

Cumulus Global Association  
of Art and Design, Education and Research  
- Secretary General Eija Salmi,  
PO Box 31000 0076  
Aalto  
Finland

Paris, February 25<sup>th</sup> 2025

Elections to Cumulus Executive Board 2025-2028 :  
Recommendation letter for Archana Surana, Director of Arch College of Design &  
Business, Jaipur, India

Dear fellow Cumulus Members and Colleagues,

As the Director of Ecole Boulle in Paris, I am pleased to be able to once more recommend the candidacy of Archana Surana for the next Cumulus Executive Board 2025-2028, on the occasion of the forthcoming Elections.

As the Founder and Director of Arch College of Design & Business, Jaipur, India, Archana Surana is a long-term partner of Ecole Boulle, with whom we have developed a successful exchange partnership in the domain of Jewellery Design.

But for those who are less acquainted with Archana Surana, here are a few reminders of some of her various accomplishments, which underline her communicative and creative, community-centred entrepreneurial approach :

- She has lead the way in the campaign for the spread of Degree courses in Design in India, a champion of the cause of innovative Design Education for 30 years.

- She has also played an important role in numerous professional bodies such as the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)'s National Committee on Design or the Fashion Design Council of India, and represents Arch College at international forums, assemblies and conferences.

- Ms. Surana organises many events in the design field, including Fashion Colloquia and the Pink City Design Confluence, for example.

- She is the founder of the Women Mentors Forum (WMF), a network of women entrepreneurs and professionals, encouraging excellence for women.

Archana Surana is also a creative entrepreneur who has collaborated with government and industry bodies in the domains of design, youth training, women craftsmen, artisans and industry workers, as well as for the underprivileged, in order to develop skills and encourage entrepreneurship.



- Her actions in favour of women's empowerment and youth were acknowledged by Indian President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam in 2011, with a National Youth Icon Award.

However, the most visible and convincing testimony to Archana Surana's capacity to fill this role must be her track record since her election in 2022.

During her three years in office, Ms. Surana has imposed herself as a dynamic, proactive, demanding and passionate Member and Vice-President of the present Cumulus Executive Board, working to facilitate communication and collaboration in the design field on an international level.

Indeed, she has been a driving force behind the inauguration and organisation of the Cumulus Student Talent Camps, starting in her home city of Jaipur in 2023.

She has also successfully occupied the chair of the 'Women in Design' Working Group initiative, and co-chaired the 'Fashion and Textiles' Working Group for the Cumulus Board.

These actions reflect Ms. Surana's continual engagement, and also remind us of her role both in fostering a voice for women internationally in a world still too often dominated by men, and as an active representative of the Global South in the field of design.

Strengthened by her experiences and achievements during this first term of office, today Archana Surana is an obvious choice to continue to defend the goals of Cumulus with dedication and energy, thus contributing to a better, more interactive and emphatic world for design.

Yours sincerely,



Laurent Scordino-Mazanec  
Director of Ecole Boule, Paris



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Dear Cumulus Secretariat,

You will find attached the recommendation letter from Laurent Scordino-Mazanec,  
Director of Ecole Boulle in Paris, for Archana Surana's new candidacy for the Cumulus  
Board Elections.

As the deadline for submissions falls during the Winter Break vacation here in Paris,  
Mr Scordino is not on site at the moment and does not have access to the necessary  
technical equipment to forward a signed copy, which is why the letter is stamped but  
not signed.

This will be rectified if necessary when Ecole Boulle reopens next week.

However, he may be contacted at [laurent.scordino@ac-paris.fr](mailto:laurent.scordino@ac-paris.fr), should you wish him  
to confirm his recommendation immediately.

Hoping that this will not in any way hinder Archana Surana's nomination as a  
candidate,

Best regards,



Lucinda Caton  
International Coordinator, Ecole Boulle

