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AIA ALBUQUERQUE 2025 AWARDS JURY

Daniel Joseph Chenin, FAIA

Daniel Joseph Chenin, FAIA, is the founding principal of his internationally recognized architecture and interiors studio based in Las Vegas. He is known for creating immersive environments that seamlessly integrate architecture, interiors, and landscape into a unified, emotionally resonant whole.

Guided by the belief that architecture is more than shelter, Chenin approaches each project as storytelling through space, material, light, and memory. Since founding his studio in 2014, he has developed a portfolio that dissolves boundaries between structure and setting, art and function, with projects celebrated for their narrative richness, contextual sensitivity, and meticulous detail.

His work has been published globally in Architectural Digest, Wallpaper, and Robb Report, and is featured in monographs and anthologies by Beta-Plus and Phaidon. Recognized with honors including the AIA Nevada Silver Medal and the AIA Nevada Firm of the Year, Chenin's practice continues to shape design conversations internationally.

Beyond practice, Chenin has taught architecture and interior design at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and remains an active mentor and leader within the profession. Through teaching, mentorship, and his engagement with the AIA, he advances a vision of design that is timeless, contextual, and universally resonant.

Nicole Emmons, AIA

Nicole Emmons, a partner at Hart Howerton, designs impactful spaces at every scale. Her expertise includes academic, residential, and mixed-use developments, as well as master planning for new communities and redevelopment. Known for her leadership of interdisciplinary teams, Nicole has contributed to transformative projects across North America, blending thoughtful design with strategic vision to create spaces that inspire and endure.

Nicole's portfolio reflects her diverse range, spanning private residential and club developments in Idaho and the Hudson River Valley, the strategic planning of the University of Virginia Foundation's Morven Farm, and the transformation of Hollywood Park in Inglewood, California, a dynamic mixed-use sports and entertainment district home to the Los Angeles Rams and Chargers.



Chris Lujan, AIA

Chris Lujan is a Senior Designer with TSK Architects. Already a highly awarded young architect, his substantial contribution to the profession was recognized in February 2020 when he received the AIA 2020 Young Architects Award, the most prestigious national award conferred on individuals demonstrating exceptional leadership in architecture.

Chris' work can be seen today all across the Southwest United States and internationally in the Far East. He has worked on a wide range of complex projects, from government and commercial to transportation and educational facilities and developed a body of work which is recognizable for its inclusion of balanced daylighting, strong formal expressions and bold color palettes.



Brian Messana, FAIA

Brian Messana established his New York-based design firm, Messana O'Rorke, with Toby O'Rorke in 1996. Before that, he worked with Peter Marino, Richard Meier & Partners and Asymptote in New York.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Brian received his master's degree from Columbia University in 1992 and a Bachelor in Architecture from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. He is on the board of the Society of American Registered Architects, Board of Trustees of Les Ecoles D'art Americaines de Fontainebleau, and is an Interiors Committee member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) New York Chapter.



Brian is a member of the AIA, Architectural League of New York and International Interior Design Association, among others. He has taught architecture courses at Columbia University, Pratt Institute, University of Texas at Austin, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and is currently an adjunct professor at New York Institute of Technology's School of Architecture and Design.