Architext Winter 2005

AIA Central Pennsylvania

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

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AIA Central Pennsylvania Chapter Celebrates Excellence in Design:

Architects From The Region Convene In Lancaster

by D. Hunter Johnson, AIA - Design Awards Committee Chairman

Among piers, colleagues and clientele, the architectural community of Central Pennsylvania gathered to proclaim the beauty and relevance of their best work this past year. Hosted by the Eden Resort and Conference Center in Lancaster, the event featured lively conversation, festive beverages, delicious fare and a showcasing of thirty-three design submissions from architectural practices spread across the Susquehanna Valley. Held on November 17th this year, the annual program provides a vehicle for architects to exhibit their fine work and its positive influence on the built environment. This year's jury of pier architects from the Central Virginia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects chose to recognize five specific projects for special distinction.

Two works received the Citation Award for Design Excellence, including Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects' innovative design for a new Municipal Building for West Manchester Township near York and Tippetts Weaver Architects' sensitive renovation of an existing warehouse structure for the offices of Gallagher Construction Company in Lancaster. The progressive renovation and expansion of Lynch Memorial Hall by TONO Architects, LLC for Lebanon Valley College in Annville receive the Merit Award for Design Excellence. At the highest level, the firm of Tippetts Weaver Architects of Lancaster completed the cleverly adapted re-use of two downtown Lancaster structures to receive the Honor Award for Design Excellence for the Allied Buildings. Additionally, Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects of York gained similar recognition for their inspired design of the newly expanded Osburn Hall at Millersville University.

Recognition and gratitude is deserved of the 2005 jury including James R, Boyd, AIA, Jury Chairman and Principal of Heyward Boyd Architects in Charlottesville, Joseph Celentano, AIA, a Principal at VMDO Architects in Charlottesville, and Kirk Train, AIA Principal of Train & Partners also of Charlottesville, Virginia. Moreover the Design Awards Committee appreciates the time and energy of all the participants of this year's event and eagerly anticipates an expanded program in 2006.

Mission Statement of the AIA: To advance the practice of Architecture.

2006 Board Directory

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President's Message - It Has Been an Interesting Year.....

by Harrison F. Bink, AIA President

Our most dramatic success has been the establishment of the Architects Foundation, championed by Josh Millman. It is a privilege to accept Committee Chair for 2006. It is fully functional but has yet to be used to provide charitable donations and a resource for architectural scholarships. I encourage everyone to consider this as a professional mission. Contributions to scholarship will always be appreciated, but my focus is the benefit that it offers for every office's inevitable pro-bono contributions. Giving free services has been a perennial problem, in that something for nothing does not have perceived value, and as I understand the tax code, cannot be deducted. If you donate dollars to the Foundation that the client receives to pay you for your services, they can more easily see the value, automatically limits your contribution, and gets the client used to paying for services that they could more easily continue when the donation runs out. Your contribution may also offer the tax deduction of a 501c3 organization.

As a chapter, we now have an active support group in the Phillips team. This has been a major step forward and it reduces our costs while offering additional support for all Committees and the Board. The newsletter could be considered to remain in print form as well as electronic, due to the cost of printing being covered by Phillips, and the mailing costs dropping to less than \$80/issue with the Foundations non-profit status. VOTE to continue this benefit!

Membership participation is increasing. I hope that everyone takes advantage of Grassroots, and officers should all get to attend on the Chapter's dime. Participation was a tremendous benefit for me in understanding lobbying on a national level, and the machinations of AIA national. Consider volunteering for an officer position of the Board to obtain this opportunity!

As the Chapter continues to improve member benefits, I encourage the membership to adopt a more business-like Board structure. Automatic succession of officers ensures inadequate time to accomplish goals while limiting the ability to understand the job. Al Gore did not follow Clinton to the presidency by constitutional bylaws! Keep a good Treasurer crunching numbers, and elect a President that represents your opinions.

