

JOHN F. OCHOA, AIA
Chief Executive Officer

AIA Gold Medal Submission

John Ochoa is a lifelong Chicagoan who received his Bachelor of Architecture degree with High Honors from the University of Illinois-Chicago in 1978. While at UIC, John received scholarships from the Graham Foundation and participated in the Versailles Study Abroad program. In 1980, John was licensed and joined the American Institute of Architects.

Professional Life

In 1986, Mr. Ochoa joined FGM Architects. Over his tenure, he has served as a Project Manager, Designer, Principal in Charge, Managing Director, and, President and CEO of the firm. John's projects have received many awards, including recognition from the AIA, Driehaus Foundation and many professional organizations, architectural and industry-specific.

A hallmark of John's career is his long-standing relationships with many clients, some for almost 30 years. A noteworthy example is Cicero SD 99 which FGM has served as District Architect since 1990. Among FGM's award-winning projects for this district is Unity Junior High, which received an AIA Excellence in Architecture Award and the Phoenix Community Award from the US EPA. Other award-winning projects include the Meyer Science Center at Wheaton College which was the first LEED Gold science facility in Illinois and Building 27 at Great Lakes Naval Training Center which received an AIA Excellence in Architecture Award for Historic Rehabilitation as well as a Naval Facilities Honor Award.

FGM has thrived under John's leadership. In 2018 FGM was named Firm of the Year by AIA Northeast IL, having received the same honor from AIA Illinois in 2003. FGM is recognized as an Emerging Professionals Outstanding Friendly Firm by the Central States AIA. Over the last decade, John has led FGM's strategic expansion with new offices opening in St. Louis, Milwaukee and most recently, Austin, TX.

Service to AIA

Mr. Ochoa has served AIA-NEI in many capacities, first as an Awards Committee Chair and later as a Board Member, Officer and President of the Chapter. He initiated the first sponsorship program for AIA-NEI bringing financial stability and reduced costs for programs to its members. He has encouraged FGM staff towards active AIA service; to date, more than 20 FGM team members have also served the AIA. As a firm, FGM has hosted Architecture Week activities, led a variety of seminars and provides ongoing support of AIA programs.

Service to the Profession

Mr. Ochoa provides leadership to the profession in a variety of ways. In addition to authoring numerous professional articles, he has testified to the IL Legislature on issues that impact the practice of architectural design. John has led the Society of Military Engineers, Lake Michigan Post, the UIC Architecture Alumni Association (A3) and the University of Illinois Alumni Association. While serving as the President of UIC A3, Mr. Ochoa launched the annual Architecture Career Fair and created the FGM Architects/ Susan Nealey Endowed Scholarship. While serving as a Board Member of UIAA FGM also initiated the FGM Scholarship at UIUC. The firm actively participates in a variety of educationally focused projects at Schools of Architecture.

FGM ARCHITECTS



JOHN F. OCHOA, AIA

Chief Executive Officer

“Helping my clients achieve their visions is what inspires me.”

As CEO, John is leading the company through a period of continuous growth and improvement. He has worked in education design for more than 30 years. He is directly responsible for the performance and quality of work performed.

EDUCATION

B in Architecture | University of Illinois at Chicago | 1978

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Architect | Illinois | 1980

MEMBERSHIPS

American Institute of Architects
Society of American Military Engineers Illinois
Association of School Boards
Illinois Association of School Business Officials
Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts
University of Illinois at Chicago Alumni Association Executive Committee
National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
University of Illinois Alumni Alliance Board
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Architecture, Design and the Arts Advisory Board
U.S. Green Building Council

Experience

BERWYN NORTH SD 98

Berwyn, Illinois
• District Architect
10 Year HLS *SURVEY & IMPLEMENTATION*
Master Plan
Early Childhood & PK *STUDY*
Prairie Oak ES *NEW SCHOOL*
Prairie Oak ES *RENOVATION*
Lincoln MS *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Havlicek ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Jefferson ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
District Admin Office *RELOCATION*
Curriculum Center *RELOCATION*

BLOOMINGDALE SD 13

Bloomington, Illinois
• District Architect
Erickson ES *SECURE ENTRY*
DuJardin ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Westfield JHS *ADDITION & RENOVATION*

FRANKFORT SD 157C

Frankfort, Illinois
• District Architect
• Master Plan
• Referendum Support
10 Year HLS *SURVEY & IMPLEMENTATION*
Grand Prairie ES *NEW SCHOOL*
Hickory Creek Middle School *NEW SCHOOL*
Grand Prairie ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Chelsea School *ADDITION & RENOVATION*

RIVER GROVE SD 85.5

River Grove, Illinois
• District Architect
10 Year HLS *SURVEY & IMPLEMENTATION*
Secure Entrance/Admin
RENOVATION

