Category One — Design, Urban Design, or Preservation

- Documentation that the nominee has been Largely Responsible for Design of the work displayed in the Section 3 Exhibits.
- Strong support of the nominee’s contributions in the sponsor letter.
- Award recognition of nominee’s work—national, regional, state, and local awards. Of particular interest are AIA awards and awards from other design-focus organizations depending on the nominee’s design focus (interior design, urban design, preservation) and other industry awards.
- Publication of nominee’s work—of particular interest are architectural journals, related design publications, and recognition beyond nominee’s immediate locale.
- Sharing of nominee’s expertise through design juries, teaching, lecturing, speaking, writing, national media coverage.
- AIA activities—committees chaired and offices held.
- Civic/community involvement—leadership roles held.
- Reference letters that are from geographic area beyond nominee’s area, speak specifically to nominee’s contributions, and are from other recognized design peers/experts in the same field as nominee.

Category Two — Education, Research, Literature, or Practice

- Strong support of the nominee’s contributions in the sponsor letter.
- Appropriate award recognition of nominee’s work—national, regional, state, and local awards. Of particular interest are awards related to the candidate’s particular focus. For instance, for education the jury would expect to see higher education institution teaching awards; other applicable national awards from AIA, ACSA, AIAS; grants received, etc. For research, national, regional, and local award recognition for research leadership or research awards or grants received would be of interest to the jury. For literature, appropriate literature awards and national, regional, and local awards and recognition of the nominee’s literature strengths. For practice, the jury would expect to see national, regional, and local awards and recognition of the nominee’s strengths in firm management, specific project type expertise, etc.
- Publication of nominee’s work—of particular interest are architectural journals, publications directly related to their field of expertise, and recognition beyond nominee’s immediate locale.
- Sharing of nominee’s expertise through juries, teaching, lecturing, speaking, writing, national media coverage. For practice in particular, jury members are looking for ways in which the nominee has shared his/her expertise beyond the firm and influenced or advanced the profession.
- AIA activities—committees chaired and offices held.
- Civic/community involvement—leadership roles held.
- Reference letters that are from geographic area beyond nominee’s area, speak specifically to nominee’s contributions, and are from other recognized peers/experts in the same field as nominee.
Category Three – Led the Institute, Led a Related Organization

- Strong support of the nominee's contributions in the sponsor letter.
- AIA activities—committees chaired, offices held, initiatives originated and led by nominee; results of leadership and offices held. Or, if nominee is leading a related organization the jury needs to know not only what the nominee accomplished for the other organization but how their contribution affected the architecture profession and benefited AIA members.
- Appropriate award recognition of nominee’s work—national, regional, state, and local certificates of appreciation, service, and commendation awards. Of particular interest are awards or other documentation that reflect the nominee's leadership skills and widespread results.
- Publication of nominee’s work—of particular interest are national, regional, and local publications of the nominee's efforts/results in leading the Institute or related organization and benefits to AIA members.
- Sharing of nominee’s expertise through teaching, lecturing, speaking (particularly at other AIA components, conventions, or committees), writing, national media coverage.
- Civic/community involvement—leadership roles held.
- Reference letters that are from geographic area beyond nominee's area, speak specifically to nominee's contributions, and are from other recognized leaders qualified to verify the nominee's significant contributions in leading the Institute, the related organization and how AIA members benefited.

Category Four—Public Service, Government Industry or Organization

- Strong support of the nominee's contributions in the sponsor letter.
- National, regional, and local recognition of the nominee's efforts in Public Service or work in Government or Industry Organization through initiatives originated and led by nominee; results of leadership and offices/positions held. The nominee must also demonstrate that their achievements were beyond the normal expectations of their job. The benefit to the AIA must be documented.
- Appropriate award recognition of nominee’s work—national, regional, state, and local certificates of appreciation, service, and commendation awards. Of particular interest are awards or other documentation that reflect the nominee’s leadership skills and widespread results.
- Publication of nominee’s work—of particular interest are national, regional, and local publications highlighting the nominee’s efforts/results in the public service or government/industry organization and benefits to the profession or AIA members.
- Sharing of nominee’s expertise through teaching, lecturing, speaking, writing, national media coverage.
- AIA activities—committees chaired and offices held.
- Civic/community involvement—leadership roles held and results achieved.
- Reference letters that are from geographic area beyond nominee's area, speak
specifically to nominee’s contributions, and are from other recognized leaders qualified to verify the nominee's significant contributions in the public service or government/industry organization.

Category Five—Alternative Career, Volunteer Work with Organizations Not Directly Connected with the Built Environment, or Service to Society

- Strong support of the nominee's contributions in the sponsor letter.
- Documentation that the nominee is a nationally recognized leader in the alternative career and how the contributions affect or influence the profession. If nominee is contributing through volunteer work, it must be made evident to the jury how the nominee's contributions are important because the nominee is an architect as opposed to a volunteer who's a banker, businessman, etc., and it must be clear that the nominee is truly volunteering architectural expertise and not gaining commissions through the volunteer service.
- Appropriate award recognition of nominee's work—national, regional, state, and local certificates of appreciation, service, and commendation awards. Of particular interest are awards or other documentation that reflect the nominee's leadership skills and widespread results in the alternative career or volunteer work.
- Publication of nominee's work—of particular interest are national, regional, and local publications of the nominee's efforts/results in the alternative career or volunteer organization and benefits to the AIA and/or its members.
- Sharing of nominee's expertise through teaching, lecturing, speaking, writing, national media coverage.
- AIA activities—committees chaired and offices held.
- Civic/community involvement—leadership roles held.
- Reference letters that are from geographic area beyond nominee's area, speak specifically to nominee's contributions, and are from other recognized leaders qualified to verify the nominee's significant contributions in the alternative career or the volunteer organization.