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Highlights of 2014 - Loay Quota, 2014 President



Dear Colleagues:

As 2014 President of the American Institute of Architect's Middle East Chapter, it is with great appreciation that I write to you today to thank you for your support of AIA Middle East in 2014. I would also like to take this opportunity to share with you what we have done together during 2014. A year in which we consider a banner year for AIA Middle East, celebrated by several notable accomplishments. And finally I would like tell you more about what to expect in 2015.

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AIA MIDDLE EAST YEAR END CONFERENCE + REGIONAL DESIGN AWARDS 2014 DOHA QATAR

The AIA Middle East Chapter held its 2nd Annual Year End Conference and Regional Design Awards on the 14-15 November 2014 in Doha, Qatar at the Hilton Hotel. The theme of the conference "Super and Small" focused on the super projects of Qatar and the Gulf Region and the small details that make them possible.

The 2nd Annual AIA Middle East Design awards honored works of excellence in architecture by AIA ME members. Many fantastic projects were recognized, and for the first time a new award category for Architectural students was introduced, celebrating their design achievements in their academic studies.



AIA MIDDLE EAST IS THE LARGEST INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER



We at AIA Middle East are proud to announce that after a short **FOUR YEARS** in operation, we have grown to become **the largest of the International Chapters**. We wish to thank all of you who have supported us, particularly our sponsors, members and chapter officers who have worked tirelessly to achieve this incredible milestone

We encourage you all to renew your membership to continue to make our chapter one of the largest international chapter. Your dues go directly into supporting all the programs, conferences and tours that we are able to organize. www.aia.org

AROUND THE CHAPTER

AIA ME Chapter Bahrain Launch Event - Domain Hotel, Bahrain.

AIA Middle East Chapter officially launched in Bahrain on 21st March 2015 with the presence of professionals from diverse organizations. The guests were practitioners, academics, and professionals from relevant governmental and non-profit organizations. The event was held to introduce the AIA ME to the architectural community in the country and to discuss with possible collaborations and future events. Loay Quota, 2014 AIA ME President and current KSA representative, presented the AIA and the benefits of becoming a member for individuals as well as the benefits of collaborating with organizations. He furthermore explained the different categories of memberships and the method that is to be followed to attain

each one.



AIA ME Bahrain and Mawane organize [IN]Accessible

AIA Middle East Chapter collaborated with Mawane to hold a series of events in January which were part of Mawane's first cultural season [in]Accessible that started on Thursday 1st January 2015 and continued till 31st January. The events were talks and a movie screening that highlighted issues in cities around the world while exposing contemporary spatial practices and the consequences they have in cities. The invited guest speakers presented talks followed by workshops from their experiences, emphasizing their diverse approaches to accessibility of the city.

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AIA ME Jordan Inaugural Event November 2014

The AIA ME inaugurated its launch event in Amman, Jordan in November 2014 with

its two lecture program "Sustainable Design Solutions", which focused on issues of sustainable architecture and landscape, green design principals and creative solutions for more sustainable environment. The events were held at CAFE GRAFFITI, and in partnership with Jordan GBC, Architectural Forum and Edama.

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US COMMERCE DEPARTMENT AND AIA TRADE MISSION to SAUDI ARABIA and QATAR Nov 2014

The American Institute of Architects and the International Trade Administration held a trade mission to Doha, Qatar on November 18th and 19th, with a stop in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The purpose of this mission was to introduce small and mid-size U.S. firms to the expanding and diversifying Qatari and Saudi markets.

The trade mission to Qatar was led by Robert Dunn Senior Commercial Officer from the US Embassy in Doha with local AIA Middle East assistance provided by Thierry Paret, FAIA.

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Lunch at IM Pei's Islamic Museum with AIA President Elizabeth Chu Richter, FAIA (Right Center) and AIA Middle East Qatar Country Representative Thierry Paret, FAIA. Type caption text here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AIA ME Dubai Lecture - The Rise of The Vertical Gardens

Please the join AIA Middle East on April 1st at 7.30 PM at Herman Miller's Regional Design Center in Dubai for a presentation on Vertical Gardens.

Specific focus will be given to:

- How the vertical garden concept works in the UAE and the Middleeast?
- What are the different systems and can vertical garden walls provide environmental integrity?

Speakers:

- Mr. Senthil Nathan (Managing Director of Gover Horticulture)
- Mr. John Dyer (director of Biotecture)
- Mr. Neelesh Gala (Technical Director of Vertical Green)

RSVP

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Leaders in Architecture MENA Summit, Dubai

Dates: 20th - 21st April 2015

www.archmena.com

Leaders in Architecture MENA Summit is dedicated to developing, celebrating and connecting architects, interior designers and senior decision makers from leading international architectural practices, contractors, developers, government officials, engineers and solution providers. Gathering over 300 industry professionals from across the region, the summit provides a unique opportunity to learn from and get inspired by leaders, luminaries, and legends from within and outside architecture and explore the potential that the region can offer.

Smart Skyscrapers Summit 2015, Dubai

Dates: 11-12 May 2015

Venue: Sofitel The Palm Resort and Spa, Dubai, UAE

Website : www.smartskyscrapers.com

The 2nd Annual Smart Skyscrapers Summit, the Middle East's premier skyscrapers event, will be held on 11 -12 May at Sofitel The Palm Resort and Spa, Dubai, UAE. Held under the patronage of the Dubai Municipality, the 2-day event is focused on building sustainable skyscrapers in Dubai and will showcase innovative sustainable building technologies, design principles and solutions for high-rise green buildings from around the world. The Smart Skyscrapers Summit will see discussions amongst 300+ senior architects, engineers, policy-makers, developers, contractors and building managers from across the GCC and worldwide.



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