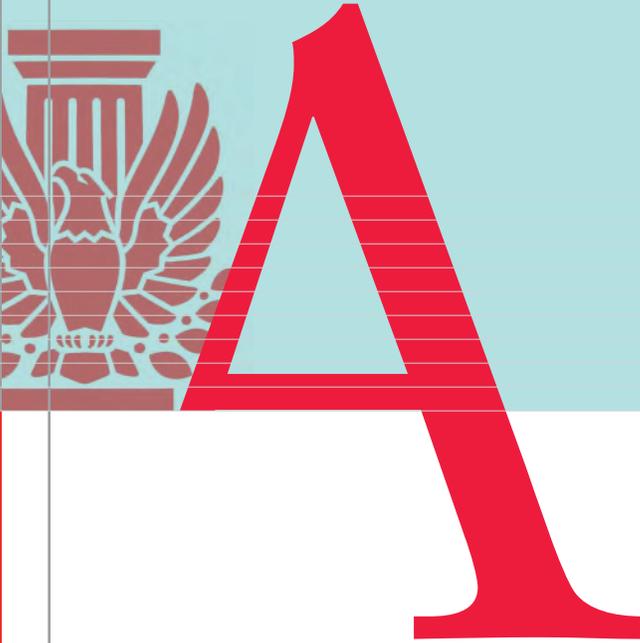


Architext



A message from the President:

Baani Singh, AIA NCIDQ LEED AP

Are you having fun yet! It has been busy here at AIA Eastern NY, There is so much happening. The annual Design Awards, Grassroots, Albany Capital Center Tour and Rivers Casino's tour are few of the great things we have done in the first four months already. The Annual Design awards event was very well attended this year with press presence. We commend everyone's effort to make this event a memorable one; especially with Tina Mesiti-Céas, Chair of Design Awards committee & President Elect and the Jury. We applaud the work of our fellow Architects which makes this event possible.

Harry Ellsworth, our Secretary, attended the Grassroots Convention in Washington DC in March. As you know Grassroots is a great event, geared towards introducing AIA national leadership and review issues faced by our profession. Also it is a great networking event!

Melissa L. Clarke, our VP of programs, has great informative and fun events planned for us this year. I would encourage you to look at the calendar of events on our website and take advantage of these entertaining as well as learning opportunities or join us for lunch and learns. I hope you had a fabulous time this month for those who were able to attend the new Rivers Casino's tour and breakfast event this month.

AIA national convention is in Orlando on April 27-29 this year. It's not only a fun and warmer destination; it has three immersive days of workshops, tours and learning events. Also you will get a chance to see former First lady, Michelle Obama on Day 1 of the convention. Many of our fellow local architects are going there this year and it will be a great opportunity to network.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, stay tuned to see our new & exciting events from fun mixers, family friendly events, networking events, emerging professional's events to formal events honoring our AIA ENY Past Presidents. We are working hard to serve you, our AIA ENY members better and we need your help to steer our efforts. In that spirit, I am making a personal appeal to all the local firms and members to get involved and volunteer. Please see our Call for Volunteers flyer in this publication to see how to get Involved and post in your office. In spirit of helping our members, we now have ARE resources and materials available for you to rent. There is so much that you can do to gain value from your AIA membership, come together, network and tap into all the resources available to you as an AIA member.

Don't forget to connect with us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AIAEasternNewYork/> and **LinkedIn** <https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/10888416> We are here to serve our members so let's come together, get involved, network and have fun! We welcome your input as always, if you have any suggestions or concerns, I would love to hear from you so feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Baani Singh, AIA NCIDQ LEED AP
AIA Eastern NY President 2017
singhb@d2dgreendesign.com

AIA EASTERN NEW YORK
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

2017 Architects in Albany ADVOCACY DAY

**WEDNESDAY
MAY, 17TH 2017**

LOCATION:
Legislative Office
Building, Rm. 711-A

SCHEDULE:
8:00 AM
Legislative Briefing
(may move to 9:00 AM)

9:00 AM
Legislative Meetings Begin

12 Noon - Lunch

2:30 PM - Depart the Capitol

Webinar: May 4th (Details to Follow)

Contact Meghan
at AIAENY
admin@aiaeny.org
if you want to attend

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2017 AIA Eastern New York Board of Directors and Executive Committee

Architext is a publication of the Eastern New York Chapter of the AIA. Please send photo, article, announcement or presentation information for consideration for publication to the Eastern New York Chapter at admin@aiaeny.org

Architext

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CORRECTIONS:

Please contact AIAENY at admin@aiaeny.org if you find any areas that need correction in the Architext. AIA Eastern New York appreciates all comments and feedback.

