

# Karen Kirks Alexander, AIA, Leed<sup>s</sup>

President

KKA ARCHITECTURE, PA

North Carolina Registered Architect No. 50892

## PHILOSOPHY:

Committed to providing only the highest standards of service, Karen Alexander established KKA Architecture in 1989. As the principal, Karen Alexander proves her leadership and management by the continuing success of the firm and the award winning work that is consistently produced for more than 30 years... The ability to meet objectives and turn obstacles into opportunities is what defines Karen Alexander, and ensures client satisfaction with their projects. "Each project is an extension of the client and their special needs. Accordingly, the projects she creates must be as individual as the client, yet reflect their unique role in the community, all while putting a light footprint on the earth. "

## EDUCATION:

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, College of Architecture: *Master of Architecture Urban Design*

University of North Carolina at Charlotte: *Liberal Arts/Architecture*

Central Piedmont Community College: *Real Estate and Real Estate Law Licensed*

University of North Carolina School of Government: *Essentials of Municipal Government and Ethics 2015-2018*

Urban Open Space Leadership Institute

Invertis University Bareilly, India Honorary Doctorate of Letters 2018

## COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING, ADVISING, AND LECTURING

Catawba College Board of Visitors

Catawba College Visiting Lecturer

Appalachian State University Interior Design Advisory Board

NCMA Design Awards of Excellence Jury

Livingstone College Board of Advisors

Business Department of Livingstone College

Hood Theological Seminary Board of Advisors

International Conference of Lawyers of Special Needs Trust Presenter in Austin, TX

American Institute of Architecture National Convention Presenter on

Environmental and Sustainable Design

Pratt College of Design New York City on Sustainable Design Visiting Lecturer

Kendall College of Design, Grand Rapids, Michigan Visiting Lecturer

National American Institute of Architecture on Environmental Design

UNCC College of Architecture Professional Practice Lecturer

UNCC College Of Architecture Fifth Year and Graduate Students Student Advisor

The Center for the Environment at Catawba College Lecturer

Public Broadcasting Documentary on the Center for the Environment Part 1

Public Broadcasting Documentary on the Center for the Environment Part 2

Winston Salem Preservation Awards Juror

National Concrete Masonry Association- Design Awards of Excellence Juror

Attorneys in Malpractice Cases for Special Needs Assessments Expert Witness

University of North Carolina at Charlotte Foundation Board Director

Boys State Presenter at Catawba College 2015-2-19

## **PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

AIA North Carolina Board Director  
Hood Theological Seminary, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bishop's Award  
Historic Salisbury Clement Cup Award Winner  
Salisbury Community Appearance Commission, Award for Adaptive Reuse for  
A Step in Time and the Heritage Room  
NC Main Street Award of Merit, Best Adaptive Use Project for the Heritage  
Room, Council Street Commons  
USGBC LEED-Certified Leader in Energy and Environmental Design  
Downtown Salisbury, Inc. Redevelopment Award  
Historic Salisbury Foundation's Commercial Preservation Award for the  
Fairmont Terrace Condominiums  
National Concrete Masonry Association, Design Excellence for Center for the Environment Building at  
Catawba College  
Residents of Old Salisbury Board Past Vice President, Board of Directors,  
AIA Charlotte Design Award for the Center for the Environment at Catawba College  
Charlotte Business Journal Women in Business Award,  
Charlotte Business Journal Mentoring Panelist  
Rural Design Assistance Team Chair for Yancey County, North Carolina  
American Institute of Architecture- Charlotte Section President 2000

## **AWARDS**

Salisbury Community Appearance Award	Rowan County EMS Station
Hood Theological Seminary	Bishop Hood Humanitarian Award
NC Department of Commerce	NC Main Street Award Easy Street
Historic Salisbury Foundation	Clement Cup
Salisbury Community Appearance Commission	Adaptive Re-Use of Existing Building
NC Dept of Commerce, Div. of Community Assistance	Award of Merit Best Adaptive Reuse Project
NC Housing Coalition	Sister Barbara Sullivan Humanitarian Award
Rowan Salisbury Sports Hall of Fame	Certificate of Appreciation
The National Congressional Committee	Business Woman of the Year
Historic Salisbury Foundation	Historic Preservation Award
National Concrete Masonry Association	Design Award of Excellence
Salisbury Parks & Recreation Department	Certificate of Appreciation
City of Salisbury	Certificate of Recognition
The Business Journal	Women in Business Achievement Award
American Institute of Architects	Merit Award for Sustainable Design
American Institute of Architects	Honors Award
Salisbury Vision 2020	Certificate of Appreciation
Rowan County Sheriff Department	Certificate of Appreciation
Rowan County United Way	Outstanding Volunteer Service Award
United Arts Council of Rowan County	Certificate of Appreciation
United Arts Council of Rowan County	Distinguished Service Award
Waterworks Visual Arts Center	President's Award
West Rowan Middle School	Certificate of Appreciation
Salisbury Community Appearance Commission	Award for Outstanding Signage
Livingstone College	President's Award
Piedmont Players Theatre at Meroney Theater	Producing Partner Award
Trailblazer Award-	2015 Take Flight Award
Waterworks Visual Arts Center	Ave Cadwallader Distinguished Service Award
North Carolina Historic Preservation Institute	Gertrude S. Caraway Award
American Institute of Architecture	Citizen Architect Award

## **ASSOCIATION & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:**

Member of the Salisbury Rowan Community Foundation  
Member of the American Institute of Architects  
Member of the United States Green Building Council  
Member of the LDOC  
Chair of Planning Board 2006-2012  
Past Vice-President, Historic Salisbury Foundation Board of Trustees  
Past Chairman – Historic Preservation Commission  
Member of Rowan County Strategic Plan Task Force  
Member of Board of Directors, Rowan County Sustainable Development Commission  
Member of Board of Directors of Wells Fargo Bank  
Member of Innes Street Visions Committee  
President of Board of Directors of Waterworks Visual Arts Center  
Member of City of Salisbury Vision 2020  
Member of the City of Salisbury Vision 2030  
Secretary of Salisbury Community Development Corporation 1992-Present  
Member of Salisbury Vision 20/20 Strategic Planning and Implementation Committee  
Member of Board of Directors Wells Fargo Salisbury NC  
Member of Board of Directors Communities in Schools  
Member of Board of Directors Salisbury Rowan Tourism Development Board  
Member of the ABC Board  
Liaison to Salisbury Parks and Recreation Board  
Liaison to Salisbury Rowan Transit Board  
Delegate to the Centralia Council of Government 2015-2017  
President of Board of Directors Waterworks Visual Arts Center  
Member of the Board of Directors of Salisbury Rowan Community Foundation  
Councilwoman City of Salisbury 2013-2015  
41<sup>st</sup> Mayor City of Salisbury  
Councilwoman City of Salisbury 2017-2019  
Rowan County Chamber of Commerce Work Force Development  
Economic Development Council Liaison 2016-2018  
Livingstone College Member of Delegation to India Inverts University and LPU University 2017  
Livingstone College Member of Delegation to India to Alliance University in Bangladesh. 2019  
North Carolina League of Municipalities District 9 Representative 2016 2019  
Healthy Rowan Coalition Founding Board Member, Executive Committee  
“Advancing Health Outcomes in Rowan”  
North Carolina League of Municipalities Second Vice President Elected 2019  
Founding Member of Pray Rowan  
Rowan Cabarrus Community College Foundation Board Member  
Livingstone School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies Board Member  
Hood Theological Seminary Board of Visitors past Board Member  
Livingstone College Board of Visitors past Board Member