

***VAA proudly announces the addition of Senior Interior Designer Rhonda Franklin***

*Cleveland, Ohio (February 29, 2016) - Van Auken Akins Architects LLC (VAA), a female-owned architectural, interior design and construction management firm based in downtown Cleveland is proud to welcome another member to the growing team.*

**Rhonda Franklin NCIDQ, LEED AP ID+C** joined the firm as Senior Interior Designer with over 15 years of professional design experience. Her portfolio includes a combination of education, healthcare, corporate and residential projects, where she has played an integral role as a member of the design team. Most recently, Rhonda served as an Interior Designer for a commercial architectural firm specializing in corporate design, and was responsible for developing interiors for tenant build-outs, compiling bid documents, drawings and specifications for furniture packages, submittal review, and coordination with builders, architects and furniture installers. She also has experience developing interiors for new construction and renovation projects, including furniture packages ranging from \$200,000 to \$2 million. In her new role as Senior Interior Designer at VAA, Rhonda works collaboratively with the design team, actively participating in all phases of a project—from programming through construction administration—generating fresh solutions and producing high quality project design deliverables.

Rhonda holds an Associates of Applied Business in Interior Design from Cuyahoga Community College, a Master of Fine Arts in Ceramics from The Ohio State University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art from Allegheny College. She is also currently serving as an Adjunct Faculty Member at Cuyahoga Community College, where she is teaching Beginning and Advanced Ceramics.

“We are very pleased to welcome Rhonda to our design team. Her expertise in bringing dynamic and functional environments to life, combined with her passion for design will be a great asset to our clients and our firm. We are very excited to have her on board,” says VAA Principal Jill V. Akins AIA.