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PERKINS EASTMAN ASSOCIATE AYODELE (AYO) YUSUF NAMED TO AIA NEW YORK'S PRESTIGIOUS CIVIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

*Ayo Yusuf Joins Other Emerging Architecture Professionals for One-Year Mentorship
and Civic Leader Development Program*

New York, NY (July 6, 2017) Top international design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman is proud to congratulate Associate Ayo Yusuf on being named a Candidate in the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIANY) 2017-18 Civic Leadership Program ([CLP](#)). As part of this one-year mentorship program, 10 emerging professionals in the architectural field are selected and tasked with liaising with public officials, hosting public forums, leading focused discussions and other events designed to strengthen AIANY's leadership, the profession, and the organization's role in the public realm, as well as hasten the professional development of the Candidates themselves.

Ayo has distinguished himself as a visionary architect, project manager, and thought leader in the fields of urban design, sustainable design, transit and public infrastructure, and resiliency. As a Candidate in this year's CLP, and with the full resources of AIANY, Ayo will have the unique privilege of engaging directly with various elected officials and city agencies, and designing and moderating public charrettes with a focus on community advocacy, resiliency, and design excellence.

According to AIANY, the Civic Leadership Program "provides a unique outside-the-office experience focused on civic and general management issues ... the curriculum focuses on developing skills that not only serve our communities but add value to practice." Collaboration, thought leadership, civic service, and building client-community relationships are among the key tenets for CLP Candidates to consider as they design and execute programs based on their respective expertise.

"This accolade is more than well deserved," says Bradford Perkins FAIA, Chairman and CEO of Perkins Eastman. "Ayo has continually demonstrated great vision and leadership both within and outside the firm. In particular, Ayo played an integral role in establishing our firm as an industry leader in resiliency planning and design in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, with many communities in the region benefitting from that resource. It's certainly fitting that AIANY is recognizing Ayo as an emerging leader in our field."

Ayo Yusuf has 10 years of experience as an architectural and urban designer, beginning with EE&K Architects and then with Perkins Eastman, following the two companies' merger in 2011. His passion for public spaces and civic architecture has resulted in the successful delivery of projects in both the public and private sectors, focused on designs that are informed by the human experience and grounded in a multi-disciplinary and context-driven approach, wherein political, social, financial, and technological considerations all contribute to the built environment. As a recent recipient of a Perkins Eastman Traveling Scholarship and key leader in establishing strategic partnerships with 100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation ([100RC](#)), Ayo has continued to help develop the firm's resilience expertise and practice.

Notable projects include several award-winning Community Reconstruction Plans as part of the post-Sandy [NY Rising](#), New York City's Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency ([SIRR](#)), the Qatar Rail Redevelopment project, and Rutgers University's Honors Living-Learning Community ([HLLC](#)) in Newark, NJ. Ayo is a Waterfront Committee Member of the American Planning Association's NY Metro Chapter, an Associate Fellow for the Nigeria Leadership Initiative (NLI), and a graduate of Harvard's Graduate School of Design (MAUD, 2008).

About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top design and architecture firms in the world. With almost 1,000 employees in 15 locations around the globe, Perkins Eastman practices at every scale of the built environment. From niche buildings to complex projects that enrich whole communities, the firm's portfolio reflects a dedication to progressive and inventive design that enhances the quality of the human experience. With work in 46 states and more than 40 countries, the firm's portfolio includes transportation and public infrastructure, high-end residential, commercial, hotels, retail, office buildings, corporate interiors, schools, hospitals, museums, senior living, and public sector facilities. Perkins Eastman provides award-winning design through its offices in North America (New York, NY; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; San Francisco, CA; Stamford, CT; Toronto, Canada; and Washington, DC); South America (Guayaquil, Ecuador); North Africa and Middle East (Dubai, UAE); and Asia (Mumbai, India, and Shanghai, China).

Images and headshot available.

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