

SONA Vice President for Community

About The Institute

The Australian Institute of Architects (The Institute) is the peak body for the architectural profession in Australia, representing more than 14,000 members across Australia and overseas. The Institute works to improve our built environment by promoting quality, responsible and sustainable design, promoting the architectural profession and being the public voice for architecture.

About SONA

The Student Organised for Architecture (SONA) is the official student body of the Australian Institute of Architects. SONA aims to foster a culture of community, leadership and collaboration between students for the advancement of architecture. This is achieved by bringing together students from across Australia to participate in national and local events, to advocate for students and to offer opportunities for professional development.

About the National SONA committee

The national SONA committee comprises the National SONA executive team (3 SONA Vice Presidents) and SONA representatives from each state and territory (approximately 24).

Purpose Of the SONA Vice President for Community

In this voluntary role, work as part of the National SONA Executive team to help foster a vibrant and inclusive student community by contributing to member engagement initiatives and providing dedicated support and mentorship to SONA representatives, creating an enriching and supportive environment for all student volunteers.

Position Focus:

- de-PICT student zine: Oversee the production and promotion of the de-PICT student zine, including coordinating the editorial committee, creating content ideas & overseeing the editorial process.
- SONA Community building: Take the lead on the national SONA Instagram account. Lead the engagement strategies for the SONA Community platform, including writing a regular blog.
- SONA member & SONA rep engagement: Provide a student perspective to the Institute on membership renewals, recruitment strategies and member benefits. Help improve SONA rep engagement by gathering feedback and assisting in developing training & guidance resources for SONA reps.

Responsibilities:

- Play a role in supporting the execution of SONA's strategic plan.
- Offer guidance and support to SONA representatives, fostering regular communication and check-ins to ensure their success.
- Collaborate with the SONA Executive team to design and lead the SONA Bootcamp, serving as an orientation session to welcome new SONA Representatives and provide them with a comprehensive understanding of SONA's goals, values, and upcoming initiatives.

- Contribute to the enhancement of strategies for SONA representative engagement. Additionally, provide advice and assistance in developing training and guidance resources for SONA representatives.
- Offer a student perspective to The Institute on matters related to membership renewals and recruitment strategies. Work in collaboration with The Institute to develop messaging and marketing materials that effectively highlight the benefits of joining SONA.

Eligibility

The SONA Representative must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Have a minimum of one year's experience as a SONA Representative in any year.
- At the time of application and commencement of the role, be a current and financial SONA member.
- At the time of application and commencement of the role, be enrolled to study architecture or a related course.
- You can fulfil this role for a 12-month term commencing in January 2026.
- Willing to dedicate 3-6 hours a week to SONA activities.

We will be holding a 2-day induction meeting in Melbourne in February 2026 – it is expected that SONA Vice Presidents will be available to attend in person. This is anticipated to take place at a date to be confirmed in the first 2 weeks of February.

How to apply

SONA Executive positions are nationally elected positions by SONA members. Apply online with your responses to the questions below:

1. SONA aims to advance the interests of students within the built environment. What specifically interests you about taking on the role of SONA Vice President for Community, and how do you envision your contributions aligning with SONA's goals?
2. What skills or experience do you have that could be applied to enhance the student zine de-PICT and what vision do you have for the de-PICT in 2026?
3. One of our goals is to grow the SONA community and to ensure SONA members are actively engaged in our community, how would you contribute to achieving this?

Applications should declare if they have plans to reside overseas or have applied to reside overseas in the year, they take office.

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