

TxA Honor Award Nominee 2023 DONNA CARTER, FAIA

Award for Equitable Practice in Architecture



May 23, 2023

Marcel Quimby, FAIA Chair, TxA Honor Awards Committee

Re: Nomination letter for Donna Carter, FAIA, NOMA, for the Award for Equitable Practice in Architecture in Honor of John S. Chase Jr., FAIA

Dear Ms. Quimby and TxA Honor Awards Committee Members,

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Donna Carter, FAIA, NOMA, for the Award for Equitable Practice in Architecture. I don't know another person more deserving of this award. Donna's work in equitable practice goes back decades, but these last years in particular I have seen her leadership be instrumental. She led the conversation at AIA Austin when we came together to form the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion task force in wake of the murder of George Floyd. Donna has been our inspiration and has driven the conversations around how to inspire, empower, and celebrate J.E.D.I principles in our chapter leadership, membership, offices, and the profession at large. She is a calm and steadying presence during uncomfortable conversations, and continues to provide wisdom and focus to keep us moving forward.

Donna has been at the center of the group that formed the new National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) Central Texas this past year. She is the guiding light to the young, energized group of minority architects in our midst, and pushes forward to "sustain the legacy of NOMA's founding members by deepening the visibility, support of, and solidarity of under-represented people in the field of architecture and beyond." Over 110 attendees logged on to hear her share her immense body of work when she was the first NOMA Central Texas Empower Speaker Series speaker.

Her work in the realm of equity goes back to the seventies, but it was in the mid-eighties that she helped make downtown Austin a more equitable place. Her work with the Austin Revitalization Authority included completing affordable infill and historic housing and fostering historic preservation of cultural institutions. She worked on the AIA R/UDAT that created so many of the things we now hold dear in Austin—everything from the walkable Second Street District, to the Waterloo Greenway and Shoal Creek Conservancies, to the Innovation District, to Mueller. Her firm, Carter Design Associates, provided planning and design for the George Washington Carver Museum and Library Expansion, one of the most important cultural centers highlighting the history of the black experience in Austin, as well as many other significant places. Donna makes sure the usually unheard voices of black and brown communities are not only heard, but understood and elevated.

Donna is a tireless force for equity and justice in our community. As only one of a handful of black women architects in Austin, Donna has shouldered a heavy burden with wisdom and infinite grace. She is a powerful force and her many years of service to AIA deserve this high honor. I know you will agree.

Sincerely,

Christy Taylor, AIA President. AIA Austin

AIA Austin 801 West 12th Street Austin, TX 78701 **T**(512) 452 4332

aiaaustin.org

Statement of Achievements



DONNA CARTER, FAIA

Architect, Advocate, Mentor

Donna Carter's civic engagement creates sustainable communities where history's wisdom guides the future. As an African-American woman, intentionally in private practice, she demonstrates the benefits one citizen architect can bring to those her life touches.

STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS & ACHIEVEMENT

Donna Carter, FAIA has always practiced architecture as a champion of the underdog, the underserved and unheard. As the daughter of an attorney and English teacher, growing up in a family steeped in the values of hard work, education, and the American middle-class dream, Donna firmly believed that those values would be rewarded.

By the age of 10, she understood otherwise. Donna participated in fair housing sit-ins with her family and moved to a Boston suburb where her parents had to buy their house using a proxy buyer. This experience and others like it opened her eyes to the injustice around her. At this young age she felt the simple pain of being an outsider.

Her empathy informs her career; indeed her worldview. Donna has used an architectural education and her mastery of architecture's problem-solving skills to lift up issues and solutions that benefit the least served by our society. Donna does not claim to be the voice for the voiceless, but the catalyst that allows their voices to be heard where they have been excluded and ignored.

2020 was an inflection point in US history -- diversity, equity and inclusion became headlines and buzz words; they are now a political battleground. For Donna, this awareness is long overdue but she is very pleased to see that others are trying to catch up.

Donna intentionally started a private practice to be a visible part of the design community; accepted by the business community to continually offer her expertise, time, and unique voice into the conversation, while working to bring others with their uniques voices to the table. Diversity of thought provides for richer solutions, and this is what she has championed.

Carter Design Associates became the platform that allowed Donna to demonstrate and significantly promote equity, diversity and inclusion in architectural and public planning projects undertaken by the firm. As an early proponent of active public engagement in project development and through her continuing civic engagement, Donna consistently promotes policies that level the playing field. Carter Design Associates has provided countless volunteer hours to community organizations since its inception. Pro Bono and volunteer professional services average the equivalent of a full-time employee every year.

Using architecture and architectural problem solving for a more equitable and just society has the been cornerstone of Carter Design Associates.

This is Donna! Day in and day out!! For the past 40 years!!!

Personal Recognitions

2003: Texas Society of Architects' James D. Pfluger Community Service Award

2010: Austin AIA John V. Nyfeler Community Service Award

2010: Elevated to the AIA College of Fellows

EMPOWER

HEARING THE VOICE - ORGANIZATIONS

There is always more work then one individual can accomplish. Ms. Carter provides critical thinking and strategic planning tools to empower others with the mission and the vision to create effective organizations. She was one of the founding members of four organizations concerned with under-representation of minorities and women in the corporate community. Additionally she led several community service organizations during critical times of reorganization and action.

AN INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE - INSTITUTIONS FOR CHANGE

Donna Carter's governance, leadership, and board level affiliation with The Seton Family of Hospitals (Ascension Health) started in 1986. She was instrumental in the network's development of a facilities department to manage over \$300 million of capital improvements including the first LEED® Platinum children's hospital. As a faculty member of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, she is nationally recognized for her ability to demonstrate the effective use of lay board members as part of the quality improvement / patient safety initiatives within healthcare systems. Patients are healthier because of this work, and process-oriented protocols piloted at Seton have been deployed nationwide.

BUILDING CONSENSUS - THE COMMUNITY

Ms. Carter has created integrated community development plans reflecting balance between growth and conservation, built and open space, businesses and neighborhoods, and seen the implementation of goals and objectives. Plans are nothing if not implemented. From her 1982 east Austin Master Plan and 1987 Cultural and Management Plan for Village East, East Austin Redevelopment continues to benefit from the implementation of her plan's original goals and objectives through the Community Redevelopment Plan. Donna and her firm provided countless hours for Austin's 1990 R/UDAT. In 1992, Donna co-chaired the R/UDAT Implementation Committee and provided design, editing, and production guidance for Austin R/UDAT...A Call To Action, the framework for Austin's transition to a vibrant, nationally recognized, sustainable city. Donna was part of the initial leadership to select the developer for Mueller's community conversion from an airport. She continued on the Mueller commission to establish affordable housing goals and more importantly raise issues of wealth building, access, and perpetual affordability that needed to be addressed as a comprehensive policy.

