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Learn more at aiaeasternpa.org

AIA Eastern PA would like to give thanks to Barry Isett & Associates for the printing and final preparation of this document!
President’s Message
By Ana M. Sarachaga, AIA

Greetings!
This is an exciting and challenging year for our local chapter. In January, after a scrutinizing process, we succeeded in renewing a three-year cycle with the American Institute of Architects. This accreditation is the first step for us to remain as a chapter amidst other chapters deciding to become sections under AIA Pennsylvania. AIA Eastern PA is the only chapter that has a memorandum of understanding with AIA PA without which we would not comply with component requirements.

Our board has taken the challenge to work on the restructuring of some of the ways that we do business to be fully independent by the end of 2020. Since this is a volunteer organization, we need the involvement of our members to keep the chapter vibrant. Our board is diverse in gender, age, ethnicity and life paths and we welcome and encourage you to attend upcoming meetings and getting involved.

We need your assistance to expand the continuing education offerings that we are required to provide. Our monthly events, September through May, cover a percentage of those credits but we need to double the amount of credits that we offer. We are looking into providing webinars by partnering with allied members and other AIA providers in our region, but we are interested in hearing your ideas. Come on out to the next event, we would love to hear from you!

Right: Joint CSI-AIA Picnic & Kickball Event!

Upcoming Events

PALM: Promoting Advocacy, Licensure through Mentorship at NCC
“Meet and mentor the next generation of architects and design professionals of Northampton Community College and Lehigh University. Our goal is to assist the students in developing a greater understanding of the profession and help them find a path that best suits their unique interests and talents.”

Tuesday, October 8
Location: Northampton Community College
Founder’s Hall – Room 208

Pints & Pumpkins – Pumpkin Carving Competition
“Calling all ghosts and ghouls in the Lehigh Valley. The AIA and CSI invite you to an evening of pumpkin carving and ‘Boos’ sampling. Our first ever Pints and Pumpkins networking event will feature a friendly pumpkin carving competition and fiendish networking. Grab a team of co-workers and bring your greatest design October 22nd for a chance to walk away with bragging rights (and prizes).”

Tuesday, October 22
Location: Lost Tavern Brewing Company
782 Main St, Hellertown, PA 18055

AIA Design Awards Pop-Up Party

Thursday, November 14
Location: ATAS International Inc.
6612 Snowdrift Rd, Allentown, PA 18106

President’s Night

Thursday, December 5
Location: National Museum of Industrial History
602 E 2nd St Bethlehem, PA 18015

Go to https://aiaeasternpa.org/calendar/ to view our full calender and see all our upcoming events!
This past April, Brent Stringfellow, Associate VP of Facilities at Lehigh University presented an overview of the various projects currently underway at Lehigh University, and how they will transform the University’s architecture and landscape moving forward into the 21st century.

Lehigh is in the midst of one of its most ambitious capital building campaigns, in support of the University’s growth and the addition of a new College of Health. We’re looking forward to the touring some of the new projects in the near future!

Building Lehigh’s Future

Emerging Professionals News and Updates

The AIA PA Emerging Professionals Committee (EPiC) works to improve the network, role and impact of Emerging Professionals throughout Pennsylvania. Stay up-to-date on information such as the Paula Maynes ARE Grant, EPiC Firm Recognition, and other resources through aiapa.org!

Studying for the ARE? The AIA has developed a new tool exclusively for Associate AIA members to help emerging professionals get licensed faster. ArchiPrep offers the ability to set personal goals, monitor progress, take practice quizzes, and connect with others who are also studying. Sign up or find out more information at aia.org!

House Equanimity - book by Joseph N. Biondo (masterpiece series)

Not all masterpieces scream for attention. Some wait with patience, with composure, for their genius to be felt. Joseph Biondo’s Equanimity House is just such a work of art; the exceptional, hiding in plain sight. Born of a tectonic language, the structure is built to coalesce with its surroundings, becoming one with the rolling topography of its site. A mature, elegant, considered work of great beauty, Biondo has achieved the apogee of his exploration of ordinary materials in extraordinary ways. As he says, ‘To heighten one’s awareness of a humble material can be poetic’. A sensorial tone poem, this is a house that is felt, rather than viewed, driving the senses that intuit gravity, temperature, interaction, texture, and aesthetics.

For more information, visit: https://www.oropublishers.com/products/house-equanimity-joseph-n-biondo-masterpiece-series
DIGSAU Lecture

On September 12 at the new NCC Fowler Center in Bethlehem, Jules Dingle FAIA and Jeff Goldstein AIA, founding partners of DIGSAU, provided a unique look into their design process and collaborative approach while sharing some of the firm’s recent Award-winning projects.

Right: Photo credits given to Halkin Mason Photography

AIA ‘19 Conference on Architecture, Las Vegas

By Ana M. Sarachaga, AIA

So why Vegas for an architecture convention? Las Vegas is one of those cities that stirs up controversy. A half-size Eiffel Tower a couple of blocks away from a dwarfed Statue of Liberty makes you feel that everything is fake including the palm trees at the Mirage hotel, but maybe those are real...

In 1972, Denise Scott Brown and Robert Venturi published a book entitled “Learning from Las Vegas” after visiting the city, they decided to “study” the strip. Their findings categorized buildings either as ornamental sheds or as what they called “ducks”, after a building in New York that was shaped like one because that was what was sold. Symbolic meaning, imagery, and signs were studied at a time when the current architecture thought was “form follows function”, paving the way for a different dialogue in our profession.

Las Vegas is a city always in flux, ever-changing, and transforming itself. One of the busiest cities in the country, Las Vegas attracts travelers from all over the world. Large buildings are constantly imploded to make room for newer and trendier versions that will entice more people to visit, almost an experimental lab city for architecture. It will be interesting to see if and how Sin City responds to the AIA Resolution for Urgent and Sustained Climate Action which was overwhelmingly voted for at the convention.

AIA PA Upcoming Events

Breaking Ground! Tri-states Conference
Date: Wednesday-Saturday, October 16-19
Location: Albany Capital Center in Albany, NY

Record on the Road – Philadelphia
Date: October 24  5:00pm – 8:30pm
Location: Center for Architecture + Design
1218 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Visit https://aiapa.org/events/ to see upcoming AIA Pennsylvania events
A Note of Thanks to Our Allied Members

The AIA Eastern PA chapter would like to extend its appreciation to its Allied Members, whose continued support has been invaluable over the years.
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Headquarters in fabulous Las Vegas. Our passion flows through every project. Experience expert customer service every step of the way.