinois graduate, Ms. Belton has served as President and Treasurer of the Minnesota Architectural Foundation, Chair of the Wrigginton Committee and Co-Chair of the Small Firms Committee. She currently serves on the Capital Area Architectural Planning Board, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and is President Elect for AIA MN.



Kelly Hensler, AIA, NCARB

Over the last 15 years, Kelly Hensler has overseen projects both locally and globally as a design leader, strategist, architect, and interior designer. Most of her work has been in healthcare and education with additional experience in mixed use development, cultural, healthcare, and retail design. She received her bachelor's degree in Interior Design from the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin- Madison before completing her Master of Architecture degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Kelly is a strong advocate for equity and women's rights in the workplace and finds passion in supporting young designers to discover their talent and their voice. Kelly currently sits on the UW-Madison Interior Architecture Advisory Board, is an Honorary Fellow there, and supports her local community as a leadership member of the Madison member.



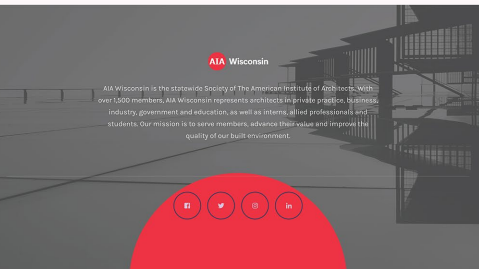
Tina Gordon, NCIDQ, IIDA

Graduating from Iowa State University in 1998 with a Bachelor in Fine Arts in Interior Design, Tina has been practicing interior design in Madison her entire career. She joined Dimension IV Madison Design Group in 2002 as an interior designer and became a partner in 2008. Tina manages the interior design segment of the business and is involved with the process from issuing work, including many of the marketing efforts of the firm, programming and space planning through furniture installation. She is a certified interior designer through the National Council for Interior Design Qualification and is a member of IIDA-Wisconsin. Tina does her best to create a work-life balance with her family and a sometimes very demanding career.



Moderator: Andrea Cecelia, AIA, LEED AP

Andrea received her Masters of Architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and has since worked on architectural projects throughout the Midwest. She has over 10 years of experience in architecture and has been with Grunwaldt and Halverson since 2014. Since becoming Partner she has worked to develop a workplace that values a work/life balance for all employees. She is very involved with her community and volunteering and believes in supporting professional women in an ever changing world.



AIA Wisconsin is the statewide Society of The American Institute of Architects. With over 1,500 members, AIA Wisconsin represents architects in private practice, business, industry, government and education, as well as interns, allied professionals and students. Our mission is to serve members, advance their careers and improve the quality of our built environment.

Belton featured in the speaker line up for the AIA Wisconsin Conference 2021.

PRESENTATIONS

Certified Access: 10x10 x10 Summit: "Journey to Becoming a Lead Contractor," August 31, 2021

Panel discussion on preparing your business for contracting work with public agencies.

AIA Wisconsin Conference 2021: "A Year in the life of women in the Design and Construction Industry," April 27, 2021

Reflections and lessons learned from the past year to make our design and construction professions better for all.

Minnehaha Career Day Co-Speaker: "S.O.A.R.: Strength, Opportunity, Ability, Resilient," April 16, 2021

Shared insights on careers in architecture and consumer brand marketing.

Society of Professional Marketers: "Creating Diverse and Inclusive Project Teams Beyond Enterprise Goals," March 3, 2021

Panel discussion focused on how firms create dynamic teams focused on equitable outcomes.

ALICIA BELTON, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

OBJECT 5: SERVICE TO SOCIETY

Having come from a history with restricted opportunity, Alicia applies her opportunity as an architect and citizen to reach out to those who are still under-represented in Architecture, the arts, allied professions and the multitude of people whose talents and stories remain unseen by society.

2022 FELLOWSHIP SUBMISSION



Left:
Recognition of
our 3 years of
participating in
the AIA 2030
Commitment.



Above: Belton with Jessica Holmes,
Assoc. AIA and colleagues at WLS
2019 events hosted and led by Urban
Design Perspectives.

PRESENTATIONS

AIA Minnesota Conference 2020, October 2020: “Ethics of Environmental Justice: Architects Call to Action”

Two small firms’ perspectives for meeting the AIA 2030 Challenge and AIA 2030 Diversity Challenge through the lens of the AIA Code of Ethics.

AIA Minnesota Conference 2020, October 2020: “Business Case Studies for Equity In Goods and Services”

Panel discussion on the value of working with minority vendors.

AIA Minnesota Conference 2020, October 2020: “Women in Architecture Networking Session”

Networking and discussion on mentorship for women in the profession.

AIA Minnesota Conference 2020, October 2020: “Firm Capacity Building Through Authentic, Collaborative Partnerships”

Examples of how to build authentic partnering relationships.

AIA Women’s Leadership Summit (WLS) 2019, Urban Design Perspectives, Firm Host

Biennial event for women architects and designers to gather for continuing education for career advancement and personal empowerment, fellowship and focused networking.

“I wanted to attend the WLS to be surrounded by amazing women mentors. When it came time to choose a firm to spend happy hour with, Alicia’s excerpt seemed very genuine, purposeful, and exactly the environment for me. I thoroughly enjoyed how intimate everything was, from the conversation we had together to the way she discussed her projects and her firm. She inspired me to follow in her footsteps of engagement and provided an example of a woman in architecture leading her own firm, with her core values and elevating others. I will always see Alicia and her firm as an example to follow.”

— Norgerie Rivas, Architectural Associate
estudio Architecture, Houston, Texas
Founder SheBuilds Podcast



NAZ Now Campaign from Northside Achievement Zone.



Belton (lower right) with the Jack and Jill of America, City of Lakes Chapter, Executive Board.

SERVICE

AIA Minnesota, President-Elect January 2021–present She will serve as President in 2022.

With nearly 2,300 members and a staff of nine professionals, AIA Minnesota provides services to the Minneapolis, Northern, and St. Paul and chapters, produces a regional convention, publishes the weekly digital newsletter ENTER, lobbies on behalf of the profession at the state legislature, and delivers continuing education to all members.

AIA Minnesota, Community of Practice for Culture Change, January 2021–present

Participant in active learning groups to change the culture of architecture practice for equity in the profession and built environment.

Minnesota Architectural Foundation, 2004–2006 President, Treasurer, Wigington Committee Chair

Awards scholarship support for leadership, discovery, excellence and equity.

AIA Minnesota Small Firms Committee, Tri-Chair, 2002–2004

A knowledge hub of resources for small firm practitioners providing continuing education, networking and shared learnings.

AIA Minnesota Convention Planning Committee 2000–2001, Committee Member

Organizes all speakers, workshops and activities for the annual convention.

