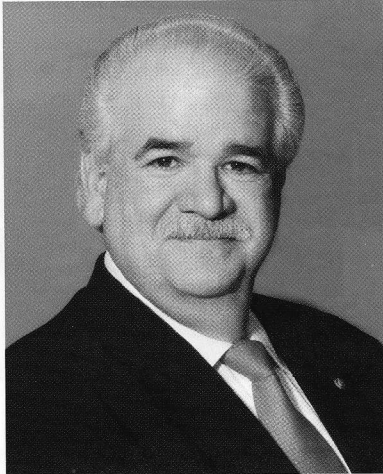


HONOR AWARDS

GOLD MEDAL

MIGUEL A. RODRIGUEZ, FAIA



“Miguel has provided the vision and leadership to inspire future leaders and amplify the standing of the profession throughout the nation. His experience and reputation bring instant credibility to all he endeavors. AIA Florida, as well as the Florida/Caribbean region, have greatly benefited from his leadership, friendship and generosity to the profession.” — *Steve Jernigan, FAIA, 2009 President of AIA Florida*

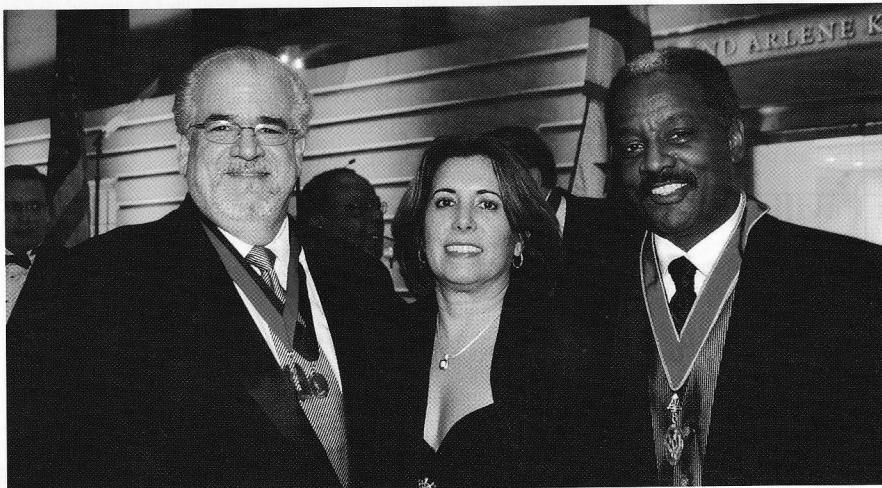
The highest honor that AIA Florida presents to one of its members is the Gold Medal. Those who have been so honored through the years include past presidents and officers of the state association and regional components, regional directors and other architects who have distinguished themselves “in a manner resulting in a profound impact on the profession over an extended period of time.” In every case, the award has gone to an architect who has devoted years of service and hard work to the association at the national, state and local levels.

The recipient of the 2011 Gold Medal, Miguel Rodriguez, has, through his dedication and service, advanced the profession by taking a leadership position on practice issues, broad-based advocacy and meaningful professional development. As a component leader in Florida and in his national leadership roles, he has led initiatives to provide the tools needed to strengthen the practice of architecture and serve Florida’s communities.

A believer and proponent of lifelong learning, Miguel has worked consistently to improve practice through a culture of knowledge sharing that enables architects to improve professionally. As the profession improves, practitioners are better prepared and able to serve their communities and this is something that Miguel has worked tirelessly toward.

In his many roles as an advocate for the profession, he has helped set the stage for architects nationwide to bring their talents, experience and abilities to the public forum. Leading by example, he has shown the way for other architects to understand the benefits of active advocacy and eliminate the ‘stigma’ of advocacy in the minds of many in the profession. His efforts culminated in the creation of the AIA’s Citizen Architect program. Miguel was responsible for kicking off a national program of year-round advocacy that includes training and sets the platform for the nation’s architects to be effective at home.

Through his work in the area of practice regulation, Miguel has ensured that regulation is effective while maintaining a sense of the business realities of current practice. He led the initiative that culminated in legislative change in Florida to make professional regulation more effective. As a member of the Florida Board of Architecture and Interior Design, he led the implementation of the program that has been hailed nationally as a model of effective regulation, particularly in the area of stemming unlicensed activity. These actions have been successful in aiding the profession, but more importantly, they have significantly increased the protection of the health, safety and welfare of Florida’s citizens.



Miguel A. Rodriguez, FAIA (left) with wife Lourdes and Marshall Purnell, FAIA.