

Architecture Center Sample Job Responsibilities

An ongoing challenge for emerging architecture centers involves the incremental expansion and strengthening of its inaugural board of directors. The following sample resource outlines the board composition of a young architecture center (i.e., an organization founded less than a decade ago). The more your organization's board reflects the make-up of the greater community where you operate, the greater your opportunities to attract audiences and broad financial support. In the early years, you may not be able to recruit direct from the executive suite in all industries, but diligent recruiting and stewardship work will pay off in the long run.

Composition of the Board of Directors: Dallas Center for Architecture Foundation

The Dallas Center for Architecture Foundation Board of Directors may range from 8-21 members (plus several *ex officio* members). According to our Bylaws, a majority plus one must be members of AIA Dallas. This provides us an opportunities to engage principals of major firms (who are also some of our most important financial supporters), as well as others from different-sized firms and architects at different stages of their careers to allow for a continuity of leadership.

Also, according to our Bylaws, the President of AIA Dallas serves on the Dallas Center for Architecture Foundation Board, and the AIA Dallas President-Elect serves on the Dallas Center for Architecture Foundation Board as Treasurer. There are three *ex officio* members: the Executive Director of the Foundation (who also serves as Executive Director of AIA Dallas), the Program Director of the Center, and the Executive Director of a collaborating nonprofit architectural organization in town.

The non-AIA member slots on the Board are then an opportunity to reach out to other constituencies and skill sets, including:

- Professionals in related industries (e.g., contractors, engineers, consultants).
- Executives in the financial services industry, providing us introductions to a new Rolodex of potential supporters and ambassadors.
- Individuals well-connected in the arts and with leading cultural organizations. We consider museums and arts groups our peers and frequently pursue collaborative programs with these organizations.
- At least one voice from academia, which helps us when considering opportunities to work with our local colleges and universities and for providing leadership to our student scholarship programs.
- Public relations professionals, providing us with pro bono work, among other commitments.
- We seek diversity on all levels.

##