‘THE SUN SOMEHOW DOESN’T REALISE HOW WONDERFUL IT IS UNTIL AFTER A ROOM IS MADE.’

- Louis Kahn
2015

ARCHITECTURE

DESIGN AWARDS

RECOGNIZING ARCHITECTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS
OF BUFFALO & WESTERN NEW YORK
2015
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Edited by Michael Anderson, AIA, Jin Young Song, AIA & Dave Zielinski, AIA

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Buffalo/Western New York Chapter
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Printed in the United States of America.
For those who revere the built environment
ARCHITECTURE

Architecture is both the study and profession of the constructed environment. An architect is trained to understand space and its relationship to materiality, light, aesthetics, and function. These spaces are sculpted by the architect and transformed into the places and buildings we spend each day of our lives.

Architecture combines both the technical ingenuity of engineering and the beauty of art into a singular manifestation of the architect’s concept. The architect draws the map with which others will construct and mold each space – recording each material, datum, and quality of design.

An architect is trained for years in school and in the workplace prior to becoming licensed. Each architect must undergo a series of challenging examinations that measure one’s knowledge of construction methods, contracts, structural systems, and planning. These exams exist to maintain a high-level of competence amongst architects in order to protect the life, safety, and welfare of those who inhabit the magnificent spaces they have crafted for us all.

Architecture is a wonderful amalgamation of science and imagination that can be revealed to us by the architect.
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The American Institute of Architects has been the leading professional membership association for licensed architects, emerging professionals, and allied partners since 1857. The AIA serves as the voice of the architecture profession and a resource for our members in service to society. The organization carries out its goal through advocacy, information, and community.

Each year the AIA sponsors hundreds of continuing education experiences to help architects maintain their licensure. It also sets the industry standard in contract documents with more than 100 forms and contracts used in the design and construction industry.

In many ways, the AIA serves as an advocate of the architectural profession and promoting design excellence and outstanding professional achievement through various awards programs and promotional efforts at National, State, and Local levels. The American Institute of Architects provides a community in which architects can thrive.

www.aia.org
A message for our members:

IT’S A GREAT TIME TO BE AN ARCHITECT IN BUFFALO!

Construction cranes dot the sky, and there is a general sense of moving forward all across the region. Companies are relocating to the area, expanding their facilities, and adding more workers. In some parts of the city, buildings can’t go up fast enough.

Let’s not forget that behind every brick laid and every beam hoisted, there is an architect. As licensed design professionals, architects design buildings which are safe and secure - but that’s not the end of our story.

WE ARE LEADERS. Architects learn about how a building will be used, and coordinate the team of experts necessary to think through all its elements. We listen to clients, we consider the community, and we advocate for building the right thing in the right place.

WE ARE THINKERS. A building is a blend of complicated systems – it must stand up, it must use energy efficiently, and it must keep its occupants safe. Architects are the specialists that understand how to design structures that will be energy efficient, sustainable, and usable. By employing sound logic and creative innovation we work to create buildings that will last for years to come.

WE ARE VISIONARIES. Imagining a new built environment is a thoughtful task. Architects have the expertise and the ingenuity to picture new buildings on vacant lots and to re-use older structures for new purposes. We work in the possibility of things to come, and we help others to see that future.

So the next time you notice a building being renovated, a corner lot under construction or a home being built, remember to think of the architect that helped make it happen.
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Thank You New and Returning Members!

2015 was a great year for our Buffalo Chapter, and as our membership cycle for 2016 ramps up, I’d like to personally thank each of you for your commitment to our profession and our AIA. Whether you are new members, returning members, or newly licensed members, we appreciate your involvement.

Be sure you stay in touch by subscribing to our email newsfeed – just enter your name and email address on our homepage. http://www.aiabuffalowny.org/

I also welcome you all to let us know how we’re doing. Check out our Committee listings for a snap shot of our operation and then send us an email. http://www.aiabuffalowny.org/committees/ Or feel free to drop me a line directly.

Thanks again, I look forward to hearing from you.

President
Timothy M. Rider, AIA, LEED AP
Principal
Trautman Associates
AIA Component Accreditation

Starting in 2016, the American Institute of Architects will be enacting standards that ensure all members across the country are being provided a basic level of service. Although many components exceed these basic standards, the effort is meant to ensure that all members are benefitting from a consistent and valuable experience regardless of chapter size, geography, or proximity to a city-center.

The AIA Core Member Services Initiative, recently enacted by vote and by-laws change at the 2015 AIA National Convention in Atlanta is a direct reaction to member input via the AIA’s Repositioning effort. Members across the country asked for consistency, and the National leadership is striving to provide it. The Core Member Services is essentially a categorized list of things that all components must do for their members. The categories are: (1) Member Communications, (2) Education, (3) Advocacy, (4) Public Awareness, (5) Governance, (6) Membership, and (7), General Operations. Within each category are specific tasks/requirements/services that must be fulfilled.