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE - CULTURAL STEWARDS

Donna is an inspirational preservationist providing both keynote and technical addresses about the importance of preservation within the African American community. Her preservation projects have won local and statewide design awards for her firm and project recognitions for their owners. As a Commissioner on the Texas Historical Commission, she was instrumental in starting the Preservation Fellows diversity initiative to provide internships and mentor students of under represented ethnic backgrounds in the preservation field. Through the Mayors Institute of Design, she has worked with western states' mayors to maximize both new design and historic preservation within redevelopment plans. Nationally, she has worked with the National Main Street Center, to preserve urban commercial districts.

NURTURING OUR FUTURE - ENGAGE OUR YOUTH

Ms. Carter has been blessed with an international education from secondary school through college and feels this brings a unique perspective both to her practice and those around her. From being a juror and lecturer at community colleges, Universities, and particulary Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), to her role as a trustee for Huston Tillotson University and Fellow at the Center for Heritage Conservation, she has showcased a private architectural practice that is mission and value driven to nearly two generations of young architects. Her goal -- to prove success by serving others.

RGANIZATIONS

Ecology Action of Texas Chair, Board of Directors 1977 – 1981



ECHO Steering Committee ECHO 2006 – 2015



Women and Their Work Secretary, Board of Directors 1984 – 1995



EMPOWER ORGANIZATIONS

From the beginning of her career, Donna has worked with groups and organizations that foster social, environmental, and economic justice while integrating planning, design, and arts into the framework of a sustainable community. The breadth of issues covered by Donna's involvement underscores her fundamental tenant of complete communities for all people regardless of where they live or their economic station. Providing strategic and long range planning to fledgling or organizations in transition, Donna's leadership has allowed minorities, women, and those outside the mainstream to leverage their time, talent, and treasure to gain greater prosperity and influence the world around them.

During Donna's tenure, the organization made the transition from an all volunteer organization promoting awareness for a variety of environmental issues concerning Central Texas, to a larger agency with paid staff providing recycling opportunities to individuals and businesses in Austin. Carter Design Associates provided pro bono services for programming, feasibility and schematic design for satellite recycling centers and helped Ecology Action initiate Austin's first workplace recycling program. These initial grassroots efforts helped lead to the institutionalization of recycling and reuse through programs like City of Austin curbside recycling, Universal Recycling Ordinance, the Zero Waste Initiative, and the Recycling and Reuse Drop Off Center. Donna left Ecology Action in a stronger financial position, with a defined mission and strategic plan for future growth that allows Ecology Action to continue as an important partner in achieving Austin's Zero Waste Strategic Plan.

Donna started her work with ECHO when it was just a steering committee of business representativies and providor organizations for the city and the county. ECHO was an organization of primarily social service agencies that wish to go beyond the federally mandated, but unfunded, preparation of a plan to end chronic homelessness and create a collaboration of agencies and community advocates to address the issue. As a business and community leader, Donna advocated for social service budget allocations and program support from elected officials based on the plan. Her greater work was shepherding the organization through a two year change into a more broadly based organization focused on eliminating all homelessness and the community education required to make that a reality. Donna was a formational leader as the new organization forged its mission to engage policymakers and the community to end homelessness with a vision to forge a community fiercely focused on this goal.

Women and Their Work (W&TW) is dedicated to supporting and publicizing work by women artists. Based in Austin, W&TW has grown to serve artists throughout the state. Its budget grew from \$3,200 in 1977 to \$301,000 in 1992. During Donna Carter's tenure, W&TW not only increased its local support but gained its first National Endowment of the Arts grant in Visual Arts. Carter led the board committee to develop a new logo and membership campaign. With the pro bono assistance of Carter and her firm, W&TW was able to move into the gallery and office space on Lavaca, only recently vacated to move into a permanent home. Donna was again called on to help W&TW review their options for a permanent location. W&TW has become a model for an artist's organization that combines gallery, retail, advocacy, original curation, artist registry, and funding agent services and activities.

Thank you for your generosity of spirit and extraordinary commitment to W&TW.

~Women & Their Work

Austin Women in Architecture Founding Member, Board Member 1981 – 1986

RGANIZATIONS



NOMA Central Texas Founding Advisor 2020

Women's Chamber of Commerce Founding Member 1986 - 1988



Capital City Chamber of Commerce Founding Board Member 1982 - 1990



Organized as a community of Austin's women architects, AWA brought together students, intern architects, young architects, and veterans to exchange ideas about architecture and related interests. Conceived as a forum for intellectual and scholarly exchange, as well as a business support network for women in the profession, it functioned as a bridge between academia and commerce. The first programs were equally divided between explorations of current design trends and marketing advice - a take on the "good ole' girl" network. Working primarily as organizer and board member, Carter also participated in studio tours, several exhibitions of contemporary work, and a gallery talks. Although dormant for many years, the organization has been resurrected by the next generation of women and fully embraced by AIA Austin. Donna has continued her involvement as mentor, advisor, and is overjoyed to see the energy and dedication of it's new stewards.

Outstanding contributions to the community. You are an inspiration to all of us!

~Heather McKinney, FAIA, LEED AP

McKinney York Architects

After over 15 years of belonging to the Houston Chapter of NOMA, Donna lamented the lack of a chapter of NOMA in the Capital City. Over the years there had been NOMAs members, at The University of Texas and Donna had offered programs, talks, jury critiques to students. In 2020, an idea of a Central Texas chapter began to gell. The chapter needed youth and energy. Donna acted as a catalyst and advisor as the leadership began the process of not only getting new members, but also everything else that is needed to get a chapter off the ground. And they did. NOMA Central Texas is a diverse chapter that represents the future of Architecture.

Women's Chamber of Commerce - Austin Chapter

Created as as networking and support organization for the burgeoning women's business community, It was seen as chance for women from diverse backgrounds, expertise and business circles to find out about their collective capabilities. As founding member, she worked with the elected leadership to provide a platform for women to be part of the business community of the mid 80s.

The Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce, now the Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce, was incorporated in 1982. Donna Carter was one of the eleven community, political, and business leaders founding members. The organization was established to bring awareness to the enormous amount of dollars generated from black consumers in the form of travel and tourism with the goal of providing economic prosperity for African-American businesses in the general Greater Austin region.

Donna Carter's participation in nascent networking organizations exemplified her dedication to women and minorities' full participation in the economic vitalities of the communities in which they live. She was a founding member of Austin Women in Architecture, Women's Chamber of Commerce of Texas Austin Chapter, and the Capital City Chamber of Commerce. She also held leadership positions in the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Austin, and used those positions to help all of the organizations work through the political realities of shared ambitions. Donna used her leadership in all of the business chambers to encourage these conversatons about inclusive economic strategies and the common community growth. Achievements of diversity, economic prosperity, and vitality are ongoing as Carter continues to work on behalf of women and minority businesses in Austin.

Through her work with Seton, Donna has found an expression for her passion and compassion for a just and equitable society, particularly in regard to the healthcare needs of the poor and vulnerable in our community.

~Gene Attal, Seton Fund President

SNOILOLISN

donating her time to help design...donating her time to help design...

Sister Patricia A. Elder, D.C., Chair, Board of Trustees, Seton Medical Center





EMPOWER INSTITUTIONS - AN INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE

Donna Carter's engagement with the Seton Family of Hospitals spanned twenty-three years. She started on the Board of Trustees for Holy Cross Hospital (owned by Seton) in 1986 and was later appointed to the Board of Directors of Seton Family of Hospitals. Throughout this period, Carter, as an architect and planner, community representative, and non-medical professional, has focused on improving the health of Central Texans with special concern for those in need.

Healthcare that Works. Healthcare that's Safe. Healthcare that Leaves No One Behind.

Holy Cross Hospital was located in an impoverished area of Austin, Texas. When Seton closed the hospital, it reinforced Carter's concern that the location of a facility in poverty-stricken area did not guarantee access. It also strengthened her commitment to ensure that access to quality healthcare not be determined by location or economic status.

Carter's first task was to rebuild trust within the community after the closing. She worked with Seton's planning department to collect data outlining charity care they had budgeted, charity care they provided, and a profile of the people needing care. Gathering data from sources not traditionally used by the hospital quickly showed that Seton was providing charity care to the full community at a level surpassed only by the public safety-net hospital. This data allowed Carter to begin an ongoing dialogue with the community about access to care for everyone.

Strategic Planning

As a member of the Advisory Planning Council, Donna provided long range planning expertise as Seton Hospital made decisions about additional facilities and expanding the type of care provided in the community. The ability to frame questions from a non healthcare perspective added useful criteria to the decision matrix including serving the medically indigent and improving health outcomes.

Seton East Clinic - 1991

Seton was developing the idea of a clinical setting where, if required, other services for clients could be offered. Providing medicines through a pharmacy or advice on accessing the social services network were examples of the kinds of help their clients needed. They had a clinic facility but were having problems delivering the space the type of comprehensive care they envisioned. They were also having problems with the current facility.

Seton asked Advisory Planning Council member Donna Carter to help them. Carter volunteered her working diligently with the volunteer contractors and suppliers to fix existing building problems and in the process made design changes to the facility to stem future failures. Additionally, Donna worked with staff to see if there were interior changes that would allow the clinic to function the way the staff intended. Working with physicians, clinicians, social service providers, dieticians, pharmacists, and patients, Ms. Carter was able to program non-medical interventions and alternative access points for the non medical care, allowing more efficient use of the medical spaces.

Community Clinics 1992- 2000 - Integrated Primary Care

Based on her design suggestions for correcting deficiencies at Seton East, Seton asked Carter and her firm to design an addition to the clinic. While her office was working on the design, Carter worked with clinical assistants to patch together sources for healthy food for the clinic patrons, protocols and medicines needed for chronic disease management, and other issues similar to these effecting the health of the community. As part of the clinic's renovation plan, Carter programmed the delivery of integrated service that incorporated not only the treatment of illness, but preventative care and client education. This was the beginning of Donna's vision and model for a healthy community and used and developed for two more Seton community clinics for the working poor.

EMPOWER INSTITUTIONS - GOVERNANCE

In 1995, Seton entered a lease agreement to manage the struggling public safety-net hospital. Donna Carter was appointed to be a community representative on the Seton Board of Trustees. Becoming a nationally recognized, high performing nonprofit healthcare board was a fifteen year journey of an architect contributing analytical, programming and planning skills to effectively complement knowledge of other Trustees and Senior Leadership. Carter's experience with public capital improvement projects provided the expertise necessary to evaluate the potential of projects for the growth of the network within a highly competitive market. She was an active member of the 1999 board oversight committee where strategic questions and alternate build out scenarios demonstrated the viability of a smaller project saving the network \$30 million in bonded indebtedness.

During this period, Donna Carter led the Board to apply planning principles to data collection, interpretation, and the development of evaluation metrics. She was instrumental in budgeting for additional funds to provide staff, data collection, and analysis capability for effectively creating the Network Strategic Planning Department.

From Healthcare to a Healthier Community

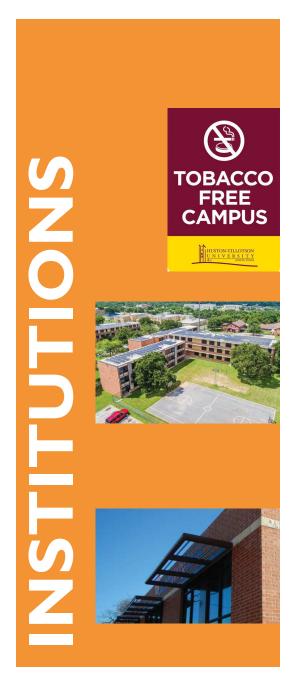
Carter's board emphasis helped expand the definition and components of community care. Carter encouraged Seton to take leadership role in the creation of what was originally called the Indigent Care Collaborative (now part of Integral Care), as a way to have all providers of safety-net services in the community working together. Community based initiatives put into effect during Carter's tenure are a direct result of the working relationship between community board leaders and Senior Leadership. It has enabled the network to receive Robert Wood Foundation research funds to "Transform Care at the Bedside." This was utilized to create an Advocacy and Community Relations division that develops and implements strategies to build, maintain, and leverage effective internal and external constituent relationships in a diverse community.