Lastly and more broadly, our profession has continued to shirk responsibility, and I think that it must change if we are to remain valuable. After the Bilt Rite decision discussion at the State meeting, I began to think that the Supreme Court was right to affect the economic loss doctrine. As architects it is possible that we could be responsible for monetary loss to the contractor. We should do our jobs to the best of our abilities to reduce ambiguity, and accept responsibility when it is within our control.

Just my opinion . . .



Office Furniture - Supplies - Document Management

2006 Central PA Calendar

February

- 8-11 National Grassroots Conference
- 20 Office Closed for President's Day
- 21 Board Meeting

March

- 15 Quarterly Dinner Meeting (location TBD/Joint with CSI)
- 28 PA Architects Day, Harrisburg, PA

April

4 Board Meeting

May

- 18 Lecture & Expo
- 29 Office Closed Memorial Day

June

- 8-10 National Convention, Los Angeles, CA
- 15 Board Meeting
- 15 Quarterly Dinner Meeting (location TBD)

July

4 Office Closed - Independence Day

August

19 Board Meeting

September

- 4 Office Closed Labor Day
- 21 Quarterly Dinner Meeting (location TBD)

October

- 9 Office Closed Columbus Day
- 17 Board Meeting
- 20 Design Awards Banquet (location TBD)

November

- 8 Quarterly Dinner Meeting (location TBD)
- 14-15 AIA Pennsylvania Leadership Converence & PA Board Meeting
- 23-24 Office Closed Thanksgiving Holidays

December

- 2 Board Meeting
- 25-26 Office Closed Christmas Holidays

Free Money For Architecture Students!

Joseph L. and Vivian E. Steele Scholarship Fund

To be eligible, students must be in the final three years of a five year program leading to a Bachelor of Architecture degree or be enrolled in a graduate program leading to a Master of Architecture degree. Applicants must maintain a permanent residence (parents OK) in one of the following counties of central Pennsylvania: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Centre, Clinton, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Tioga, Union or York.

Qualification forms are available by using the contact information below. Should you qualify, you will be sent materials necessary to submit a portfolio, letters of application and reference, and additional documentation in formal application for scholarship funds. Costs of preparation of the portfolio are also reimbursed.

Deadlines: After finals annually

Contact: The Joseph L. and Vivian E. Steele Fund

c/o The Greater Harrisburg Foundation PO Box 678 Harrisburg, PA 17108-0678

Phone: 717-236-5040 Fax: 717-231-4463 Email: Bernadette@gfh.org

Please make your school or University aware of the program as well. Several local Architects sit on the selection committee. We have had very few submissions and significant awards in recent years!



Citation Awards

Architect: Tippetts/Weaver Architects, Inc. Project: Gallagher Construction Company Renovation Client: Gallagher Construction Company

"The sensitivity of the exterior and the simplicity of the notion of properly painting the building is nice. The jury appreciated how the light was handled (simple, but modern), detailing the canopy and how it sits on the building very comfortably without becoming a major element while still allowing the original brick wall to read through.

However, where the jury thought the project deserved merit was the simple notion that a building could be brought back to life by being cleaned up, painted properly and supplemented with the addition of simple canopy. This work gave it a new three-dimensional character without overpowering the existing condition.



Architect: Murphy & Dittenhafer Project: West Manchester Township Municipal Building

Client: West Manchester Township

"The jury members appreciated the simple description about vernacular architecture and the images thereof. On this project submission, the basic idea of using vernacular sources as a starting point for the complex carried through. The main assembly room is very nice in terms of natural daylight and the feeling of space – the sort of dynamic quality. It seems like it could be a good home for the townspeople.

The merit of the project was really in the quality of the Town Hall space. The project certainly has some nice detailing that warrants attention. There was a very deliberate effort."



Merit Award

Architect: TONO Architects, LLC Project: Expansion and Renovation of Lynch Memorial Hall Client: Lebanon Valley College

The model images, the undeveloped 3D studies, and then the more developed 3D renderings really helped to describe the process that was a three-dimensional design effort which comes through not only on the drawings, but in the final articulation of the work. The basic idea of infilling the larger space with objects is a good strategy.