We are happy to report that the AIA Buffalo/Western New York component is currently meeting or exceeding all of the minimum standards as laid out by the Core Member Services Initiative and that our accreditation for 2016 is not a question. The accreditation process includes an application and a dossier of documentation proving your chapter is fulfilling its obligations. Our local leadership is working to assemble this documentation. That application and dossier will be submitted to AIA National at the end of the year along with similar materials from the other Chapters in our state. A review will follow and the Institute’s affirm accreditation for each Chapter individually.

You might have noticed a slight change in our branding. The updated logo and letter mark you now see on our website, email communications, letterhead and various other places is one way our Chapter is meeting a requirement for consistency in communications. Nationally, all Chapters are adopting the new logo – and by doing so are promoting the strength of our AIA and our profession.
LOCAL MEMBERS RECEIVE AIA NEW YORK STATE AWARDS

In 2015, two of our local members received an award by the New York State American Institute of Architects. We would like to recognize the achievements here and congratulate them on representing our Chapter so well.

Congratulations to the 2015 Honor Award Recipients!

Adam Sokol, AIA

AIA NEW YORK STATE | 2015 Design Award, Citation

Adam Sokol Architecture Practice PLLC has received Citation Award by the 2015 AIA NYS Design Awards Jury in Commercial/Industrial - Large Projects category. The project, Emperor Hotel Beijing Qianmen received 2014 Honor Awards from AIA Buffalo/WNY.

Jin Young Song, AIA

AIA NEW YORK STATE | 2015 Design Award, Citation

Jin Young Song’s practice, DIOINNO Architecture PLLC has received Citation Award by the 2015 AIA NYS Design Awards Jury in Unbuilt Young (Less than 10 years) category. The project, P-A-R-T: Prefabricated Apartment Remodeling Type, received 2014 Merit Awards from AIA Buffalo/WNY. (Project team includes Bonghwan Kim, PE)
The Government Advocacy committee continues to work with representatives from all New York State chapters and the AIANYS to promote the current legislation program, both at the State Senate and House levels. We continue to push for legislative protections for those design professionals who provide pro-bono services in the case of natural or man-made disasters and emergences. We continue to advocate for the selection of design professional services for public sector projects based on qualifications rather than the current cost-based procurement system. Especially beneficial to our region, we voiced our support for the continuation of several rehabilitation and historic tax credit programs for both residential and commercial projects. At the same time we continue to rally against bills that reduce the role of the architect in the design process, bills that would allow for higher construction thresholds before requiring an architect, as we believe these would compromise public safety. We joined our colleagues from down state to voice our support to a bill that would repeal an existing law that allows the Commissioner of the NYC Department of Buildings sole discretion to revoke or suspend an architects filing privileges.

For 2015 the local chapter was again represented at Grassroots in Washington DC. While a snowstorm shut DC down for a couple of days and curtailed our visits with representatives on Capitol Hill, it was extremely beneficial to meet and coordinate advocacy strategies with leadership from all the chapters of the AIA nationally.
2015 is the second year that AIA Buffalo/WNY and the Buffalo Architecture Foundation have partnered to offer scholarship support to worthy architectural students from within the chapter region. This year’s winners again exceeded all expectation and demonstrated a strong commitment and passion for architecture, shown by their dedication to their studies. This year’s recipients were

Olivia Arcara
Amherst, New York
SUNY at Buffalo
M.Arch (May 2016)

Alexis Richbart
Lockport, New York
Pratt Institute
Arch (May 2017)

Austin Tylec
North Tonawanda, New York
SUNY at Buffalo
M.Arch (Dec 2016)

The AIA Buffalo/WNY Scholarship is financed by chapter programing such as the AIA Golf Outing and a grant from AIA National. The program is open to students who have completed at least one year of undergraduate course work and are enrolled in an eligible school.
This year the AIA Buffalo/WNY adopted a new committee to target Diversity in our profession. Our new Diversity Committee is under way with diverse members, a mission statement, goals, and a plan. We feel strongly about joining forces with other like-minded groups to present one strong story and have enlisted partners from UB’s Gender Institute, the AIA National Diversity Council, NOMA, NOMAS, BEAM, Women in Construction along with several other groups.

Our Mission: Promote the value associated with engaging diversity as an essential component of firm culture
Our Goals: Understand Barriers to Women and Minority Progress, Raise Awareness of Diversity Issues, and Provide Education, Mentoring and Support to our students through professionals

We brainstormed several ideas about how we might accomplish our goals including workshops, panel discussions, guest speakers, networking events, training, participation in Career Days and other K12 events. There have been several articles written about the subject including, “The Missing 32%”, “Establishing the Business Case for Women in Architecture”, as well as several studies. Shannon Phillips, the UB assistant dean for graduate education provided a study titled, “An Overview of gender and ethnic Diversity in the professions of Architecture and Planning. Once the many articles and information are digested, we will craft an event to disseminate the information to our colleagues. We look forward to everyone’s input and honesty.

The Diversity Committee through the AIA Buffalo/WNY chapter supported UB Gender Institute’s 2015 Fall Symposium by helping to bring in guest speaker and historian Gabrielle Esperdy.
Buffalo Emerging Professionals (BEP) is a committee of AIA Buffalo/WNY whose primary goal is to foster architectural licensure in the State of New York and to support professional development within the local design community. Emerging professionals are students, recent graduates, IDP/ARE candidates and professionals licensed 10 years or less.

