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PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE



This year's NOMA conference was the first one I have ever attended and I was grateful to share in this historic conference. It was great to present with a friend and copresenter, Kimberly Dokes, as we discussed our program management experiences on a \$500M Bond Program for Detroit Public Schools. The presentation was well received and the dialogue at the end was just as spirited. It was encouraging to learn about similar positive and challenging experiences

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and to know that other firms and individuals in the architectural and construction industry endure similar challenges on a daily basis. After the discussion, I was approached by a college student who was interested in furthering his exposure to the program management field as well as his career and asked me for any advice. I was humbled and excited because I have been him many times before and I was glad to be able to share this time.

The conference was also very diverse and well-attended. There were individuals not only from the architecture industry, but from many other professions as well. You never know who you may run into and it was pleasantly surprising for me to run into my elementary school art teacher. Hubert Massey Mr. Massey is nationally recognized for his artistic murals and to cross paths with him at architecture conference speaks volumes to the caliber of attendees this conference draws. We were able to reconnect and exchange information solely because I attended the conference.

My company, Brailsford & Dunlavey's purpose is to inspire, empower and advance communities, and I felt that this conference embodied that principle. I expressed the great opportunity this experience had been to connect with inspiring individuals within our industry. I felt as if the conference directly aligned with our strategic goals, culture, and brand and we discussed the importance of having greater exposure to future NOMA conferences and my continued involvement with the organization. **O**