“Beyond just building buildings, Alicia builds community from disparate parts. She has opened up spaces of learning and connecting for all people but I’m especially pleased that she’s done that for Black women. She has the sweetest smile but there must be scars in this field in this industry in this state where you need only one hand to count the licensed Black women architects. When your very existence sets you up in these spaces to battle, you have to show up — to keep going — and that’s hard for most of us. But Alicia, as a builder, a mother, a wife and community member, continues to soar. She’s a rock star.”

— *Shawntera Hardy, Former Commissioner, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development, Co-Founder of Civic Eagle and Fearless Commerce, Founder of Policy Grounds Consulting*



Belton (upper second left) at meeting of the Capitol Area Architectural Planning Board with Lt. Gov. Flanagan (bottom).



Belton on a Habitat for Humanity build with Perry Bolin, AIA, Jessica Holmes, Assoc. AIA, Chuck Levin AIA.



SHAKE event at Sanctuary Church, led by Belton.

SERVICE

Northside Achievement Zone, NAZ Now Campaign, January 2021–present, Committee Member

The Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) exists to permanently close the achievement gap and end generational poverty in North Minneapolis. NAZ Now is a one year focused campaign to raise \$5 million and 500 donors.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. 2021–2023 Five Star Chair

Jack and Jill of America is a service organization of mothers dedicated to nurturing future African-American leaders by strengthening children through leadership development, volunteer service, philanthropic giving and civic duty.

Governor’s Public Engagement Task Force, 2020–present

Task Force focused on gathering Minnesota citizens’ perspectives on their experiences with the state capitol.

Minnesota Minority Goods and Services, Secretary, 2020–present

Advocacy group for a professional collaborative of highly experienced minority owned goods and services businesses in the Twin Cities.

Capitol Area Architect Planning Board, 2017–present, Co-Chair Executive Committee

Zoning board focused on development within 50 blocks surrounding the capitol.

ALICIA BELTON, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

Alicia finds her calling to civic activism through committed service globally and on non-profit boards that aid marginalized communities with supportive services, housing and learning opportunities.



Typical stack of thirty page proposals submitted to the Hennepin County Designer Selection Committee.



Healthy Living Family Day hike with Jack and Jill of America, City of Lakes Chapter.

SERVICE

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity Board Member, 2017-present, Co-Chair, Advocacy Committee

TCHFH is committed to building the quality of life, health, and economic prosperity of the seven-county metro region by producing, preserving, and advocating for affordable homeownership — because homes and families are the foundation of successful communities.

Sanctuary Church, Co-Chair Building Committee, 2015–2018

Committee responsible for finding land and hiring consultants to build a new permanent home for this ministry.

Hennepin County Designer Selection Committee, 2008–present

The committee is an advisory, non-statutory body that assists the county board and the county administrator in the selection of architectural and engineering consultants.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

2019–2021 Chair, Healthy Living Committee

2017–2019 Treasurer, Executive Board

2015–2017 Chair, Sustainability Committee

2013–2015 Grade Group Leader

2011–2013 Chair, Carole Robertson Committee

Various leadership positions within the City of Lakes Chapter.

Alicia's decades of service demonstrate how small actions add up to a greater whole — that what we do each day can inspire a weary world.

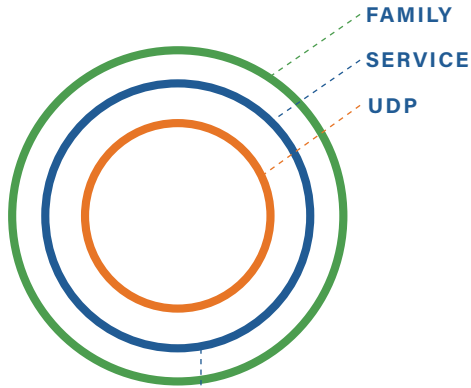
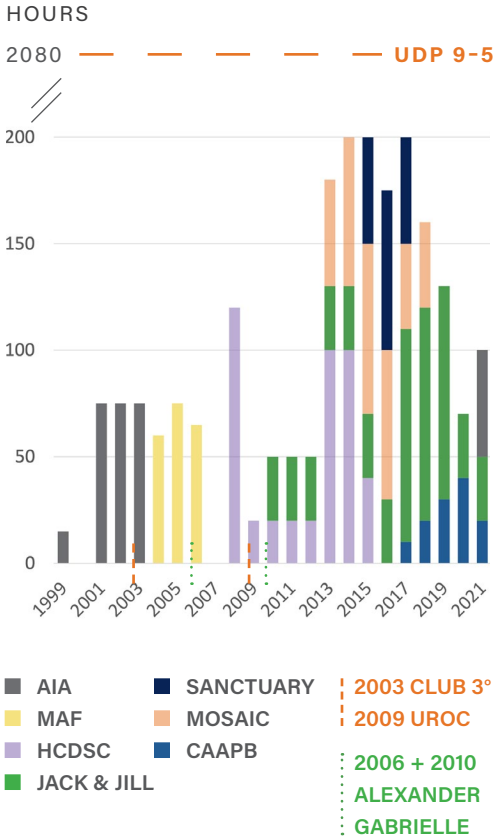


EXHIBIT SERVICE IMPACT



SERVICE

University of Northwestern, Trustee, 2015–2016

Faith-based liberal arts university located in Roseville, Minnesota.

Hope for the Cities, Board Member, 2000–2004

A global nonprofit that helps people launch projects focused on food, education and health that improve communities.

Model Cities Community Development Corporation, Board Member, 1998–2000

St. Paul based non-profit that focuses on social and economic prosperity by providing access to opportunities that stabilize and develop families and communities.

Big Brother Big Sister Twin Cities, 1994–1995

One to one mentoring relationship with youth spending time together in the community doing activities both enjoy.

Girls Scouts of America, St. Croix Valley, St. Paul, Brownie Troop Leader, 1993–1995

Leadership development for girls aged 7–9.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Graduate Advisor, 1990–1992

An international historically African American sorority focused on addressing social causes ideas of service, charity, scholarship, civil and cultural endeavors, sisterhood and finer womanhood.

“I believe that you make impact through everyday modeling and showing up with an open heart and hand.”

— Alicia Belton, AIA, NOMA, NCARB



Belton and Camp SEE scholar in "UROC + Camp SEE" by Mateo Trujillo for AIA Film Challenge 2021.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

"UROC + Camp SEE," A film by Mateo Trujillo
AIA Film Challenge 2021 Selected Participant.

OneVillage Partners Changing Lives Award, 2017
Award for Marc and Alicia Belton for their long-term financial commitment and for always standing up for vulnerable people in Minneapolis and Sierra Leone.

Office of Business and Economic Development of University of MN, Stellar Award Small Business Supplier of the Year, 2010

Awarded to firms that demonstrate excellence in supplier diversity for projects at the University of Minnesota.