The committee continues to host a variety of events and activities, which are determined on a quarterly basis. ARE seminars are held approximately every other month to review strategies to prepare for and take a specific section of the exam. A portfolio review workshop is hosted once every semester to provide emerging professionals and student’s access to hiring managers and architects from local firms who critique their in-progress work as they would in the interview process.

In the upcoming months, BEP will be hosting seminars on the transition to ARE 5.0 and the latest changes to the IDP to keep candidates current on the latest policies and requirements as well as hosting the committee’s annual holiday food drive to give back to the community.

While the BEP’s focus is to address the needs and interests of emerging professionals, participation in events is open to everyone in the Western New York architecture community. For more information on upcoming events and for access to our ARE lending library, visit our website at www.aiabep.org.
2015 Native American Programming

Did you know? Less than 0.5% of AIA members are Native American and less than a handful are Native American women architects.

We are fortunate in the Western New York region to be geographically located near many Native American communities in both the Souhttowns and the Northtowns. We have the opportunity to reach out in these communities to provide programming to children and adults who may not otherwise have opportunity to learn about architecture and design.

In March 2015, with funding and support provided by American Institute of Architects National Diversity and Inclusion Council, Tamarah Begay, AIA visited Buffalo to work with Native American students from Lake Shore Middle School and gave a public lecture at the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning. Tamarah is the first female member of the Native American Navajo tribe to become an architect and an AIA member.

Tamarah, along with volunteers from the Architecture + Education program and UB NOMAS hosted a three-day workshop at Lake Shore Middle School to introduce architecture and design concepts to the students. Students learned about Navajo planning principles and built models of a Hogan, which is a traditional dwelling of the Navajo people. Tamarah also gave a public lecture to a packed room at the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning. The lecture focused on Tamarah’s story of becoming an architect, and how her heritage and story have shaped the focus on her research, practice and outreach. We hope to add this workshop to our list of annual events.
2015 Architecture + Education Program

On Friday, October 2nd, 22 volunteer architects, 16 UB architecture students, 9 Buffalo State and 6 Villa Maria Interior Design Students and 25 classrooms teachers took part in an all-day Symposium, marking the beginning of the award winning Architecture + Education Program. All participants were “students for the day” exploring architectural principals through a series of lectures and activities. The participants developed unique lesson plans that are currently being implemented in twenty-three Buffalo Public School classrooms.

Over the next two months, the volunteer architects and students will visit classrooms to work with K-12 students, using architecture to teach CommonCore curriculum, focusing on subjects such as math, science, history, art, technology. And, in addition, students will also learn the value (and fun!) of design, the importance of community, and the importance of buildings - not only as a basic need, but a vital ingredient to our cultural palette. This year’s participating schools are BPS #32 Bennett Park Montessori, BPS #33 Bilingual Academy, BPS#37 Futures Academy, BPS #53 Community School, BPS #156 F.L. Olmsted Upper, BPS #192 BAVPA, BPS #198 IPrep.

The program will culminate with an exhibit of student work at the CEPA Gallery in the Market Arcade. Each student’s work will be displayed, which is over 550 pieces! The opening will be January 15th, and the exhibit will run through January 29th.

Thanks to all of our volunteers for all of your time and enthusiasm this year! For more information on all of BAF Education programs, please visit www.buffaloarchitecture.org, find us on facebook, or follow us on twitter and Instagram at @bufarchfound.
Although not specifically an architectural program, the annual golf event is an important part of the AIA community. Of course, it is a great way to get out of the office and let loose, connect with familiar faces and develop new connections. It is also critical for developing a stream of non-dues revenue that funds scholarship, mentoring and educational programs integral to the mission of the AIA (so, if you weren’t there this year, we will see you there next year…. no, we really mean it).

This year’s tournament was held on a beautiful late August day at the Fox Valley Country Club. Co-hosted along with our longtime colleagues of the Engineering Society of Buffalo, we enjoyed a great afternoon of friendly competition on a challenging course (no gophers were spotted). We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the sponsors and everyone else who came out to make this year possible.
Last year in the Design Awards Gala publication the chapter announced that ‘mentorship’ would become a new area of focus for AIA Buffalo/WNY. Our statement was that a ‘vision of the future for the Buffalo/WNY Chapter of the AIA would be to see that there are increased opportunities for members to interact with interns’. It was acknowledged, however, the limits of the historical mentorship relationship is that it is time-consuming for both individuals and therefore restricted to the interaction of a few.

Over the past year the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning and the local chapter of the AIA have been working together to create a mentor program that connects alumni and professionals nationwide with current students. UB’s offices of alumni engagement and career services are assisting with this program, which is designed to improve the professional marketability of students through a relationship predicated on seeking and providing professional advice.