Dell Childdren's Hospital

Ms. Carter chaired a board committee charged with oversight for the development and construction of a new child-dren's hospital. Donna demonstrated to the Board of Trustees and Senior Leadership how choosing a central Austin redevelopment location (the former Robert Mueller Municipal Airport) and committing to the Design Guidelines and Goals of Mueller Austin, was the embodiment of Seton's values as expressed in Ascension Health's mission: "Healthcare that Works, Healthcare that is Safe and Healthcare that Leaves No One Behind." Ms. Carter also showed the board how the denser land use policies, LEED requirements, and central location in a traditionally under-served and impoverished area also aligned with this Mission.

Ms. Carter was not only a member of the Board of the Seton Family of Hospitals, she was also a member (appointed by the Austin City Council) of the Mueller Implementation Commission which oversaw development of the entire area that included the site of Dell Children's. In this dual role, which was openly acknowledged as a potential conflict of interest, Ms. Carter was a key liaison between the hospital and the Master Developer, ensuring that both parties kept in mind the larger community benefit that both aimed to provide.

The Oversight Committee correctly identified the challenges of the LEED silver requirement imposed by the Mueller Austin guidelines and by the energy needs of a large hospital. The committee was also aware of evidence-based research showing that healthy environments contribute to healthy outcomes, especially for sufferers of some common chronic illnesses, and the desirability, for many reasons, of treating the whole family. With Ms. Carter's leadership, the oversight committee encouraged the design team to identify creative ways to meet the healthy environment challenges, thereby meeting LEED requirements as well. It was then demonstrated the to the full board, the importance of meeting and funding these requirements in the building program. The result is the first LEED Platinum Hospital in the world.



As trustee for Huston Tilloston University, and Chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee, Donna encouraged and then led three very important and transformational efforts for the University. The Buildings and Grounds Committee was at the center of 2 of the projects because of building and infrastructure needs. The wellness components worked together to better ensure healthlier outcomes for a medically underserved community. Although the projects were University driven, the effects were neighborhood, community wide, and regional.

Community Health Outcomes

In 2011, Huston-Tillotson University was the first HBCU and institution of higher learning in Central Texas to be declared tobacco free. Board governance worked to maximize grant funding educational program development and mesh different grants with overall community goals. In 2011, this culminated with a grant to improve access for drug abuse and HIV/AIDS prevention. The HT Campus-Community Empowerment Against Drugs and HIV/AIDS Project collaborated with community partners to target African American and Latino young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 on the HT campus and in the surrounding neighborhoods in order to provide prevention information. The project pioneered peer-led evidenced-based substance abuse and HIV prevention strategies. Carter's board leadership encouraged the campus programs to reach outside of the institutional boundaries to effect outcomes in the surronding neighborhoods and community wide. The initial program and subsequent outcomes continued to support Donna's institutional hubs to provide community services.

Green is The New Black

As part of the budget and maintenance process, Carter oversaw the analysis of intsalling solar on campus. Consequently HT was the first HBCU to power usable electricity from solar panels. Three Huston-Tillotson University buildings were re-roofed and then retrofitted with 327-watt solar panel array. The installation made HT the first private historically black institution in the nation to capture renewable energy from one-fourth of its campus buildings and fuly integrate the solar power generation into its operational plan and budget. The process led the University to adopt sustainability goals and commit to reducing its carbon footprint. The 2015 initiative set the University towards the path measuring their energy use and carbon emissions allowing goals to be set to reduce their carbon footprint. The operational goals were mirrored in maintenace plans and academic endeavors.

HT's student organization Green is the New Black® (GITNB) was formed to promote sustainability through campus engagement and community outreach. In addition to local honors, such as being named among the 2014 "Best of Austin" by the Austin Chronicle, student delegates attended the 2015 United Nations' Conference of Parties (COP) 21 Climate Convention in Paris. France.

Anderson Health and Wellness Center

HT knew the need for health care and particularly behavioral health services was not being met for their students or their neighbors. The new medical school and a generous gift made a clinic a possibility. Donna's role on the board allowed her to be a strategic partner with the ability to look at the available land and buildings. She provided insight to maximize land use potential and minimize redundant plans and construction projects. Her continuing role with the safety net health providor also facilitated collaboration talks. The Center is a partnership with HT Community Care (CUC), Austin Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC), and the Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at Austin. It is dedicated to helping underserved residents of Austin gain access to both medical and behavioral health care services in a primary care setting. The partnership allows new models of care, combined training programs, and research to address the needs in East Austin.

2022 Overview

African American Heritage Preservation

Carter has always been a strong believer in the importance of history; the need to preserve a community's history and communicate that history to those living today. Initially she focused primarily on African American communities whose heritage was often overlooked. In the African-American community in East Austin, Carter worked to preserve the heritage present while at the same time planning for economic development. She actively sought ways to foster greater appreciation of that heritage in the community and the city at large. On the State Board of Review and the Texas Historic Commission, she worked to open her fellow board members' eyes to the historical significance of minority and other low-income communities and their place in mainstream Texas architectural heritage. She has extended this work with many of her design and planning projects.

Clients for Carter's first projects were inevitably older people. She vowed to make sure that not only the history, but the passion to save the history did not die with their generation. To that end, Carter lectures about the importance of preserving America's diverse history. Since 1995, she has traveled statewide spreading the word. Initially speaking at preservation conferences, she now speaks effectively to government officials and community leaders. Her sermon-like speeches have inspired several small communities to preserve local resources for heritage tourism efforts.

Carter has also spoken to young people about the importance of preserving their history. She has developed walking tours for school children to understand the neighborhood in which their school is located. From the contemporary maps, students are taught how to look for clues of what may have been present at another time.

Carter has also been a pioneer in developing historical contexts that allow district boundaries to be more aligned with their development over time while maintaining the integrity required by the Secretary of the Interior's standards. Telling the African-American story often means telling a painful story. Carter has worked with communities to develop the framework for telling these stories in a respectful and sensitive manner.

Articles written by Donna Carter



PUBLICATIONS

A Call to Action. Report of the R/UDAT - Austin Implementation Committee. May 1992.

Resource Team Report for Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Dallas, Texas. The Texas Main Street

Program of the Texas Historical Commission. pg. 19-31. May 1994.

Downtown Pedestrian Gateways. Downtown Austin Alliance. Issue Paper No. 08. November 1997.