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority
Lola M. Parker Outstanding Business Woman of the Year Award, 2008

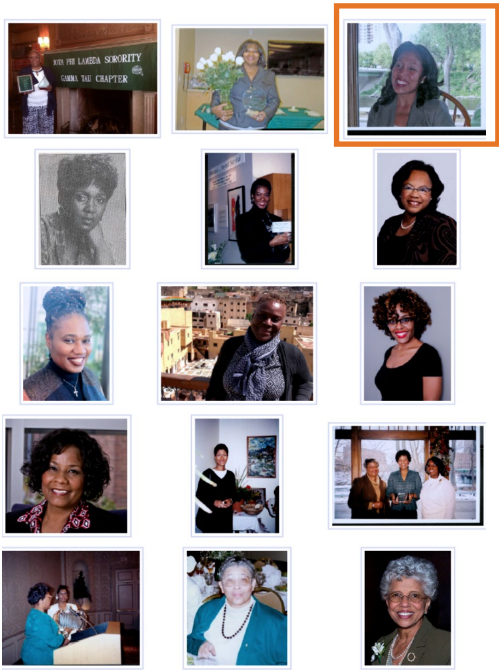
Nominees are chosen for their outstanding work in business and their contribution to the community.

Illinois NOMA Student Award, 1991

Awarded to students for academic excellence.

"Alicia Belton and the Belton Family Foundation (BFF) has been critical supporters of the work of OneVillage Partners (OVP) in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Our village friends are some of the poorest, yet hardest working people in the world. Alicia and the BFF were among our earliest and longest donors, which has helped OVP continue to grow our impact steadily among our villages as they seek self-sufficiency and prosperity. The Beltons are strong advocates of our community-led work that focuses on building leadership, community assets and women's empowerment."

— Jeff Hall, OneVillage Partners Founder



Belton (upper right) with fellow winners of the Lola M. Parker Outstanding Business Woman of the Year Award, 2008.





Belton featured with her family, daughter Gabrielle, husband Marc, and son Alexander, in the *Star Tribune* and *Sioux City Journal*.



Urban Design Perspective's STEM-themed Camp SEE reviewed in *METRO CERT 2021*.



Belton in *Fearless Commerce*, 2017.

SIGNIFICANT PUBLICATIONS

“UROC + Camp SEE,” A film by Mateo Trujillo
AIA Film Challenge 2021.

“For Twin Cities Power Couple and their family, home is an extension of faithful service”
Star Tribune 2/26/21, *Sioux City Journal* 3/20/21, *Chicago Tribune* 3/25/21.

“Faithful Servants”
Lake Society Magazine, Winter 2021.

“Access to Architect and Sustainability Careers Empowers Northside Youth”
METRO CERT 2021, Camp SEE funding and review.

“Special Report Case Studies”
Minneapolis Home and Design Magazine, Fall 2020.

“Third Year Architecture Student Earns Recognition”
Dunwoody Magazine 2020, Faiza Duale Interview.

“Panel begins debate on removing statues from MN Capitol”
MPR News — mprnews.org, 6/26/2020.

“Fearless Commerce (Volume 1)”
2017 Honoree.

2017 Rave Award Winners
Mpls St. Paul Magazine
(Residential Architects and Vision Excellence)
Award Judge.

ALICIA BELTON, AIA, NOMA, NCARB

“Gaining a Foothold”
Finance and Commerce, 7/23/21.

“Racial Equity in Creative Occupations”
The Minneapolis Creative Index 2015.

“Building Your Dream Home”
Homes of Color, August 2007.

“Lasting Impression Minneapolis Architect Alicia Belton”
Homes of Color, August 2005.

“A Legacy of Firsts”
African American Architects in Architecture at U of Illinois, eblackcu.net, page 294.

“Get Your Praise On: Club 3 Degrees”
Newsweek, April 2004.

“Christian Clubbing: Thou Shalt Rock”
TIME Magazine, October 2003.

A working mother who is actively involved in her church and children's school, Alicia continues to find ways to share her knowledge and expertise of a citizen architect.



1



4



9



2



5



7



10



3



6



8

Section 3 Exhibits

SERVICE

- 1. Capitol Area Architectural Planning Board
- 2. Hennepin County Designer Selection Committee
- 3. Belton Family Foundation

LEADERSHIP AS CITIZEN ARCHITECT

- 4. Minnesota Architectural Foundation
- 5. Jack and Jill of America, Inc.
- 6. Sanctuary Church

EQUITY

- 7. MOSAIC, Minnehaha Academy
- 8. Camp See

DESIGN

- 9. University Of Minnesota, UROC
- 10. Club 3 Degrees

Exhibit 3.1

Minnesota Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board

Established in 1967, the purpose of the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board is to preserve and enhance the dignity, beauty, and architectural integrity of the capitol, the buildings adjacent to it, the capitol grounds, and the capitol area. Guidelines also include the following:

1. *Protect, enhance, and increase the open spaces within the capitol area when deemed necessary and desirable for the improvement of the public enjoyment thereof*
2. *Develop proper approaches to the capitol area for pedestrian movement, the highway system, and mass transit system so that the area achieves its maximum importance and accessibility*
3. *Establish a flexible framework for growth of the capitol buildings which will be in keeping with the spirit of the original design*

As Co-Chair of the Executive Committee, Belton was part of the team responsible for the selection process of a new Executive Secretary in 2021, the first selection process in 34 years.

Since her time on CAAPB, Belton has been involved in the review of the newly adopted 2040 Comprehensive Plan for the Minnesota State Capital Area. This document provides the framework for future development over the next two decades. Its adoption was especially critical for the upcoming redevelopment of the vacated Sears site, a 17-acre site immediately adjacent to the Capital, which has opportunity to reweave the fabric of this urban neighborhood with affordable housing, transit, retail and green space.

From top: Plan of Capitol Mall, 2040 Comp Plan Cover, Nellie Stone Johnson (pictured) will have a statue in the Capitol.



EXHIBIT 3.1 MINNESOTA CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING BOARD

Belton has also demonstrated bold leadership by supporting projects that uplift marginalized communities like transforming a vacant hospital into a 100-bed temporary homeless shelter during the pandemic. She was part of the selection process to advise on an artist for a bronze memorial for Minnesota civil rights activist Nellie Stone Johnson who will be the first African American to have a statue inside the capitol. After the removal of the Christopher Columbus statute on the Capitol Mall in 2020, CAAPB commissioned two task forces to “inform the CAAPB so that our work can be more inclusive, engaged, and reflective of what it means to build a Capitol that is truly the People’s House.” A current member of this Public Engagement Task Force for Public Art, she has led community engagement meetings with BIPOC groups to gather perspectives from over 50 participants amplifying voices of those not traditionally represented.

