



**2024 Ones to Watch Industry Leaders: Nicholas Gargiso,  
SBLM Architects, PC**

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Nicholas Gargiso, AIA  
Principal

SBLM Architects, PC

“Nick’s ascent from job captain to partner and principal at SBLM showcases his remarkable trajectory. With keen vision for anticipating project needs, he effectively communicates and leads his team. Nick’s fearlessness in tackling challenges has elevated the firm’s standing, positively impacting the built environment. His contributions embody leadership and foresight.” - Michael LeFande, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Principal at SBLM Architects, PC.

In the last 12 months what accomplishment are you most proud of? One of my proudest accomplishments in the last year is supporting the completion and closeout of the Huntington Shopping Center in Huntington, which garnered local awards and is visually impressive! Managing this project from inception in early 2020 and being continuously involved throughout construction was invaluable to my career progression to become a principal at SBLM. This achievement helped showcase my leadership, project management skills and dedication to delivering exceptional results.

In the last 12 months what was one of the biggest challenges you faced as a leader and how did you overcome it? Over the year I was faced balancing increased responsibilities of being a Principal, managing multiple projects and programs, while welcoming the birth of my second child. Initially overwhelming, I overcame this challenge by stepping back to analyze all my responsibilities and tasks. I successfully moved forward by adjusting my daily workflow and delegating tasks to others where possible. This approach helped me navigate the challenges of balancing work and personal life during this busy period.

Best books, podcasts, or apps for aspiring leaders: Art of War, Flight of the Buffalo, Good to Great.

Best advice for new leaders: Never stop looking for opportunities to learn and improve.

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