An exciting aspect of this program is that, potentially, much of the interaction might occur online, increasing the opportunities for interaction while reducing the time commitment. Many thanks to Tim Rider and Michael LaValley of the local chapter and Robert Hill from UB for working diligently to develop such a valuable program.
HAPPY HOUR @ THE HATCH

WED JUNE 17, 2015 | 6PM - 8PM

Join us where the Buffalo River meets the Lake at Canalside for cool breezes, sunshine, and a great view.

329 Erie St | Buffalo, NY

This event is open to all members of the Buffalo architecture community, regardless of AIA affiliation or licensure status. Use this opportunity to make new connections or as a chance to catch up with friends. We'll see you at The Hatch!

www.aiabep.org | www.aiabuffalowny.org | Find us both on Facebook & Twitter!

PORTFOLIO & RESUME WORKSHOP

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SOUTH CAMPUS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10, 2015
11AM - 1PM | FREE

Kimball Hall Room 125
3435 Main Street
Buffalo, NY

Open to young design professionals, recent graduates and students. All participants are encouraged to bring any in-process portfolios and resumes for review and assistance from local architecture professionals. Questions can be directed to info@aiabep.org.

www.aiabep.org | www.facebook.com/aiabep | @aiabep
2015 DESIGN AWARDS JURY
Brandon Townsend, AIA
Kit Johnson, AIA
Al York, AIA
Chris Cobb, AIA
Eric Rauser, AIA

Coordinated by
Lauren Vienne, Assistant Director of AIA Austin
2015 AIA Design Awards Jury

A jury of our peers from Austin, Texas has reviewed all 2015 Design Entries and selected the most creative solutions in a series of design categories.

Design Recognition

All of the Design Entries will be recognized in the pages that follow and at the Annual Design Awards Gala on November 12, 2015. Entries that have received awards will be featured for their design quality, ingenuity, and execution as determined by the Jury.

AIA Austin

AIA Austin serves the professional needs of nearly 1,000 architect and associate members; and over 180 Allied companies working in fields related to architecture, design and construction in the greater Austin area. AIA Austin provides the architecture community with resources and relationships to make a difference through design. We’ve been opening doors, providing connections, keeping our members and the public informed, and demonstrating our commitment to great design for over 75 years.

Brandon Townsend, AIA

Brandon serves as Project Architect within Page’s Housing and Hospitality group and is a project designer within its Healthcare group. Most recently he has worked on a boutique hotel in the hill country of Texas and is now leading a 35 story luxury condominium project in downtown Austin. Since joining Page in 2008, Brandon has worked on some of the firm’s most prestigious and complex projects including the 270,000 SF Lakeway Regional Medical Center and the 255,000 SF Clinic for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Austin. He also served as project designer for a new Data Center facility for a Confidential Utility Services Provider and as Project Architect for an expansion for a semi-conductor processing facility for Maxim Integrated Circuits. Brandon has been an active member in the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects and currently serves as the Practice Commissioner. Previously he has served as the committee chair for the Emerging Professional Committee and in 2011 was awarded the American Institute of Architects Emerging Professional Honor Award for his outstanding work.

Kit Johnson, AIA

Kit Johnson, AIA is a licensed architect and an accredited professional with both LEED & CNU. A graduate of The University of Texas School of Architecture, his 24 years of practice includes experience at Lake/Flato, Overland Partners and BCV San Francisco. He is a founding partner of Hailey Johnson Architects and Architecture 365 and is currently serving as the City Architect for the City of Austin, TX. He serves on the Board of Austin AIA.
JURY

Al York, AIA

Al York, AIA, joined McKinney Architects in 1995 as a distinguished academic and practitioner. Through his incisive design leadership the firm has built an unparalleled reputation for tackling complex, unusual and hard-to-build projects. He is a favorite among select developers, public-sector and institutional clients alike. Mr. York became the firm’s first partner in 1998.

Mr. York is sought out for his breadth of knowledge, his expertise in construction technology, and his commitment to quality design, project budgets, and schedules. He possesses a strong sensitivity to context - in particular, the ability to interweave contemporary uses and projects within existing settings in a way that creates a seamless and vital continuity between old and new. A consensus-builder, a problem-solver, and an organized leader, he comes to every project thoroughly grounded in an understanding not only of contract documents and construction processes, but of the project’s embedded design goals. His design leadership has earned McKinney York multiple awards across the full spectrum of project sectors it serves, and the firm relies on his leadership for its most complex projects. Past President of AIA Austin and Vice President of the Austin Foundation for Architecture, Mr. York works tirelessly to build strong alliances between practitioners, business leaders and community decision makers.

Chris Cobb, AIA

With over 22 years of practice, Chris has a diverse and broad range of experience that includes everything from large scale commercial architecture to intimately scaled residential work. After founding his own office in 2006, his primary focus has been on high-end residential projects with work not only in Texas, but also in New Hampshire & Northern California. He has an affinity for working with clients who are passionate about design and care intensely about the places they live and work. His work has been featured in book and magazine publications, highlighted on an international television series, and has been displayed on numerous local architecture tours.

In addition to being active in various activities of AIA Austin, his leadership experience includes a two-year term as the Design and Awards Commissioner, Chair of the Honors Award Committee, Chair of the Communications committee, and is currently serving his fourth year on Chapter’s Executive Board.