Join us on linked in



2016-17 Design Awards

By Tina Mesiti-Céas

The AIA ENY Design Awards took place on March 2nd at the Troy Arts Center. Distinguished jurors from the AIA Vermont Chapter deliberated nearly 25 submissions and awarded a total of seven awards across five categories; *residential (single family detached), historic preservation, unbuilt, institutional, and adaptive reuse*.

As the design awards committee chair and co-chair for the past several years, I can't remember a more well attended event. I contribute this to both our members and to our Master of Ceremonies, Philip Morris, CEO of Proctors. Before announcing the awards and providing each awarded firm a chance to address our members and guests, Philip spoke about the meaning of our profession on the built environment. As a patron and client of the arts and architecture, he stressed the significance of staying true to our values, standing confident with clients, and educating the public to improve our communities, creating a culturally rich and pleasing environment.

Each of the seven winners spoke about the brilliant project teams and outstanding clients that enable the quality of work that was displayed. The range of projects demonstrates the different levels of client engagement; those who provide more freedom, and others who strive to maintain a rigid control, pushing designers beyond their comfort level. In the end the following firms were recognized and applauded for outstanding projects:

- + **James Dixon Architect PC Dutchess Pool House**
- + **Architecture+ Rehabilitate Grand Staircase**
- + **EYP Science Center**
- + **CSArch Center for Advanced Technology at Mohonasen**
- + **Mosaic Associates Architects Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills**
- + **CSArch Redesign of Albany High School**
- + **JMZ Architects and Planners, PC Mann Library 4th Floor**

As I began to write this article, I was reminded of last year's event, and the article that was generated then. It touched upon the importance of social engagement and economic opportunity to the less privileged. This year, many of our award winners reflect this notion, reaching out to inner city students, community college attendees and the general-public. Our members work meticulously to influence the course of one's day, while understanding that architecture, by nature transcends generations. Thank you, AIA ENY members! We commend this work; the creativity, diligence and collaboration, in hope that it continues to serve as a catalyst of social awareness and engagement, and inspires our next generation of learners to understand the significance of architecture on our environment.



The VP-Programs Corner



Hello Eastern New York! Happy Spring!

So here we are in May, and we have had two fantastic and very successful tours so far. Many of you attended the recent Rivers Casino tour, a 3-part for 3-credit event showcasing one of our region's newest and most exciting developments.

Big thanks go out to JT Pollard and Mike Gamache of Re4orm Architecture for their tour of the 6-story mixed use building. We learned a great deal of the Mohawk Harbor Development and its part in the award of the Rivers Casino. For instance, did you know that the development, excluding the Casino and Parking Garage, will consist of 11 buildings? Within these buildings will ultimately reside approximately 200,000 sf of retail/office space, 2 hotels, 71 condos, and more than 250 apartment units. The Gilesie Group has been working on this development for nearly 7 years, and the program composition, location, and status as a brownfield development site all contributed to the eventual inclusion of the Rivers Casino.

Joe Scibetta of Rush Street, the Casino Owner and Operator, gave a very informative presentation of the design and construction process from the point of view of the Owner, followed by a tour of the facility with his design and facilities team. Sustainability and responsible development is important to Rush Street, and the Rivers Casino is one of two brownfield sites developed for their gaming facilities. In addition Rivers is on schedule to receive LEED Silver certification. We learned about the design goals and methods employed to maximize the location's flexibility and usability, as well as some tricks that are industry standard to get us – the eager customer – excited and engaged from the moment we enter the gaming floor. The project was constructed by Norwood-LeChase, a collaboration of the casino specialist and local talent. The delivery was fast-track design-build, and the project was completed in 14 months – under budget and ahead of schedule.

Thank you to all of those who were able to make it to this event! Keep your eyes peeled for more exciting CEU opportunities to come this summer, such as Fort Ticonderoga, Saratoga Race Course, and Great Escape.

Cheers!
Melissa Clarke, AIA
2017 VP of Programs
MClarkeAIAENY@outlook.com



AIA Grassroots 2017 Leadership Conference

JBy: Harry Ellsworth, AIA

The Citizen Architect uses his/her insights, talents, training, and experience to contribute meaningfully, beyond self, to the improvement of the community and human condition... The Citizen Architect advocates for higher living standards, the creation of a sustainable environment, quality of life, and the greater good. Quote from AIA.org.

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the AIA Grassroots conference as the Eastern New York representative last month. This was a great opportunity to learn how to become a better Citizen Architect, to move beyond my own self-interests and to advocate for the greater good. This annual leadership retreat, held this year in Washington DC, was an exciting event where I met many Architects from outside our region, some from as far away as Japan. I had the opportunity to hear what is happening in our profession both on a state and national level and can attest to the fact that our AIA membership is filled with bold, outspoken, energetic people who are striving to make an impact especially in the wake of a contentious presidential election. Understandably, many feel compelled now more than ever to make their voices heard and so at Grassroots we sent members from across the country, and several from right here in upstate New York, to Capitol Hill to share our profession's concerns and viewpoints with members of Congress. Our New York legislators including Senator Chuck Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Dan Donovan, Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, and Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney need to hear what we stand for, what is important to Architects.

