ARCHITECTURE AWARDS

UPCOMING AWARDS NIGHT | MICHAEL ANDERSON, AIA

The chapter will showcase its best Thursday, November 16th at the Twentieth Century Club during our annual AIA Buffalo/WNY Architecture Awards. So with less than a week until the big event, if you don’t have a ticket, now would be the time to visit the awards website and purchase at least one!

http://www.aiadesignawards.org/

We are looking forward to hosting the local architecture community as we celebrate the best work undertaken either locally or by Buffalo/WNY firms. We will showcase each of the 29 submissions made this year representing the work of 16 firms and will hand out awards in 10 diverse categories. Last year our big winner of the Buffalo/WNY Award was Roswell Park’s Scott Bieler Clinical Sciences Center by FXFowle Architects. Who will it be this year?

Service Award winners will be announced at the event, with awards to be presented at the Chapter Holiday Party to be held December 14th at Asbury Hall. More information about tickets will be provided in the coming weeks.

ROBERT A. SANDERS, AIA
JOINS 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS | Anne Dafchik, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP

Robert A. Sanders, principal at Watts Architecture and Engineering, will join AIA Buffalo/WNY as its newest board member.

Welcome, Robert!

QUEEN CITY ARCHITECTURE RUN

FUN FOR ALL | ANNE DAFCHIK, AIA

The second annual Queen City Architecture Run was held on Saturday, September 16th. Men and women of all ages, young children in strollers, as well as some older children running with their parents participated in the 3.5-mile run on a beautiful sunny morning in downtown Buffalo. Significant architectural buildings along the route included the Liberty Building, Ellicott Square Building, Lafayette Hotel, M&T Gold Dome and M&T Tower buildings, and the Guaranty Building. The overall race winner was John Deguardi with a winning time of 20:43.1. The fastest female runner, Jessica Harper received a time of 24:29.4. Winners for each age bracket are listed online. Congratulations to all our winners and thank you to those of you who cheered our runners on. We look forward to seeing you next year.
The Emerging Professionals Committee of AIA Buffalo/WNY recently partnered with the UB School of Architecture & Planning to hold a Networking Event to bring professional architects together with architecture students. The event was designed to help students understand the value of networking in the profession and give them a forum to ask their burning questions about what the profession is really like.

The event brought eight professionals from a variety of Buffalo-area firms with different specialties together with at least 40 students of varying backgrounds. At first, the professionals explained their backgrounds and their path to architecture and their current position. Students initially asked more about the architects and their firms, but then, as the event went on, asked more specific questions about how firms work, how their unique skills as students might fit into the profession (at a firm or not), and what skills they should hone in preparation for the professional world. The students seemed to enjoy the event and it was a positive and energetic learning experience for students and professionals alike.

The five areas of focus include:

- Leadership Development
- Firms/workplace/studio culture
- Excellence in architecture
- Education and career development
- Marketing, branding, public awareness and outreach

We stand committed to strengthen the professions’ commitment for all. Equity is good for your practice. Diversity in the profession results in better design, better communities and more cohesive design solutions. Let’s work together to understand how we can all make a difference. Please contact the AIA Diversity Committee to get involved. Deborah Pease or Tracy Conhisser-Uy.
AIA RELEASES NEWLY REVISED ARCHITECT SCOPE DOCUMENTS

Washington, D.C. - October 23, 2017 – The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is releasing the second part of the once-in-a-decade 2017 edition of the A201, design-bid-build family of documents for a total of 34 newly revised 2017 documents. This release includes updated versions of the Architect Scope documents and many of the frequently-used AIA forms. Working with architects, contractors, subcontractors and owners, the AIA Documents Committee updates this core set of documents every 10 years. This helps ensure that the AIA legal forms and agreements reflect changes and trends in the industry, and that the AIA Contract Documents remain the Industry Standard.

The revised 2017 documents are currently available through an unlimited access license or as a single, customizable document on ACD5, the online platform. The documents are also available as single, non-editable documents on AIA Documents on Demand and as paper versions through some AIA Chapters. Visit www.aiacontracts.org/purchase for more information. Comparative versions showing the differences between the 2017 and 2007 editions are also available at www.aiacontracts.org/learn.