Eric Rauser, AIA

Eric Rauser, AIA is a partner at Risinger Homes, a high performance building & remodeling company that specializes in architect driven work. He has enjoyed working in architecture firms of many sizes and disciplines before finding the place where he can do the most good for the practice of architecture. Eric graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor's in Architecture and being outside whenever possible.
With the introduction of a tangible award as part of the recognition package for both design and service award recipients, the AIA Buffalo/WNY Chapter felt it was important to ensure that the physical piece was, like the firms and architecture we seek to acknowledge and recognize, a local product.

A Western New York native, Patrick S. Dafchik was inspired by his father to pursue wood-working. Patrick is a graduate of UB’s School of Architecture and Planning where he acquired a greater understanding and appreciation for the complexity of working with various materials to create unique, sophisticated and custom-designed pieces for his clients. In his past experience with Rusted Grain, Patrick utilized reclaimed wood to meet the needs of many different customers. He constructed a games-cart for Canalside, as well as the back bar, wine window and tables for Trattoria Aroma (East Amherst) and numerous fixtures for multiple bars and restaurants throughout Buffalo.

Although Patrick has built custom furniture and pieces in the past, his passion is creating distinct, uniquely designed collections. As a result, Patrick is now the owner of One Batch, a company dedicated to designing and fabricating batches of high-quality original products. The work is often multi-faceted, as different fabricators are brought together to produce specific components of a finished project. His recent designs and productions include interior signage at The Fairmont, tap-handles for Community Beer Works and awards for Columbus McKinnon.
DESIGN AWARDS

HONOR
SUNY Buffalo State Science

MERIT
Apartment of Perfect Brightness
South Buffalo Charter School
High Living
HONOR AWARD
LOCAL FIRM / LOCAL PROJECT

PHOTO CREDIT: TIM WILKES
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK BUFFALO STATE, SCIENCE BUILDING NO. 15
BUFFALO, NY
CANNONDESIGN
2013

PROJECT DESCRIPTION FROM THE ARCHITECT
SUNY Buffalo State’s Science Building No. 15 Phase I boldly asserts the beauty and harmony of science by promoting design excellence and interdisciplinary learning. This state-of-the-art facility will boost SUNY Buffalo State’s ability to recruit and retain top students and faculty in their growing science curriculum. Built in 1962, the original building had become inadequate to house the college’s science program. Rather than merely rehabilitating this 171,000 sf building, the college undertook a $107 million, multi-phased expansion project to create a science complex designed for interdisciplinary collaboration—one that consolidates science departments into a single facility. The completed Phase I builds a 96,000 sf addition along the building’s west side to house new teaching and research labs, faculty offices, and instrumentation rooms.

The design concept utilizes the ordering principle of the Fibonacci sequence, a recursive mathematical series that is often found occurring in nature. The sequence has influenced architecture throughout history and, with a contemporary bent, has determined proportion, rhythm, and placement of exterior metal panels and glazing, as well as the placement of projecting planes harboring interior breakout areas. Facades recall a diversity of scientific images, including chromosome markers, striated rock formations, and dispersive prisms. These design themes reinforced the idea of “science on display” and supported SUNY Buffalo State’s mission of providing a superior science education experience.

JURY:
“With its beautifully articulated façade, this project expresses the rigor and elegant complexity that underlies the science it shelters. The spaces are well proportioned and smartly arranged.”
-Al York

“This project successfully took a very complex building program and delivered a simple, organized layout while incorporating an existing building. A clever Fibonacci design concept was incorporated to help develop an extremely dynamic exterior façade. The Buffalo State Science Building embodies the current approach of modern science and provides a very creative learning environment for all to experience.”
-Brandon Townsend

PROJECT TEAM
ARCHITECT / CANNONDESIGN
Frank Sica
Jerome Bobak
Eric Gottorff
Mike Mistriner

CONSULTANT / WA TTS ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING P.C.
CONSULTANT / JOY KUEBLER LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
MERIT AWARD
RESIDENTIAL

PHOTO CREDIT: JONATHAN LEIJONHUFVUD
APARTMENT OF PERFECT BRIGHTNESS
BEIJING, CHINA

ADAM SOKOL ARCHITECTURE PRACTICE, PLLC
2015

PROJECT DESCRIPTION FROM THE ARCHITECT
Beginning with the owner’s stated preference for a home with abundant natural light, the name of this project was adapted from that of a famous Beijing garden. The idea of “perfect brightness” was explored architecturally: beginning with research into the psychological effects of different qualities and colors of daylight, a system was developed whereby ambient lighting could change from warm to cool white, depending on the season, time of day, and outdoor lighting conditions. The light is “concentrated” at the center in two twisting, shell-shaped feature walls, drawing visitors in from the entry. Further, working from the owner’s second goal — to eliminate clutter and create a suitable environment to display an art collection — it was decided that all interior walls would be clad in folding wood doors, 132 in total, that would essentially make all of them transformable: when open, bookshelves, storage areas, televisions and headboards would be revealed; when closed, all would be concealed, leaving only a simple space forming a serene, museum-like backdrop for the artworks.