Her involvement on this board demonstrates her commitment to advocating for others to ensure that the Minnesota State Capital is a place where all Minnesotans are seen, heard, and valued.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall ‘Guide’ conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Paul Mandell, Retired Executive Director, CAAPB



“As Chair of the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, I have seen first-hand Alicia’s commitment to public service. She has proven to be a dedicated member of the CAAP Board and has approached the work to enhance the dignity, beauty, and architectural integrity of the Minnesota State Capitol and surrounding areas with a unique, important lens. Most recently, Alicia stepped up to serve in an additional capacity on the Board’s Public Engagement Task Force. The Task Force was established in 2020 to create space for members of the public to share experiences about what the State Capitol means to them in order to advance the goal of improving Minnesotans’ direct engagement with the People’s House and creating a more inclusive, welcoming space representative of the rich diversity of this state. We could not have completed the important work of this Task Force without Alicia’s leadership. She has also demonstrated a true dedication to service through her work to help advise the design of the Nellie Stone Johnson bust in the Capitol, as well as leading the process to hire a new Executive Secretary who will further elevate the Board’s engagement with the public.”

— Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan

Exhibit 3.2

Hennepin County Designer Selection Committee

Belton has served on the Hennepin County Designer Selection Committee since 2008. Established by the Hennepin County Board in 1979, the designer selection committee is an advisory, non-statutory body that assists the county board and the county administrator in the selection of architectural and engineering consultants for major facility construction and remodeling projects in Minnesota's largest municipality.

This seven-person body has no approval authority but does select consultants that are recommended to the county board for approval of contracts that are negotiated by county staff. Belton has reviewed over 200 project team proposals for more than 20 capitol projects since 2008 totaling over \$300 million in construction value and 500,000 square feet. The number of projects and responses vary yearly and come from both local firms and from firms across the country. In most cases, three to four firms are selected for interviews, which are also the responsibility of the committee.

Belton has volunteered over 400 hours to evaluate these teams and build consensus with committee members to recommend the best consulting staff for these important and essential projects, including the Hennepin County Webber Park Library, a 2019 AIA Merit Award winner, and the Hosmer Library, which won the 2021 Minneapolis Preservation Award.

From top: Webber Park Library by LSE, and Hosmer Library, A Carnegie Library, by Leo A. Daly.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Brett Bauer, Director, HCDSC



AIA Webber Park Library
Minnesota 2019 AIA Merit Award Winner



AIA Hosmer Library
Minnesota 2021 Minneapolis Preservation Award

“From insights and observations to comments and feedback, Alicia is thoughtful, balanced and generous. She centers people in her vision, which is marked by compassion and integrity. As women of color in this profession, we’re rarities, but Alicia is the genuine article.”

— *Lyssa Washington, Hennepin County Designer Selection Committee Member, Assoc. AIA, NOMA*

Exhibit 3.3

Belton Family Foundation

The Belton Family Foundation (BFF) was created with the goal of supporting and nurturing initiatives that positively impact society. Since its 2014 inception, the family philanthropy has focused on four key areas: Empowering Communities; Faith and Social Justice; Transforming Minds; and Vision for Wellness.

As Vice President, Belton provides resources, time and care as the Foundation financially supports organizations that work to revitalize systematically disadvantaged communities around the world, focusing on creating sustainable growth via community led initiatives that promote economic empowerment and mutually beneficial outcomes. That work has resulted in sustainable roof and water projects in West Africa, teacher housing and schools in East Africa and an orphanage project on the Indian subcontinent.

For the last 20 years, BFF have worked alongside OneVillage Partners, a nongovernmental organization, to provide funding for new roofs for homes and clean water for communities in rural Sierra Leone. This work has resulted in villages experiencing a drastic reduction in diarrheal disease and an increase in food security.

The Belton Family Foundation began working with OneVillage Partners to help three communities (impacting 3500 people) to replace the roofs on their homes after the civil war. Since that time, the consistent and deepened partnership has played a large role in helping OneVillage Partners expand to now reach 24 communities and nearly 30,000 people.

Throughout this time, the Belton Family Foundation has supported a variety of specific projects, all of which are developed in partnership with local communities, resulting in 95% of projects being sustained three years after implementation. These projects include creating access to sanitation facilities (latrines) and clean water (wells) for 2,000 people in Bandajuma, resulting in a 75% reduction in diarrheal disease.

From top: Sierra Leone latrines, new water well, and roof for village.



The Foundation's support for OneVillage Partners has also had a direct impact on women and gender equity in partner communities. Through financial literacy and business training, there has been a 91% increase in women's control over household financial decisions, and 90% of participating families building an emergency savings fund.

The Foundation also does work in education and development in rural Kenya, where, critically, it underwrote the building of Embiti Teacher's Quarters, completed in 2020. Prior to BFF's involvement, the school had housing for just one teacher on site to serve a community severely lacking in resources and educational options. Other school staff would have to walk for miles each day to get to work, a limitation that kept the school small and thus limited the number of students who could get an education.

The new residential quarters can now house up to 7 teachers providing security, comfort and more time to serve active and curious learners. Additionally, more teaching staff can be hired, allowing for growth of the now 189 students that the school currently serves.

In Vijayawada in the southeast Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, the Foundation's support has primarily been focused on building the Grace Children's Home and Orphanage, which serves some of the world's most vulnerable children. With construction nearing completion, abandoned girls in Andhra Pradesh will have a safe place to sleep, be nurtured and supported. Construction near completion, these abandoned girls will have a safe place to be nurtured and supported.

From top: Hand off of keys to Embiti teacher housing, previous Embiti teacher housing, construction progress photo, dedication plaque Embiti Teachers' Quarters to BFF September 2020.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Mike Dickson, Advisor, Belton Family Foundation

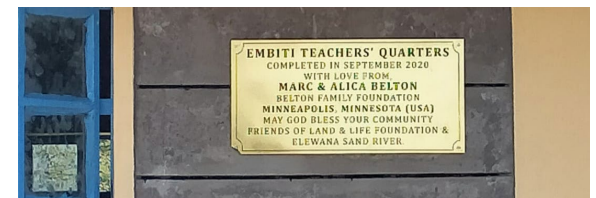


Exhibit 3.4

Minnesota Architectural Foundation and AIA Minnesota



AIA
Minnesota



A twenty year member of AIA, member of NOMA and sponsor of the Minnesota Architectural Foundation Legacy Society, Belton leads with empathy to ensure that all feel welcome in organizations and teams where she is involved. In 2004, she joined the Minnesota Architectural Foundation (MAF) whose mission is to invest in the excellence, leadership, discovery and equity in the profession of architecture. These values align with her interest of ensuring that the profession is accessible for all.