The process of being able to see from early concept sketches on through design studies into the consistency with the final built project is a strength. Overall, the jury thought the conceptualization of the project was rich and carried through effectively.





Honor Awards

Architect: Tippetts/Weaver Architects, Inc. Project: The Allied Buildings Client: Tippetts/Weaver Architects, Inc.

There is a continuity in the design and clear decision making with a simple palette. As the building itself is very active, it is well developed. Even in this simple brick pedestrian building, there is a richness. The detailing of the canopy is nicely handled, consistent in delivery as it carries through the building. The canopy detailing actually says a lot about the project and the level of articulation which lends well to the historic quality of the new pieces. It is very clear that the interior of the building is receiving a different treatment, but with the same level of care as the exterior.



The architect has not over-designed this project. There is clearly an element of historic preservation that has taken place and there is an element of contemporary architecture. Yet, the architect has managed to wed these two strategies so they happily coexist.

Architect: Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects Project: Renovation and Addition to Osburn Hall at Millersville University Client: Pennsylvania Department of General Services

Overall the project is consistent with nice decisions about the blending of materials on the building. The jury thought the interior detailing was nicely thought out and consistent, giving the feeling the architect was in control of the entire project.

The interior stair is well thought out, simple and straight forward. The modifications to the existing windows are very sympathetic to the addition and help the two phases live in harmony.



Orpheus Ascends

Friends, Colleagues and Valued Clients,

The pursuit of my passion, excellent acoustics, has inspired an audacious change at Orpheus Acoustics. I have joined the superb architectural acoustics firm Acoustic Dimensions, with offices in New Rochelle New York, Coventry England, and in Dallas Texas.

In addition to working at their office in New Rochelle, I will maintain my Lancaster Office, and thus retain proximity to you.

I will be following up existing Orpheus Acoustics projects to completion; business for all new work will be done through Acoustics Dimensions. I will be directly involved with any projects that involve my old clients. This frees me up to focus on what I love to do and do best: architectural acoustics design.

Working with the creative, knowledgeable and experienced acousticians (and support staff) at Acoustic Dimension will constantly improve the quality of my work for you. In addition to deep expertise in room acoustics design and noise control, the Acoustic Dimensions team includes some of the world's foremost sound system designers.

Principals David Kahn and Nick Edwards developed many of the seminal ideas behind the Meyerson Symphony Hall in Dallas (the first great modern concert hall and still one of the very best in the world) and Craig Janssen is revered in the sound system world. He was one of the first to use the now-ubiquitous line array to provide sound-system clarity in reverberant spaces. This is awe-inspiring company—and they are nice people, too!

So, let us continue working with each other. Any questions, please call.

Christopher Brooks Acoustics Guru and Eternal Student

and now,

Christopher N. Brooks Senior Consultant ACOUSTIC DIMENSIONS 145 Huguenot Street, Suite 406 New Rochelle, NY 10801 Phone: 914.712.1300 www.acousticdimensions.com





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Gee Joins Baker, Ingram & Associates

Lancaster, PA, November 1, 2005 - Baker, Ingram & Associates is pleased to announce the addition of Ryan P. Gee to their structural engineering staff. Gee will provide engineering design services for a variety of project types and will be based in their Lancaster location.

Gee, orginally from Lancaster, is a recent graduate from The Pennsuylvania State University with a Masters of Architectural Engineering, Structural Option Degree. Gee also graduated in 2003 from the Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering. As a student, Gee interned with The Thornton Tomasetti Group, Washington, DC as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Montoursville, PA.

Baker, Ingram & Associates, is one of the fastest-growing structural engineering consulting firms in the Mid-Atlantic area. Established in December 1999, Baker, Ingram & Associates has regional offices in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Dover, Newark and Lewes, Delaware, Haddon Heights, New Jersey and Centreville, Maryland. Beginning with an original staff of 10, the company has grown to a staff of 36, which includes 13 Professional Engineers. The company provides complete structural engineering services for a wide range of buildings and facilities, both privately and publicly funded.