Guide to Better Streetscapes. Downtown Austin Alliance. Issue Paper No. 09. July 1999.

Historic Laredo - A Whole Other Country Right Here at Home. The Texas Main Street Program of the Texas Historical Commission. 2009.

Design: Enhancing Downtown's Physical Appearance, Preserving It's Historic Character, Planning for It's Future. National Trust Main Street Center, 2009.

HEARING THE VOICE

Articles Empowering Individuals



'New Business District Planned.' Austin American Statesman. 21 February 1985.

'Taking Sixth St. Success to Suburbs.' Austin Business Journal. 1986.

'Who's Who in Architecture.' Austin Business Journal. April 1990.

'On the Move.' Austin American Statesman. 20 February 1994.

Black Texas Women, Ruthe Winegarten. pg. 209. 1995.

'Top Women Architects.' Ebony Magazine. August 1995.

'One Hundred Years of Seton Babies.' Good Health. Late Fall 2002.

'Best of Austin 2009: Architecture and Lodging.' Austin Chronicle. 2009.

AN INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE

Articles Empowering Institutions

'Seton Hospital Appoints African American to Board of Directors.' The Austin Sun. 8 June 1995.

'Carter Named to Hospital Board.' The Austin Sun. 17 October 1995.

'Hospitals Go Green.' Buildings.com-Archi-Tech. I June 2009.

BUILDING CONSENSUS

Articles Empowering the Community



'Radio Station Hopes to Multiply Funds with Rabbit Giveaway.' Austin American-Statesman. 1979.

'Carpenter to Donate Land to County.' The Villager. 21 December 1984.

'City Council Accepts East Austin Plan.' The Villager. 28 December 1984.

'Black Arts Lacking Community Support.' Austin American-Statesman. 23 September 1988.

'Achievements of Prominent Leaders in Austin.' Austin Sesquicentennial. 1989.

'Benefit Aims to Revitalize Victory Grill.' Austin American-Statesman. 13 January 1989.

'Chasing the Blues.' Austin American-Statesman. 13 May 1989.

'Fired Up Over Art'; Austin American Statesman. 1990.

'East 11th Makeover Gets Boost from City.' Austin American Statesman. 16 February 2001.

BUILDING CONSENSUS

Articles Empowering the Community

PUBLICATIONS

'Site Clearing, Utility Work Kicks Off Austin Library and Museum Project.' Texas Construction. 2002.

'A New Home for History.' Austin American-Statesman. 4 February 2005.

'A History of Snags.' Austin American-Statesman. 20 November 2005.

'Second Street District: Austin, TX.' Terrain.org. 2006.

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE Articles Empowered by the Past



'Austinite Joins Architecture Review Board.' Austin American Statesman. 1988.

'Craftsman Restores Beauty of Train Station Ceiling.' Austin American-Statesman. 12 April 1999.

'The Pinnacle of Style.' Fort Worth Star-Telegram. 30 September 2000.

'Texas Pacific Railroad Station Restoration." Texas Architect. September 2002.

'Space Explorations.' The Dallas Morning News. 28 October 2002.

'Architect: Preserving Hardin School History Vital for Future.' Brownwood Bulletin. 2006.

African American Texas History Brochure for Texas. 2009.

'Existing T&P Station - Ceiling Restoration Plan' The Texas and Pacific Railway. 2009.

NURTURING THE FUTURE Articles Empowering Our Youth

'Celebrities Join Kids at LEGO Exhibition.' Austin American-Statesman. 12 January 1985.

'Adopt-A-School It's Big Business." Austin American-Statesman. 8 October 1987.

Working as a consultant to the National Trust Main Street Center in Washington, D.C. has given Donna a larger platform to share how design for and preserving a downtown's historic character can provide for an equitable future in architecture.

2009 NATIONAL TRUST MAIN STREET CENTER

(IMAGE ON RIGHT)

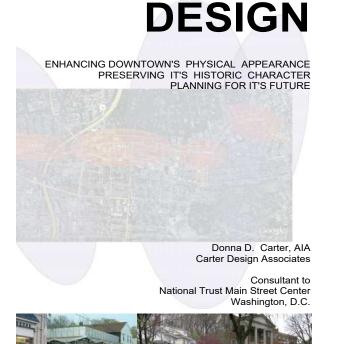
APRIL 1990 WHOS'WHO IN ARCHITECTURE AUSTIN BUSINESS JOURNAL

PUBLICATIONS



DESIGN: Enhancing Downtown's Physical Appearance, Preserving It's Historic Character, Planning for it's Future

Donna D. Carter, AIA
Carter Design Assoicates
written as Consultant to National Trust Main Street Center Washington, D.C.





Carter entered the field in the 1970s after graduating from Yale University, and says she spent all her time simply keeping her practice going.

"All of my financial, physical and emotional resources were spent on the firm entity," Carter says. "I certainly didn't have the time to think positively about being unique because of my race or gender."

FEBRUARY 1,2017 BY SHELLEY SEALE, PHOTOS BY DUSTIN MEYER

- DONNA CARTER

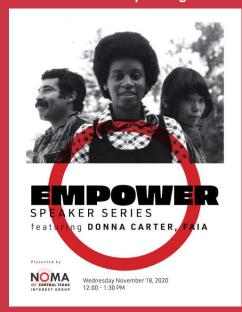
PUBLICATIONS





"It is very sad that in the 21st century, in a city this vibrant, current, relevant and intelligent, we are still talking about such small numbers," Carter says. "Many of the issues of gentrification, loss of historic properties, food-and-market deserts were anticipated by work that I did in the early 1980s. But it was not really noticed or taken seriously by either the community or the city."







EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Prairie View A&M University;

Lecture - Elements of Design; 2002

Lecture - Who Says We Weren't There - Influence of African American Architects

Lecture - Preservation Planning and Local Government Policies; 2006

Lecture - African American Women Architects; 2007

Lecture - A Quarter Century: Bridging Architecture, Preservation, Planning, and the Real World; 2009

Lecture - An Architect of Color Goes Green; 2017

Austin Energy Green Building; Panel Speaker - Sustaining Culture - A Poor Person's LEED; 2018 **The University of Texas LAMP**;

Lecture - They're Not Just a Bunch of Old Buildings; 2007

Lecturer - Preserve East Austin - African American Resources in Danger; 1987

Lecturer - Austin Transformed; 2019

AIA Austin and TXA;

Panelist: Balancing Career and Family; 2007

Panelist: Conversations with Architects; 2017

Panelist: WiA Dinner Series, 2018

Panelist: Small Firms Roundtable - Sean Guess in Discussion with Donna Carter, FAIA, 2021

Keynote: New Orleans and Austin WiA; Design To Change, 2021

Boss Babes ATX Panelist - Gender, Equity and Design; 2017

NOMA Central Texas; Empower Speakers Series - Who What When and Where; 2021

ULI Austin; Panelist - Austin over the Years; 2020

Austin Green Awards; Panelist Fulfilling the Promise of Sustainability; 2020

AYA Symposium; Organizer and Sponsor; 2017 - Present

Yearly symposium for educators on the value of diverse histories

Austin Bisnow; Moderator - Austin Design; 2020

Austin Design Week; Hostile Design in the Built Environment; 2020

: 2004

HEARING THE VOICE

Empowering Individuals

EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Austin Commission on Women; Panelist; 1989

Women in Architecture; Speaker; 1996

Diversity Conference Austin Texas; Speaker/Panelist; 2007

TSA Continuing Education Convention; Panelist - Citizen Architect Exchange, Panelist -

Balancing Career and Family; 2007

AN INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE

Empowering Institutions



Travis Audubon Society; Tour Leader - Birding at the Capital: Finding Nature in an Urban

Environment; 1978-1982

Greenlights; Speaker/Panelist; 2002 and 2004

AIA Tour of Carver Museum; Tour Leader/Speaker; 2005

IHI Conference Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care;

Lecture - One Board's Journey from Credentialing to Patient and Associate Safety; 2006 Lecture - Trustee Oversight of Clinical Quality and Patient Safety at Seton Family of

Hospitals; 2009

BUILDING CONSENSUS

Empowering the Community



Women and Their Work; Juror; 1984

Austin Affordable Housing Conference; Lecture - Affordable Housing: Myth or Reality; 1985

Arts and the City Image: The Greening of Austin Culture; Conference Organizer; 1986

East Austin Resource Tour for Downtown Conference; Organizer; 1988

Village East Festival; Organizer; 1989

NEA Mayors Institute of Design; Resource, Lecture - Community Planning by Design; 2002

Art in Public Places; Juror - Public art selections for the Lamar Bridge Underpass, DeWitty

Center, Carver Museum; 2002-2007

City of Austin, Panelist, Neighborhood by Design Conference, Create Better Communities

Through Urban Design; 2003

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Empowered by the Past

Hardin Restoration Legend Banquet; Keynote Speaker - Window to Our Past, Foundation for Today, Legacy for our Future; 2006

Buda, TX Chamber of Commerce; Lecture - Historic Preservation: For What It's Worth; 2009

Texas Historical Commission Annual Preservation Symposium;

Lecture - Compatible Infill Architecture in Historical Contexts; 2009

Lecture - A Vision for Our Future; 2009

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Empowered by the Past





EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Austin Nature Center; Tour Leader - Walking Tour of West Austin; 1985

Capital City Chamber of Commerce Junteenth Historical Bus Tour; Organizer; 1987

Heritage Society of Austin; Tour Leader - Congress Avenue Walking Tour; 1989

Marshall, Texas Preservation; Speaker - Take Back our Neighborhoods; 1992

Texas Economic Development Forum; Speaker/Resource Person - Promoting Economic

Development Through Historic Preservation and Tourism; 1993

Texas Association of Black Mayors; Lecture - Why Preservation Matters; 1994

National Town Meeting on Main Street; Lecture - Planning Transportation Projects for

Downtowns; 2002

Preserving Family History; Conference Moderator, Lecture - Conserving Family Treasures,

Oral Histories, African American Cemeteries; 2003

Victory Grill Blues Benefit; Organizer/Supporter; 2003

Texas A&M Center for Cultural Heritage - Annual Historic Preservation Symposium;

Lecture/Panelist - Reflections on the Theme of Culture, Landscapes, and Buildings; 2003

Lecture - Preservation as a Key Element of Community Planning and Economic

Development Strategies; 2005

Lecture - Modernism, Marginalism and the Mundane 2008 - (AIA CEU)

Lecture - Seeking Praxis when Preserving African American Places or Hacking

Preservation; 2018 (AIA CEU)

NURTURING THE FUTURE

Empowering Our Youth



Region XIII - In Service Training Days; Speaker/Resource Person; 1985

Austin Community College Street MBA Program; Lecturer; 1992

The University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture;

Lecture - Female and Minority American Architects; 1993

Studio Juror; 1993, 1997, 2000, 2015

Studio Lecture: Preservation and Policy 2015

Panelist - Women in Architecture - Women in Leadership; 2019

Panelist - Breaking Barriers - Diversity and Austin's Racial History, 2019

 $\textbf{Prairie View Students at UT}; Class \ Juror - KVUETV \ interview; 1999$

Girl Scouts Lone Star Council; Speaker/Panelist for Rising Stars event; 2000

Exhibits

PROJECT: EAST AUSTIN REVITALIZATION

AWARDS

Heritage Society of Austin 2002 Association of General Contractors 2002 Heritage Society of Austin 2006

PUBLICATIONS

29 September 2006

'New Business District Planned.' Austin American-Statesman. 21 Feb. 1985 'Chasing the Blues' Austin American-Statesman. 13 May 1989 'Benefit Aims to Revitalize Victory Grill.' Austin American-Statesman. 13 Jan. 1989 'Fired Up Over Art.' Austin American-Statesman. 1990. 'East 11th Makeover Gets Boost from City.' Austin

'A New Home for History.' Austin American-Statesman. 20 November 2005 'Second Street District.' Austin Monthly. September 2006 ''MsBs Restaurant Review', Austin Chronicle

American-Statesman. 16 Feb. 2001

EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY
BUILDING CONSENSUS

EAST AUSTIN REVITALIZATION

Carter Design Associates
1982-Present
Architecture, Planning and Preservation Services

MASTER URBAN DESIGN PLAN - 1980s

Donna Carter has been actively involved in the planning and revitalization of East Austin for over 27 years. Starting with the Master Urban Design Plan (1982) - the first integrated plan, guidelines and economic planning study for the area, and continuing to her current work with the Austin Revitalization Authority (ARA). Carter's engagement has involved public and private projects, professional commissions, pro bono, and volunteer efforts. Carter's involvement embodied the integrated approach she first outlined in her "Strategies for Redevelopment" as part of the Master Urban Design Plan.

