Kevin B. Sullivan, FAIA
President/CEO, Payette

Abstract: As the 2019 AIA Architecture Firm of the Year recipient, we are a single office based in Boston with over 160 dedicated and talented individuals. While we are primarily an architecture firm, we have always been interdisciplinary, at one time including engineering and now encompassing landscape architecture, interior design, building science, space strategies, design visualization, fabrication, computation, and research.

We are fascinated by how a building functions for its intended use, in terms of both its social geometry and its environmental impact, and we love to measure and study these things to inform our work.

Their importance is heightened in our chosen typologies, programmatically intense buildings for healthcare, and science, in which human interaction is often procedurally constrained, and in which a single building may use more energy than a small city.

For these reasons, we believe that performance cannot be separated from beauty.

Performance brings greater meaning to architecture when it becomes integral with composition. Mr. Sullivan’s lecture will build upon themes explored in Payette’s new book, "FUSION - The Performance of Architecture," which was published in 2020 by Monacelli Press, available at monacellipress.com/fusion.

Biography: Kevin B. Sullivan joined Payette in 1987, became a partner in 1998, and became president in 2014. He provides strategic direction, vision, and intellectual design leadership to the firm. His body of work includes seminal health care, science, and campus planning projects which have been consistently recognized nationally for their attention to detail, social geometry, and integration of the landscape into transformative spaces.

Mr. Sullivan believes that an in-depth understanding of a building’s program and site provide the fundamental palette for each project. This knowledge is combined with the concept of transparency, both literal and phenomenal; in his practice, Mr. Sullivan strives to provide a deep logic to forms and spaces.