

Dear friends,

Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement in what has been a challenging year. As a result of the pandemic's travel bans and limitations on gatherings, the Society of Architectural Historians has had to pivot quickly and has successfully transitioned many of our programs to virtual platforms while still maintaining the quality of the resources that our members expect.

**Our 2020 virtual conference this past April had a record-breaking 1,001 participants**, a 67% increase over the audience we anticipated for the in-person conference in Seattle. **Our new virtual programming, SAH CONNECTS, allows SAH to reach a much wider audience**, especially our international members, and to respond to topical issues more promptly. The initial two programs, a panel discussion on [Removal of Confederate Monuments from Public Spaces](#) and [a book discussion on Race and Modern Architecture](#), presented on Zoom, were streamed live on Facebook for an overflow crowd. [The SAH CONNECTS series](#) has presented an interview with the founders of Grafton Architects, the 2020 winners of the RIBA Royal Gold Medal and the Pritzker Architecture Prize, and panel discussions including "What is a Historic Interior?," and "Disability Studies and Architectural History." SAH CONNECTS will be our primary source of programming in 2021, with programs focusing on graduate students, heritage conservation, book talks, teaching tools and resources, and pressing built environment issues in the news, among others.

We know many members have been impacted personally by the pandemic, the economy, upheavals in academia, and more. SAH is committed to maintaining the high-quality resources you depend upon from us, but we need your help. **[If you are able, please make a donation, of any size, to support the SAH Annual Fund.](#)**

Your investment will enable SAH to continue producing the educational programs, print and digital publications, fellowships and grants that are the hallmark of the Society such as the Annual International Conference; [SAH Archipedia](#), our encyclopedia of U.S. architecture; [JSAH](#), the leading journal on the built environment; [the SAHARA image archive](#); the [Buildings of the United States](#) print book series; and [SAH Commons](#), a scholarly network for members to share research, engage in discussions, and build their body of work.

In summer 2021, the findings from [the SAH Data Project](#), funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will inform the field of architectural history and further assist SAH in setting priorities and creating resources that meet the needs of its members at all stages of their career and professional development.

This year, as we celebrated SAH's 80th anniversary, commemorating the past and looking toward the future, we launched [the IDEAS Initiative \(Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accountability and Sustainability\)](#), to examine SAH's status quo and implement activities for meaningful and sustainable change in all aspects of SAH's work, changes that will shape SAH into the diverse and sustainable academic society we aspire to be at our 100th anniversary. [SAH's seven new Affiliate Groups](#) form a foundation for core aspects of the Initiative: the SAH Minority Scholars Affiliate Group, the SAH Race and Architectural History Affiliate Group, the SAH Asian American & Diasporic Architectural History Affiliate Group, the SAH Climate Change and Architectural History Affiliate Group, the SAH Historic Interiors Affiliate Group, the SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group, and the SAH Architectural Studies Affiliate Group.

In 2020 we also celebrated SAH's 25th year of stewardship of [Charnley-Persky House](#), our National Landmark headquarters in Chicago, designed by Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright (1891–1892). Due to the pandemic, Charnley-Persky House has been closed for tours and events since March, but we hope to be able to reopen the iconic house to visitors sometime in the new year.

**The challenges brought about by the pandemic will impact SAH's ability to maintain its robust programming in 2021 but, with your help, we will rise to the challenge. [Your gift of any size this year is much needed and greatly appreciated.](#)** Gifts in honor of colleagues, mentors, and friends are nice tributes.

Best wishes for a healthy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pauline".

Pauline Saliga  
Executive Director