Program Overview

ARCHway is launching its second program year in early 2020. The AIA Columbus mentorship / leadership initiative connects young architects with firm leaders in the Columbus architectural community. It is a comprehensive approach to mentorship that also focuses on developing leadership skills for emerging talent and seasoned professionals. The program structures multiple modes of active interaction, such as group mentoring, reverse mentoring, and peer-mentoring, through thought provoking sessions.

Program Outline

Session 0 | January 22, 2020 5:30-7:30 pm
Connect: Speed Mentoring Mixer

This 2-hour mixer is a causal event so that all participants can interact with one another. A speed-mentoring icebreaker exercise for Advisees and Advisors identifies key interests as a foundation to starting new mentoring relationships. Session leaders will distribute resumes before the event of all participants.

Session 1 | February 6, 2020 3:00-6:00 pm
Discover: Career Journeys Beyond Design

As a leader it is important to know what talents you possess, that you bring to the leadership table. Do you know what strengths you possess? Every leader possesses her/his own unique set of talents. According to the Gallup Organization, "we spend too much time focusing on our weaknesses, trying to make them stronger rather than recognizing our strengths." When you focus on your weaknesses, you miss out on utilizing what you do best for your organization. Participants in this workshop will take the Clifton StrengthsFinder inventory to learn their five strongest talents. By focusing on your strengths, you increase your effectiveness as a leader. You will gain a better understanding of yourself, identify your top five strengths, and learn how to maximize your strengths to increase your effectiveness as a leader.

Session 2 | February 27, 2020 5:30-7:30 pm
Establish: Shaping Your Career

“Find out what you want to do and spend the rest of your life getting better at it.” Jeff Daniels

Shaping your career begins with making a plan based on your personal strengths, exercising flexibility to anticipate change, and displaying the courage to change course. The session will review practical techniques to enhancing knowledge and credibility to become a leader in your chosen career
path. Leadership in the profession drives a purposeful career and giving back paves the road for future leaders. You will learn to identify and capitalize strengths during your career journey; understand techniques to develop expertise in those strengths; discuss the importance of mentorship and giving back; and discover how to implement your strengths in the development and mentorship of others.

**Session 3 | March 19, 2020 5:30-7:30 pm**  
*Listen: Stories of Architects: An Advisor Panel Discussion*

A moderated panel discussion with three of Columbus’ leading Architects. The discussion will start with participants’ “stories” of how they came to achieve success in the industry and their personal triumphs. The conversation will continue with reflections of key qualities, achievements, and challenges that propelled their careers when they were Emerging Professionals.

**Session 4 | April 16, 2020 4:00-6:00 pm**  
*Refine: Foster the People: Achieving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace*

An interactive presentation focused on the issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the profession. Topics include unconscious bias and workplace impacts; identifying hidden barriers and blind spots; different types of bias and how they play into our thinking and decision making; and difficult conversations around implicit bias.

**Session 5 | April 30, 2020 5:30-7:30pm**  
*Keynote Presentation*

This session will feature a lecture Michael B. Coleman and journey of inspirational leadership. This session will be open to the chapter membership, and ARCHway participants will be invited to a private reception with Michael.

Michael has been recognized as a national leader by numerous media sources, including Time Magazine, The New York Times, The Columbus Dispatch and Yahoo! News. As the Partner In-Charge of Ice Miller’s Government Law Group. Michael also participates in the Internet of Things and Real Estate Development Groups. Michael is also the former Mayor and CEO of the City of Columbus, Ohio. As Partner In-Charge of the Government Law Group, Michael leads Ice Miller’s legal and professional team in Ohio in connection with the challenges and opportunities of creating partnerships between business and government, real estate development in Central Ohio, economic development and financing, government regulatory matters and local, state and federal administrative and legislative government relations.

**Session 6 | May 21, 2020 5:30-7:30pm**  
*Celebrate: Final Reflections*

Celebration of ARCHway’s year with a social event. This event will be a highlight for the program, and a time for all participants to come together to share their experiences.