Please use the following link to review the issues that the AIA is making a priority: [Where architects stand: A statement of our values](#)

In addition to attending workshops on public outreach and leadership we took the opportunity on a warm seventy degree early March evening to get some fresh air and walk across town, past the White House, to visit the AIA National Headquarters.



The White House front lawn

In addition to the AIA National reception New York State held a regional meeting where component officers spoke about their local issues. The Central New York chapter talked about the I-81 challenge, a large urban design project underway in Syracuse aimed at taking down a highway viaduct which acts as a barrier dividing the city. Western New York officers spoke about the Buffalo Green Code, a sustainable land use plan that the city has adopted to guide development over the next 20 years. Although it seems obvious to us, we need to remind others that the involvement of Architects in these significant projects is imperative. Our various New York chapters are offering AIA members opportunities to make their voices heard. Here in Albany we are offering numerous programs and events over the course of the year, including some at the State Capital. I would urge you to attend the upcoming New York State Architects Advocacy Day on May 17th.

I attended an interesting workshop at Grassroots on how to talk about Architecture with clients and the public. You might have noticed recently that the AIA has been running some television commercials promoting our profession. "A 2014 Harris Poll listed Architecture as one of the highest-regarded professions in the United States". www.theharrispoll.com Architects are well respected but not understood. Public outreach is important for our profession and we need to learn how to hone our message in order to become more relatable to the public. Learning to communicate better is essential, our design work speaks volumes, but Architects also must have strong interpersonal skills. Open lines of communication with clients, contractors, and the public is the best form of marketing.



Welcome reception at the AIA National Headquarters

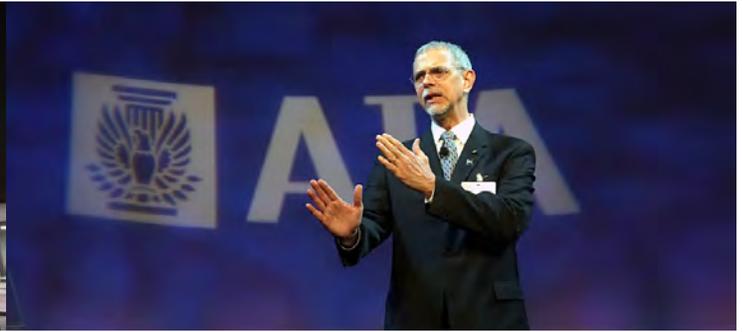


Photo of AIA First Vice President and 2017 Grassroots chair Carl Elefante addressing attendees – from AIA.org

By the third day of Grassroots the warm weather had given way to snow. Catherine Pugh, the mayor of Baltimore, gave a final keynote address speaking about how an adaptive reused project for the Baltimore Design School transformed a neighborhood by turning a derelict warehouse and factory building into an active, vibrant, hub of creativity.

Being an AIA member for me has always been about understanding my role in the context of the larger community of Architects, having perspective beyond the project I am working on, or the projects my firm is working on. The networking I did at Grassroots exposed me to some new ideas and ways of practicing. I've shared just a small part of my experience with

you. I am very thankful that I was able to attend this conference. I urge you to get involved in our chapter of the AIA and speak up every chance that you get on behalf of our profession. We can achieve great things together and have a little fun along the way. Our chapter members are our most valuable resource, your energies, and knowledge are needed. I left Grassroots and return to Albany excited and encouraged about the future of our profession. I hope that the comrade of the AIA makes you feel the same way, proud to be a part of our profession.

40 Under 40

Congratulations to our very own AIAENY President, Baani Singh for being chosen as one of this year's 40 under 40 winners! You can find the full article here: <http://www.bizjournals.com/albany/news/2017/03/08/announcing-40-under-40-class-of-2017.html>



Call for Volunteers!



MARKETING TASK FORCE

Chair: Seeking interested parties

Mission: Develop relationships with vendors, suppliers, engineers, contractors and other organizations within the architectural profession and practice

Tasks: Volunteers will provide input on the AIAENY Marketing Packet and solicit support for AIAENY events and service efforts.

Duration: Marketing goals should be met in the first half of the year.

Contact: Meghan McGrath, admin@aiaeny.org

PUBLICITY TASK FORCE

Chair: Seeking interested parties

Mission: Each year, AIAENY will pursue one new publicity priority in an effort to promote our membership's talents to the general public. This year's publicity priority is traveling exhibition of the Design Awards submission boards.

Tasks: Volunteers will identify potential venues, schedule the exhibitions, and coordinate transport of boards using the AIAENY office resources.