She served as the Foundation's President and Treasurer and Chair of the Wigington Committee, named after Clarence Wigington, the first African American municipal architect in the United States and first African American architect in Minnesota. The Wigington Fund originally provided scholarships to architecture students of color at the University of Minnesota and then was expanded to include the newly accredited architecture program at Dunwoody College of Technology. Prior to her involvement, full scholarships were given to two Wigington Scholars paying for their entire undergraduate and graduate programs totaling 7 years of support. In order to expand the MAF's impact, the scholarship was restructured to support more students through yearly stipends. As a result, MAF has distributed nearly \$285,000 supporting fourteen additional scholars, paving the way for future architects. Belton currently serves as a mentor and role model to two of these Wigington Scholars — Jessica Holmes and Faiza Duale.

Jessica has completed a double master's program and is nearing completion of her AXP hours. She will be taking the ARE in the Fall of 2021.

Faiza is a third-year honor student at Dunwoody College of Technology.



"Alicia is a star right here, in our community, working to make the environment more sustainable, to light up the imagination of children. She volunteers endless hours to show what is essential and how to give back and how to make and live the reality of your dreams."

— Faiza Duale, Architecture student,
Wigington Scholar, and NOMA
Chapter President

Photo: Faiza Duale, NOMAS, Wigington Scholar.

In 2001, Belton became founding Tri-Chair of the AIA Minnesota Small Firms Committee. This committee provided educational resources to firms that were less than 20 people. Along with the other chairs, Belton was responsible for organizing monthly programming that supported the growth and development for principals of these firms. As a result, many of these firms shared best practices on hiring, insurance and joint ventures in a collaborative and supportive environment, better preparing them to survive the Great Recession of 2008.

As President-Elect for AIA Minnesota, she currently serves on the Executive and Finance Committees. AIA Minnesota is at the forefront of changing the culture of the architecture profession by addressing equity in practice and the built environment. Belton is a current participant in this Culture Change Initiative called the Community of Practice for Culture Change where over 70 participants are involved in ongoing purpose driven learning to create a culture of architecture which is inclusive, authentic and collaborative.

The group's bimonthly meetings are spaces to apply learning, case studies and approaches to create the systemic changes needed for the betterment of the profession and the broader public that it serves. With Minneapolis as the epicenter of civic unrest in 2020, such systemic changes are especially essential to assure traumatized communities of color that the architectural profession is committed to listening and designing alongside them with informed sensitivity rooted in equitable outcomes.

Photo: Alicia Belton with Jessica Holmes, Assoc. AIA, Wightington Scholar.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Beverly Hauschild-Baron, Hon. AIA, Retired EVP, AIA Minnesota



“Alicia’s a fearless trailblazer who has been a great leader and example for me. She’s taught me to step out of my comfort zone and to not be afraid for it’s all about growth on the journey. She also has instilled in me the idea that it’s okay to not know everything and to ask for help. When I started, I didn’t know how to read a floor plan. Now I manage residential projects and am on track to licensure. She also has helped me dream bigger. Prior to working with her, I never would have imagined owning my own firm.”

— Jessica Holmes, Wightington Scholar, AIA-Minnesota-St Paul Board Member and Urban Design Perspectives Project Manager

Exhibit 3.5

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. — City of Lakes Chapter



In response to a fraught social context, the late Marion Stubbs Thomas, a Black socialite and civic organizer, founded Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated, on January 24, 1938, in Philadelphia. The stated objective of this organization of high-achieving Black mothers was to “create a medium of contact for children which will stimulate growth and development and provide children constructive educational, cultural, civic, health, recreational and social programs.”

The social milieus have changed in those eight decades but the dedication remains to work toward improving the quality of life of children, particularly for all African American children.

For Belton, this organization offers a community where her children can model leadership development and service as well as empower and celebrate their gifts and talents. As a founding member of the City of Lakes Chapter since 2010, she has been an active participant and member of the Executive Committee. She has used her strong planning and organizational skills to develop and implement chapter-wide programs that build sustainability, cultural awareness and community.

“Alicia managed all the financial activities of the chapter to ensure that the chapter remained in good financial standing and alignment with National guidelines. Her greatest contribution was creating a treasurer’s manual that documented the processes and procedures of the role which made officer transitions more efficient and provided the template for success for new treasurers.”

— Michelle Edgerton, Immediate Past Treasurer, Jack and Jill of America, Inc.,
City of Lakes Chapter

From top: Healthy hike kindness rocks, JJ families hike at Fort Snelling Park, Alicia and daughter Gabrielle working on an activity about ending childhood hunger.

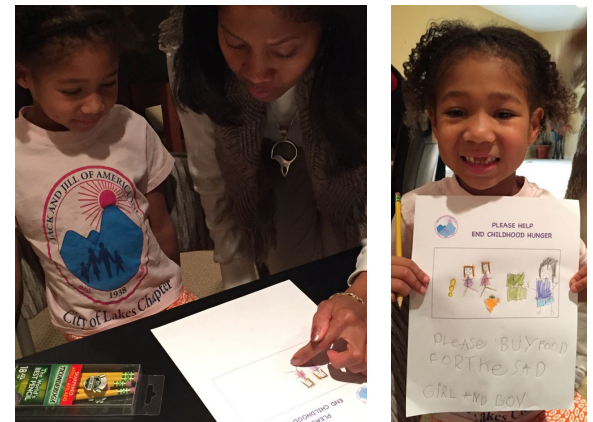


EXHIBIT 3.5 JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC. — CITY OF LAKES CHAPTER

Since the beginning of this new chapter — with approximately 50 members and 90 children ranging in ages from 2 to 18 — Belton has served in various leadership roles:

2011–2013, Chair, Carole Robertson Committee

Creating a Fall family event incorporating the memory of Carole Robertson, one of the girls killed in the Birmingham church bombing in 1963

2013–2015, Grade Group Leader

Oversee the planning of monthly activities for specific grade groups

2015–2017, Chair, Sustainability Committee

Ensure chapter's ecological focus within programs providing educational resources

2017–2019, Treasurer

Manage budget and finances of the chapter

2019–2021, Chair, Healthy Living Committee

Align chapter's activity with national thrust for wellness

2021–2023, Chair, Five Star

Responsible for helping chapter obtain highest rating nationally for operations and programming

Throughout these roles she has helped to create memorable activities that nurture and support Black families. While Treasurer, she developed an operations manual outlining procedures for establishing the chapter's yearly budget, regional and national reporting requirements in addition to her duties to reconcile monthly transactions and reimbursements to members. Some activities that she has organized include:

- *Hike at Fort Snelling State Park to learn CPR and the historical significance to the Dakota which regard Bdote as their spiritual and cultural point of origin.*
- *Bike trip highlighting areas of redlining in North Minneapolis, buildings by local African American architects and St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam.*
- *CPR Demonstration and Swimming Lessons for chapter youth aligns with National Thrust Programming, 64% of African American children do not know how to swim.*
- *MN Air National Guard Museum to learn about Tuskegee Airmen.*

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Tamara Pinckney, Immediate Past President, City of Lakes



From top: Swimming and CPR Lessons, Historical Bike Ride, National Air Guard Museum Visit.

