

PRESERVATION FORWARD



2024 LANDMARKS ILLINOIS INFLUENCER

JUAN GABRIEL MORENO

Project Design Principal, President & Founder, JGMA

Juan Gabriel Moreno, AIA, is an award-winning architect and the President/Founder of JGMA (Juan Gabriel Moreno Architects). Mr. Moreno was born in Bogota, Colombia, and studied architecture at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He holds an honorary doctorate degree of humane letters from Northeastern Illinois University. Additionally, he lived in Florence, Italy, where he studied under the founders of Superstudio, Christiano Toraldo di Francia and Gianni Pettena.

Mr. Moreno has been creating provocative works for over 30 years. His portfolio includes projects both in the United States and internationally, encompassing a diverse range of public and private works, from community-based projects to complex transportation/aviation projects. In 2010, he launched JGMA with the singular aim of transforming Chicago's diverse communities through his architecture. Since then, JGMA has gained recognition as one of the most highly acclaimed design firms in Chicago.

JGMA boasts an impressive list of awards and recognition, garnering acclaim from notable organizations such as the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Architizer, the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, and The Architect's Newspaper, both locally and on a national and international scale.

Juan Moreno's personal commitment to community and social justice has earned him recognition at both the local and international levels. He was honored by Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos as one of the "100 COLOMBIANOS" and received the "PIECE" Award for International Excellence, which recognizes Colombians making a difference in the lives of children and communities while working outside the country.

Moreover, Mr. Moreno actively engages in civic involvement and demonstrates a dedicated commitment to the city of Chicago. He has served as a former commissioner on the Commission on Chicago Landmarks, played a pivotal role in the development of Design Excellence Standards in Chicago, and was among the inaugural members appointed to the Chicago Committee on Design. Additionally, Mr. Moreno serves as a board member of the Chicago Architecture Center, the Chicago Architecture Biennial, and the National Museum of Mexican Art.