



AMBER LOMBARDO

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ACCOLADES

2026

MIT xPro

Four Exemplary Citations

Bestowed for 1) evaluating organizational AI data strategies, outlining implementation steps with attention to privacy and security, 2) applying GANs to a societal problem in line with responsible AI principles, 3) designing an innovative Capstone AI product using the double diamond framework, and 4) analyzing technological infrastructure in a hospital case study, strengthening data management and analytics-driven strategic decision-making.

2025

Tau Sigma Delta National Architecture Honor Society

Silver Medal

Bestowed by the University of Memphis Department of Architecture for a record of distinction in the field of Architecture, Landscape Architecture or Allied Arts

2024

AIA National Richard Upjohn Fellow

Bestowed upon members of the Board of Directors, the fellowship celebrates service to the profession of architecture

2023

AIA National Louise Blanchard Bethune Fellow

Bestowed upon members of the Strategic Council, the fellowship honors the first American woman recognized as a professional architect and the first female to receive a fellowship in the AIA

2022

Women Who Lead in Architecture

Bestowed by the Memphis Business Journal upon professionals who make substantial contributions in their professional field

2021

President's Award

Bestowed by the AIA Memphis Board President in recognition of visionary leadership for the creation of CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design

2016

ARCUS Inaugural Fellow

Bestowed upon graduates of ARCUS, a historic preservation leadership initiative funded by the National Trust for Historic Preservation

EDUCATION



Massachusetts Institute of Technology

xPro Executive Certificates in AI Strategy and Product Innovation (Spring 2026 Cohort)
Designing and Building AI Products and Services - Two Exemplary Citations (including Capstone)
AI Strategy and Leadership Program: Thriving in the New World of AI - Two Exemplary Citations

Mississippi State University

Starkville, MS: Bachelor of Science of Interdisciplinary Studies in Architecture, Civil Engineering & Marketing
Air Force ROTC Scholar | Decorated Cadet

Mississippi School for Mathematics & Science

Columbus, MS: Residential magnet school for academically gifted. High School diploma
Air Force Academy Congressional Nominee

CAREER

Luna Lake, LLC

Collierville, TN: Founder & Chief Executive Officer. (2025 - Present)
Entrepreneurship consultancy specializing in Artificial Intelligence integrations and business strategy.
Learn more at www.lunalake.co.

American Institute of Architects | Memphis

Professional association representing the voice of the architectural design community.
Memphis, TN: Executive Director. (2020 - 2025)

CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design

Design center at Beale Street Landing to educate the public (especially youth) about placemaking professions.
Memphis, TN: Founder & Executive Director. (2021 - 2025)

American Institute of Architects | Mississippi

Statewide professional association focused on elevating architecture and advocating for funding mechanisms.
Jackson, MS: Executive Director. (2017 - 2020)

Mississippi Heritage Trust

Jackson, MS: Director of Programs. (2015 - 2017)
Two-year grant-funded contract to work with state & federal governments promoting preservation policy including robust advocacy campaigns for the Mississippi and Federal Historic Tax Credit programs.

Webz Media

Collierville, TN: Owner, Web Developer. (1999 - sold in 2016)
Owned four downtown business entities with over 75 awards ranging up to international recognition.
Webz Advertising / ad agency specializing in community marketing & economic development
Webz Art / fine art gallery & stationery retailer
Webz Ink / digital print shop
TourCollierville / community magazine

Ayrix Technologies, Inc. / Big Net

Jackson, MS: Web Services Director. (1998-1999)

National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center

Starkville, MS: Electronic Publications Specialist, Web Developer. (1997-1999)

Dux D'Lux, Inc. Advertising

Starkville, MS: Graphic Designer, Web Developer. (1995 - 1997)

Mississippi State University Athletic Department

Starkville, MS: Marketing Assistant for Jim Ellis (media personality), basketball statistician. (1994 - 1995)

Mississippi State University School of Architecture

Starkville, MS: Library Assistant to Michael Fazio (architectural textbook author). (1993 - 1994)

Pushmataha Area Council Boy Scouts of America

Starkville, MS: COPE Ropes Course Instructor. (1991 - 2002)
Outward Bound-style program including corporate team-building activities, ropes obstacles, rappelling.



