

# NEXO 2019 + Plática

## Summary

On October 10, 2019 AIA San Antonio LiA Committee organized a panel discussion with AIA National (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Office) in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month at the Guadalupe Theater in San Antonio, Texas. This is a summary of the collaboration and of the evening.



**The American  
Institute  
of Architects**



**AIA  
San Antonio**





## **The American Institute of Architects**

The AIA is committed to broadening equity, diversity and inclusion to create a stronger profession. To support that mission, AIA has developed programs and resources designed to make an impact.



## **AIA** San Antonio

AIA San Antonio unites the community of architects to advance architecture as professional craft and shape a more livable and sustainable future.



## **The American Institute of Architects**

AIA's "*Embracing Our Difference, Changing the World*" speaker series, explores implicit bias in the design professions and how diverse representation in leadership affects retention, growth and office culture and ways we can improve.

*Why do differences between sponsorship and mentorship matter in professional growth? And, how does diversity in mentorship, sponsorship, recruitment, and retention approaches affect your professional growth as a minority in design industries?*



# Plática

Embracing our Difference.  
Changing the World.  
Mentorship and  
Sponsorship in Design  
Professions.



The American  
Institute  
of Architects



AIA  
San Antonio



LIA  
LATINOS IN ARCHITECTURE  
LIA SAN ANTONIO, TX



Thursday | Oct. 10, 2019  
Guadalupe Theater | San Antonio, TX  
6pm - 8pm



# Plática 2019 Discussion Prompts / Guides

## **QUESTION 1 // define mentor + sponsor**

I thought it was interesting Mary Ann that you mentioned that mentorship opportunities were rare in your professional development. Your story is an example of why we are having this event tonight and why Latinos in Architecture exists as a committee. Ricardo you mentioned having many. There were communities that championed and Paola you spoke about one professor in particular who has helped guide you. Part of that relationship includes regular meetings. **I would like for you to each elaborate a little more on your experience with mentorship / sponsorship in your position and field. What makes a good mentor? How have these experiences affected how you mentor and what you look for in a mentor? What is the difference between sponsorship and mentorship?**

## **QUESTION 2 // lived experience + identity**

Part of the reason you were asked to be on this panel is because you represent different phases of professional practices. You all work on different phases of projects. The sizes of firms you represent vary and the scales of your projects are different. Intersectionality is important and identity informs perspectives. Lived experiences mold us. **How have your lived experiences been an advantage in your work? Can you speak to an instance when your perspective affected a process or project?**

## **QUESTION 3 // challenges + paths forward**

We have talked about difficult challenges in your individual experiences. They range from tokenism to assumptions of quality based on gender, age, ethnicity and race. You all have had an experience where you were the sole representative of an identity in a room or in a firm. Some of you have mentioned the fact that because you are not a parent, additional work is expected of you due to your assumed schedule and less pay is allocated because of your lack of dependants. More recently I was talking to someone about allies. They are wonderful but we also need to have accomplices because then we are tying action to responsibility. **I would like for you to talk more about challenges yall have faced. Equity Diversity and Inclusion are used often within leadership, but often lack action. What can firms, leadership, co-workers can do to help us all be better - understanding that it is not on us to help people evolve (invisible labor)? Maybe you can also speak to how these challenges have changed your practice or approaches to practice?**

## **QUESTION 4 // legacy learning + healing**

When I talk about legacy learning and responsibilities in life I reference Toni Morrison's quote "When you get these jobs that you have been so brilliantly trained for, just remember that your real job is that if you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else. This is not a grab-bag candy game." Legacy learning is important in our communities and this panel is therapy. **What is something that you wish you would have known 5 years ago? Who do you hope to empower and how? Final statement?**



