We are thrilled to welcome back **Ashley Heeren** and to introduce **Nkiru Mokwe Gelles**.

ASHLEY HEEREN
PRINCIPAL

Ashley Heeren rejoins LowDO after more than a decade of experience with urban development and educational projects at scales ranging from master plans to multifamily and hospitality buildings to a 30-printed home.

Ashley works to celebrate communities and places with resilient, inclusive design. She believes that powerful connections made through the design of shared architectural spaces can inspire wellness, and she ardently promotes mentorship and education, especially efforts to amplify female voices.

Ashley received her BA from Yale and her M.Arch from Harvard GSD with Ryan and DK. She helped launch LowDO before recognizing her desire for broader experience with public-spirited work. She then spent her over 10 years with Lake|Flato Architects, where she helped open and grow a successful Austin office.

Ashley is active with The Trail Conservancy and ULI Austin among other local groups working to improve the Austin community. She is also a 2023 Austin Under 40 Finalist.

NKIRU MOKWE GELLES
ASSOCIATE

Nkiru Gelles brings to LowDO her experiences from a variety of notable design offices and her proactive leadership in our regional design community.

Nkiru strives to promote dynamic, equitable, and sustainable public spaces with thoughtfully curated programmatic mixes that foster positive social interaction and encourage local economic productivity necessary for thriving communities.

Nkiru grew up in Lagos, Nigeria and has been interested in the public space of cities ever since. She received her B.Arch from Bartlett and her M.Arch from Rice. Having lived and worked in Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas, Nkiru has an extensive international portfolio of work centered on the design of institutional, civic, and public spaces.

Nkiru is the current secretary for AIA Austin, served as chair of the Women in Architecture committee, and writes for Texas Architect magazine.

Our team is extremely fortunate to benefit from Nkiru and Ashley's amazing talent, experience, and work ethic. We are excited to watch their paths at LOWDO unfold.