

# WMAIA news

Newsletter of the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

## Cheers!

In this issue we tip our hat to some of the Chapter's best. Every two years, WMAIA gathers to honor excellence in the profession through our Design Awards competition, and among our colleagues with our Honorary WMAIA award. We also are delighted to give scholarships honoring high quality design studio projects to young designers every year. This year approximately 40 chapter members joined us for the Annual Meeting and Design Awards Presentation event on December 14th at the Smith College Alumnae House.

You can read profiles of Honorary WMAIA recipients Karen Koehler, a local educator, and historic preservationist Bonnie Parsons in this issue (see page 10). We also feature the Design Awards (beginning on page 4). While some buildings were selected by the jury to stand out among the crowd, we always make space to celebrate all of the projects and their designers at our Annual Meeting, on our website and here in the WMAIA news.

The official business of the Annual Meeting is to elect officers of the chapter. The slate of Jeremy Toal AIA, President; Chris Farley AIA, President Elect; Erika Zekos Associate AIA, Secretary; and Thomas RC Hartman AIA, Treasurer was unanimously approved.

In his President's report, Jeremy extended his thanks to the membership for sharing another successful year with WMAIA. He also invited WMAIA members to join the board or be involved in other ways with our events and activities. Jeremy listed the chapter's programs, events and accomplishments of 2012 including: hosting the "Be Local, Build Local" exhibit at A.P.E. Gallery, participating in the SDAT in South Hadley Falls, supporting the Leadership class at UMass and the Monson charrette at ABX, collaboration with UMass Historic Preservation program, another successful film series, and many tours and presentations.

Jeremy thanked departing WMAIA Executive Committee members Bill Austin AIA, Kathryn Wetherebee AIAS, Elizabeth Morgan AIA and welcomed new members Jason Danforth AIAS, Helen Fantini AIA, and Robert Harrison AIA.

Jeremy also thanked a number of individuals for thier participation in chapter activities: Erika Zekos (newsletter), Julie Waggoner Associate AIA (website),



Jeremy Toal AIA, WMAIA Chapter President officiating the Annual Meeting

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## OUR NEWS

## Monson Community Charrette

By Jeremy Toal AIA

WMAIA helped to plan and run a Charrette for the popular architecture conference and showcase now known as ABX (formerly Build Boston) in November. The charrette focused on design issues that the Town of Monson, MA is facing after a tornado ripped through the town on June 1, 2011 and was produced in collaboration with The Community Design Resource Center of Boston (CDRC), the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC), and the town of Monson.

More than 20 residents of the town, including town officials, citizens, and high school students traveled to Boston to participate, and nearly 60 professionals attending the conference participated. The event was a great success - the largest Charrette held to-date at ABX/Build Boston - and generated many great ideas, helping the community envision new possibilities for the Town, and propelling the on-going design discussion in the community. A follow-up event is being planned by WMAIA to bring the results of the Charrette back to the entire community.

Huge hats-off to Gretchen Schneider AIA of the CDRC for organizing and executing both the larger vision and the important details, Dan Laroche,



Monson charrette participants at work  
photo by Jeremy Toal AIA

Monson Disaster Recovery Manager, for his work in planning and shaping the charrette and for engaging town officials and residents and getting them involved in this conversation, as well as Larry Smith and Dani McKahn from PVPC for their collaboration and participation. Thanks to the volunteers from WMAIA - Greg Orwat, Robert Harrison AIA, and a landscape architecture colleague Robert Akroyd - for their skilled facilitation, and special thanks to Dorrie Brooks Associate AIA, who supported the Public Forum held in Monson, put together the great video loop, facilitated, photographed, and helped set up and break down!

It was an inspiring event, which I feel honored to have been a part of.

