2023 AIA Future Forward Grant
Sample Application

Overview
A two-year pilot project launched in 2022 by the Large Firm Round Table (LFRT) and the AIA Young Architects Forum (YAF), this grant supports students, emerging professionals, and early career architects in the testing of new ideas that disrupt the traditional conception of practice, process, and product in the field of architecture. The primary objective of the Future Forward Grant is to perpetuate innovation in the practice of architecture by empowering students, emerging professionals, and early career architects to do things they would not otherwise have the capital or resources to accomplish. This grant seeks to fund untested ideas and advance exploration, innovation, and disruption in the architecture profession.

Applicants may submit proposals within the following categories:

- PRACTICE: supports programs that foster leadership development, advance the organizational effectiveness of professional practice, and redefine firm management strategy

- PROCESS: supports programs that promote firm culture, streamline workflow, and establish new methods of project delivery

- PRODUCT: supports the development of new prototypes, programs, or technologies that advance the practice of architecture

Grant sponsors
The Large Firm Roundtable (LFRT) is a 501c6 member organization. (Independent of the American Institute of Architects (AIA); and which collaborates with the national and local chapters of the AIA as appropriate.

The Young Architects Forum (YAF) is a member group of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and is organized to address issues of particular importance to recently licensed architects (within 10 years or less of first licensure)

Eligibility
The YAF+LFRT Future Forward Grant is open to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) members who have been licensed to practice architecture for fewer than 10 years, Assoc. AIA members, and members of The American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS). All applicants must be in good standing with the AIA or AIAS, whichever most directly applies.

Grant Amount
There is a maximum of $10,000 in grant money available to one or more proposals. Grant proposals may be made in increments of $1,000. Proposals with matching funds are encouraged.

Schedule

The application period for the Future Forward Grant is February 24, 2023, through April 2, 2023, at 11:59 pm EST. Grant proposals will not be accepted after the April 2, 2023 deadline. Incomplete applications will be immediately disqualified.

The Grant Jury will meet during the month of April 2023 and recipients will be announced in May 2023.

Recipients will be required to submit a 1-page report on the program (successes, lessons learned, benefits, etc.) upon completion of the program. 50% of total funding will be provided upon approval of grant. The final 50% of grant will be provided after receipt of the 1-page program report.

Grant Winner Deliverables & Expectations

The selected winner will be expected to:

- Participate in monthly calls to report on their progress with a YAF representative
- Provide a monthly written project update, no more than one paragraph with any additional media or materials as needed
- Make a 50% and 100% progress virtual presentation to the Large Firm Round Table
- Contribute to YAF led publications and social media engagement
- Submit to present the project as a session at the 2024 AIA Conference on Architecture

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name *

Address *
City/ Town
State/ Provence

Phone # *

Email *
Please indicate the email to which you would like to receive communications regarding the Future Forward grant.

Membership Category *
Please indicate your current membership status. (Select all that apply.)
☐ AIAS
☐ NOMAS
☐ NOMA
☐ AIA
☐ Assoc. AIA
☐ International Assoc. AIA
☐ Hon. AIA
☐ Other
☐ Not a member of an architectural organization

AIA Member #

Licensure Information
Are you an architect licensed in one of the 55 U.S. Jurisdictions?
○ Yes
○ No
○ I am licensed outside of the U.S. Jurisdictions

Please indicate all U.S. Jurisdictions in which you are licensed. (Skip this question if you are unlicensed or if it does not apply to you.)

Group Information *
Are you applying on behalf of a group of individuals?
○ Yes, I am applying for a group
○ No, I am applying for myself

If you are applying for a group, please list their names and emails below.

Demographic Information

All demographic information provided is confidential, and only used for statistical purposes.

Age

Which of the following includes your age?

Select one option.

- ○ 18 – 24 years
- ○ 25 – 34 years
- ○ 34 – 44 years
- ○ 45 – 54 years
- ○ 55 – 64 years
- ○ 64 or older
- ○ Prefer not to disclose

Ethnicity

Which of the following describes your ethnicity? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian Indian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Chamorro
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Cuban
- ☐ Filipino
- ☐ Japanese
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ MENA (Middle East or North Africa)
- ☐ Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano
- ☐ Native Hawaiian
- ☐ Puerto Rican
- ☐ Samoan
- ☐ Vietnamese
- ☐ White
- ☐ Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Other Hispanic, Latino, Spanish Origin
- ☐ Other Race
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose

Gender

How would you identify your gender?

○ Female

○ Male

○ Non-Binary

○ Other not listed

○ Prefer not to disclose

Do you consider yourself a member of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and/or Queer (LGBTQ+) community?

○ Yes

○ No

Diverse Abilities

Please indicate any diverse abilities you may possess.

☐ Blind (legally or no sight)

☐ Visual (color blindness, non-corrective vision issues, etc.)

☐ Deaf

☐ Hard of hearing

☐ Mobility (wheelchair, cane, or other)

☐ Other (please consider below)

Please indicate any diverse abilities you may possess if checked "other" above.

Application Category *
Please choose the category that best fits the nature of your proposal.

○ PRACTICE: supports programs that foster leadership development, advance the organizational effectiveness of professional practice, and redefine firm management strategy

○ PROCESS: supports programs that promote firm culture, streamline workflow, and establish new methods of project delivery

○ PRODUCT: supports the development of new prototypes, programs, or software that advances the practice of architecture

Executive Summary *
Please include the executive summary to your proposal. Summaries should be a concise abstract of your proposed initiative and may consist of bulleted statements. Executive summaries may be a maximum of (500) words.

Proposal *
Please upload a detailed document outlining your proposed initiative. Proposals may have a minimum of 2 and maximum of 8 – 8.5x11 pages.

Proposals must include the following:*
- Title
- Purpose
- Expected benefactors
- Proposed budget (revenue and expenses, donations, matching funds, etc.)
- Schedule (this may be as detailed as you like)
- Amount of funds requested

*Please do not include your name or group members names in the proposal. The jury would like to review each proposal anonymously.

Nomination/ Reference Letter *
Please include a letter of nomination or a reference. Letters should be a maximum of (1) page and must include your original signature. Nomination letters may be addressed to the "Future Forward Grant Program Jury."
*File size may be no larger than 10MB

Thank you for submitting a proposal to the YAF + LFRT Early Career Future Forward Grant program! The jury looks forward to reviewing your proposal. Please email The Young Architects Forum (yaf@aia.o) and 2023 Future Forward Grant Jury Chair, Kate Thuesen (kthuesen@dlrgroup.com) if you have any additional questions.

Good luck!