



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

tulsaarchitecture.org

TFA | Tulsa Foundation *for* Architecture

Tulsa's Voice for Architecture and Design

OUR VISION

TFA is the premier organization that honors, preserves, and promotes Tulsa's architectural history to inspire future design excellence.

We are Tulsa's voice for architecture and design.

OUR MISSION

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture champions the art of good design and celebrates Oklahoma's cultural heritage through education, advocacy, and archives.

OUR VALUES

COLLABORATION: We leverage collective genius.

CREATIVITY: We think outside the box.

PASSION: We are committed in heart and mind.

QUALITY: What we do, we do well.

IMPACT: Our work makes a positive difference in our community.

EDUCATION: We share our knowledge with others.

OUR HOME

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture
Center for Architecture and Design
633 South Boston Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119

OUR WEBSITE

www.tulsaarchitecture.org

"Our class had an absolutely fantastic tour! Daniel, our TFA tour guide, went above and beyond to give my students a day they won't soon forget. And, after living in Tulsa for 40 years, I finally feel like I know my own downtown. Wonderful day and wonderful memories. Thank for making it possible."

Barbara McCrary

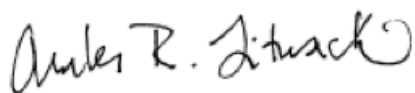
Language Arts Teacher, Park Elementary School

Barbara and her students are one of many examples of the impact that Tulsa Foundation for Architecture has on the Greater Tulsa community each and every day. TFA is proud to be a nonprofit resource for everyone who loves Tulsa. Whether you are considering supporting TFA for the first time or have been a sponsor for years, I would like to offer my most sincere gratitude. From instilling civic pride in Tulsa's youth through architecture and design education to advocating to preserve Tulsa's built environment through Historic Tax Credits, the support of our members and sponsors makes possible everything we do.

We invite you to get to know us!

As you look through these pages, you'll learn more about the numerous programs and events that TFA hosts annually. Our work impacts thousands of people each year, just like you and I, who are fascinated by how design, history, and architecture tells Tulsa's story. We hope that you'll support our efforts to preserve, educate, and promote our city by becoming a Member or Sponsor. Thank you for considering making an investment in Tulsa through support of Tulsa Foundation for Architecture.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber R. Litwack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "O" at the end.

Amber Litwack, PhD

Executive Director



GROUP TOURS

We offer private group tours for all ages and interests.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture offers personalized walking architecture tours for groups, conferences, and other visitors to Tulsa from near and far. We are highly flexible and can customize group tours that last from one hour to a full day. Tour organizers can request a special theme, or we will gladly suggest one of our most popular tours such as Tulsa Art Deco, Oil Barons & Architecture, or Preservation Success Stories to fit a group's schedule and budget.



2ND SATURDAY TOURS

We share Tulsa's rich architectural heritage.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture Second Saturday tours feature a different historical area or topic each month. Volunteer docents and/or TFA staff lead engaging and conversational walking tours while discussing unique building features and historical perspectives. On any given tour, participants might see beautiful examples of Art Deco, Beaux Arts, Gothic Revival and Mid-Century Modern buildings. Sharing Tulsa's rich architectural history is one of our greatest passions!

TULSA UNDERGROUND TOURS

We show off Tulsa from a whole new perspective.

Offered each year in February and August, Tulsa Foundation for Architecture's subterranean tunnel tours are our most popular tours each year. Our tunnel tours take place both above ground where tour-goers learn about the architecture and history of prominent buildings and underground where tour-goers move through the multiple tunnels that connect downtown Tulsa buildings while hearing surprising stories about some of Tulsa's most prominent historical figures.



YOUTH TOURS

We teach Tulsa's next generation to be proud of their hometown.

A large percentage of Tulsa's youth never get the chance to spend time in the heart of the city, downtown. Tulsa Foundation for Architecture provides low-cost or no-cost walking tours for students, clubs, youth groups, and scout troops that show students firsthand how Tulsa's history shaped our built environment. Our tours have been known to instill a sense of civic pride in participating youth. Youth tours can be customized by topic, length, and age and can be tailored to meet a variety of Oklahoma academic standards.





NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS

Get the inside story on historic homes and districts.

TFA goes beyond downtown. Lovers of old houses turn out by the hundreds to explore the history and eclectic architecture of unique Tulsa neighborhoods. Residents of Tulsa's most intriguing neighborhoods open up their private homes to provide glimpses into the past and showcase their homes' rich architectural heritage. Past tours have included Reservoir Hill, Riverview, and Lortondale.



DWELL IN THE IDL

Discover what it's like to live upstairs, downtown.

The Dwell in the IDL tour attracts hundreds of tour-goers eager to experience the latest residential developments in the heart of downtown Tulsa. This self-paced tour showcases downtown living through adaptive reuse and creative new construction within the Inner Dispersal Loop, or IDL. The Dwell in the IDL tour includes properties across the IDL, including the Deco District, East Village, Blue Dome, Greenwood, and Brady Arts Districts.

ANNUAL MEMBERS' EVENT

We celebrate our members and sponsors.

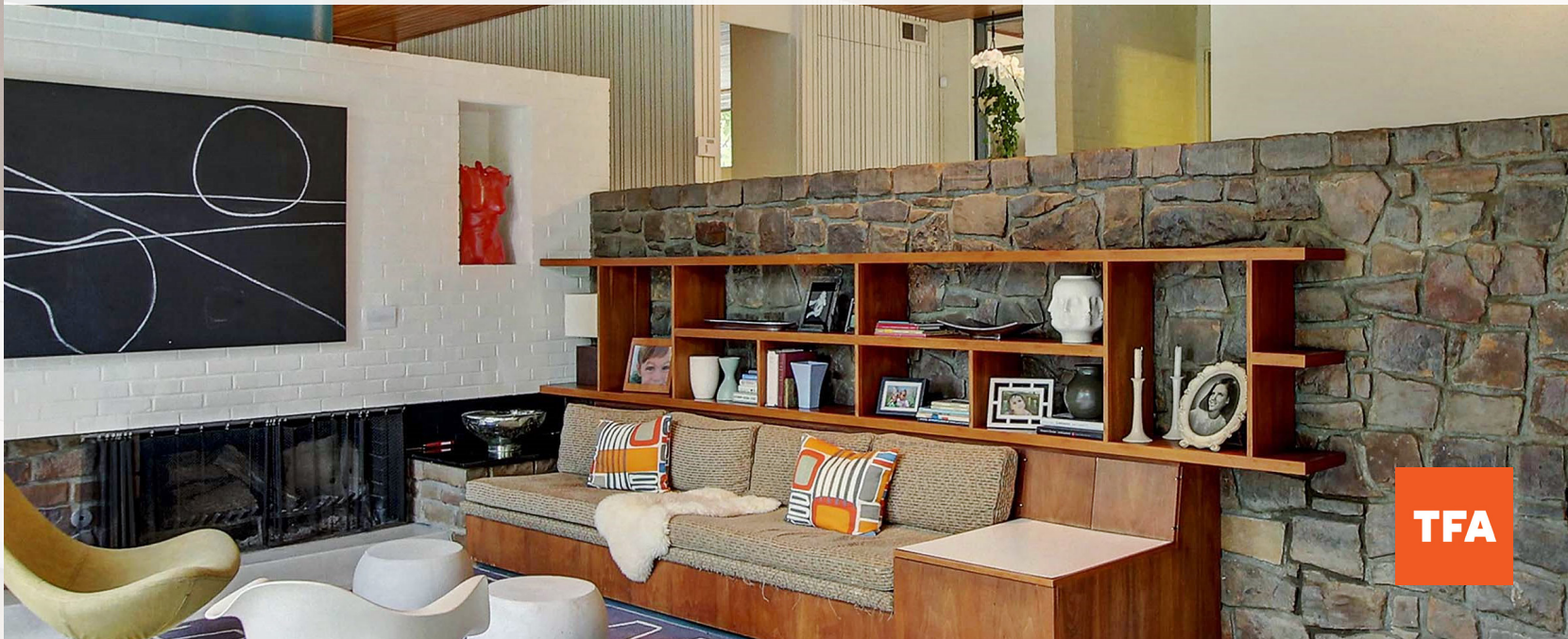
Tulsa Foundation for Architecture hosts a special event to honor our members and supporters each year. We celebrate those who support TFA's mission as members and sponsors through an evening of music, conversation, and cocktails in an architecturally significant setting. From McBirney Mansion to the Tulsa Fire Alarm Building, our popular and highly anticipated Annual Members' Event never disappoints.