AUSTIN REVITALIZATION AUTHORITY

The Austin Revitalization Authority has been the community steward for commercial development, residential enhancement and historic preservation since 1997. With a management structure close to that conceived for Village East, ARA has been able to complete restoration projects, attract sensitive developers to the area, complete affordable in-fill and historic housing, and foster historic preservation of structures and cultural institutions. Carter has been a part of all of these efforts.

MANAGEMENT AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Donna Carter wrote the grant that allows ARA to offer design and planning assistance at no cost to the recipient. Carter also worked with the City and ARA to develop the city's first facade improvement grant program. The programs translated into additional projects to be completed and allowed neighborhood businesses to qualify for the new projects.

CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT

Principals of the first Master Plan are still being used as the last parcels remaining from Urban Renewal are developed. In October 2020, recognizing the increasing pressures of rising real estate prices on affordability, equity, and the City's iconic venues and small businesses, the City of Austin created Austin Economic Development Corporation.

AEDC is a Public Real Estate Developer, working for purpose instead of profits.AEDC can speed the pace of the public response to decreasing affordability and equity by moving at the pace of the market to blend the best of public and private deal making. The quasi public development corporation was one of the first recommendations of Donna's original 1982 Master Plan for the area. Donna continues to work with the city and AEDC to ensure the back end safeguards concerning gentrification and equity building are included in the final build-out

PROJECT:

EAST AUSTIN REVITALIZATION

AWARDS

Heritage Society of Austin 2002 Association of General Contractors 2002 Heritage Society of Austin 2006

PUBLICATIONS

'New Business District Planned.' Austin American-Statesman. 21 Feb. 1985 'Chasing the Blues' Austin American-Statesman. 13 May 1989

'Benefit Aims to Revitalize Victory Grill.' Austin American-Statesman. 13 Jan. 1989 'Fired Up Over Art.' Austin American-Statesman. 1990.

'East 11th Makeover Gets Boost from City.' Austin American-Statesman. 16 Feb. 2001 'A New Home for History.' Austin American-Statesman. 20 November 2005 'Second Street District.' Austin Monthly. September 2006 "MsBs Restaurant Review', Austin Chronicle 29 September 2006

EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY BUILDING CONSENSUS

VILLAGE EAST CONSORTIUM-1990's

Donna Carter developed a Project Management / Program Development plan to organize and garner support for the infrastructure, commercial and residential projects envisioned by her 1982 Master Urban Design Plan. Carter organized the Village East Festival to showcase historic buildings local artists, traditional southern cooking and barbecue, accompanied by legendary performances by Austin blues musicians. The success of the Festival demonstrated the effectiveness of a community consortium of both business and neighborhood groups.







PROJECT:EAST AUSTIN REVITALIZATION

AWARDS

Heritage Society of Austin 2002 Association of General Contractors 2002 Heritage Society of Austin 2006

PUBLICATIONS

'New Business District Planned.' Austin American-Statesman. 21 Feb. 1985 'Chasing the Blues' Austin American-Statesman. 13 May 1989 'Benefit Aims to Revitalize Victory Grill.' Austin American-Statesman. 13 Jan. 1989 'Fired Up Over Art.' Austin American-Statesman. 1990. 'East 11th Makeover Gets Boost from City.' Austin American-Statesman. 16 Feb. 2001

'Second Street District.'Austin Monthly. September 2006 "MsBs Restaurant Review',Austin Chronicle 29 September 2006

'A New Home for History.' Austin American-

Statesman, 20 November 2005

EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY BUILDING CONSENSUS

ARA AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Juniper Street Historic District affordable housing. The District Redevelopment won an historic preservation award.

ARA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Carter facilitated citizen partition for proposed changes to the East Austin Community Redevelopment Plan.

EAST AUSTIN REVITALIZATION

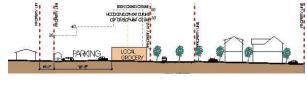






Above and below: Community planning meetings for amendments to an approved community plan.









PROJECT:

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM AND LIBRARY EXPANSION

RECOGNITIONS

Austin Chronicle. 2009
City of Austin Certificate of Recognition
LEED for New Construction

PUBLICATIONS

'A New Home for History.' Austin American-Statesman. 4 Feb. 2005 'Site Clearing, Utility Work Kicks Off Austin Library and Museum Project.' Texas Construction. 2002

30,000 square foot museum and a 6,000 square foot addition to an existing 10,000 square foot library. The final building program was the result of a 6 month process to solicit public and user group input.

The site is part of a public campus that also has a school and neighborhood park. The site is designed as a series of plazas and landscaped open spaces providing a unified campus setting for the buildings. The walkways and plazas allow the Carver Genealogy Center, located in an historic building, to be the center piece of the cultural campus.

The project also restored the revered 1986 John Fisher mural. The design team worked with local artists to integrate local artisan designed railings, screens and hardware into the final project.



EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY BUILDING CONSENSUS













PROJECT:

A.T. and ADDIE ODOM HOMESTEAD PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

PUBLICATIONS

'Juneteenth - Creating Legacy in Contested Places' Schomberg Center for Research in Black Culture, 2020

> Texas Purple Hull Pea Festival in Shankleville Texas Highways, March 2020

> > Freedmen's Settlements
> > Texas State Historical Society, 2017

EMPOWERING CULTURAL STEWARDS PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

The homestead is made up of a vernacular central hall dwelling and several out buildings including a smokehouse, chicken coop, barn, and storage building. A.T. Odom, son of African-American freed slaves built the homestead and helped to create and maintain the community of Shankleville for African-American families during the time of segregation.

Carter Design Associates wrote a the rehabilitation report outlining the existing conditions and the work that would have to be done for the continued use of the homestead. The work was described and phased so that volunteers, the family and professionals would all be able to be part of the construction crew. The current owners, descendents of Addie and A.T. Odom are rehabilitating the homestead as a public use historic site; a type of living museum for teaching/learning African-American rural lifestyles in the early 20th century.

The family is undertaking the rehabilitation work themselves and using it as the basis for "family gathering weekends". Carter Design Associates has used this model of *Do-it -Yourself preservation* to empower individuals to undertake preservation with minimal funding with the goal of preserving the resource using accepted preservation techniques and methods. Carter Design Associates continues to provide consulting services as needed to support grant applications and to ensure the work proceeds in keeping with the preservations guidelines set forth. This DIY preservation has become a model used by other families and organizations and has become a useful tool, as the locations and histories of Freedom Colonies in Texas have been revealed.

