



AIA
Nebraska

Thank you for your nomination.

Awards will be announced at the AIA Nebraska Excellence in Design Awards

Gala, November 6, 2020.

Award Nomination	AIAS Student Award
Name	Geneva Sinkula
Company	Undergraduate, Program in Architecture, UNL
Phone Number	4053719951
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Address	717 Broadway Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64105 US
Name	J Craig Babe
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July 23rd, 2020

Michael Sinclair, AIA

and

The 2020 AIA Nebraska Honors and Awards Jury

335 N. 8th Street, Ste. A

Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Undergraduate AIAS Student Award nominee Geneva Sinkula

It is my greatest pleasure, in my capacities as UNL AIAS chapter faculty advisor, member of the UNL architecture program faculty, and her professor, to recommend Geneva Sinkula to receive the 2020 undergraduate AIAS Student Award.

Geneva has been very active in the AIAS since her freshman year, playing key roles in the executive committee. As you can see from her CV, she has been and will continue to make major contributions to the strengthening and growing the AIAS within UNL as well as to foster ties between the student body and our profession. Geneva serves on our Professional Programs Committee, which I currently chair, where she provides a student perspective that has been so valuable in our deliberations. As her professor and as a jury member for her studio reviews, I can attest that Geneva is one of our strongest undergraduate students academically.

Geneva works very well with her peers as well as our faculty. She is a builder and a collaborator, and I believe that she, who has taken on many dimensions of leadership roles already, is perfectly suited to receive this award in its inaugural year.

I fully expect Geneva to take on many more leadership challenges as she moves forward at UNL, and to transition to a very successful professional career as an architect.

Yours sincerely,



J Craig Babe, AIA

Associate Professor of Practice

Program in Architecture

University of Nebraska, Lincoln

cc. Sara Kay, AIA Nebraska Executive Director



Geneva Sinkula

Undergraduate AIAS Student Award Candidate

Geneva is currently a fourth year student majoring in Architecture at the University of Nebraska. She joined AIAS her freshman year of college, soon contributing more and more each year. Her second year of school, she managed to become the assistant to the Peer Mentor Director, as the current position was being held by a study abroad student. Her third year, she successfully ran for secretary for the chapter and finally she serves as external vice president for AIAS, her fourth and final year of undergraduate school.

She originally is from Kansas City, Missouri where she is presently interning for Gould Evans, an architecture firm that hosts five studios across the country. She plans to diversify her degrees by pursuing a Certificate in Historic Preservation as well as a Masters in Architecture for graduate studies. Her footprint within the college can not be missed. Since freshman year she has served on the Student Advisory Board, and this past year was added to the Professional Program Committee and Student Affairs Committee as the undergraduate representative for the College of Architecture. It is evident that each year she strives to hit a new peak in engagement with her college community and AIAS Lincoln chapter.

Today she serves as a student mentor and ambassador for incoming freshman and first year design students helping them through the tough learning curve and transition that this college education contains. Additionally, she will work under the guidance of Brian Kelly for UCARE research this school year, studying the architectural and structural capabilities of the missile silos in Nebraska.

Geneva Sinkula

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Achievements and Positions

- **Dean's List for College of Architecture:** Obtaining over 3.9 GPA throughout the spring semester. Awarded to top 10% of college.
(Spring 2019)
- **Professional Program Committee (PPC) and Curricular and Student Affairs Committee (CCSAC):** Appointed by the dean of the College of Architecture, I represent all undergraduate students within the college. Committees cover issues regarding scholarships, curricula, honors and awards, international programs, thesis projects, and accreditation materials.
(August 2019 - Present)
- **College of Architecture Student Advisory Board - Member:** Elected twice to represent 2nd year and 3rd year architecture students of the College of Architecture. Attends biweekly meetings that cover career development, facility management, event planning and hosting as well as raise any issues are concerns students may have on their behalf.
(August 2018 - Present)
- **Chancellor's Leadership Scholars:** Selected from University of Nebraska's freshman class to represent the chancellor among 19 other students through community service and academic achievement. Received scholarship to pursue learning about leadership, synergy, and strengths my first semester of college.
(August 2017 - December 2017)

Activities and Organizations

- **American Institute of Architecture Students - Secretary/Mentorship Director:** Student led organization with local chapter at University of Nebraska, which is dedicated to leadership, support, service to architecture students. Elected secretary this past fall, and was a representative for AIAS and College of Architecture at Forum in Toronto, Canada.
(August 2017 - Present)
- **Better Read Than Dead Book Club - Co-Owner:** Designed an online book club with a fellow classmate. Fabricated to connect readers across the world and bring book clubs into the 21st century. Posts range from vlogs, social media posts and review blogs. Partner with publishing houses to receive books to review and was recently quoted on the newly published [Carla](#) by Michael Gryboski.
(March 2017 - Present)
- **Chi Omega - Kappa Chapter - Formal Chair and Banner Committee:** Received a bid to the University of Nebraska chapter. Organized four formals (up to 500 attendees per formal) a year among our own sorority as well as with other Greek organizations at UNL. Responsible for booking and negotiating prices on venues, busses and musicians, coordinating the decorations, food, and photography, and oversaw the budget and insurance required for these events.
(August 2017- August 2019)
- **Responsible Design Learning Community:** Previous member of the College of Architecture Learning Community that participates in mentoring, study hours, volunteering and academic field trips.
(August 2017- May 2018)

To whom it may concern,

It is of great pleasure that I write to you in recommendation of Geneva Sinkula to receive the 2020 AIAS Student Award for the undergraduate category. Geneva has proven herself to be an extremely enthusiastic and hardworking individual both within AIAS and the College of Architecture. I have known Geneva for nearly three years now, but I have worked with her closely for the past two years on the executive board. From our time together, she has served as a Peer Mentor assistant while that executive was abroad, a secretary her second year and now External Vice President to the Lincoln Chapter. We have had many changes and adaptations to AIAS over the past couple months, and I am happy to say she has graced the challenges and confronted them head on, making our chapter stronger in the end. So, it is with great enthusiasm that I can personally recommend her for this award.

In the past month alone, she has taken on the project of the N'Studio Podcast alongside myself and the internal vice president. She has collaborated with me on every step of this idea working long hours each week to get this ready by school year for our students. Not only functioning internally, she is our go to person on how to professionally reach out to individuals for interviews, internships, firm tours, etc. Along with these local efforts Geneva has also contributed on the national stage as well. With other executive members, Geneva went to Forum held in Toronto this past year to be a voice for the chapter alongside me and other upperclassmen.

Geneva's presence within this chapter includes coordinating safe and informative efforts to engage members with local professionals including this coming year pushing for a podcast for members since most efforts that were previously done can not exist in this Covid-19 world. She's extremely passionate about helping out any student that needs guidance. I was able to see firsthand her passion for AIAS and the students that make up the organization as we both sit through late night zoom calls, constant email notifications and phone calls trying to organize this school year for our members.

With her unquestionable leadership skills, I am confident that she will continue to distinguish herself as she goes on to new endeavors. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or assistance regarding Geneva's application.

Regards,

Quinn McFadden

AIAS - UNL Chapter | President

AIAS Nebraska

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