

For Immediate Release:

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The American Institute of Architects New York State (AIANYS) is announcing the recipient of the 2015 AIANYS Firm of the Year Award. Established in 2005, the purpose of the Firm Award is to recognize notable achievements in design, community service, education and service to the profession and the AIA by an architectural firm within New York State.

WORKac, from New York City, has achieved international acclaim for diverse projects which explore new concepts of sustainability and pay close attention to their social context. WORKac principals and AIANYS members Amale Andraos and Dan Wood have guided the firm to be globally recognized as an innovative leader, noted for their progressive and thoughtful approach to sustainable design, melding critical thinking on social issues with research and urban design to beautifully contribute to the built environment.

Amale and Dan share the belief that architecture has a responsibility to shape the future of the built environment and the minds of students. Both maintain active teaching and publishing careers and Andraos was recently named Dean of Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and Columbia University.

AIANYS President Timothy Boyland, AIA, said, "I congratulate Amale and Dan on receiving this award and cannot think of a more deserving firm. For many years they have been and continue to be at the forefront of sustainable design and innovative planning. Their commitment to the profession is unquestioned, as they have given so much back, especially to the students of architecture. Both have brought their incredible knowledge and ingenuity to academia, investing in the next generation of architects. They embody what being part of AIA is all about. Congratulations to Amale, Dan and the entire WORKac Team."

Principal Dan Wood said, "It is inspiring and a great honor that AIA New York State has chosen to bestow this award for the first time on architects of our generation. Since winning the New York Chapter's inaugural New Practices award in 2006, the AIA has consistently supported us as our firm has grown and developed."

Principal Amale Andraos said, "We have also been fortunate to collaborate with an amazing group of clients, consultants and our talented staff who have helped us to continually push the envelope of design. We hope to use this recognition to further our goal of producing quality architecture and urban design projects that challenge the status quo and create new forms of engagement for architecture, at the intersection of the urban, the rural and the natural."

AIANYS Executive Director Georgi Bailey, said "WORKac's commitment to the profession is a highlight of the many prolific architectural firms in New York State. Amale and Dan have guided their firm to the apex of the profession and any architecture student should feel privileged

to have had them as a professor. I would like to congratulate WORKac on behalf of all AIA New York State members.”

The recipients were honored at a dinner held on the evening of Saturday, October 24, 2015 in Saratoga, NY.

AIANYS is the state component of the American Institute of Architects and is composed of 13 components representing over 8,000 architecture professionals statewide. For further information, please visit www.aianys.org or call (518)-449-3334.

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