PROJECT TEAM
ARCHITECT / ADAM SOKOL ARCHITECTURE PRACTICE, PLLC
Adam Sokol, AIA
Daymond Robinson
Gregory Serweta

CONSULTANT / SMITH + ANDERSON
CONSULTANT / CLAUDY JONGSTRA

JURY:
“I appreciated the restraint of gesture and materials. The design is clear and resolved, and the resulting space is stimulating without overpowering the art. “Perfect brightness” is a high bar to set, but the meticulously detailed curved walls softly wash light deep into the interior. I believe they met their goal. Goal #2 was similarly met with walls that double as quiet backdrops for the art and occupants while cleverly doing double duty as efficient storage to contain the less than artsy aspects or everyday living.”
-Kit Johnson

“The Apartment of Perfect Brightness stood out because of its intimate scale and deceptively simple program. The design exemplifies a high level of restraint, refined materiality, and the importance of well-executed craft. These elements all work together to reinforce the underlying clarity of thought and sophistication within the project.”
-Chris Cobb
MERIT AWARD
Institutional

PHOTO CREDIT: JAMES CAVANAUGH
SOUTH BUFFALO CHARTER SCHOOL
BUFFALO, NY

STIEGLITZ SNYDER ARCHITECTURE
2013

PROJECT DESCRIPTION FROM THE ARCHITECT

South Buffalo Charter School is a new elementary charter school facility serving pre-kindergarten through eighth grade students. The site is located adjacent to the Buffalo River and was developed in conjunction with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Brownfield Cleanup Program. This significant endeavor revives a vacant brownfield contiguous with a residential area of South Buffalo, transforming it into a beneficial part of the neighborhood fabric. The site plan was thoughtfully developed to address a series of concerns including mitigation of localized environmental site conditions, providing safe interaction of pedestrians and vehicles, conservation of land for future use, and the local flood plain.

The building was innovatively and intelligently designed with simple materials and geometries to create a light filled entrance lobby and durable exterior, serving as a counterpoint to the natural setting. The school’s amenities include a Gymnasium, Auditorium and Cafeteria, organized around a two story lobby which also functions as the gathering and circulation hub for school day and after-hours activities.

A two story classroom and support services wing is connected to the lobby. Classrooms are arranged in a basic double-loaded corridor concept with centrally located support spaces, promoting efficient access in a simple organization.

PROJECT TEAM
ARCHITECT / STIEGLITZ SNYDER ARCHITECTURE
Philip Snyder, AIA
Robert Shepard, AIA
Jeffrey Kloetzer, AIA
Delia Valdis
Patrick Monti

JURY:

This is not architecture that wows, but simply good solid design. This project will age well through the years. I appreciated the selection of materials and how the materials coupled with clear articulation of the massing translates the program into architecture. Special places such as the library were given the attention they deserve and I saw resolution of interior space with exterior form. This is a school I would want to send my kids to.

-Kit Johnson

The architects created a smart, well-organized school, deftly avoiding the typical tropes of tight-budget K-12 design. The material palette is restrained and deftly deployed to reveal the programmatic elements.

-Al York
PHOTO CREDIT: PROVIDED BY ARCHITECT
Backgournd photos from dominikimseng.com and Google Maps (Dr.V.S.Chouhan)
HIGH LIVING
MUMBAI, INDIA

DIOINNO ARCHITECTURE PLLC
UNBUILT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION FROM THE ARCHITECT

The extreme density in Dharavi Slum, one of the largest in the world, produce two opposite aspects, one is the unique locality and dynamic energy as a part of greater Mumbai urban dynamics, and the other is the cause of disaster in public health, safety and well-being. The lack of infrastructure, complicated ownership, illegal settlement and poverty has made much previous conventional redevelopment effort a cosmetic dream. Responding to this problem, High-Living, the prefabricated connected towers, can provide radical but realistic cure. It can maintain the density vertically, keeping the rich spatial configuration in newly constructed spatial configuration. Connected towers have multiple connections between towers, creating an arch shape. One exoskeleton frame holds 8 containers and all structural loads go through these frames, not the stacking of containers. High-Living provides multiple egress routes since they are sharing the means of egress each other. Also, the bridge area is a legitimate outdoor space for refugee of safety and also for generous public park, unprecedented in this area. Lastly, the phasing strategy, beginning from a minimal construction area, gradually gain open spaces on the ground while maintaining the density of living/working space in the tower and in the existing city.