MOD OF THE MOMENT

We highlight the recent past, one property at a time.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture works to build appreciation for Tulsa's impressive collection of Mid-Century Modern architecture through Modern Tulsa, an affiliate organization of TFA. With a resurgence of interest in all things mid-century modern (MCM), there has never been a better time to highlight MCM properties. Mod of the Moment events are either ticketed open houses that showcase a well preserved modern property with permission from its owner(s) or are open houses hosted in partnership with local Realtors that allow TFA to promote these properties to an audience that is interested in preserving MCM architecture.





HISTORIC TAX CREDITS

We advocate to preserve our city through Historic Tax Credits.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture advocates for retaining Historic Tax Credits as an effective tool to ensure the viability of the historic rehabilitation projects driving investment in downtowns across the state. This is why TFA commissioned a statewide study on the economic impact of Oklahoma's Historic Tax Credit program. Study findings strongly support retention of the program: a fiscally responsible incentive, the historic tax credit program has been remarkably successful in creating jobs, generating tax revenue at the state and local level, and bringing vacant buildings back to life to the benefit of cities and towns across the state of Oklahoma.



CENTER FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

We share our home with our community and visitors to Tulsa.

A significant collection of resources deserves a significant home. In 2018 Tulsa Foundation for Architecture moved into the historic Ponca City Savings & Loan Building at the corner of 7th Street and Boston Avenue. This significant Mid-Century Modern structure designed by local architect Robert E. Buchner, AIA (1915-2005) sat vacant for many years. TFA oversaw restoration of the building and is now able to host exhibits, gatherings, and public programs in our space.

ARCHIVES

We preserve Tulsa's architectural history for future generations.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture holds a huge inventory of pieces relating to the history of Tulsa's built environment. Our Archives include an extensive collection of original architectural drawings of Tulsa buildings and residences, such as the Medical Arts Building, Warehouse Market, Southern Hills Country Club, the Tulsa Assembly Center, and the Mabree Residence. New materials are donated regularly. We also house architectural periodicals dating from 1920 to 1980, newspaper clippings, photographs, project specifications, and artifacts. Researchers, historic property owners, architects, and students regularly utilize our collection to gain knowledge of Tulsa's architectural past.



ADVOCACY

We work to create a culture that embraces the value of architecture.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture was created by a group of architects and preservationists in 1995 to change the way Tulsa sees itself and treats its built environment. It was at a time when downtown Tulsa had been abandoned, historic buildings were leveled, zoning codes favored the automobile and there was a lack of overall vision. TFA was born from the community's need for a nonprofit organization to provide expertise and leadership in historic preservation, urban design, and architecture. Today, TFA continues to build on its original mission to advocate for historic preservation and quality construction in Tulsa.



TFA



DOCENT PROGRAM

We sustain the capacity to give high-quality architectural tours.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture's docent program is a rigorous yet fun experience. Offered twice per year for 6 weeks per session, this program aims to give new docents a broad understanding of architecture and architectural language, as well as the confidence and skills necessary to lead TFA tours on a variety of topics. Secondary training for existing TFA docents is also offered twice per year for three weeks each session and explores a variety of relevant topics from new tour training to deep dives into relevant architectural styles. TFA's docent's are an invaluable resource that allow our organization to serve an ever-growing number of tour participants each year.



EXHIBITIONS

We curate unique and engaging exhibitions.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture hosts exhibitions at the Center for Architecture and Design that showcase and make available for purchase the work of artists whose work is tied to our mission. TFA also curates thematic exhibitions from our archives to share our vast collection of architectural artifacts with the Tulsa community and beyond.