# **ROBERTO C. TREVIÑO, AIA, MBA**

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
DISTRICT 1 CITY COUNCILMAN

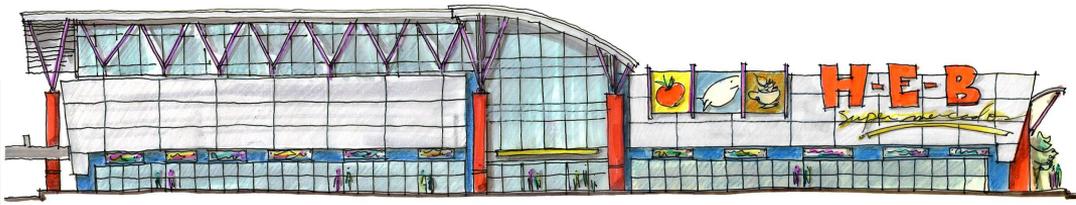
ARCHITECT



**MARY ANN  
ALCORTA MITCHELL, AIA**

FOUNDER + PRESIDENT  
MITCHELL DESIGN GROUP

ARCHITECT



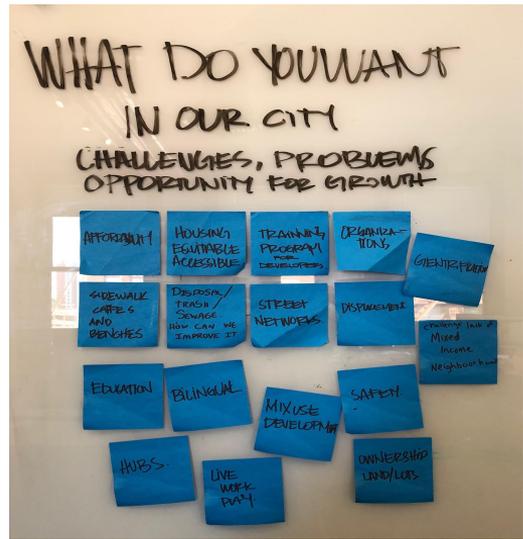


# PAOLA FERNANDEZ

DESIGNER + URBANIST  
ABLE CITY

Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.

Jane Jacobs



Paola am i crazy or was there another image here?