Exhibit 3.6

Sanctuary Church



Known for its deep work to achieve social justice and reconciliation in community, Sanctuary Covenant Church (SCC) is an urban, multi-ethnic congregation that reconciles people to God and each another. The church was founded in 2003 and for years held services in rented spaces, including at various schools in the Twin Cities.

As member and citizen architect, Belton has been a leader in the congregation, helping guide it to its new home in 2018. She led over 25 committee meetings during the three-year process of finding a home for this multicultural church that landed in a distressed but revitalizing North Minneapolis community.

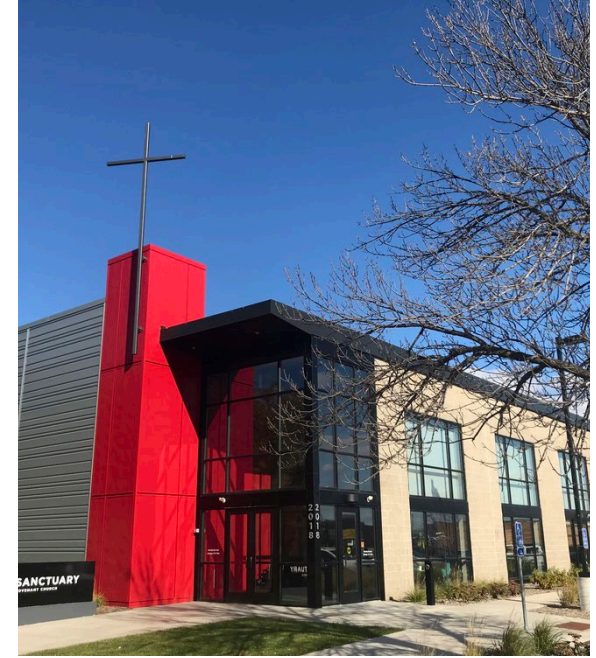
Under her leadership, Belton helped to negotiate the purchase of the site, oversaw the RFP and interview process for the architecture and construction firm selection and worked in conjunction with the campaign finance committee to finance the project. She also met with local council member and city staff to communicate the church's plans.

As advocate, Belton worked through a complex zoning process where the proposed parking of 50 spaces was restricted to 25 spaces for this 500 seat sanctuary ultimately gaining unanimous city council approval. Sanctuary Covenant Church lives up to its name, and now serves as an epicenter for community outreach and support. During the pandemic

"We couldn't have built that church without her. I was her Co-Chair but Alicia did everything. Kind spoken and warm, she's brilliant, full of knowledge and wisdom. And she related to the rest of the board and the church in laymen terms to carry us all along. Three months ago, I saw her up at the church pulling up weeds. She can be way up at the top but also get down and dirty at the same time. Led by the spirit, Alicia is a true servant."

— Terrence Nixon, Co-Chair,
Building Committee, Sanctuary
Covenant Church

Photos: completed Sanctuary Church site.



and social unrest that followed the killing of George Floyd, Sanctuary Covenant Church provided meals, Covid-19 vaccines and essential supplies for under-resourced and underserved households throughout the area.

“Alicia is an exceptional servant leader both in and outside of the architecture profession! When we partnered with Sanctuary Covenant Church, with Alicia as the volunteer Building Committee Co-Chair, she lead with wisdom, grace and humility. She supported her team to confidently navigate the many decisions necessary in the design and construction process including site selection, design direction and city zoning policy, resulting in the re-use of an urban infill site in North Minneapolis. Alicia’s focused work resulted in a permanent home for a non-profit ministry in a strategic urban location intended to bridge & reconcile community differences.”

— Nicole LeBaron Thompson, ALA, President Station Nineteen Architects,
Architect of Record

From top: finished site, Sanctuary Church exterior and interior during construction.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall ‘Guide’ conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Rev. Dr. Dennis Edwards, Former Senior Pastor SCC

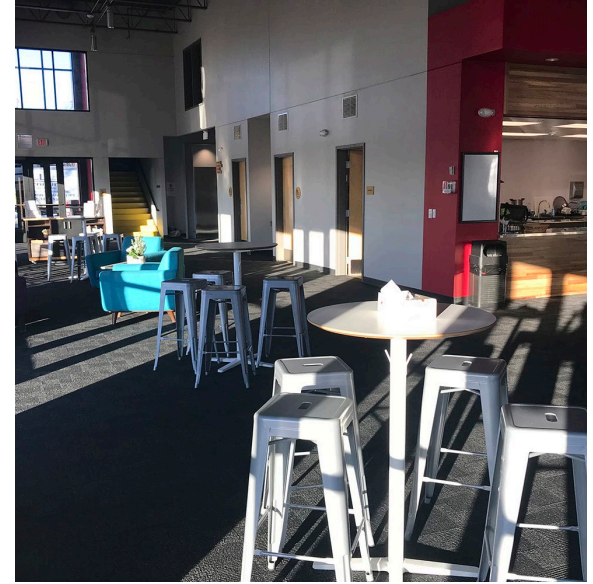


Exhibit 3.7

MOSAIC | Minnehaha Academy 

Belton's resolve to plant the seeds to build equity extends beyond the architectural profession.

In 2012, she and another parent co-founded a multicultural family organization called MOSAIC at Minnehaha Academy, a PreK-12 school with 850 students that her children have attended since 2009. The spark came from her then curly-haired three-year son Alexander who wanted to know what hair gel was. Belton asked him why he was curious about this issue. He stated that everyone else has straight hair and so he wanted to be like them.

Belton conferred with other BIPOC families who had similar issues around acceptance and inclusion and began to understand that there was need to build cultural competency within staff and faculty. MOSAIC, in support of the vision and mission of Minnehaha Academy, fosters individual, family and institutional involvement in the identification of programming (activities, etc.) that:



Tuesday, February 23, 6-8 p.m.

Upper School Chapel
3100 West River Parkway, Minneapolis



Join us for an important discussion on the impact of race in pre-college learning environments. Acclaimed author and Macalester College American Studies professor **Duchess Harris** is the keynote speaker. 2014 Teacher of the Year **Tom Lachermeier** will offer his insights as a teacher at North High School. A round table session will be led by Minnehaha Academy teachers.

1. Generates, institution-wide, critical discussion and exchange around the topic of diversity.
2. Generates a safe space within the school where students of color can develop academically and socially.
3. Generates a safe space within MA where non-students of color can develop critical awareness of non-dominant experiences.
4. Propels critical conversations across the broader institution.