FACILITY RENTAL

We leverage our facility as a source of earned revenue.

Located in the 1956 Ponca City Savings & Loan Building, a striking landmark designed by Tulsa architect Robert Buchner, The Tulsa Center for Architecture and Design is comfortably appointed with today's amenities in a unique and stylish mid-century setting. Available to rent are a large conference room and an event space that is perfect for intimate weddings, small parties, lectures, and presentations.



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

We love to collaborate in creative ways.

Collaboration is one of Tulsa Foundation for Architecture's core values. From local breweries and museums to our friends at AIA Eastern Oklahoma, we love to work with other organizations and individuals to serve our community in new and creative ways. From one-time collaborations to long-term partnerships, our partnership programs create engaging experiences tailored to the needs, abilities, and interests of the audiences they serve.





PUBLIC PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH

We create engaging opportunities for families and youth.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture's youth and family programs engage all ages in designing and problem solving through hands-on exploration, while learning about Tulsa's history and imagining its future. Our youth and family programs inspire teamwork and creative problem-solving, help build visual thinking and provide opportunities to communicate ideas using a range of tools and materials. Youth and family programs offer a variety of creative and engaging experiences that explore the built environment.



TEAMBUILDING FOR BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

We offer the most creative team-building opportunity in town.

Teamwork can make all the difference when it comes to job satisfaction and organizational success. Tulsa Foundation for Architecture brings groups from businesses and nonprofits to the Center for Architecture and Design for a one-of-a-kind teambuilding experience. Participants enjoy a downtown Tulsa walking tour to learn about Tulsa's past and then return to the Center for Architecture and Design where groups work collaboratively to tackle a hands-on project that imagines Tulsa's future.

Quality of Place. Why do people—especially talented Creative Class people, who have lots of choices—opt to locate in certain places? What draws them to some places and not to others? Scholar Richard Florida coined the term “Quality of Place” in an attempt to explain why people choose to live in certain places.

Key components of quality of place are:

What’s there: the combination of the built environment and the natural environment; a stimulating, appealing setting for the pursuit of creative lives. Who’s there: diverse people of all ethnicities, nationalities, religions, and sexual orientations, interacting and providing clear cues that this is a community where anyone can fit in and make a life. What’s going on: the vibrancy of street life, café culture, arts, and music; the visible presence of people engaging in outdoor activities—altogether a lot of active, exciting, creative goings-on.

Authenticity—as in real buildings, real people, real history—is key. A place that’s full of chain stores, chain restaurants, and chain nightclubs is seen as inauthentic. Not only do those venues look pretty much the same everywhere, but they also offer the same experiences you could have anywhere. Urban economists estimate that more than 50% of young professionals choose the city in which to live before they choose their job. This is no folly of youth. Companies locate in areas like Tulsa that are rich in young professionals. That in turn attracts more young professionals, and a virtuous circle is sustained. Edward Glaeser of Harvard University states, “The most successful economic development policy is to attract and retain smart people.”

Contributing to Tulsa’s Quality of Place through advocacy for historic preservation and adaptive reuse of authentic historic buildings, advocacy for innovative quality construction, and providing a variety of stimulating programs that build community for all ages are vital parts of Tulsa Foundation for Architecture’s mission. These things are our passion – they’re who we are and what we do.

Tulsa. We love Tulsa. Tulsa has become new and relevant by embracing its past. Renovations of historic downtown architectural treasures as well as excellent design and construction of new, innovative buildings have created a vitality in Tulsa that is gaining momentum by the day.

TFA has unwavering commitments to: educating Tulsans and visitors about the history of Tulsa’s built environment; advocating for the preservation and rehabilitation of significant architecture; conserving and sharing historic architectural artifacts through the TFA archives; advocating for better policies to preserve and enhance the places that make Tulsa unique; building community and expanding our audience through programmatic partnerships both at The Tulsa Center for Architecture and Design and in the community; sustaining Tulsa Foundation for Architecture through broad-based fundraising efforts; and to taking intentional steps towards making TFA a more diverse, equitable, accessible, and inclusive organization.