About AIA Contract Documents | AIA Contract Documents are the nearly 200 forms and contracts that define the relationships and terms involved in design and construction projects. Prepared by the AIA with the consensus of owners, contractors, attorneys, architects, engineers, and others, the documents have been finely tuned during their 120-year history. As a result, these comprehensive contracts and forms are now widely recognized as the industry standard. Used by all industry professionals, including architects, contractors, owners, consultants, and attorneys, AIA Contract Documents are organized into two categories: by families, based on types of projects or particular project delivery methods, and by series, based on the parties to the agreement or the use of the form. Visit www.aiacontracts.org

About AIA Documents Committee | Since its inception in 1887, the AIA Documents Committee has been an AIA committee dedicated to creating and revising AIA Contract Documents. Qualified applicants for the AIA Documents Committee are licensed architects and members of the AIA actively engaged in the design and construction industry through employment in architectural firms or construction companies, or for building owners or developers. New members are appointed to maintain a balance of viewpoints based on diversity, including geography, firm size, practice type, and area of expertise.

AIA Buffalo/WNY is extremely lucky to have a group of partners who have signed on as part of our Allied Members program. The money raised from these memberships is primarily used to pay for the chapter scholarship and special event programming and without the help of these companies and individuals we would not be able to provide all the benefits that we strive to. The chapter is pleased to be allied members with the following businesses:

- AVALON DOCUMENT SERVICES - BUFFALO
- BAER & ASSOCIATES, LLC
- CHARLIE LONG (KELLEY BROS)
- CME ASSOCIATES
- CONSTRUCTION EXCHANGE OF BUFFALO & WNY, INC.
- JIM CAVANAUGH PHOTOGRAPHY
- M/E ENGINEERING, P.C.
- NUSSBAUMER & CLARKE, INC.
- PARKITECTS, INC.
- PELLA WINDOWS - BUFFALO
- PRENTICE OFFICE ENVIRONMENTS
- RIGIDIZED METALS
- ROCHE & COMPANY, LTD.
- RP OAK HILL BUILDING COMPANY INC.
- SJB / EMPIRE GEO SERVICES
- SUGARMAN LAW
- UNILOCK INC., BUFFALO

We are still looking for our first architectural firm to sign on, with special benefits provided to those firms that choose to join. For information and to download the application and informational PDF please visit the website.
The American Institute of Architects’s third annual I Look Up Film Challenge invited architects and filmmakers to collaborate in bringing architectural stories to life. This year’s challenge called for films to highlight projects and architects that are helping to change communities for the better. The 2017 campaign shone a light on the powerful social impact of architects and their work. In partnership with their clients and communities, architects plant the seeds that blossom into stronger neighborhoods, towns and cities.

Grand Prize Winner, Myles Kramer, director of Community by Design: Skid Row Housing Trust, was chosen by an esteemed panel of judges as the 2017 I Look Up Film Challenge winner! This was Myles’ first entry into the I Look Up Film Challenge and we’re thrilled to announce him as this year’s winner.

Filmed in Los Angeles and featuring Michael Maltzan Architecture and Brooks + Scarpa Architecture, the winning film highlights the power of design in improving the lives of those experiencing homelessness. Of the 80 films submitted, the judges gave scores from 1-5 in Storytelling & Prompt, Architectural Placement, and Technical Merit. Learn more about Myles below and check back for blogs on the First Runner Up and Second Runner Up.

AIA: How did you get into filmmaking?

Myles Kramer: I got into filmmaking when I was a kid, somewhere around 9 or 10 years old. My first films were Lego stop motion movies, and I always made movies with my brother and neighborhood friends using the home camcorder. I think I started doing more professional work in high school, when a student documentary I worked on got into a few film festivals and won an award from C-Span.

AIA: How did you find this story?

Myles Kramer: Los Angeles is in a homelessness crisis, and it really shows. From parks to highways, tents and homeless communities can be found in any part of the city and the circumstances are dire. Only recently did a small community of tents form down the street from my house, and it got me thinking about how large this problem really is. I was doing research in downtown Los Angeles when I drove by one of the Skid Row Housing Trust buildings. I didn’t know what it was at the time, so I went home to research and I landed on SkidRow.org. Once I learned about the Skid Row Housing Trust, their missions, and their impactful body of work, the idea clicked. I reached out to the trust, and I was lucky to be welcomed into some of the various communities that span between the buildings. There were many friendly residents and members of the administration who were willing to speak with us, and I even made a few friends during the filming process.

AIA: Did this experience change your view of architecture? If yes, how so?