SELECT SPEAKING

AIA National Conference

Technology in Practice Symposium: "The AI-Enabled Architect: Practical Intelligence for Every Stage of Design" (2026, San Diego, CA)

"Artificial Intelligence: Architecture's Climate Resilience Future. A Hurricane Katrina 20-Year Retrospective" (2025, Boston, MA)

"Determined: The Power of Storytelling for Climate Action" (2024, Washington, DC)

Urban-Rural Systems Research Network (URSUS) Annual Symposium

"The Weight of Water: Architectural Vulnerability in the Mississippi River Basin" (2025, Davenport, IA)

AIA Leadership Summit

"AI/AIA :: Survive or Thrive" (2024, Washington, DC)

Opening Plenary: "A Conversation with AIA Leadership" (2023, Washington, DC, pictured above)

AIA CACE Annual Meeting

Keynote: "Determined: The Power of Storytelling for Climate Action" (2023, Atlanta, GA)

"Technology Tricks for Components" (2022, Memphis, TN)

AIA State & Local Government

"District to DC - Connecting Capitol Hill to the Hometown Preservation Work of Youth Constituents" (2019, Providence, RI)

"Resilience Task Force: Strategies for Environmental Advocacy" (2019, Providence, RI)

National Main Street NOW Annual Conference

"Teach a Town to Fish: Demystifying Historic Preservation Funding" (2017, Pittsburgh, PA)

AIA CAREER

The American Institute of Architects (AIA National)

AIA Trust Board of Directors (2025)

CACE Director

AIA Board of Directors (2024 Richard Upjohn Fellow)

Artificial Intelligence Board Advisory Panel Chair
Annual Meeting Resolutions Committee

AIA Strategic Council (2023 Louise Blanchard Bethune Fellow, 2024)

Artificial Intelligence Working Group Board Liaison
Equity Working Group

AIA Conference on Architecture

Presenter (2024, 2025)
AIA'24 Conference on Architecture Peer Proposal Reviewer (2023)

Government Advocacy

Government Advocacy Committee (2020-2021, 2024 Co-Chair, 2025)
Presidential Appointment Selection Task Force (2021)
Architects' Platform Working Group (2020)
State & Local Advocacy Task Force on Resilience (2019-2020)
National Advocacy Capacity Building Task Force (2018-2019)
Excel Award Winner: District to DC Youth Advocacy Program (2019)
SpeakUp! an AIA Advocacy Program: host; cross-promoted with TedX Memphis (2018)

Young Architects Forum (YAF) / National Associates Council (NAC)

Annual Meeting host at CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design (Memphis, 2024)

Girl Scouts USA National Convention Expo exhibition assistant (2023)

Secretary's Advisory Council (2022)

EVP/CEO Search Committee (2020-2021)

AIA Council of Architectural Component Executives (CACE)

Executive Committee: Vice President (2019-2020), Secretary (2021), President-Elect (2022), President (2023), Past-President (2024)

Accreditation Advisory Panel (2024)

CACE Annual Meeting: Host (Memphis, CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design, 2022)

Centers for Architecture Initiative: Working Group Chair (2022)

CACE Strategic Plan Development: Co-Leader (2021)

Economic Resilience Task Force: Co-Leader (2019)
Published "*Economic Resilience for the AIA Component*"

AIA Memphis

CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design at Beale Street Landing

folio, the printed annual of AIA Memphis

ARCHive, an awards submission platform that populates a growing architectural index

AIA Mississippi

AIA National Safety Assessment Program (SAP) Disaster Assistance Training (2019)

AIA National Disaster Assistance Bootcamp (2019)

Good Samaritan lobbying (2017-2020)

ScaleUp! Youth Outreach Program (2019-present at AIA Memphis)

The Call for Proposals is open!

Submit by Dec. 6 >

Luna Lake, LLC

Inspired by the moonlit walks of my youth, Luna Lake is an online community dedicated to exploring the rapidly evolving landscape of AI by experimenting with a variety of AI tools throughout every phase of business development. It embraces the technological transformation shaping our planet - without a clear path forward. Entrepreneurs now have a powerful tool to help achieve their goals. This platform provides timely, relevant education to empower the next generation of change agents.

AI as Accelerant

After consulting in large organizations, I created a one-day workshop intensive to help small to mid-sized businesses and organizations. Built on an MIT-informed curriculum, participants walk in stuck and walk out with their first working AI agent, the organization model that fits their business, and a 90-day plan for rapid deployment. The day moves from diagnosis to build: find the one bottleneck AI should solve first, construct a Chief of Staff agent before lunch, then complete an agentic team and run it through tests before happy hour. Everything runs on their actual business: real work, leaving the room with guests. This series is currently being launched in over 30 cities nationwide.

