



Al Labs & Panel: Practical Tools for Small-Firm Architects

Willy Zambrano, FAIA

Willy Zambrano, FAIA, LEED AP, founded Zambrano Architectural Design in 2005, a small studio focused on resilient and sustainable building design to benefit the community and promote wellness. His award-winning work led him to international projects like the Lima 2019 Pan American Games. A dedicated member of the AIA, Willy actively contributed at local, state, and national levels to improve architecture's quality and support the next generation of professionals.

As a native Ecuadorian and first-generation Latino alumnus of City College of New York, Willy received the Career Achievement award from both the Latino Alumni Group and the Architecture Alumni Group. During his tenure as the first Latino President of the AIA Queens Chapter, he promoted architecture in Queens and co-founded the Brooklyn + Queens Design Awards. Willy also established the Queens Foundation for Architecture to raise public awareness, support education, and offer scholarships and mentorship programs.

His extensive service to the profession earned him numerous prestigious AIA leadership awards, including the AIA Queens Leadership Service Award and the AIANYS Matthew W. Del Gaudio Award in 2022. He was elevated to the AIA College of Fellows for his sustained and cooperative leadership. Willy strives to make a positive impact on his community, promoting inclusivity, diversity, civic engagement, and social prosperity through his role in the AIA.