WHO WE ARE
The Architects in Schools program was created and is managed by the Community Interface Committee (CIC) of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Chicago). The CIC is the public outreach arm of AIA Chicago and is composed of volunteers from the architecture industry who feel passionately about the importance of community involvement.

CIC’s Mission:
• Raise mutual awareness between architects and community groups
• Promote engagement and dialogue through educational events and volunteer opportunities

WHAT WE DO
Architects in Schools is an initiative focused on bringing architecture professionals into classrooms to introduce middle school students to the field of architecture and to discuss the broader theme of architecture as a change-maker. Volunteers engage the students in critically analyzing their neighborhood for opportunities to create positive change and utilizing architecture as a means for implementing solutions.

OUR GOALS
• Impart students with the confidence to be agents of change
• Demonstrate the flexibility and power of design-thinking skills
• Help students make informed decisions about their future, from high school curriculum (including Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways) onwards
• Enrich school curricula and students’ life experience
• Create sustainable program model and expand to as many schools as possible

“I truly believe that programs such as this show all of our youth what the world has to offer, and just what they are capable of accomplishing.”
-Stephen Devon Harden, Principal at Cameron Elementary

CONTACT US TO GET INVOLVED
Visit our website: www.aiachicago.org/about/aia-chicago-foundation

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