

**MICHELLE JOHANSSON, LFA**
Architect & Director | Johansson Group

Location: Auckland, New Zealand
Projects: Te Kura Whare, Living Certified (2017) & personal residence in progress, pursuing LBC Certification

“I feel having LFA both formalises and forms a basis to the learning from that work and lets people know you have that knowledge. To me, LFA is absolutely a good thing to have, regardless of the level you work at, because you get a wide-ranging deep green education that is only going to benefit everything you do.”

Why did you choose to pursue LFA?

I’m currently designing my house to LBC 4.0 and updating Masterspec LBC sections I wrote in 2015, to LBC 4.0, so I needed to be as current as possible (Masterspec NZ is like Masterformat). I had LFA previously (2015-2017) and started again from scratch in 2020. There is so much depth, consideration and generosity to the content of the LFA coursework. I refreshed my existing knowledge and learned about newer programmes and projects and got inspired all over again!

How did you earn General LFA continuing education credits?

All done online, in June this year - the first NZ seven-week-long Covid lockdown was ideal timing!

How has achieving LFA impacted you and your work?

Playing a key role in achieving the Materials Petal for Te Kura Whare was where I really learned the LBC. Since then, on top of architecture and teaching, I’ve done consultancy projects related to LBC - Firth Concrete’s Declare labels, Masterspec LBC specification sections, LBC talks and mentoring. I feel having LFA both formalises and forms a basis to the learning from that work and lets people know you have that knowledge. To me, LFA is absolutely a good thing to have, regardless of the level you work at, because you get a wide-ranging deep green education that is only going to benefit everything you do.

What's next for you?

Covid has thrown everyone a curveball, so I can’t say with any certainty what will be next for me! My LBC house will take up my spare time, at least.

What's your biggest inspiration?

Generally, for me, it’s the natural world, in all its aspects, wanting to preserve and enhance its beauty and diversity. Specifically, it was meeting Jason F. McLennan and attending his first NZ LBC training session in 2011 – that was my lightbulb moment and since then, I’ve tried, where I can, to further his vision, along with so many others.

**ANGELO TAN, LFA****Green Building Country Lead | International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group**

Location: Manila, Philippines

“Pursuing LFA has deepened my commitment to sustainable development and to helping my country. LBC provided a framework for me to explore the unique barriers and opportunities in regenerative design for developing countries. Achieving LFA also had an influence on my transition to sustainability and development work.”

Why did you choose to pursue LFA?

I initially pursued LFA as part of my Master’s thesis at UNSW Sydney, where I explored regenerative design for retail developments in the Philippines.

How did you earn General LFA continuing education credits?

I earned General LFA credits through the [Living Future Symposium](#) here in Sydney, volunteering with the [Living Future Institute Australia](#) Sydney Collaborative, attending in-person and online events, studying the Petal Handbooks, and enrolling in [Living Future Education](#) online courses.

How has achieving LFA impacted you and your work?

While my initial intent was for academic purposes, pursuing the LFA has deepened my commitment to sustainable development and to helping my country. [LBC](#) provided a framework for me to explore the unique barriers and opportunities in regenerative design for developing countries. Achieving LFA also had an influence on my transition to sustainability and development work.

What's next for you?

Having just graduated from my Master’s, I [have returned] home this September as the Green Building Country Lead of the International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group, where I will work towards democratising green buildings, making them more affordable, accessible, and inclusive for the Philippines.

What's your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is my country, the Philippines. The Global South is largely left behind in the green building movement and considering it’s where most of the construction until 2050 will take place, it's where I can make a difference.