**SmithGroup Awards 2021 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Scholarships**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

DAVE WHITMAN

313.442.8226

DETROIT, May 6, 2021 – SmithGroup, one of the nation’s leading integrated design firms, has named the recipients of the 2021 SmithGroup Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Scholarships. Now in its fourth year, this [program](https://www.smithgroup.com/smithgroup-equity-diversity-and-inclusion-scholarship-program) was established to support and mentor students from historically underrepresented demographics in architecture, interior design, planning, landscape architecture and engineering. The program’s mission is to provide these students with the opportunity to attain their professional goals while advancing the architecture/ engineering/construction (AEC) industry and improving the built environment.

A diverse group of colleges and universities, as well as professional organizations and their collegiate affiliates, were contacted to solicit candidates for this program. The National Society of Black Engineers, National Organization of Minority Architects, American Society of Landscape Architects and Society of Hispanic Engineers all provided valuable assistance in communicating the availability of these scholarships. Over 175 applications were received and evaluated by the firm’s selection committee, which consisted of design and engineering professionals from underrepresented populations.

Each scholarship recipient will receive a one-time award of $6,000 to offset their tuition costs. The EDI scholarship recipients will also be participating in a paid summer internship with one of SmithGroup’s U.S. offices.

The 2021 scholarship recipients are:

* **Micah Floyd** is an architecture student at Washington University in St. Louis. He will be working with the SmithGroup office in Washington, D.C.
* **Miguel Jimenez** is pursuing a dual degree in regional and city planning and architecture at Georgia Tech. He will be working with SmithGroup’s Ann Arbor office.
* **Kelli Johnson** is studying architectural engineering at Penn State. She’ll be working with the structural engineering group at SmithGroup’s Detroit office.
* **Hali Sheriff** is an interior design student at SUNY Buffalo. She will be working with the SmithGroup office in Los Angeles.
* **Peyton Smith** is an architectural engineering student at the University of Wyoming. She will be working with the mechanical engineering group at SmithGroup’s Phoenix office.

“The impact of the EDI scholarship program has grown over the years, which aligns with our purpose and commitment to disrupt injustice and inequity in the built environment,” says [Rosa Sheng](https://www.smithgroup.com/people/rosa-sheng), FAIA, LEED AP BD+C, the firm’s director of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. “We look forward to supporting these students by building work experience and providing financial support for their education to help them succeed in spite of these challenging times.”

The EDI Scholarship Program is part of a broader firm strategy focused on [justice, equity, diversity and inclusion](https://www.smithgroup.com/equity-diversity-and-inclusion). Over the past year, the firm has strengthened its [commitment](https://www.smithgroup.com/racial-injustice-and-action) to take action to promote justice and equity at SmithGroup and in the built environment. “We continue to enhance our focus on building the future talent pipeline and finding more ways to support underrepresented populations in our professions,” states SmithGroup Managing Partner, [Troy Thompson](https://www.smithgroup.com/people/troy-thompson), AIA, LEED AP. “This scholarship program, along with our recently announced program to partner with historically Black colleges and universities, are just two of the ways we are working to make an impact.”

**SmithGroup** ([www.smithgroup.com](https://www.smithgroup.com/)) is one of the world’s preeminent integrated design firms. Working across a network of 15 offices in the U.S. and China, a team of 1,200 experts is committed to excellence in strategy, design, and delivery. The scale of the firm’s thinking and organization produces partnerships with forward-looking clients that maximize opportunities, minimize risk and solve their most complex problems. SmithGroup creates exceptional design solutions for healthcare, science and technology organizations, higher education and cultural institutions, urban environments, diverse workplaces, mixed-use and waterfront developments, and parks and open spaces.