Using the homestead as the resource backdrop, the descendents of Jim and Winnie Shankle, through the work of the Shankleville Historical Society, have been able to bring awareness to the surviving Freedom Colonies, introduce the unique history through the annual Purple Hull Pea Festival, and have spawned the AYA symposium for teachers to learn about diverse histories and the resources that can be used to introduce the stories to our elementary and secondary students.











PROJECT: UNION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

For many it is a symbol of the clash of historical events following the end of the Civil War, the Reconstruction era, and one of the catalysts for the civil rights movement.-Texarkana Gazette, Nov. 25, 2019

EMPOWERING CULTURAL STEWARDS PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Donna Carter led the CDA team providing preservation architectural and consulting services for the historic Union Missionary Baptist Church located in jefferson, Texas. It was built in 1883 on property gifted to slaves, by their owner, Captain William Perry, to use as a place to worship . CDA guided the client through the historic restoration process starting with the preparation of an Historic Structures Report; overseeing hazardous materials testing, and conducting public meetings. The project needed interpretive and fund graphics for fund raising efforts and grant applications. Historic restoration documents were completed including an addition designed to extend its life as a public venue and educational center. All work had to be approved by local supports and the State Historic Preservation Office (THC).

This is also another example of DIY Preservation and shows the power of professional guidance with owner provided labor, research, and documentation. The project also made use of amateur archeologists. The archeology helped to fill in historical chronology and also allowed the restoration of historic site features, including a brick baptistry.

The use of volunteer labor, historians, and archeologists allowed the work to be completed without further damage to the original structure and loss of architectural fabric. These are skills that can then be used as other resources in the community are identified. The local carpenters followed a meticulous process, salvaging over 90% of the wood used in the floors and ceiling. Although the original windows were long gone, the framing for them still existed. New 2 over 2 divided lite windows were built to fit the original openings.

The property told a story over time from the 1880s through the 1950s, and then as disrepair set in through the end of the last century. The baptistry was excavated and recorded by volunteer archeologists, the story of additions including No. 10 can patches over wood was retained on the rear wall and the future is embraced with a modest covered outdoor area.

The restoration took the work of the local community, the philanthropy of the Today Foundation, the academic pursuits of the Collins Academy, and the perseverance of six generations of descendents of the original post civil war founders.







PROJECT: UNION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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EMPOWERING CULTURAL STEWARDS PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

















PUBLICATIONS

The Preservation Scholars Program https://www.thcfriends.org/preservation-scholars-program Friends of the Texas Historical Commission





EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH NURTURING THE FUTURE

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION PRESERVATION SCHOLARS

2007 - Continuing Service

Developed on-going Internship at Texas Historical Commission

With fellow commissioners Lareatha Clay, Shirley Caldwell, and Jane Barnhill, Donna Carter developed a plan to recognize young university and graduate students from underserved and under-represented communities for their scholarship and initiative. In doing so, the committee also wanted to introduce them to the many facets of historic preservation and as well as possible fields of advanced study and careers. The original notion also wanted it to be celebratory with the announcement given as a prize at the statewide preservation conference. The idea was to have everyone across the state get see how the face of preservation was changing.

The program has been a success and has outgrown the prize aspect as the program has been able to fund up to 7 scholars a summer. The interns are paid from the program and work across the many THC departments and programs. The program has endured and now has alumni who are working in preservation related fields, several in architecture and planning, but also other academic, public, and private endeavors. One has come back to work full time at the Texas Historical Commission. All have remained as ambassadors and champions of the project. The program goals are very specific:

Increase the representation of all cultural and ethnic groups in historic preservation careers
Increase the number of historic and cultural resources associated with the state's diverse history
Increase the number of diverse organizations and communities involved in the field of historic preservation

The projects the young scholars have worked on have been varied. This provides the foundation of understanding that will be necessary as a broader range of communities and perspectives are engages in the effort to discover and share Texas' rich historical narrative and as we strive to make equitable policy decisions to preserve it for generations to come. Not all of the diversity scholars work on the under told stories and diversity projects, and not all of the stories and research now being lifted up are championed by those directly effected. The young workers and seasoned veterans alike are reminded that these stories inform, shape, and indeed belong to all us.

NURTURING THE FUTURE

Sustainability, Social Justice and Spreading the Word

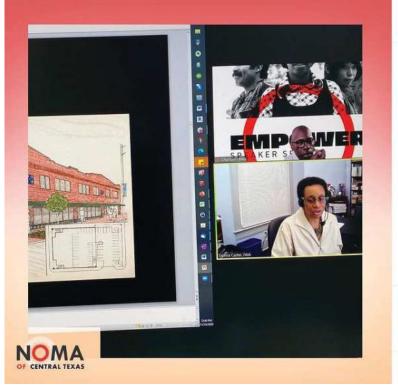
NOMA CENTRALTX EMPOWER SPEAKER SERIES

Donna served as the inagural keynote speaker of the NOMA Central TX Empower Speaker Series: a quarterly event hosted by the newly formed chapter that highlights the accomplishments of central TX Architects and Designers who embolden their communities to do more by creating architecture that is responsive to the needs of the community.

AIA NEW ORLEANS DESIGN TO CHANGE

Donna was invited to be a keynote speaker at the AIA New Orleans Chapter Design to Change Panel hosted by the local Women in Architecture Committee. Donna has stayed engaged in the mentorship and spreading the word of how to make an impact in architecture even throughout an ongoing pandemic. She remains committed to thoughtful exchanges on the practice of architecure and the influence one can have in their field.

EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH NURTURING THE FUTURE



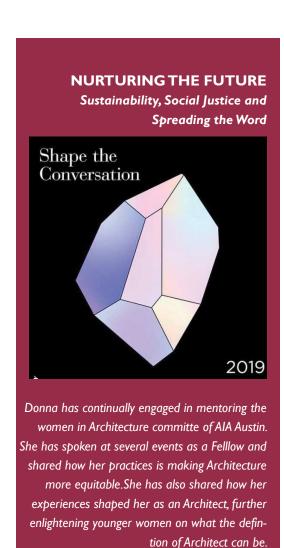






Women in Architecture: a Committee of AIA New

Orleans
August 26, 2020 · ③



EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH NURTURING THE FUTURE