Myles Kramer: I became interested in architecture in college, and I even made architecture film projects for two separate classes in school. I always felt that space and design had some kind of varying impact on my moods and my thinking, but I just didn’t know why. It was only after working on this project did I learn more specifically about how architecture and design affects people’s day to day lives. After filming in the Skid Row Housing Trust buildings, I better understand importance of natural lighting and public vs private spaces. After meeting the residents and learning about their experiences, I can see why these elements aid in physical and mental recovery, and foster a sense of community.

AIA: What was one of the highlights or most moving moments of the experience?

Myles Kramer: There were many moments that were highlights for me, but I think I was moved the most during our final day of principal shooting. On our final day we filmed at the Skid Row Denim Academy for their monthly event Trust in Sound. While we were at the event and learned more about the Skid Row Denim Academy, it hit me. I was struck by the extent that the Skid Row Housing Trust goes to fulfill their mission of rehabilitation for their residents. We had been filming and learning about the Skid Row Housing Trust all week but when I learned about this partnership, it really all came together for me. The Skid Row Denim Academy produces various apparel and clothing, and aims to train and hire residents from the Trust throughout all departments and industries that are involved with the production of their clothing. The Denim Academy partners with the Skid Row Housing Trust to bring communities together and provide workforce development opportunities, as well as establish positive connotations to quite literally rebrand the term “skid row.” I was surprised to learn about how the Skid Row Housing Trust provides more than just a place to live, but a true home that incorporates community and extensive rehabilitation practices both physically and mentally for its residents. The Trust truly supports its residents in all aspects of their lives, and takes into account all factors that help people put their lives back on track. They truly care about the well-being of their residents on a personal level, and it really shows. This is was I was most moved by.

The Grand Prize Winner, along with the First Runner Up and Second Runner Up received an exclusive screening of their films at the Architecture and Design Film Festival on September 26 in Chicago and again on November 1-5 in New York City. Click here to see the collection of all entries received.
Dear Members, because some of you may be interested in this community activism endeavor, we are passing along this information to you.

The #SaveDelawarePark campaign endeavors to ensure that local voices are part of the conversation surrounding possible redesign of Route 198 and Delaware Park. To get involved or to make your voice heard, please see the information below and pass this along.

The #SaveDelawarePark campaign

is a grassroots effort to convince the NYS DOT to rethink its current short-sighted plan for Route 198.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP THIS WEEK TO SAVE DELAWARE PARK AND RECONNECT OUR COMMUNITIES

CALL

Call your local representatives and let them know you want them to stop DOT and Save Delaware Park.

- Mon: Assemblymember Crystal Peoples-Stokes 716 - 897 - 9714
- Tues: Senator Tim Kennedy 716 - 826 - 2683
- Wed: Governor Andrew Cuomo 518 - 474 - 8390
- Thur: Assemblymember Sean Ryan 716 - 885 - 9630
- Fri: State Senator Chris Jacobs 716 - 854 - 8705

Key messages:
- In the 1950’s, construction of the Scanaqua Expressway divided and destroyed acres of parkland the jewel of Olmsted’s system, Delaware Park.
- Right now, we have an unprecedented opportunity to reverse this mistake and restore Olmsted’s legacy - but only if we can convince the Governor to help us Save Delaware Park.
- Please tell DOT to rethink its current short-sighted plan and join with the community on a comprehensive approach. We won’t have this chance again for another 75 years.

SIGN

Get your friends to sign the petition to Save Delaware Park.
Tweet & share the following message on Twitter & Facebook:
Help reconnect communities, improve accessibility & enhance economic vitality.
Sign the petition http://bit.ly/SaveDelPark & #SaveDelawarePark

TWEET

Tweet the Governor and show your support for the campaign using the hashtag #SaveDelawarePark.

Suggested tweet: We need your leadership @NYGovCuomo. Reconnect communities & enhance economic vitality. Stop @NYS DOT & help us #SaveDelawarePark.

SHARE

The campaign to Save Delaware Park just went NATIONAL – appearing on the cover of the style section of the Sunday (10/22) New York Times. Tweet a link to the article and share on Facebook!

Suggested tweet/FB post: The campaign to restore Olmsted’s legacy in Buffalo just went national. Read about the effort to #SaveDelawarePark @ http://nyti.ms/2gX0h6h

To get involved, please email Brian Dold, Director of Planning & Advocacy, at Brian@bfloparks.org