



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
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URBAN & MASTER PLANNING

Prospective Fellowship Candidate

Congratulations on commencing your Fellowship journey. The path to Fellowship takes dedication, effort, and time; but it is well worth the effort.

It is an honor to serve as the Chair of the 2026 Fellow Jury. I wanted to take the opportunity to offer a few comments as you begin your Fellowship walk.

- Please take time to read the 2026 Fellowship Application in its entirety early during the development of your submission. Each year the Jury and others take time to make suggestions as to updates based on prior submissions and trends we may have seen. Those suggestions are considered and incorporated into the application for the following year.
- As you begin creating your submission outline, put thought into your Object of Submission and sub-object. Again, please review the 2026 Fellowship Application, and I would also suggest reviewing "Best of Submissions" for your Object of Submission. Coordination with your Sponsor and any local or State Fellowship group will be greatly beneficial as well.
- Your Sponsor will serve as your primary advocate during the development of your Fellowship packet. As such, selecting someone who knows you and will challenge you is important. While it is not required to have a Fellow as a Sponsor, it is very helpful as they will understand the process.
- Be strategic in your selection of Reference Writers. Have individuals that know you and can speak to the points you list in your Summary of Achievements, and be sure to share your Object of Submission and sub-object. The ability to share nuanced information about you as a candidate and other reasons as to why you are "worthy" of elevation is helpful.
- While the submission period is open, please do not contact members of the 2026 Fellowship Jury as that could be cause for disqualification.
- As we as Juror do not know you, be certain to "tell us" what we "need to know," as well as what you "want us to know."
- If at any time you have questions about the application and submission, please do not hesitate to contact Muza Conforti.

We look forward to receiving and reviewing your Fellowship submissions in early October.

Sincerely yours,

Sanford E. Garner, FAIA, NOMAC, LEED AP ND