CILCP Joins Urban Studio ADA Committee

Center for Independent Living of Central Pa. executive director lectures Penn State class on accessible design

(**Camp Hill, Pa.**) - The Center for Independent Living of Central Pennsylvania (CILCP) announced that the organization has joined the Harrisburg Urban Studio's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Access Committee. CILCP has continually supported Mayor Stephen R. Reed's innovative Harrisburg Urban Studio architecture education program.

The new committee's responsibilities include informing the architectural community of city guidelines, reviewing Urban Studio student's ADA work, and identifying and preparing legal language to address accessibility issues. The committee consists of Janetta Green, director of operations for CILCP; Lynn Stewart, Local Housing Options Team leader; Dan Leppo, deputy director of planning for the City of Harrisburg; Tim Allen, architect and principle of Timothy Paul Allen, Architect; Guy Beneventano, attorney for Nauman, Smith, Shissler and Hall; and Victoria Radabaugh, senior vice president and COO, Hershey Philbin Associates.



Theotis Braddy CILCP Executive Director

Theotis Braddy, the executive director for the CILCP, recently lectured a group of second year

architecture students at Penn State University who are designing projects for the Urban Studio. His lecture included detailed discussion about problems that people with disabilities have in finding both employment and adequate housing. He said that accessibility coupled with good-quality design is an exciting challenge for architects and students alike.

Earlier this year Braddy announced that CILCP would underwrite an accessibility design course for the fall 2005 semester of the Harrisburg Urban Studio. Penn State professor of architecture Lisa Iulo is instructing the class.

"CILCP saw this relationship as an opportunity to help future architects understand the need to go above and beyond ADA guidelines when it comes to accessible design," Braddy said.

Iulo said that about 70 Penn State students are participating in the project and have produced, "a wide range of proposals, including housing units that were tightly bundled or scattered on the site, with ramps, external corridors and elevators, sometimes combined with communal porches or 'atrium' spaces, providing access to the individual units as well as links between the housing and the public street."

Braddy and CILCP joined the Urban Studio effort during an architecture summit held at HACC on June 29, 2005. During the summit, representatives from Penn State, HACC and Morgan State University (Baltimore) committed to have students work on various urban design projects assigned by the City of Harrisburg.

"The Center for Independent Living supports the Harrisburg Urban Studio and the idea of community-driven architecture," Braddy said. "As part of the community, people with disabilities certainly have specific needs to be able to access and use buildings. Community-driven architecture and the Harrisburg Urban Studio in particular provides a venue for addressing these needs in the design-build world."

On July 25, 2005, CILCP and the City of Harrisburg launched an accessibility design guidelines manual that provides instructions for making properties more accessible to people with disabilities. The manual can be found at http://www.cilcp.org/resources/CILCP_publications.php.

The Harrisburg Urban Studio is an architecture education program started in 2004 by Harrisburg Mayor Stephen R. Reed. The Urban Studio is designed to have architecture students design and build projects to help improve disadvantaged communities. By working with city planners, a number of locations throughout Harrisburg have been identified as potential Urban Studio projects. According to Urban Studio Task Force Coordinator Robert Philbin, accessibility is one of the primary concerns of the program.

The Urban Studio is a project of Mayor Stephen R. Reed's Harrisburg Urban Initiative. For more information visit www.nichenews.com/urbanstudio or contact Nathan Pigott, Hershey Philbin Associates, npigott@hersheyphilbin.com or 717.975.2148.

The Center for Independent Living of Central Pennsylvania is a nonprofit, nonresidential organization established for and by people with disabilities and serves Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry, Mifflin, and Juniata counties. CILCP's vision is to empower people with disabilities to fully participate in all aspects of society. For more information on the CILCP visit www.cilcp.org or contact Nathan Pigott at 717-975-2148 or via email at npigott@hersheyphilbin.com.





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