**RICARDO DE JESÚS DE  
MAGA ROJAS,  
ASSOCIATE AIA**

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER  
GSC

LATINOS IN ARCHITECTURE AIA  
AUSTIN CHAIR

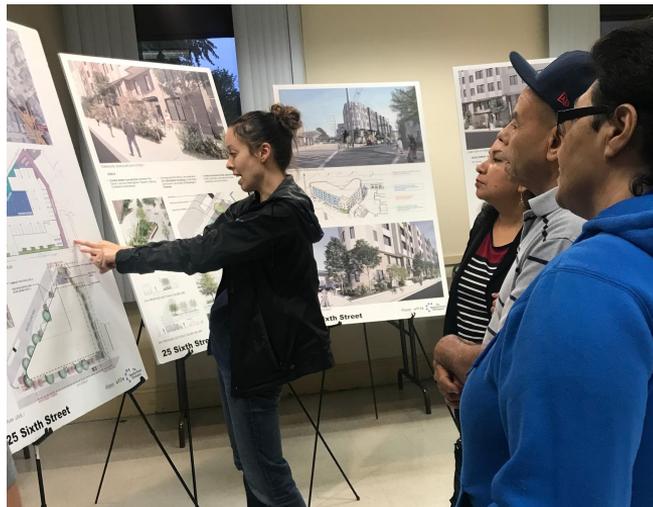




**SIBONEY  
DÍAZ-SÁNCHEZ, AIA**

ARCHITECT

ROSE FELLOW  
OPPORTUNITY COMMUNITIES



ROUNDED CORNERS AT AREAS OF HIGH VISIBILITY & IMPORTANCE

ARTICULATED FACADE ALONG SIXTH ST. RELATES TO RESIDENTIAL SURROUNDINGS

LOWER HEIGHT TOWARDS SMALLER NEIGHBORS

OPEN AND GENEROUS LOBBY ORIENTED TOWARDS DOWNTOWN AND NEW PUBLIC PATH



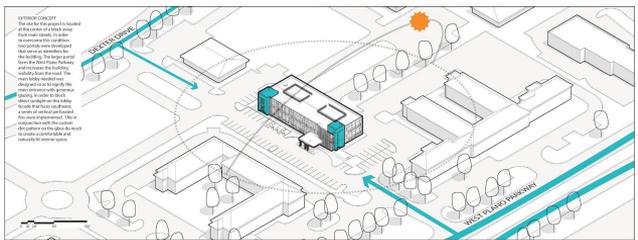
**NEXO 2019  
EXHIBITION**

# **RICARDO A. MUÑOZ**

Recover + Advanced Heart Care

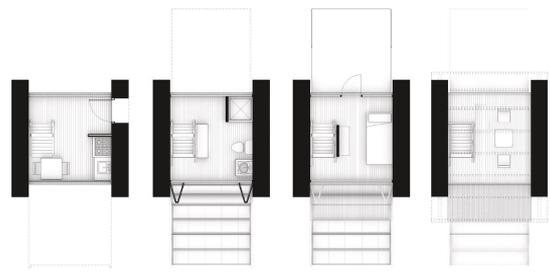
**ADVANCED HEART CARE  
MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING**

The new building for Advanced Heart Care is an exciting example of green architecture. It features a wide variety of sustainable materials and building systems. The building is designed to be a model for green architecture. The building is designed to be a model for green architecture. The building is designed to be a model for green architecture.



**Recover  
Construction Waste  
as Future Structure**

Recover designed a house where waste from demolished building sites is utilized as structure for walls. When the material found at these sites was no longer suitable for reuse, stone and brick are used as aggregate along with green and recycled glass aggregate from structural materials. Stone and wood structural remains span between stone panels, while a series of concrete slabs form a series of stone living spaces. Each of the stone panels has a series of stone that are made from waste. The house is made from waste from demolished building sites. The house is made from waste from demolished building sites.

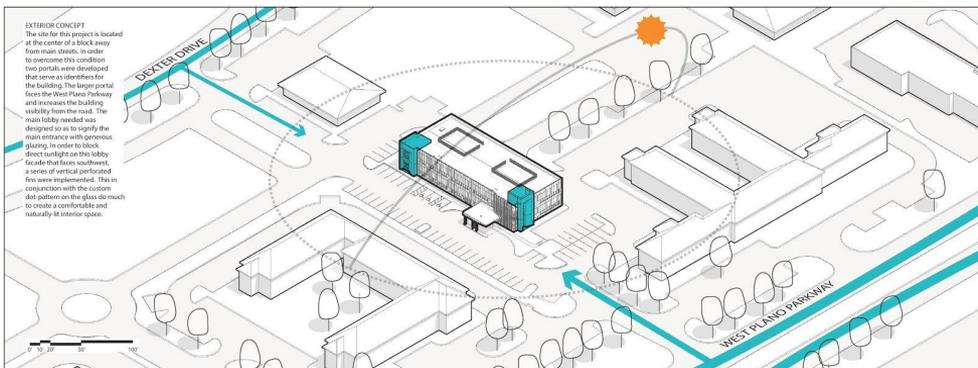
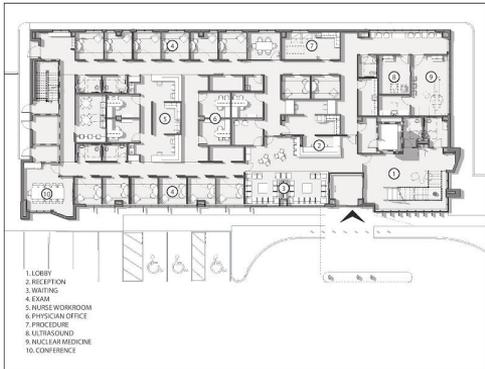