PROJECT TEAM
ARCHITECT / DIOINNO ARCHITECTURE PLLC
Jin Young Song, AIA
CONSULTANT / Bonghwan Kim, PE

JURY:

The High Living Project is a creative and adventurous proposition for solving a social problem. The use of a systematic module within which users can embellish and embody allows for flexible growth, and the tapestry of containers reflects the organic and industrial mix of the streetscape below. The entrant went beyond the bold concept to explore the common spaces and integration of systems in a way that is successfully provocative.
- Eric Rauser

Architecture has the ability to create and provide a better physical environment that can inspire great emotion. This project illustrates how progressive thinking and design can also help solve an extreme social issue. At certain views, it appears that the horizontal fabric of the city has manifested into the exterior of the project. The use of shipping containers as an available building material, in conjunction with a simple, structural system help realize a feasible design solution to a complex social problem.
- Brandon Townsend
1 East Hill Foundation Workshop
North Tonawanda, NY
Architectural Resources
Photo Credits: Jim Bush

2 LAPC Lofts (Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church)
Buffalo, NY
Carmina Wood Morris, DPC
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

3 The Tishman Building (10 Lafayette)
Buffalo, NY
Carmina Wood Morris, DPC
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

4 Riverwalk Solar Building
North Tonawanda, NY
Kideney Architects, PC
Photo Credits: TM Montante Development

5 (716) Food and Sport
Buffalo, NY
BHNT Architects, P.C.
Photo Credits: James Cavanaugh Photography

6 El Barrio’s Artspace PS109
East Harlem, NY
HHL Architects
Photo Credits: James Shanks

7 Educational Opportunity Center
Buffalo, NY
HOLT Architects
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

8 State University of New York at Oswego, Richard S. Shineman Center
Oswego, NY
CannonDesign
Photo Credits: Tim Wilkes

9 State University of New York at Albany, Mohawk Tower
Albany, NY
CannonDesign
Photo Credits: Bjorg Magnea

10 St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton, Margaret and Charles Juravinski Centre
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
CannonDesign
Photo Credits: Bjorg Magnea

11 East Aurora Union Free School District High School Natatorium
East Aurora, NY
Mach Architecture PC
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

12 SUNY Albany Academic Podium, Water Tower and Fountain Rehabilitation
Albany, NY
Mach Architecture PC
Photo Credits: Visko Hatfield

13 Conventus
Buffalo, NY
Kideney Architects, PC
Photo Credits: Mark Dellas

14 Harold’s Square
Ithaca, NY
CJS Architects
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

15 Buffalo State Coyer Field Press Box
Buffalo, NY
Wendel
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

16 Greater Lynchburg Transfer Center
Lynchburg, VA
Wendel
Photo Credits: James Cavanaugh Photography

17 Blacksburg Transit and Virginia Tech Multi-Modal Transit Facility
Blacksburg, VA
Wendel
Photo Credits: Provided by Architect

18 United South Central Public Schools – New PK-12 School
Wells, MN
Wendel
Photo Credits: Corey Gaff er
SERVICE AWARDS

SERVICE AWARD CATEGORIES

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE
Robert and Louise Bethune Award
Edward B. Green Distinguished Service Award
Mentor Award

FRIENDS OF ARCHITECTURE
Community Service Award
David Varecka, Former Principal and Executive Vice President of Kidney Architects, retired in 2013 after 42 years in the profession. For the clients he served, the value of Dave’s experience was consistently displayed by his keen attention to detail, and attentiveness to the owners’ needs, project schedule, and budget. For the numerous interns and young architects he mentored, Dave consistently imparted the same attention to detail, determination and tenacity into their own everyday lives and throughout their careers.

Mr. Varecka has a great deal of experience in the renovation and conservation of historic buildings. He directed the conversion of the former Roosevelt Hotel into code-compliant, efficient and restored Roosevelt Apartments for the elderly. He has been a featured speaker at the National Terra Cotta Symposium on the topic of restoring historic masonry facades. Projects he has managed have received awards from the WNY Chapter of the AIA, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, the Brick Institute of America and the New York State Library Association Building Awards Program.

Mr. Varecka was an active Registered Architect in New York State for 35 years and a member of the AIA. He was awarded the “Mentor of the Year” award in 2002. Dave took great pride in the staff that he guided, taking them under his wing and teaching them about the profession. Those lucky enough to call Dave their mentor have repeatedly gone on to have their own successful careers and pass along those same mentoring skills to their someday-successors.

After retiring from his architectural career, David and his wife, Ellen have relocated to central New York and are presently Co-Owners and Co-Managers of the Arbor Inn of Clinton, New York.
Awarded to an individual or group who has performed outstanding service to the local AIA Chapter, this year’s Distinguished Service Award is conferred upon Edward J Lindsay, AIA.

A lifelong Buffalo resident, Ed was born in South Buffalo and attended School 67 on Abbott Road (now the Discovery School). He began his pursuit of Architecture at Hutchinson Central Technical High School and then to the fledgling program at the University at Buffalo in their original home at Bethune Hall on Main Street. Ed worked for a number of Buffalo firms including Trautmann and “the 4 Architects”, Hamilton Houston Lownie & Castle.

When Jimmy Griffin became mayor in 1978 he was hired as Principal Architect for the City of Buffalo where he was made responsible for all of the City’s parks buildings, police and fire stations, City Hall, the Albright Knox Art Gallery and History Museum. Ed’s love of historic preservation was evident in his many projects, especially the History Museum & the Delaware Park Casino. Ed joined the Buffalo Board of Education as Associate Superintendent of Plant Services and School Planning in the 1992 where he was an important part of the renovation of the Buffalo schools. He remained in that position until retiring in 2010.

