



OMEGA CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

EDUCATION

Master of Architecture
University of California, Berkeley

Bachelor of Art and Design
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Registered Architect: MO
American Institute of Architects
LEED Accredited Professional
WELL Accredited Professional

SELECT EXPERIENCE

US Department of State -
Overseas Building Operations
Various Locations

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
Kansas City, MO

Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center
Kansas City, MO

Omega Center for Sustainable Living
Rhinebeck, NY

Plaza Colonnade
Kansas City, MO

Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve
Glen Jean, WV

Climate Sustainability Center
Kansas City, MO

David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Sustainability Matrix
Los Altos, CA

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Lewis and Clark State Office
Jefferson City, MO

Rebuild Springfield
Springfield, MA

Laura Lesniewski FAIA, LEED AP, WELL AP

bnim PRINCIPAL

Laura combines a rare blend of attributes that lends a spirit of collaboration and stewardship to her work. She enjoys the exploration and discovery of the unique characteristics of each project and is dedicated to pursuing the highest levels of sustainability to build truly thriving communities.

As BNIM's latest WELL accredited professional, Laura has contributed to significant sustainable design movement initiatives within BNIM and the industry. In her career, Laura has helped to pilot LEED, helped develop the Living Building concept, supported the AIA 2030 Challenge, and has been an active leader in the AIA. In 2019, Laura was recognized as the AIA Kansas City Architect of the Year.

Laura's expertise in sustainable practice is demonstrated through her design team leadership on notable projects including the Missouri Department of Conservation's Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center in Kansas City, a prime example of a public/private partnership that features the first Living Machine™ in the State of Missouri; the Lewis and Clark State Office Building in Jefferson City, the first LEED Platinum State Office Building in the country; and the Omega Center for Sustainable Living in Rhinebeck, NY, one of the world's first LEED Platinum and Living Building certified buildings. More recently, she has managed projects with the U.S. Department of State emphasizing design excellence and eco-diplomacy around the globe, including projects in Asia, South America, Europe, and Africa. This work is under an Overseas Buildings Operations' IDIQ five-year contract, which BNIM is concluding after receiving an extension to the original contract.

Laura has also engaged with disaster recovery efforts across the country as part of BNIM's planning team, including engagement with communities in: Greensburg, Kansas; Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and Springfield, Massachusetts. Closer to home, Laura contributed to the MidAmerica Regional Council's Green Infrastructure Playbook and is principal-in-charge / project manager of the office renovations for Habitat for Humanity Kansas City at the corner of Linwood and Paseo. She was principal / project manager for the Reconciliation Services Master Plan at 31st and Paseo, and co-led the Revitalization Scenario for the 31st and Troost KC-CUR Priority Area with UNI and LISC.