From top left: Belton and husband Marc presenting to students at Minnehaha Academy for 2021 8th Grade Career Day, Belton with son Alexander at PreK MA Career Day. Above: MOSAIC Rethinking Race, Courageous Conversation poster.



"Alicia is just awesome. From the germ of a conversation with [toddler son] Alexander, she realized that it's not just enough to talk with him about difference and acceptance and belonging, but that she's got to talk to teachers and parents and the whole community, to make sure it's as loving and caring and welcoming as his family. Ten years later her expansive, humanistic vision, which includes a dinner and speakers and all kinds of activities, is grafted in our diversity and inclusion work and MOSAIC has become a foundation of the school. In her love for her child — doing what mothers do — Alicia created this wonderful opportunity for us to all grow together."

— Paulita Todhunter, Director of Diversity Initiatives, Minnehaha Academy

After working with Academy leadership to establish this framework, she has helped to implement programs that foster cultural competency for staff, faculty and students like the now annual critical community conversations on race, PraiseFest, and book club.

In addition to helping build equity into school activities and among parents and staff, Belton regularly shares her career path in architecture in the classroom and most recently was keynote co-speaker for her son's 8th grade career day.

“Some people are good at casting vision but are not able to follow through with the work. Alicia does both really well. And she inspires others, so that when she steps back from something like MOSAIC, which she started, others take it and push it forward with equal or more enthusiasm. She’s generous with her time and treasure and because of her warmth and grace, is respected and trusted by all. That’s important counts in many situations, but especially when we have courageous conversations around diversity and cultural work that can raise the temperature. It might sound trite, but Alicia’s spiritual foundation gives her a greater purpose and calling that supersedes her great work. She has a real heart for community and making the world better.”

— Dr. Donna Harris, President, Minnehaha Academy

From top: MOSAIC Games Around the World at Minnehaha Academy, kids learning to step with teacher during The Amazing Human Race event, Belton with MOSAIC Co-founder Yolanda Majors, The Amazing Human Race poster, Implicit Bias Courageous Conversation poster.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Dr. Donna Harris, President, Minnehaha Academy



IMPLICIT BIAS | COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION



Tuesday, March 28th 6-8 p.m.

Upper School Campus Room
3100 West River Parkway

Brought to you by:



Join us for an evening of engaging conversation as we discuss how to unpack the hidden biases of institutional policies and norms. We will begin the evening with a communal dinner followed by our keynote speaker, **Judge Pamela Alexander of the Fourth Judicial District Court**, who will share her insights on implicit bias from a judicial perspective. Minnehaha Academy teachers will lead round table discussions as we explore the

Exhibit 3.8

Camp SEE - Environment. Energy. Equity.

When Belton was young, the only architect she ever saw or even knew about was Mike Brady, the father on TV's "The Brady Bunch." Mike was a fictional white man, far away from her reality, but she held onto her dream of becoming an architect.

In 2018, Belton started a STEAM camp for middle school girls of color called CAMP SEE. It's hard to be something that you can't envision. Camp SEE gives youth a larger view of what they can realize beyond themselves. It offers an intimate exposure to the profession of architecture and the architect's role in building an equitable environment. The camp mentors and empowers the next generation of energy ambassadors through hands-on tours, activities and experiments. Since its inception, the camp has had approximately 50 scholars participate.

"Alicia has been very influential in opening up our scholars' eyes to see the world from different lenses, especially as it relates to architecture. That career is not one that's highlighted in the African American community, especially with the North Side children we work with. But Alicia unpacked it for our children, and they lit up. She's like a unicorn, but a real life one who's warm and caring. Now several of our scholars are interested in becoming architects."

— Lakeisha Clark Burgess, Executive Director, 21st Century Academy

From top: Camp SEE scholars with design projects, group photo, still from Mateo Trujillo film, "UROC + Camp SEE" where a scholar is working on a sustainable buildings map, scholars' neighborhood design project.

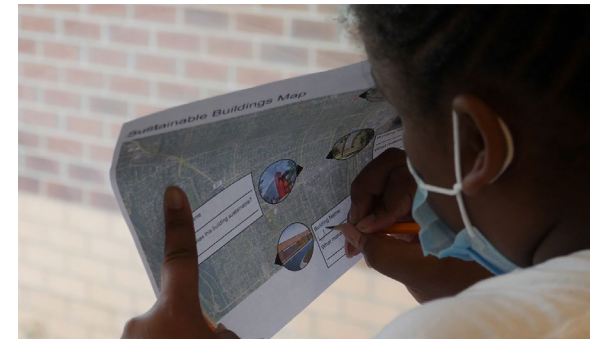


EXHIBIT 3.8 CAMP SEE - ENVIRONMENT. ENERGY. EQUITY.

In particular, the camp highlights places in the community that use renewable energy and shows their correlation to broader environmental impacts. Camp See is supported with grants from the Minnesota Architectural Foundation, the Minnesota Clean Energy Resource Team (CERT), the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Belton has created a curriculum that helps scholars learn about their environmental footprint, design with renewable energy and principles of sustainability with an emphasis on sketching, modeling and team building.

A special focus on math and word problems is also incorporated into projects as many of the scholars are one to two grade levels behind in math. Regardless of whether they pursue a career in architecture, this life essential skill is critical to graduating and Camp SEE has made math relevant and fun. Building these narrow and deep relationships with youth makes a tangible difference in exposure to the profession where less than .4% of practitioners are African American women.

From top: environmentally friendly resources, Camp SEE scholars building a solar playhouse, photo of grant, group photo.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Rev. Dr. Alika Galloway, 21st Century Founder

**What I learned...**

"...about how to save energy, to save water and not to use so many plastic bags"

"...about solar panels"

"...more about my carbon footprint and how much water we waste"

"...about what an architect is"

"...that architecture is fun."

— Scholars from Camp SEE



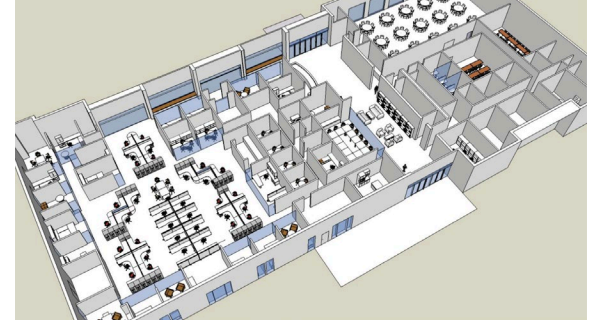
Exhibit 3.9

University of Minnesota – Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach (UROC) Engagement Center, Minneapolis

Buildings are tools of service. As such, the Urban Research and Outreach Engagement Center serves as a hub of thriving, innovative, and respectful collaborations, one that creates new models of urban and community development even as it strengthens the University of Minnesota as a vitally engaged 21st-century university serving the public good.

