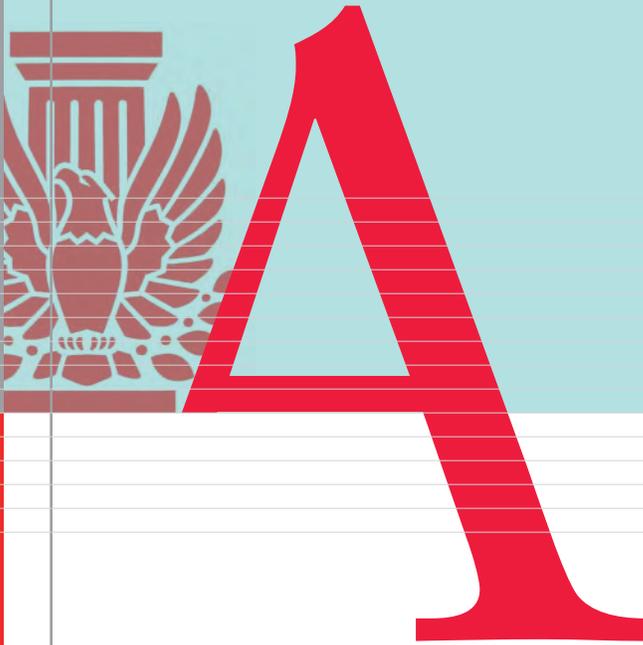


# Architext



## AIAENY: Year In Review

It has truly been a privilege to serve on the board for the past four years and as President this year! Someone recently said to me that they never really paid attention to what was happening at AIA until they got involved. Honestly, the more you get involved the more you will benefit. For many years I worked for a large firm and had no need for additional Continuing Education credits. AIA was simply a credential. Then, four years ago I started my own firm as a sole practitioner and began to take advantage of the opportunities that AIA presented. I reconnected with a former client who had changed positions which subsequently led to multiple projects and a re-kindled relationship. Then I reconnected with another old friend on our annual boat cruise two years ago which led to our current partnership! Over the past four years, my sole practitioner firm has grown to be a firm of nine people and that would not have happened without my involvement in AIA.



Over the past four years on the board of AIAENY I have met many new friends, learned things about our profession and what colleagues are doing at the state and national levels, and helped our Chapter through the development of a strategic plan and last year's Membership Alignment with National AIA. It has been extremely rewarding!

*Continued on page 3*

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



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# 2016 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](mailto:admin@aiaeny.org)

# Architext

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Mark Thaler, AIA



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Assoc AIA

### CORRECTIONS:

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



Past-President:  
Melissa L. Clarke, AIA

Join us on linked in



## A Message from AIAENY's President *continued*

In February of this year I attended the Grassroots 2016 AIA Leadership Conference in Detroit. Unlike in past years which focused extensively on lobbying of our congressional delegations, this year's conference focused on leadership issues and the national Membership Alignment. One of the sessions that I attended related to our emerging professionals and how we can nurture them in their careers, and make AIA more relevant to them. As a direct result, AIAENY started an Emerging Professionals committee under the leadership of Brennan Drake and Mike Goard. This year we held two mixers and have purchased the study materials for the new licensing exam which people will be able to borrow from the Chapter. This will be a huge financial help. In the coming year, the committee intends to begin study sessions as well.

There is so much that the Board of AIAENY wants to do for our members but we need YOU!

We need to reinvigorate our K-12 Education committee which was started under Anna Campas' leadership and provided architecture books to our children's schools and architects into classrooms and career days to talk about the profession.

The Annual Design Awards which showcases the best of our Chapter's work, is a great social event and public outreach opportunity. We are exploring ways to give significant public exposure to our next round of winners through the media and public showing after the awards.

Lobby Day, which occurs annually at the New York State Capitol, is a great way to meet your local lawmakers and help influence legislation that is of vital importance to architects working in New York State.

In June, we held our Annual Boat Cruise aboard the Captain JP. In addition to great food, fellowship, and the opportunity to meet with a number of vendors, our program included a presentation by Troy Deputy Mayor Monica Kurzejeski and recent Planning Commission Chair Barbara Nelson, AIA on the development of Troy's new Comprehensive Plan.

Next year, we would like to try a different social event in lieu of the Boat Cruise. We have some ideas but we need your help to plan and carry out events.

There is so much that you can do to gain value from your AIA membership. I do hope that you decide to get involved in AIAENY! Please reach out and contact us at [admin@aiaeny.org](mailto:admin@aiaeny.org) and let us know how you would like to get involved!

*Sincerely,*

**Mark Thaler, AIA**  
**AIA Eastern NY President 2016**

**Save the Date**  
**Design Awards 2016-17**  
**Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**at the Troy Arts Center**



## The VP-Programs Corner

*Season's Greetings, Eastern New York!*

I'm Melissa and will be serving as your VP of Programs for 2017. Having been on the Executive Committee since 2012, I hope to be able to implement what I have learned of our Chapter, its members, and the requirements of the Membership Alignment program to bring everyone a great year of Programs.

This year's Programs will be a blend of several types of events in order to address the needs of more segments of our membership.

Lunch and Learn programs will provide our sole practitioners and smaller offices with the same learning opportunities as the larger firms within our Chapter. These LU opportunities will be grouped together to provide more credits in fewer events.

Many of us struggle with sacrificing our already strained personal time to attend AIA events. This year's Programs will seek to encompass family-friendly tours of local attractions so that we may gain our required learning units without having to leave our loved ones at home.

And finally, we plan on providing a series of additional training courses for the new codes and networking techniques, as well as co-sponsored events with other local organizations in the design and construction community.

The 2017 Programs will be complemented by social and learning events organized by the Emerging Professionals Committee.

We at AIAENY are working very hard to elevate the service we provide to our members, and look forward to seeing everyone throughout the year. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us with any of your thoughts or feedback.

*Cheers –  
Melissa Clarke, AIA  
2017 VP of Programs*



# 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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# Architext

Thank You for your continued support of AIA Eastern New York as 2016 Allied Members



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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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