ArciTrek

Over the last three decades I've worked with communities throughout the South to enhance and market their built environment.

Now I'm taking that experience and building a virtual Center for Architecture. Wielding the power of AI through vibecoding, content development, AI agents as staffing and researchers, and more, I'm using the tools I'm coaching in a practical entrepreneurial endeavor of my own.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

UPCOMING

2026 American Institute of Architects
National Conference on Architecture (San Diego, CA)
Technology in Architectural Practice Symposium:
"The AI-Enabled Architect: Practical Intelligence for Every Stage of Design"

Business Management: Practice Operations and Resourcing

Co-Presenters: Dan Stine, AIA, Lake | Flato,
Nicholas Kramer, Inspire Design,
Sharare Norouzi, Little

PRIOR

American Institute of Architects | Virginia
ArchEx State Conference (Richmond, VA)

AI + the Future of Practice

Co-presenter: Dan Stine, AIA, Lake | Flato
With 5 months' experience building an entrepreneurship consultancy as an AI-first organization, I shared business efficacy trends including a pep talk for employees to stay competitive by rapidly embracing technology as employers seek to streamline workforce personnel.

2025 Urban-Rural Systems Research
Network Symposium (Davenport, IA)

The Weight of Water: Architectural Vulnerability in the Mississippi River Basin

Researchers from organizations all along the Mississippi River Basin share their work to find overlaps and collaborate on solutions. My presentation explored the potential for AI to supplement research, rescue and recovery efforts as it relates to persistent flooding in the Mississippi Delta region.

2025 American Institute of Architects | San Antonio
Firm Leaders' Breakfast (San Antonio, TX)

AI in Architecture

Co-presenters: Dan Stine, AIA, Lake | Flato,
Vibhuti (Vickie Patel) Harris, HKS
Architectural firm principals are anxious to understand how the emerging AI technology will impact their businesses. I share my career progression as a coder in the 90's and how my choice to embrace visual code editors catapulted my career past my colleagues who clung to antiquated hand-coding. The AI analogies are obvious and offer hope for business owners who are fearful of unfavorable outcomes.

2025 Lake | Flato Architects
Sustainability Champions Meeting (San Antonio, TX)

The Weight of Water: Architectural Vulnerability in the Mississippi Gulf Coast

This lecture provides an optimistic exploration of how suffering experienced during Hurricane Katrina could have been mitigated had AI existed at the time.

2025 xAI Datacenter Stakeholder Group
Office of the Mayor (Memphis, TN)

xAI & the Memphis Colossus Datacenter Controversy (Grok chatbot facility)

As AI evolves, so too does the necessity of robust datacenters that require unsustainable amounts of energy. The City of Memphis is grappling with the threat of lawsuit from the NAACP as its new xAI datacenter runs on turbines while a new power plant is built. I joined a group of about 20 city leaders and xAI leadership to discuss a path through.

2025 American Institute of Architects
National Conference on Architecture (Boston, MA)

AI: Architecture's Climate Resilience Future: A 20-Year Hurricane Katrina Retrospective

Co-Presenters: Dan Stine, AIA (Lake | Flato),
Mickey Howley (Woodville Main Street)
This session explored ways that the Hurricane Katrina experience would have differed had AI existed at the time. From autonomous rescue boats to drones that analyze levee structure and surveys homes for needed assistance, the group was challenged to open their minds to see how technology could actually offset significant human suffering.

2024 American Institute of Architects
National Board of Directors (Washington, DC)

AI Advisory & Strategic Council Liaison

As CACE representative on the AIA National Board of Directors, I championed the work of the Strategic Council working group and drafted the "AI Board Advisory Panel's 2024 AI Annual Report." I incorporated the content into several presentations to amplify the work of the group including advocacy for the 2025 AI Resolution passed at the AIA Annual Business Meeting.

2024 Youth Architectural Curriculum
CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design (Memphis, TN)

Summer Scholars and 901 Grind

AIA Memphis hosts summer programming to introduce youth to the profession of architecture. In 2024, we piloted a program that integrated PromAi and LookX.ai into the curriculum. Participants toured the city and photographed favorite buildings. They were then challenged to augment the images with AI, imagining how they will appear in 30 years and then build models of their predictions.