Duration: Exhibition plans should be in place by the end of March to allow for maximum exposure.

Contact: Meghan McGrath, admin@aiaeny.org

K-12 COMMITTEE

Chair: Joe Paradis

Mission: The mission of the AIAENY K-12 Educational Outreach Committee is to promote awareness of Architecture, Design and Sustainability in the AIAENY area by interacting with the local K-12 communities.

Tasks: *Book Donation Program* – Putting Architecture books in school's libraries
Book Marks – Add book marks with images of recent award winners' buildings in donated books
Classroom Presentations – Provide tools, materials and ideas, share experiences
Career Day Participation – Connect Architects with schools for their Career Day
Provide Resources for K-12 Educators and Classrooms – Drawings, tools, information to supplement lesson plans

Tasks: *Develop White Pages for Use within the Classroom* – Outlines of topics and ideas for those new to presenting to kids

Duration: Kick-off meeting will be held in January to discuss tasks and goals for 2017

Contact: Joe Paradis, josephmparadis@gmail.com

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Mike Goard & Brennan Drake

Mission: The mission of AIAENY Emerging Professionals Committee is to help aspiring architects become licensed. To do this, we will create networking opportunities where emerging professionals can meet others in a similar situation as well as more experienced professionals. We will provide study courses to help prepare for the ARE. We will provide study materials and guides for the ARE. Lastly, we will provide AXP opportunities.

Tasks: Volunteers have the options of helping manage social media and promotion of events and seminars. Also, host or support for networking events, study courses, and AXP tours.

Duration: Year 2017 kick off meeting to be held the end of January.

Contact: Brennan Drake, AIA brennandrake@gmail.com; Mike Goard, AIA MGoard@phinneydesign.com

DESIGN AWARDS COMMITTEE

Chair: Tina Mesiti-Céas

Mission: To plan and implement the yearly Design Awards Program for the ENY chapter. Committee members assist in the overall planning to administer the program and execute the awards ceremony. This event is one of ENY's most well attended events where colleagues and friends come together to mingle, discuss our practice and celebrate some of our member's best work.

Tasks: Jury selection, venue selection, program and event planning and design.

Duration: Varies; once every three weeks for three months prior to the event.

Contact: Tina Mesiti-Céas, tmesiticeas@csarchpc.com

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Thank You for your continued support of AIA Eastern New York as 2017 Allied Members



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AIAENY 2017 Calendar of Events

Event	When	Where
AIA National Convention	April 27th - 29th	Orlando, FL
Lobby Day- AIA State	May 17th	State Capitol, Albany
Executive Meeting	May 17th	AIAENY, Albany
Lunch & Learn (2 LU) GEORGIA PACIFIC	May 11th	AIAENY, Albany
Scavenger Hunt	May 20th	Troy
Executive Meeting	June 21st	AIAENY, Albany
Saratoga Race Track (1 LU) - Pending	June 30th	Saratoga Springs, NY
Fort Ticonderoga (3 LU) - Pending	July 15th	Ticonderoga, NY
Board Meeting	July 19th	AIAENY, Albany
Executive Committee Meeting	August 16th	AIAENY, Albany
Great Escape (1 LU) - Pending	Saturday, Aug 26th or Sept 16th	Queensbury, NY
Executive Committee Meeting	Sept 20th	AIAENY, Albany
Lunch & Learn (2 LU) DUGAN ASSOCIATES	Sept 21st	AIAENY, Albany
Ghosts of Albany (1 LU) - Pending	October 13th	Albany, NY
Lunch & Learn (2 LU) Vertex Lighting	Oct 19th	AIAENY, Albany
Beaux Arts Ball & Past Presidents Reception + Annual Meeting - Pending	Oct 21st	TBD
AIA QUAD State Convention	November 9 -11th	Convention Center, Albany
Executive Committee	November 15th	AIAENY, Albany



every book has an author
every dress has a designer
every painting has an artist
every orchestra has a conductor
every dance has a choreographer
every screenplay has a writer

every building has an architect

every opera has a composer
every film has a director
every magazine has an editor
every sculpture has a sculptor



**The American
 Institute
 of Architects**

NEW YORK STATE

To provide meaningful value and services to member architects and assist in their professional development and success

To promote the profession and practice of architecture in the Eastern New York area through public outreach and be a visible point of contact to the local community

To develop opportunities for members to dialogue and interact with one another in substantive ways

To nurture young architectural professionals to become our future members and leaders

To highlight the achievements of our members

To responsibly maintain a stable organization from which to pursue our mission

To support architectural initiatives which seek to improve the quality of the built environment and create livable communities

To act as a conduit between our members and AIA New York State and AIA National – the voice of the architectural profession and the resource for its members in service to society

MISSION

AIA Eastern New York
A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

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