

LEADING THE WAY

*IIDA Mid-America - Kansas City
Mentorship Program*

Mentee Application

IIDA Mid America - Kansas City is committed to advancing interior design and its practitioners as well as cultivating leadership within the design profession. Mentorship builds meaningful professional relationships which allow for the informal transmission of knowledge that in turn shapes future leaders.

Leading The Way (LTW) is open to IIDA members who are on their way to becoming the next generation of leaders within the design community. Designers wishing to enhance their professional development are encouraged to participate in the 8th year of our mentorship program. This one-to-one mentorship program has been designed to highlight IIDA's emphasis on career advancement.

Program Objectives

- Identify career goals
- Cultivate leadership and practical skills needed to reach your full potential
- Transfer of knowledge between like-minded professionals
- Continue growth and development in your chosen field
- Find your strengths and learn how to apply them
- Expand your professional network
- Build confidence

Participation and Commitment

Participation is limited to 10 participants per session who are actively employed in the design field.

Applicants will be required to submit a letter of recommendation from their employer.

Participants will be selected based on their written application and interview process.

Selected participants will have a one-year commitment beginning February 2022. Each participant must have a minimum of six interactions with his/her mentor and be involved in quarterly events planned for the entire group of mentors and mentees. Each Mentee will be required to maintain a log of all Mentor/Mentee interactions and LTW participation. The completed log must be submitted for program completion.

To ensure the program is mutually beneficial, we ask the following of participants:

- Be an active participant
- Be accountable, commit to all event dates and monthly meetings
- Be passionate about growth and development
- Be trustworthy, provide a confidential atmosphere for open discussion
- Be receptive to feedback, both positive and negative
- Be open to learning new things about yourself

Mentorship Activities

Group events will be organized by the Chapter and dates will be given at the start of the program session. Monthly mentor/mentee meetings will be facilitated by the paired participants.

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Group Events are as follows:

- February – **Discover You**
 - Kickoff to meet the 2022 participants
 - An in-depth discovery session about you
 - Goal setting for the year
- April – **Inspire You**
 - Challenge yourself to expand
- July – **Connect You**
 - Connect you to our Community
- October – **Develop You**
 - LTW VIP event in conjunction with MADA/Elevate
- December – **Celebrate You**
 - Reflect on the year with your peers

One on One Event Suggestions / Topics of Discussion

Project and Firm tours
Attend IIDA events together
Community service volunteering
Coffee or Lunch get-togethers
Art and Architecture exhibits
First Friday outings in Crossroads

Advice for various career stages
What makes firms unique from each other
Challenging work / client situations
Presentation Techniques in the industry
Professional certification / licensure
How to gain public speaking experience

Application Process

December 21, 2021 – January 28, 2022

Application Open

January 28, 2022

Last Day to submit Applications and Referral Letters

January/February 2022

Candidate Interviews prior to selection

February - December 2022

Mentors/Mentees connect at least 6 times
Attend required quarterly group events

Application Deadline

Applications are to be submitted no later than January 28, 2022. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact:

Megan Blacklidge | Leading The Way Committee Chair | 816.510.4622
ltw.iidama@gmail.com

Hannah Vernon | VP of Professional Development | 319.213.1444
professionaldevelopment.iidama@gmail.com

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Applicant Information

Name (First/Middle Initial/Last)

Home Address

City

State

Zip

Email Address

Work or Mobile Phone No.

Employment Information

Present Employer Company Name

Business Address

City

State

Zip

Business Phone
(above)

Business Email Address (if not the same as

Type of Business

Number of Employees

Years of Experience/Years with Present Employer

Your Present Job Title

How many days per month does your work require you to be out of the city

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- _____ IIDA Member (yes or no)
_____ NCIDQ Certified (yes or no)
_____ NCIDQ Candidate (yes or no)

Summary of Goals

Please write a paragraph describing your career goals in your current position and as you advance through your professional life.

Please write a paragraph stating specific skills or knowledge that you hope to gain through your participation in LEADING THE WAY.

Signature

Date

**RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS NO LATER THAN
JANUARY 28, 2022:**

Megan Blacklidge, IIDA
Leading The Way Committee Chair
ltw.iidama@gmail.com