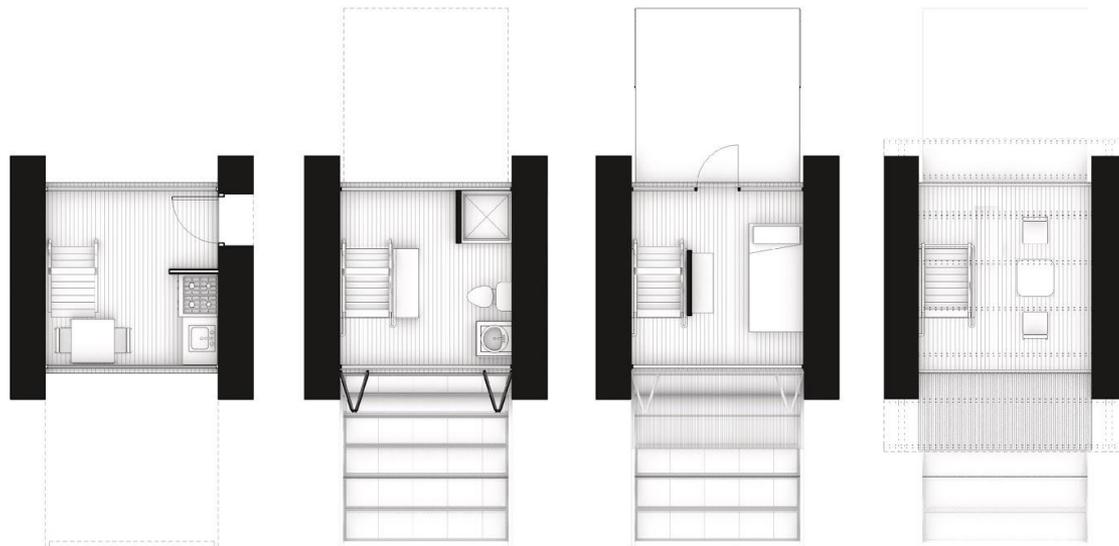
## ADVANCED HEART CARE MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING

This new building for Advanced Heart Care is an exercise in creating a unique and iconic structure while working with economical and efficient building materials. The majority of the building is clad in precast concrete panels and stucco while reserving the more special materials of stone, glass and metal for the high-visibility and public facing elements. The main lobby's large curtainwall facade in the double-volume space allows for visitors to enjoy comfortable natural daylight that is calibrated through the 2' deep vertical sunshading devices. This rhythm is then repeated along the building facade to protect spaces within from receiving too much direct afternoon sunlight. By carefully implementing materials this building could be a new approach, a prototype for commonly dull medical office buildings.



**RICARDO A. MUÑOZ**





**RICARDO A. MUÑOZ**

## Recover

Construction Waste  
as Future Structure

Recover imagines a future where waste from demolished building sites is utilized as structure for small homes. The elements found at these sites such as large pieces of concrete, stone and brick are used as aggregate along with grout and cast-in-place concrete form structural parallel walls. Steel and wood structural members span between these parallel walls in order to create floors that in turn frame living spaces. Each of the three levels has an area of less than 100 square feet with a total of 300 square feet of interior living spaces. The massive walls not only serve as structure but help block direct harsh sunlight during the day and then release the heat back into the home in the evening hours creating an efficient energy use.



**RICARDO A. MUÑOZ**

# **JORGE PEÑA**

The Canyons Custom Home



**JORGE PEÑA**

Green Spring Apartments



# **ALINE YOLDI**

E.L. Turbon Student Center  
Pfluger



## E.L. TURBON STUDENT CENTER



Built in the 1940's, the E.L. Turbon Center is one of the oldest extant buildings at St. Phillip's College. Originally a performing arts center, the building was retrofitted in the 1980's to become the campus hub for student activity. Today, it has been modernized and expanded once again to continue supporting campus life. A two-story addition more than doubles the building's size, with new large and small meeting rooms, book store, and six-lane bowling alley. Renovated existing space accommodates a gaming and lounge area, and adjacent coffee shop. Shaded outdoor gathering spots on each side open the building up to the campus, encouraging steady traffic throughout the day.

