

Vision statement

My name is Johnny Chen, and I'm running for the position of Secretary on the Executive Board for the term 2024/2025. I became involved with the AIA in 2016 as an Associate member and later became an official AIA member after obtaining my New York State license in 2019. I had the honor of serving as the treasurer from 2021 to 2022. AIA has played a vital role in shaping my professional journey.

I currently hold the position of Vice President and Senior Project Manager at HKS Shanghai office, one of the largest architecture firms in the United States. With architectural licenses in both China and New York State, I bring 18 years of diverse professional experience gained from working with LDI and US firms. This background has given me a unique perspective on the importance of embracing diverse viewpoints when creating collaborative solutions.

Efficiency in time management, strong networking skills, and a deep understanding of others' perspectives are qualities I possess. I believe these attributes would be valuable in coordinating meetings and facilitating seamless communication among all chapter teams.

In alignment with AIA's strategic plan and initiatives, I have identified three key areas that I believe are vital to our collective success: Members, Influence, and financial stability.

1.Members:

Members are the core of the AIA and their needs should be our top priority. To strengthen our bond with our members, we suggest the following:

- **Organize More Events and Networking:** We will foster a sense of community by organizing more events and networking opportunities. These events will not only provide a platform for knowledge sharing but also foster connections among our members.
- **Provide More Support on ARE Exams:** We understand the challenges our members face in their professional journeys, especially when it comes to licensure. We will expand our support for the ARE (Architect Registration Examination) to ensure that our members are well-prepared and have the resources they need to succeed.
- **Catch Up on ARE Learning Credits:** We will offer support and resources to help members to earn ARE learning credits, contributing to their ongoing professional development and growth in the architectural field.

2. Influence:

AIA has built a strong reputation for professional excellence and high standards over the years. To continue our influence in the architectural community, we will take the following steps:

- **Develop Relationships with Other Professional Organizations:** Collaboration is key to progress. We will actively seek partnerships and build stronger relationships with other professional organizations. By sharing knowledge and best practices, we can collectively elevate our industry.
- **Build Strong Relations with Government:** Our influence extends beyond our profession and into the realm of policymaking. We intend to foster stronger connections with government bodies to ensure that architects' voices are heard when decisions impacting our industry are made.
- **Improve AIA Awards:** While there are many award events in our industry, AIA will continue to represent the highest level of professional achievement. We will work to make our awards programs even better, recognizing outstanding architectural work that reflects our commitment to excellence.

3. Financial Stability:

In tough times, financial stability is the bedrock of any organization. To ensure AIA's financial well-being, we suggest the following measures:

- **Support from AIA Firms:** We will work closely with big AIA firms to encourage their support. Their contributions will directly benefit our initiatives and members.
- **Expand New Memberships:** Growing our membership base is not just about numbers; it's about enriching our community with diverse perspectives. We will focus on attracting new members who bring fresh ideas and energy to AIA.
- **Seek Sponsorships:** We will actively seek sponsorships from corporations and organizations that align with our values and mission. These partnerships can provide the financial resources needed to execute our strategic plans effectively.

It would be an honor for me to dedicate my time and effort to the AIA SH, contributing to its ongoing growth and development.