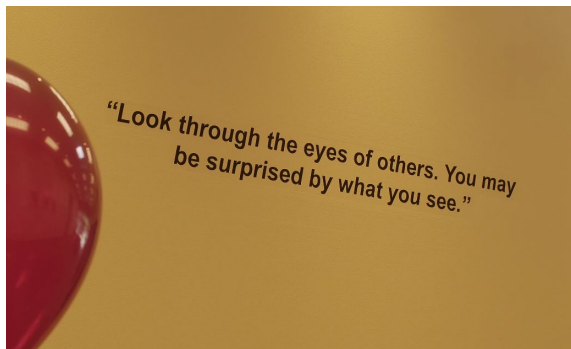
An under-utilized former strip mall in a distressed area of North Minneapolis, UROC was completed in 2009 by Urban Design Perspectives. The 22,000-square foot facility offers space for university staff, conference facilities, an art gallery, a teaching kitchen and flexible office space.

The building is a model of a collaborative work environment and a hub for research and problem-solving. Importantly, it serves as a bridge for engaged teaching and learning. UROC is currently home to 62 academic projects involving 100 faculty from 14 colleges, 398 students, 202 staff, 370 community partners, and over 8,200 community members. In recognition of its extraordinary research initiatives, it is one of four finalists for the 2021 C. Peter Magrath Community Engagement Scholarship Award.



“From the start, UROC was a challenged project. The building was a decrepit retail strip center located in the middle of North Minneapolis where residents had formed a deep-seated distrust of the University over the years. When completed, the Belton team had turned the building into a jewel that worked for both the community and University.”

— Mike Denny, Project Executive,
University of Minnesota



From top: Plans, finished exterior, Belton with team, main entrance. Left: Quote on wall, UROC Gallery.

Here are some examples of on-going projects that are occurring at UROC:

- *Research into the link between historical trauma, ambiguous loss, and financial decision-making among African American families in North Minneapolis.*
- *Free workforce development program and computer refurbishing program.*
- *A research program through the University's School of Nursing that investigates the best ways to avoid falls through strength-building and balance exercises.*
- *Mentorship program that builds interest in healthcare careers.*
- *Services to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and civil unrest in North Minneapolis.*

Urban Design Perspectives was awarded the Small Business Supplier of the Year from the University of Minnesota for Belton's work on this project. UDP is the only African American firm of record for a project at the University of Minnesota. Setting a standard for equity, this project achieved results with 24.1% MBE and 5.3% WBE for design services and WMBE 38% for construction value, results that have not been met on any other University of Minnesota project.

Firm: *Urban Design Perspectives with Charles Levin Architects*
Role: *Architect of Record, Project Manager, Alicia Belton*
Dates: *Completed September 2009*
Challenge: *Repurpose vacated 22,000 square foot retail strip mall into an academic research center*

From top: UROC finished interior gallery and offices.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Sharon Banks, U of MN Executive Director, Office of Community and Economic Development

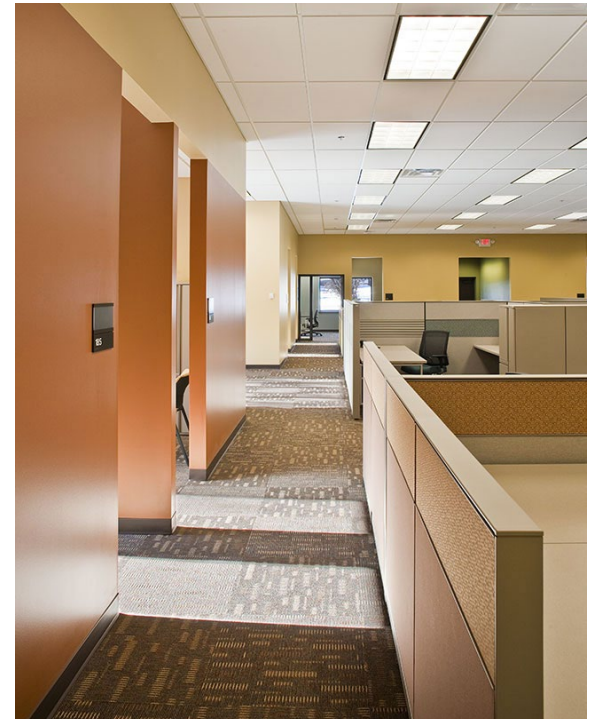


Exhibit 3.10

Club 3 Degrees, Minneapolis

Using resources wisely was the theme for this 17,000 square foot Christian youth nightclub renovation. As such, it was sought to reclaim any materials wherever possible. Located in the historical warehouse district, this adaptive reuse project formerly housed office space. This configuration did not have any open assembly space. Timber beams and columns removed from the space were sold to another project. Existing furniture was repurposed with recycled materials for tile and countertops, too. Due to the owner's non-profit status, tax deductions were offered to vendors who either donated or discounted labor and materials. The best find was a platform lift on eBay used for access to the raised stage. Brick walls, timber framing and mechanical ducts were left exposed to not only save money but to also create an urban contemporary environment. Volunteer skilled labor contributed over 7,800 hours which resulted in about \$650,000 of savings. With limited resources, the design team found innovative ways to make this club a smashing success.

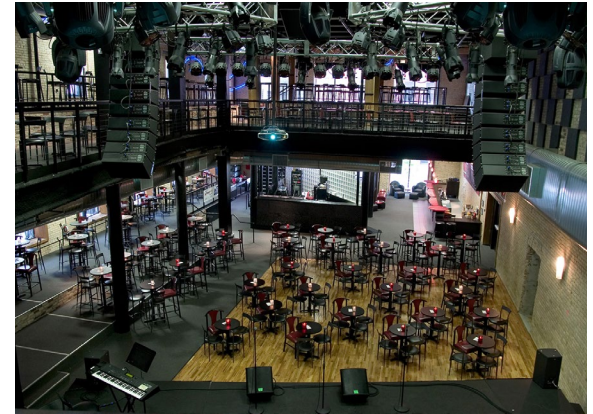
- Firm:** *Urban Design Perspectives*
Role: *Architect of Record, Alicia Belton*
Dates: *Completed October 2003*
Challenge: *Repurpose an existing office space into a concert venue and cafe for youth*

*From top: Club Three Degrees first level, balcony area, and seating.
 Below: pool tables.*

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge that the nominee is largely responsible for technical content, and is a key advisor for overall 'Guide' conceptual organization of the project listed above.

Pastor Nancy Alesuk



"Her knowledge and attention to detail is excellent and set the foundation for a hugely successful project."

— Pastor Nancy Alesuk

