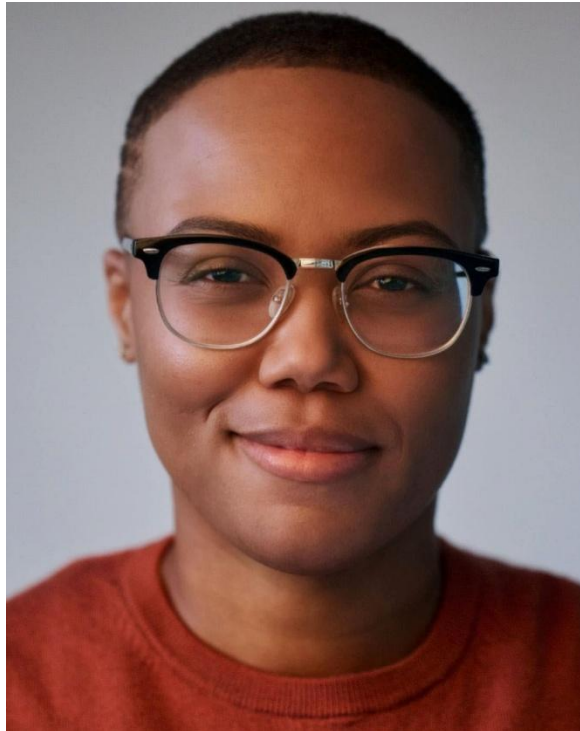


CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF ICOMOS
CANDIDAT AU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DE L'ICOMOS

RHODES MONICA

UNITED STATES - ETATS UNIS



PLATFORM / PLATE-FORME / PLATAFORMA

I am deeply honored to have served on the ICOMOS Board over the past three years, and I am excited to stand for reelection to the 2026–2029 ICOMOS Board. If elected, I also confirm my candidacy for Vice President of the ICOMOS America Group.

My journey with US/ICOMOS began in 2011 as a graduate student, when I first came to understand how essential collaboration within the global heritage community is to our field. Since joining the ICOMOS Board in 2023, I have contributed across several areas of our shared work, including serving on the *Fundraising* Task Team, where I connected the Secretariat with a sponsorship opportunity; participating on the *Spot on the Horizon* Task Team examining ICOMOS' future trajectory; contributing to the *Communications and Sustainability* Task Team; and continuing to champion the growth and engagement of Emerging Professionals. Across these efforts, my focus has

remained consistent: strengthening the financial, organizational, and institutional foundations that enable ICOMOS to advance its mission.

As Vice President of the America Group, I want to bring that same collaborative and solutions-oriented approach to our region. ICOMOS spans one diverse region encompassing North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean, yet our National Committees operate in very different contexts. Some, including those in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, are well resourced and highly active. Others, particularly across Latin America and the Caribbean, face significant barriers to participation, including the cost of attending General Assemblies and Board meetings and the persistent language divide between ICOMOS' working languages and the predominantly Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking communities throughout our region. These disparities are not new, but addressing them will require deliberate action, guided by four priorities for the next three years.

1. **Expand Participation** and open the door wider through multilingual engagement so expertise can be shared across our region.
2. **Strengthen Regional Collaboration** by helping communication and ideas flow freely across our National Committees.
3. **Build Cross-Sector Partnerships** and connect committees, institutions, and partners across industries to explore new models for collaboration.
4. **Develop Future Leaders** by investing in mentorship to create real leadership opportunities for the next generation of heritage professionals.

Achieving these priorities will require sustainable funding and creative partnerships. I would like to explore establishing a pooled Americas regional fund, supported by contributions from National Committees across the hemisphere, to help ensure broader participation at General Assemblies, regional meetings, and other international gatherings, particularly for colleagues from Latin America and the Caribbean.

I also want to build on the momentum of the recent regional symposium, where our National Committees advanced the *Culture & Climate in the Americas Manifesto-Letter* and proposed an Inter-American Working Group bringing together North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean. That initiative, led by the previous Vice President of the America Group, seeks to develop a unified hemispheric position on cultural heritage and climate change while identifying funding mechanisms for long-term, decentralized adaptation efforts. It represents exactly the kind of coordinated regional leadership I hope to strengthen and help amplify.

I am equally committed to improving communication among our National Committees. Across the Americas, valuable convenings, research, and expert exchanges take place every year, yet too often that work remains within the committee that hosted it. We have an opportunity to share knowledge more effectively, elevate one another's successes, and present a stronger collective voice

within the global ICOMOS community. The Americas already contribute enormously to ICOMOS' global reputation; our challenge is to better connect and amplify that collective work.

None of this is possible without active engagement with our International Scientific Committees. I will continue encouraging experts from across the Americas, especially from Latin America and the Caribbean, to contribute their scholarship and expertise to these international forums, ensuring our region's perspectives are fully represented.

If elected Vice President of the America Group, I commit to serving with diligence, attending Board and

Bureau meetings, and representing our region with integrity and dedication. If I am not elected to the Bureau, I will continue serving as a committed Board member, just as I have throughout my current term. It is an honor to seek this role, and I look forward to continuing to work alongside my fellow Board members, our membership, and the broader ICOMOS community to strengthen the Americas' voice and impact for years to come.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Monica Rhodes is an international award-winning heritage practitioner, entrepreneur, and public intellectual whose work examines the relationship between the past and possibility. As Founder of Rhodes Heritage Group, she leads interdisciplinary work at the intersection of cultural strategy, creative practice, and place-based investment, helping communities and institutions prioritize the value of people and cultural assets.

This fall, Rhodes will serve as a Visiting Scholar at MIT's School of Architecture and Planning. The appointment builds on her experience establishing groundbreaking programs at two of the nation's largest heritage and national parks organizations, including the largest nationwide program to diversify the preservation industry and an effort to reestablish legacy programs funding a more honest account of United States history.

Rhodes serves as an elected board member of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the world's leading organization dedicated to the conservation and stewardship of cultural heritage, and previously served as a presidentially appointed Expert Member of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, advising on national preservation policy. Her honors include the Rome Prize in Historic Preservation and Conservation at the American Academy in Rome and a Loeb Fellowship at Harvard University.

Over the course of her career, Rhodes has spearheaded the development of hundreds of partnerships, engaged thousands of community members, and impacted millions of visitors to national parks through preservation efforts at some of the nation's most iconic sites. She continues to push communities and practitioners to leverage the past to think fifty years ahead.