2024 American Institute of Architects | Birmingham
Annual State Conference (Birmingham, AL)

AI/AIA : Leveraging Design Tech Responsibly

Architects express fear for the future of the profession based on uncertainty about how AI will impact their workflows and employability. We can instead encourage a shift in perspective: how much safer, efficient, and affordable could a building be if it harnessed the wisdom of all the datasets digitally available?

2024 American Institute of Architects
Leadership Summit Presentation (pictured, Washington, DC)

AI/AIA : Survive or Thrive

Interviewees: Dan Stine, AIA (Lake | Flato); Kathy Hancox, AIA (HK Associates); Jeffrey Huber, FAIA (Brooks + Scarpa) and Ayo Yusuf, AIA (Perkins Eastman)
AI is the next great disruptor. Just as CAD revolutionized the craft of hand drafting, AI is likewise a catalyst for dramatic and shifting methods of doing business. The session was standing-room-only and received inquiries for delivery at other components.

2023 American Institute of Architects
Leadership Summit Opening Plenary (Washington, DC)

A Conversation with AIA Leadership

Panel: Kimberly Dowdell, AIA (2024 AIA President, HOK); Lakisha Woods (AIA EVP/CEO) and Korey White, AIA (DLR)
During the session I shared several anecdotes about how AI was entering the world stage and how it will transform the profession. I acknowledged the various challenges and predicted that college graduates will be increasingly prepared to displace large numbers of traditional practitioners.



NOTABLE ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SELECT CLIENTS

Historic Preservation

National Trust for Historic Preservation
& Community Investment Corporation
MS Department of Archives & History
Mississippi Heritage Trust
Mississippi Hills Heritage Area
Mississippi Main Street
Local Main Streets (Collierville, Tupelo,
Tunica, Columbus, Batesville, New Albany,
Water Valley)
Columbus Historic Foundation

Municipalities

City of New Albany (MS)
City of Oxford (MS)
Town of Byhalia (MS)
Town of Collierville (TN)
Town of Piperton (TN)

Tourism

Collierville Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Columbus Conv. & Visitors Bureau
Greater Gadsden (AL) Area Tourism New
Albany Tourism (MS)
Oxford Convention & Visitors Bureau
Oxford Conference Center
Oxford Tourism Council
Tunica Convention & Visitors Bureau

Chambers of Commerce

Collierville (TN)
Byhalia Area (MS)
Columbus-Lowndes (MS)
Oxford-Lafayette County (MS)
Tunica County (MS)

Economic Development

Avoyelles Parish Port Commission (LA)
Columbus-Lowndes Dev. Link (MS)
Madison County Economic Dev. (MS)
Mississippi Development Authority
Morehouse Economic Dev. (LA)
Oxford-Lafayette County
Economic Dev. Foundation (MS)
Town of Collierville Economic Dev. (TN)
Union County Economic Dev. (MS)

Co-Consultant

Ardyn Thriffiley & Associates
Area Dev. SW Economic Forum
Batson & Company
"Thrive: America" Symposium
Taimeric Management Company
Wadley-Donovan GrowthTech

2022 - 2025

folio, the Annual of AIA Memphis

The printed annual of AIA Memphis showcases each year's Design Award Winners and serves as a tourism tool that we distributed at CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design. It includes guidance for young people interested in becoming architects as well as an index to our members, firms and allied partners. I personally provided all of the content curation, layout, design, writing and technical production of each issue.

2021 - 2025

CiV :: the Center for Architecture + Design

Opened in 2021 in Beale Street Landing in Memphis, Tennessee, CiV is a public space for exhibits about the built environment and the craftspeople who imagine them. I negotiated a very low lease rate on the exceptional space, researched and developed its business model and led the Board through a variety of decisions to assure its success. I personally delivered programming and youth education through various programs hosted there. Three AIA National functions were hosted there: the CACE Annual Meeting, the Young Architects Forum (YAF) Annual Meeting and the National Associates Committee (NAC) Annual Meeting.

2016 - 2018

Elevation, the Journal of the Mississippi Heritage Trust

A quarterly periodical distributed throughout Mississippi that highlights preservation efforts across the state. The magazine celebrates the bi-annual "10 Most Endangered Historic Places", the organization's conferences (also a part of my responsibility) and more. I personally provided all of the content curation, layout, design, writing and technical production of each issue.