When you support Tulsa Foundation for Architecture, you are supporting the promotion and protection of Tulsa’s incredible architectural legacy as well as Tulsa’s future. You are supporting Tulsa’s Quality of Place. Please join us!

TULSA FOUNDATION FOR ARCHITECTURE

OUR HISTORY

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture was created to change the way Tulsa views itself and treats its built environment. It was at a time when downtown Tulsa was being abandoned, historic buildings leveled for parking, street improvements failed the pedestrian, zoning codes favored the automobile, and there was a lack of overall vision. In 1995, a group of architects and preservationists formed a new nonprofit to provide a credible voice and expertise in the area of historic preservation. Tulsa Foundation for Architecture was born out of AIA Eastern Oklahoma, the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects. AIA needed a repository for collections of architectural drawings. The community needed a nonprofit organization to provide expertise and leadership in historic preservation, urban design and architecture.

Elaine Bergman, who was then director of AIA Eastern Oklahoma, brought together local architects Ted Reeds, Lanny McIntosh, Herb Fritz, and Leisa Marshall McNulty along with engineer Tom Wallace and realtor Marty Newman. This group of dedicated stewards of Tulsa's built environment founded Tulsa Foundation for Architecture (TFA). Elaine Bergman ultimately became TFA's first executive director and instituted many programs.

TFA's first ambitious effort was to deliver city design conferences that were patterned after the "Mayors Institute on City Design" (MICD). In partnership with Tulsa's Mayor, an MICD alumni, AIA Eastern Oklahoma and Tulsa Foundation for Architecture created dynamic day-long events in order to bring our Mayor's national experience home. In the following years TFA observed transformative change from the almost two thousand attendees. Participants included city managers, city planners, key staffers representing streets and parks, architects, realtors, real estate owners, neighborhood representatives, educators and the press. These events, held over a period of several years, proved to be highly influential and led to a new vision in the Tulsa community – a vision where design matters.

Today, TFA continues to build on its original mission to serve as a resource that recognizes, records and preserves the built environment, and advocates quality future development that enhances Tulsa's livability. Creating a culture that embraces the value of our architectural history is central to TFA's purpose.

TFA also owns an extensive collection of original architectural drawings of many significant Tulsa buildings and residences, such as the Medical Arts Building, Warehouse Market, Southern Hills Country Club, the Tulsa Assembly Center, The Mabree Residence, and the Otis McClintock Residence. Additionally, TFA's archives house architectural periodicals (Pencil Points, Progressive Architecture, Architectural Forum, and Architectural Record) dating from 1920 to 1980, newspaper clippings, a technical library, photographs, project specifications and artifacts. No other institution in Tulsa collects and preserves these materials.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

These eight goals honor our past and are propelling our work into the future:

1. Systematically process, catalog, and digitize the TFA archives to expand availability both online and via appointment.
2. Advocate for the preservation and rehabilitation of Oklahoma's significant architecture.
3. Sustain TFA through broad-based fundraising efforts that meet operational needs and allow the organization to expand its mission-driven work.
4. Implement consistent marketing efforts that engage TFA audiences in order to drive program participation, sales, and increased brand/mission awareness.
5. Create strategic messaging to position TFA as the primary nonprofit organization in Tulsa for architecture, design, and historic preservation.
6. Regularly host a diverse array of architecture and design based programming and events for all ages in the community and at The Tulsa Center for Architecture and Design to meet strategic outcomes and generate revenue.
7. Form programmatic partnerships with a diverse group of individuals and organizations to expand TFA audiences and support TFA programs.
8. Take intentional steps towards making TFA a more diverse, equitable, accessible and inclusive organization.

The logo for The Tulsa Center for Architecture and Design (TFA) is located in the bottom right corner. It consists of the letters "TFA" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font, set against a white rectangular background.

Tulsa Foundation for Architecture champions the art of good design and celebrates Oklahoma's cultural heritage through education, advocacy, and archives.

Tulsa has a rich architectural heritage and TFA is passionate about sharing it!

TFA | Tulsa Foundation *for* Architecture

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