Cost \$11.5M  
Size 28,266 SF Renovation  
Completed 07/2017





**ALINE YOLDI**

# E.L. TURBON STUDENT CENTER



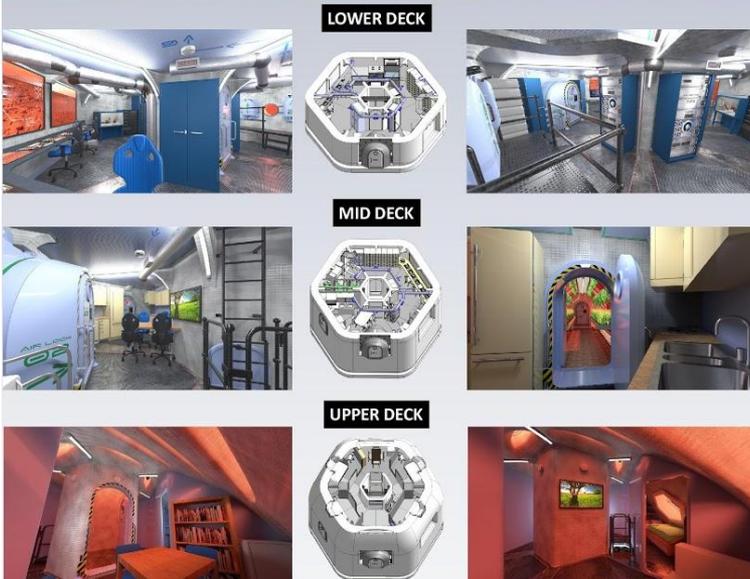
**ALINE YOLDI**

# **SAM XIMENES**

HEX HAB 2.0  
XARC



**Architectural Design and Construction Approach for Mars Habitat:** The XArc team participated in NASA's 3D-Printed Habitat Challenge, a competition to develop and demonstrate construction capabilities with 3D-printing technologies for a habitat on another planetary body using local indigenous materials. Our proposed In-situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) application includes autonomous construction machines excavating and processing Mars regolith (soil) and extracting CO<sub>2</sub> from the Martian atmosphere to produce a polyethylene binder. The combined binder and regolith is used as the extrusion material for 3D printing the habitat: structural shell, interior outfitting of the habitat is robotic and crew-assisted upon arrival of the construction crew. The competition required use of Building Information Modeling (BIM) in the design and construction process. The XArc design placed 4<sup>th</sup> out of 18 entries.



**LOWER DECK**

**MID DECK**

**UPPER DECK**

**Raw Materials to 3D Printer Feedstock**

**Emergency Access**   **BIM Modeled MEP/HVAC Services**   **Structural Stress Analysis**   **Thermal Design**

**Virtual Design Team**   **Team Lead**   **1/3 scale printed model**   **Construction Team**

**Greenhouse connection module provides growth options**

**Emergency Access**   **BIM Modeled MEP/HVAC Services**   **Structural Stress Analysis**   **Thermal Design**

**Virtual Design Team**   **Team Lead**   **1/3 scale printed model**   **Construction Team**

**Material Formulation**

**Greenhouse connection module provides growth options**

**SAM XIMENES**

**MUÑOZ + CO.**

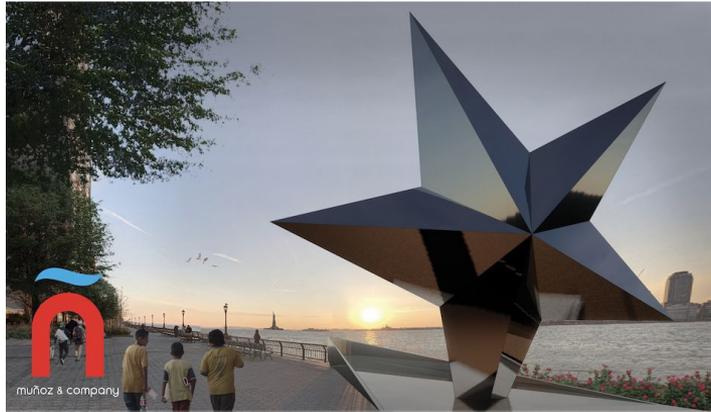
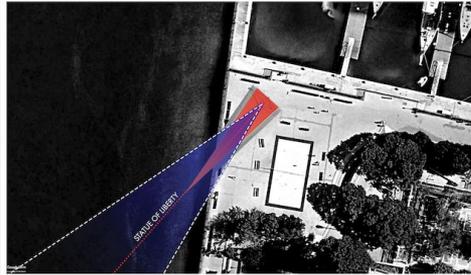
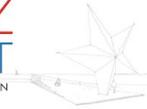
**HURRICANE MARIA**