2017

Federal Historic Tax Credit Advocacy Campaign

Enrolled by the National Trust for Historic Preservation & the National Trust Community Investment Corporation, coordinated a grassroots advocacy campaign that resulted in 100% co-sponsorship of Federal Tax Credit legislation. The effort was recognized at the Preservation's Best Congressional Reception at the Washington, DC, Preservation Advocacy Week. (Pictured at the U.S. House of Representatives office with Mississippi Congressman Thad Cochran)

2015

TourCollierville Magazine

A bi-monthly community print & digital periodical that memorializes the town's events and showcases small to mid-size businesses. As an advertising agency, we needed our clients and local non-profits to have more quality coverage of their programming and offerings so we created a community magazine to celebrate them.

2015

Mississippi Historic Tax Credit Advocacy Campaign

The Mississippi Heritage Trust spearheaded an initiative to reinstate the Mississippi Historic Tax Credit, a 20% compliment to the 25% federal credit. I traveled the state to document numerous case studies of how the credits had transformed underrepresented areas and revitalized entire historic districts. In collaboration with the Stennis Center, I presented statistical data about the return on investment of the credit to get it renewed.

2015

Save My Place Mississippi

An awareness campaign that filmed and photographed 29 stories of the people and structures impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Information was distributed through tours, traveling exhibit kiosks, a mobile app and website. I also delivered several public presentations on the topic and continued working with multiple sites as a part of Historic Tax Credit advocacy in the following years.

2014

Thrive: America!

Events to educate Mississippi municipalities, local elected officials, legislators, land owners, business owners and citizens about responsible business and land use practices in the shale oil and gas industry. We brought a team of consultants such as petroleum engineers, financial advisors, land acquisition, estate planning and more to Mississippi communities that were experiencing the phenomenon of sudden wealth during increasing fracking in the region.



SELECT PUBLICATIONS

My photography and writing about placemaking have been published in countless periodicals and digital outlets including:

National Geographic Traveler

Preservation Magazine

Where to Retire

Southern Living

Southern Bride

SELF-PUBLISHED MAGAZINES:

Elevation: the Journal of the Mississippi Heritage Trust

TourCollierville Magazine

folio: the Annual of AIA Memphis

Pictured

The 2024 AIA National Young Architects Forum (YAF) / National Associates Council (NAC) volunteer day at CiV : : the Center for Architecture + Design

CIVIC & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Collierville Arts Council

Board Member (2013-2017)
Marketing Committee Chair (2014-2016)

Collierville Chamber of Commerce

Member (2003-2017)
Ambassador (2013-2015)
Tourism (2003-2008)

Columbus-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors (2001-2003)
Member (1999-2009)
Chair, Ambassadors / Events Comm. (1999-2003)
Economic Development Committee (2002)

Columbus Rotary Club

Member (2000-2003)
Co-Chair, Publications Committee (2001-2003)

Elizabeth Warren Presidential Campaign

Satellite Location Director (2016)

Girl Scouts Heart of the South

Backpacking Instructor (2021)
Troop Leader (2013-2015)

Golden Triangle Advertising Federation

President (2002-2003)
Member (1999-2003)

Leadership Collierville

Class of 2004

Main Street Collierville

Board and Event Chair (2003-2005)
Member (2003-2010)

Main Street Columbus

Board of Directors (2000-2003)
Member (1999-2004)
Chair, Promotions Committee (1999-2003)
Chair, Festival Sponsorships (2002-2003)

Memphis Advertising Federation

Member (2003-2012)

Mississippi Building Codes Council

Legislatively Appointed Member
Municipal Codes Reviewer (2017-2020)

Mississippi Construction Coalition

Coordinator (2018-2020)

Mississippi Heritage Trust

Member (2002-2017)
Presenter (2012-2017)
Conference Co-Host (2013, 2014, 2015)
Special Projects Partner (2013-2015)
Director of Programs (2015-2017)

Mississippi Main Street

Sponsor/Exhibitor (2000-2016)
Presenter (2011, 2012, 2014)
Award Winner (various)

Mississippi Society of Association Executives

Member (2019-2020)

Mississippi State University

School of Architecture
Advisory Board (2017-2020)

Preservation Action

Statewide Coordinator
Presenter at Preservation Advocacy Week, Washington, DC (2017)

Public Relations Association of Mississippi

Board of Directors (1999-2002)
Member (1999-2003)

Steve Mulroy Campaign

Shelby County District Attorney
Marketing and Digital Media (2022)

University of Memphis

Department of Architecture
President's Advisory Board (2022-Present)