

2023 Women in CRE: Lena Dau-Ping Fan, Kostow Greenwood Architects

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Lena Dau-Ping Fan
Principal
Kostow Greenwood Architects

What recent project, transaction, or accomplishment are you most proud of? I'm most proud of our expansion and upgrades to the renamed James Earl Jones Theatre. The Annex we designed for The Shubert Organization, the theatre's real estate owner, is an example of revitalizing the city's historic and Broadway buildings to serve the needs of today's patrons, performers, employees, and developers. This is at the heart of our mission. The project has already received a Metamorphosis Award, recognition from NYCxDesign, Architezer and Society of British and International Interior Design.

What are the most important factors women in your industry should consider when choosing a firm to build their career with? My ten-year progression, from junior designer to principal and equity owner, is testament to the importance of joining a firm that has a healthy relationship, that supports, encourages, challenges, and provides space to live your life.

Who inspires you most? What qualities do they possess that inspire you? My mother. Her dependability, intelligence, and humility inspire me. Her great sense of humor is her superpower making her a better communicator, mentor, and leader.

Why should this nominee be recognized in our Women in Commercial Real Estate Spotlight? "Our firm's influence with, and work for commercial real estate developers is outsized in comparison to our size. When many hats must be worn, Lena's ability to meet client needs, project deliverables and budgetary oversight is a cornerstone of her success and in turn, success for our clients." - Michael Kostow, Founding Principal of Kostow Greenwood Architects.