**COMPETITION // *Somos la Luz  
or We Are the Light***

WALTER OTERO / VICTOR BADILLO /  
HENRY R. MUÑOZ III / JAVIER PAREDES  
/ CARLOS BETANCOURT

# SOMOS LA LUZ WE ARE THE LIGHT

HURRICANE MARIA MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITION



**MUÑOZ + CO.**



**MUÑOZ + CO.**

**MUÑOZ + CO.**

**SAN PEDRO CREEK CULTURAL  
PARK**

HENRY R. MUÑOZ III / JAVIER PAREDES  
/ JIM RUIZ / STEVE TILLOTSON

# SAN PEDRO CREEK CULTURE PARK



muñoz & company



**MUÑOZ + CO.**

# SAN PEDRO CREEK CULTURE PARK



muñoz & company

**MUÑOZ + CO.**



**MUÑOZ + CO.**

**OVERLAND PARTNERS**  
**THE BUILDING BLOCKS**

ANAGISEL TOSCANO

**SITE CONTEXT IDENTITY**



**CONCEPT DESIGN | ITERATION PROCES | IMPLIED PROGRAMING**



**CULTURE**  
CULTURA

**COLOR**  
COLOR

**ACCESS**  
ACCESIBILIDAD

**LIGHT**  
LUZ

**SIGNAGE**  
SEÑALIZACIÓN

**INTERACTIVE**  
INTERACTIVO

**SEATING**  
ASIENTOS PUBLICOS

**PRECEDENTS | INSPIRATION | STRENGTHS OF IDEA**



**CONSTRUCTIBILITY | FABRICATION | INSTALLATION**



**FINAL DESIGN**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

Promote the identity and sense of Plaza Guadalupe through a strategic site plan, programming, and signage that encourage social interaction and community engagement.

**PLAZA GUADALUPE VISION**

Provide a safe, inclusive, and vibrant public space that fosters community interaction and social engagement.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Community, Inclusive, Collaborative, Sustainable, Resilient.



**CONCEPT DESIGN | ITERATION PROCES | IMPLIED PROGRAMING**



**CULTURE**  
CULTURA

**COLOR**  
COLOR

**ACCESS**  
ACCESIBILIDAD

**LIGHT**  
LUZ

**SIGNAGE**  
SEÑALIZACIÓN

**INTERACTIVE**  
INTERACTIVO

**SEATING**  
ASIENTOS PUBLICOS

**PRECEDENTS | INSPIRATION | STRENGTHS OF IDEA**



**CONSTRUCTIBILITY | FABRICATION | INSTALLATION**



FINAL DESIGN



## MISSION STATEMENT

Preserve the essence and honor of Plaza Guadalupe through a strategic physical intervention that celebrates Mexican-American heritage while fulfilling the needs of the Avenida Guadalupe neighborhood in westside San Antonio.

## PLAZA GUADALUPE VISION

To create a space worthy of our race, full of tradition and example. A place that produces satisfaction with faith, respect and honor.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Context, Interactive, Community, Cooperation, Well-being

**OVERLAND PARTNERS // ANAGISEL TOSCANO**



**OVERLAND PARTNERS // ANAGISEL TOSCANO**



## THANK YOU

Mark + Jorge + Chris  
Jorge Luis + Lisa + Joe



## THANK YOU

Tonight would not be possible without City of San Antonio District 1 Office + Roberto C. Treviño

## THANK YOU

Sweet Chelas for the cake!

Cameron Patterson for taking photos!

Oscar Yanez +  
Anagisel Ramos +  
Aparajita Bhatt for your time!