CICERO ELEMENTARY SD 99

Cicero, Illinois
• District Architect
• Master Plan
• District Wide Facility Assessment
• Referendum Support
10 Year HLS *SURVEY & IMPLEMENTATION*
Warren Park ES *NEW SCHOOL*
Wilson ES *NEW SCHOOL*
Cicero West ES *NEW SCHOOL*
Columbus ES *NEW SCHOOL*
Unity JHS *NEW SCHOOL*
Burnham ES *RENOVATION*
Cicero Administration *RENOVATION*
Cicero Transportation Center *NEW*
Cicero East ES *RENOVATION*
Liberty ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Lincoln School *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Sherlock ES *NEW*

FENWICK HIGH SCHOOL

Oak Park, Illinois
• School Wide Improvements
• Master Plan
• Fundraising Support
High School Link *ADDITION & RENOVATION*
Athletic Fields *STUDY*
Field Turf *DESIGN*

FGM ARCHITECTS

ORLAND SD 135

Orland Park, Illinois

• Referendum Support

10 Year HLS *SURVEY & IMPLEMENTATION*Jerling JHS *ADDITION & RENOVATION*High Point ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Liberty ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Centennial ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Prairie ES *ADDITION & RENOVATION***J. STERLING MORTON HSD 201**

Cicero, Illinois

• District Architect

• Master Plan

10 Year HLS *SURVEY & IMPLEMENTATION*

Morton West Athletic Complex

*RENOVATION*Morton District Office *RELOCATION &**RENOVATION*

Morton West Expansion/Upgrade

ADDITION & RENOVATION

Morton East Modernization

*RENOVATION***ST. RITA OF CASCIA HIGH SCHOOL**

Chicago, Illinois

• Master Plan

• Fundraising Support

Media Center *RENOVATION*Student Center *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Fitness Center *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Locker Room *RENOVATION***WHEATON COLLEGE**

Wheaton, Illinois

Adams Hall *ADDITION & RENOVATION*

Armerding Center for Music

and the Arts *PRE-DESIGN & CONCEPT**DESIGN*

Armerding Center for Music

and the Arts *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Edman Chapel *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Jenks Hall *RENOVATION*McAlister Hall *RENOVATION*Memorial Student Center *RENOVATION*Meyer Science Center *NEW*

Nicholas Buswell Library & Café

*RENOVATION*Pierce Chapel *RENOVATION***UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Chicago, Illinois

Village Townhouse *RENOVATION***VILLAGE OF MANHATTAN**

Manhattan, Illinois

Village Hall/Police Department/Fire

Department *SPACE NEEDS STUDY***VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS**

Arlington Heights, Illinois

Village Hall *STUDY*Village Hall *NEW***VILLAGE OF HODGKINS**

Hodgkins, Illinois

Village Hall *DESIGN***ADDISON FPD**

Addison, Illinois

HQ Station No. 1 *NEW*HQ Station No. 1 *RENOVATION*Station No. 2 *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Station No. 3 *NEW***ARLINGTON HEIGHTS FD**

Arlington Heights, Illinois

Station No. 4 *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Station No. 3 *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Station No. 2 *NEW*Station No. 1 *NEW***BLOOMINGDALE FPD**

Bloomington, Illinois

HQ Station *NEW***BOURBONNAIS FPD**

Bourbonnais, Illinois

HQ Station *ADDITION & RENOVATION***DARIEN-WOODRIDGE FPD**

Darien, Illinois

HQ Station *SPACE NEEDS STUDY*HQ Station *NEW***ELGIN FD**

Elgin, Illinois

Department Wide *FACILITY SPACE NEEDS**STUDY*Station No. 6 *NEW*Station No. 7 *NEW***ELMHURST FD**

Elmhurst, Illinois

Station No. 2 *SPACE NEEDS STUDY*Station No. 2 *NEW***GENEVA FD**

Geneva, Illinois

HQ Station *SPACE NEEDS STUDY*HQ Station *NEW*Station No. 2 *NEW***GLENSIDE FPD** Glendale Heights, IllinoisHQ Station *ADDITION & RENOVATION*HQ Parking Lot *EXPANSION***HINSDALE FD**

Hinsdale, Illinois

HQ Station *SPACE NEEDS STUDY*HQ Station *ADDITION & RENOVATION***LAKE FOREST FD**

Lake Forest, Illinois

HQ Station *NEW*Station No. 2 *NEW***LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP FPD**

Lockport, Illinois

HQ Station No. 6 *NEW*Station No. 4 *NEW*Station No. 5 *NEW*Station No. 3 *NEW***OSWEGO FPD**

Oswego, Illinois

Central Station *NEW***PALATINE FD**

Palatine, Illinois

Station No. 82 *NEW***PLEASANTVIEW FPD**

La Grange Highlands, Illinois

HQ Station *NEW*Station No. 1 *RENOVATION STUDY*Station No. 2 *STUDY*Station No. 2 *ADDITION & RENOVATION*Station No. 3 *RENOVATION*Station No. 4 *RENOVATION*District-wide *SPACE NEEDS ANALYSIS***STREAMWOOD FD**

Streamwood, Illinois

Station No. 32 *NEW***WESTMONT FD**

Westmont, Illinois

HQ Station *NEW***CHICAGO 16" SOFTBALL HALL OF FAME**

Forest Park, Illinois

Softball Hall of Fame *NEW*