

Gold Medal

Joyce Owens, FAIA, RIBA

AIA Florida, the voice of the architecture profession in Florida, has few more respected voices than Joyce Owens, FAIA, RIBA. She is a business owner, the principal architect at Architecture Joyce Owens, and a design professional to whom few can compare. It is also worth mentioning that she is the first woman to wear the AIA Florida Gold Medal, but to her, that is not how she would be known. It is as the first two that she hopes to be remembered, and as a leading advocate for good design in Florida. "Her passion for architecture is contagious," wrote Guy W. Peterson, FAIA, in nominating her for the prize. "Her design efforts have been recognized while working in her Fort Myers studio preserving, respecting and advancing not only the historical fabric of Florida's architecture but leading the effort to create a new modern regional architecture." Not satisfied to lead only in design work, Owens is also a driving force in AIA Florida. A past president and former board member, she has also served nationally on the AIA Strategic Council and on the AIA Public Awareness Committee. Her passion is in community outreach and communicating the value of architecture, and she does so to anyone that will listen. "The hallmark of Joyce's mission of service has always been her focus on communicating the value of architecture to the public," Nathan Butler, FAIA, said. "Through the example of her outreach, Joyce encourages all architects to contribute their voices to expand the perception of our profession in the public eye."



