

**AISHA CHEEMA** aishac@mit.edu | aishacheema.com | Somerville, MA

## EDUCATION

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture and Planning**  
Master of Architecture Candidate, Expected Graduation in 2027

**The Ohio State University, Knowlton School**  
Bachelor of Science in Architecture, with Honors Research Distinction in 2020

## PROFESSIONAL

**MIT Office of Sustainability – Cambridge, Massachusetts**  
Sustainability Project Assistant | 2026  
*Supporting the design & deployment of campus heat sensor network to analyze heat exposure, shade benefits, and microclimates across MIT and Cambridge. Visualizing data and making recommendations on action for campus and municipal heat initiatives.*

**Heritage Foundation of Pakistan – Karachi, Pakistan**  
Researcher | 2025  
*Working with Yasmeen Lari on resilient housing in flood and heat affected communities. Assisted with mapping, heat monitoring, and community-led design.*

**The Next Earth. Computation, Crisis, Cosmology – Venice, Italy**  
Curatorial + Exhibition Assistant | 2025  
*Curating and producing display of Shaping Thermal Performance display at the Palazzo Diedo in Venice for Professor Leslie Norford and Dr. Eduardo Gascón Alvarez.*

**Astra Studios – Columbus, Ohio**  
Designer | 2021-2023  
*Led the design and build of a pop-up installation for a non-profit organization, design and construction coordination for residential and commercial projects.*

**Dean Wenz Architects – Columbus, Ohio**  
Architectural Designer | 2021  
*Produced construction document sets for a 250-unit residential complex. Led site visits and base drawings for residential renovation projects as well as design.*

**OSU Knowlton School and Department of Anthropology – Columbus, Ohio**  
Research + Fabrication Assistant | 2019-2020  
*Assisted with research in collaboration with Columbus Wastewater. Assisted with design & build of a freestanding information pavilion made of recycled PET.*

## TEACHING

**MIT 4.024 – Architecture Design Studio II**  
SPRING 2026 | Teaching Assistant for Rosalyne Shieh

**MIT 4.02A – How to Design Intensive**  
IAP 2026 | Teaching Assistant for Simon Lesina-Debiasi

**MIT 4.021 – How to Design**  
FALL 2025 | Teaching Assistant for Paul Pettigrew + Simon Lesina-Debiasi

**MIT 4.462 / 4.440 / 1.056 – Structural Design**  
SPRING 2025 | Teaching Assistant for John Ochsendorf

**MIT 4.314 / 4.315 – Topics in Biological Arts, Ethics, and Automation**  
FALL 2025 | Teaching Assistant for Matej Vakula

## COURSE CREATION

### NETWORK IKEBANA

MIT SA+P IAP & Harvard GSD J-TERM Collaborative Workshop in Cambridge, MA | IAP 2026  
*Co-taught a workshop using flower photographs as medium to explore software as a site of artistic and political inquiry. Guided participants through iterations of digital transformation and peer exchange, culminating in an archive of workflows.*

## AWARDS + GRANTS

Council for the Arts at MIT Fall 2025 Grant for Wiesner Student Art Gallery Show called FEEDBACK  
Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture Travel Grant to study heat resiliency in Karachi, Pakistan  
Council for the Arts at MIT Seed Grant for Sonic Spectra, an interactive audiovisual performance  
Olde Towne East Arts Gallery space for a solo exhibition of individual artistic practice  
Honors Research Distinction and Dean's List at The Ohio State University  
The Mary Ann Trapp Scholarship Fund in Architecture  
The Ohio State University Knowlton School Study Abroad Grant to study architecture in Chile  
The Ohio State University Knowlton School Studio Book Prize Award from Justin Diles

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

### FEEDBACK

Wiesner Student Art Gallery, MIT Stratton Student Center in Cambridge, MA | 2026  
*Collaborative installation with Zachary Slonksy exploring translation across space.*

### Generated.

Olde Towne East Arts Gallery in Columbus, OH | 2023  
*Algorithmic drawings plotted and displayed in OTE Arts Gallery.*

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### Shaping Thermal Performance for The Next Earth.

Palazzo Diedo, Venice, Italy | 2025  
*Curatorial assistant for Professor Leslie Norford and Dr. Eduardo Gascón Alvarez.*

### stock-a-studio: club kits

Keller Gallery, MIT SA+P, Cambridge, MA | 2024  
*Exhibition assistant for Xavi Aguirre. Built new installation from reused material.*

### LOT-EK: WORK-IN-PROGRESS

Keller Gallery, MIT SA+P, Cambridge, MA | 2024  
*Exhibition assistant for LOT-EK. Fabricated and installed display shelves.*

## WORKSHOPS

### ECOMPOSITES PROTOTYPING – Madrid, Spain | IAP 2025

*Taught by Antón García-Abril of Ensemble Studio at ENSAMBLE FABRICA in Parla, Madrid. Fabricating sculptures with waste materials and building grade resin.*

### OFFCUT/CUTOFF – Muharraq, Bahrain | IAP 2024

*Workshop with Maryam Aljomairi and Latifa Alkhayat at Awal Refrigeration's factory. Fabricating furniture from metal offcuts, exhibited at Pearling Path in Muharraq.*

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

### MIT National Organization of Minority Architecture Students [NOMAS]

Co-President of Executive Board | 2024-2026  
*Directed programming, communications, and community-building initiatives for NOMAS.*

### MIT GRADUATE STUDENT UNION [GSU]

Department Union Steward | 2024-2026  
*Represented MArch students in organizing and advocacy efforts within the GSU.*