Ed’s unselfish commitment, willingness to serve and strong leadership as a director and two time president of the Buffalo/WNY AIA, first in the 1980’s, then 30 years later, have been integral elements in the long term rejuvenation of the local chapter. While such efforts are never singled handedly accomplished, he worked with and led a group of volunteers who showed tireless energy to ensure the growth and development of the chapter.

The local AIA chapter is honored to award the Distinguished Service Award to Edward J. Linsey. His vision of and commitment to the professional of architecture is outstanding and commendable.
MENTOR AWARD
Ken Schmitz

The 2015 Mentor Award is bestowed upon Kenneth Schmitz for his unwavering dedication to the profession of architecture through the development of its greatest asset - the next generation. Ken has been practicing architecture in Buffalo since 1995, more than half spent in project management, working in respected firms including HHL Architects, CJS Architects, and Young + Wright Architectural.

Ken has excelled at guiding younger associates through the trials of professional office experience, eagerly providing them with the support they required to help themselves flourish. For many, the idea of training is perceived as a formal requirement that is only necessary occasionally. Ken, however, treats the progress of younger associates as a comprehensive opportunity to actively engage them into their work at all times. Each design problem is seen as a way to grow and discover.

He has a genuine interest in helping others become the best versions of themselves. This is true of both their advancement as designers and people. Mr. Schmitz has participated in the Buffalo Architectural Foundation’s ‘Architecture + Education’ program and spends his free time coaching younger children the art of wrestling.

Ken has made an invaluable impact upon those he has advised and those he continues to foster. The profession owes a great debt to mentors like Ken, leaders who pass on the principles of practice so that the enthusiastic architects of tomorrow will be ready and able to accept the challenges they will face.
With more than five years’ experience completing his graduate studies, Luke Johnson has made a priority in his architectural career to promote and enhance the profession through community outreach.

Luke has an incredibly active voice in Buffalo’s design and non-profit communities. He currently holds board and co-chair positions with Architecture + Education (Arch + Ed), and the Buffalo Architecture foundation (BAF), with responsibilities including hosting discussions about architecture’s impact on culture and heritage.

He is also actively involved in CannonDesign’s Open Hand Studio, an arm of CannonDesign dedicated to fostering community engagement and providing socially impactful design services. He seeks opportunities to collaborate with local organizations who believe design can positively influence their mission and values.

Another incredibly successful community outreach in which Luke and another local architect helped launch and carry-out is the Native American education programming. BAF, with the help of board members like Luke, seized the opportunity to reach out in these communities and provide programming to children and adults who may not otherwise have opportunity to learn about architecture and design.
The Community Service Award for an individual who has performed outstanding service on behalf of, or related to the built environment is awarded to Thomas Dee.

Tom Dee is a former principal of Cannon Design and Director of Construction Services, leading construction services teams to integrate architectural and engineering disciplines on projects of all scales. As President of a NYS Development Agency Tom Dee earned a reputation for achieving results and achieving excellence.

Tom became president of the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation in 2009, leading the Corporation’s vision to revitalize Buffalo’s waterfront and restore economic growth to the region. He lead the development, design and construction of Canalside, an urban entertainment district, through place making, programming, incremental improvements and capital projects. Tom oversaw the design, funding and construction of Canalside infrastructure including two restaurants, the East Canal, the largest skating rink in New York State and the historic boardwalk extension. He created a 12 month destination with public access to the water’s edge and over 1 million visitors each year and set the table for private development of the One Canalside Building and Harbor Center.

Tom is a Leadership Buffalo graduate and strong advocate for the City, maintaining his residence in downtown Buffalo. He has held board seats at Cannon Design, the Darwin Martin House (Historic Frank Lloyd Wright Designed Complex), and Buffalo Urban Development Corporation.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.
Buffalo Architecture Foundation (BAF) is pleased to announce Dirk Schneider, AIA, Partner at CJS Architects, as the recipient of the Pro Bono Publico Award in Distinguished Service for his remarkable commitment to the historic Chautauqua Amphitheater.

When the Chautauqua Institution discussed plans to replace this iconic contributing structure to the National Historic Chautauqua District with a replica, the Committee to Preserve the Historic Chautauqua Amphitheater formed and launched the Save the Amp campaign. The Committee began collaborating with CJS Architects in November of 2014 and noted that Schneider “immediately became a valuable partner” in their mission to present alternatives to demolition and to bring transparency to a challenging and often contentious process. The Committee credited Schneider with developing a sustainable, “practical and refreshingly logical” approach to maintaining the building’s historic integrity while meeting the Institution’s key objectives of improving safety, accessibility, capacity, and functionality.

The Pro Bono Award jury was intrigued by “the flexibility and transitional quality of the solutions”, which allow for the amphitheater to evolve with the needs of the Institution.

Schneider notes, “I believe that pro bono work…is one of the best ways practitioners can have a positive impact on their communities.” The significance of pro bono services are highlighted by the importance of the Institution Board vote on November 7th on whether to move forward with demolition of this landmark and the construction of a new facility.
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- Mies van der Rohe
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Please join us in celebrating Buffalo’s Architectural legacy through honoring the vision of its designers.