## Charrette Chatter

*"This conference was great because we were able to combine our views of the town and our knowledge with the planners and architects to create a vision that we liked and that they agreed was functioning."* - **Laura Sauriol, Monson resident (19 years old)**

*"Fantastic collaboration - new, fresh ideas mixed with passion from a conservation, open space and connection standpoint(s)!"* - **Lucia Dearborn, Lucia Lighting & Design, Inc., Lynn, MA (former Monson resident)**

*"Great to see Monson residents working alongside design professionals to see the potential and possibilities for downtown!"* - **Dan Laroche, Monson Disaster Recovery Manager**

*"Great process to bring out ideas for a broad spectrum of projects."* - **Craig Clark, CBC Design Group**

*"This conference was important to highlight what has worked in other communities and has given our group many ideas on how to proceed in our rebuilding that will also be incorporated into future growth and development."* - **Valerie Bogaz-Beaudoin, Chair Replanting Monson Tree Committee**

*"As a Harvard School of Public Health academic who conducts research on cycle tracks (Dutch barrier-protected bicycle-exclusive paths by sidewalks), this ABX design charrette gave me the opportunity to align recent research with the community of Monson. In normal circumstances an academic would not be invited to try out really progressive research on a community especially one hit by a tornado."* - **Anne Lusk, Ph.D.**



left to right: Your AIANE officers, President Elect, Martha Montgomery AIA; President, Greg Spiess AIA; and Secretary/Treasurer, Diantha S. Korzun AIA

## Congrats

Our very own Martha Montgomery AIA was recently elected President Elect of AIA New England. She was chosen for the one year post at the regional conference in Burlington, VT last October. Martha was previously President of WMAIA and was President of AIAMA in 2008. AIANE is the regional association of the New England chapters (including BSA, Central MA, CT, ME, NH, RI, VT, and Western MA).

## Retreat Report

Over the weekend of November 19th the WMAIA Executive Committee met for a board retreat. Don Kahle, Executive Director of the Portland Oregon chapter of the AIA joined us as facilitator (thanks, in part, to a grant from AIA National that partially funded his trip). Don ably helped us work through an AIA planning process called “The Weave”, enabling us to look at our past achievements and ahead to shape chapter initiatives for the future.

There will be much more information coming your way in the spring, but until then, here’s a taste of a few of the ideas that rose to the top of our to-do list. If you have ideas and initiatives to share, please be in touch!



WMAIA board members and facilitator Don Kahle hard at work at the chapter retreat (at Kuhn Riddle Architects offices in Amherst).

- Support emerging professionals in their transition toward licensure
- Engage membership / Engage more active volunteers
- Create opportunities for members to get together for celebrations/social events
- Provide funding for members’ special projects
- Advocate for sustainable energy
- Promote women in architecture
- Provide robust public engagement programs
- Support community design & visioning efforts
- Offer CEU programs that explore/advance the discourse on design

## WMAIA NEWS

The Western Mass. Chapter of the American Institute of Architects publishes WMAIA News four times a year. It is circulated to all members, advertisers and subscribers.

Please direct all newsletter correspondence to Erika Zekos Associate AIA, Editor, Studiozed, 40 Hulst Road, Amherst, MA 01002 (413)559-0224, studiozed@comcast.net.

Articles, photos, notices of events and other information are welcome.

Opinions expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the WMAIA. The Editor reserves the right to reject or revise material as space and subjective opinion permit.

**President:**

Jeremy Toal AIA

**President-elect:**

Christopher Farley AIA

**Secretary:**

Erika Zekos Associate AIA

**Treasurer:**

Thomas RC Hartman AIA

**Past President:**

Thomas RC Hartman AIA

**Members:**

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Helen Fantini AIA

Robert Harrison AIA

Sigrid Miller Pollin FAIA

Martha Montgomery AIA

Ludmilla Pavlova AIA

Stephen Schreiber FAIA

Julie Waggoner Associate AIA

**Editor, WMAIA News:**

Erika Zekos Associate AIA

**Executive and Program Director:**

Lorin Star Affiliate WMAIA

For more information on the WMAIA Chapter, please contact Lorin Starr, Executive Director at [director@wmaia.org](mailto:director@wmaia.org).

# WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS

We hope you enjoy these images of the 2012 WMAIA Design Awards submissions. All 17 projects submitted are shown on the following pages (award winners are noted).

All submissions were also displayed at the “Be Local, Build Local” exhibition, and will be posted on our website, [www.wmaia.org](http://www.wmaia.org).

Overall jury comments:

- The jury found the small, humble projects that seemed more direct to be the most powerful
- Everyone emphasized sustainable aspects of projects and was concerned with energy etc., which was good to see.
- The most successful projects were the one that had to struggle with something.



This year's Design Awards jury (from left to right): Russell Learned AIA, Turner Brooks AIA, Naomi Darling AIA. We extend our thanks to AIA CT for hosting the awards jury at their New Haven office.



## Burr and McCallum Architects

### B-L Commercial Williamstown, MA

General Contractor: David Tierney, Jr. Inc.  
Structural Engineer: Barry Constructors  
Photo: Michael Lavin Flower, Ann K. McCallum FAIA

## SITELAB Architecture + Design

### Rain Garden Pavilion Washington, DC

Landscape Architect: Carla Ellern Landscape Architecture  
Contractor: Sabor Construction  
Structural Engineer: Structron Engineering LLC  
Photo: Maxine Schnitzer Photography





**Steffian Bradley Architects**

**Baystate Orthopedic Surgery & Pediatric Specialty Center  
Springfield, MA**

MEP-FP and Structural Engineer: BVH Integrated Services  
Code Consultant: RW Sullivan Engineering  
Civil Engineer: Ecotec Environmental Associates (under Pearson contract)  
Developer/General Contractor Team: Pearson Systems, Inc.  
Photo: Bruce T. Martin

**Coldham&Hartman Architects**

**Hadley House  
Hadley, MA**

Builder: Wright Builders  
Structural Engineer: Whetstone Engineering  
Mechanical Engineer: Kohler and Lewis Engineering  
Photo: © Ethan Drinker Photography



**Dietemann Design**

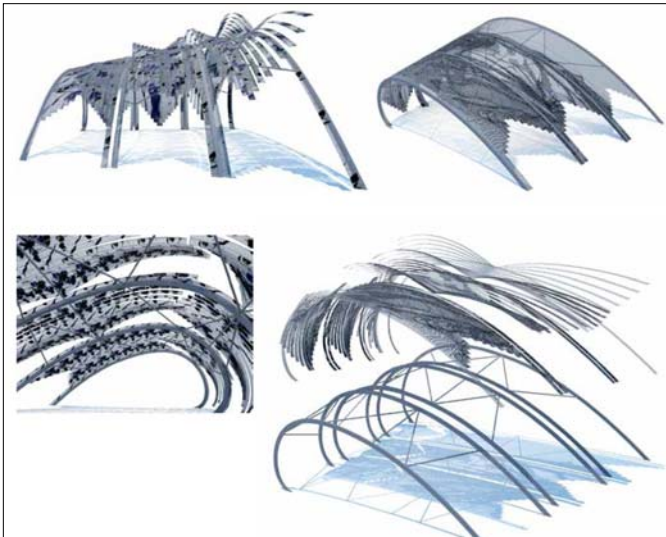
**Perlman Residence  
Monterey, MA**

Photo: Jonathan Hankin

**Dietemann Design  
Carr Residence  
Great Barrington, MA**

Photo: Jonathan Hankin





## Miller Pollin Architecture

### TouchMe Archifabric (unbuilt) South Greenwich Street Subway, Lower Manhattan

International Competition: D3 Natural Systems

## Miller Pollin Architecture

### 111 Straw Avenue Florence, MA

General Contractor: Rideout Builders  
Photo: Peter Mauss, Esto Photographics



## Dietz & Company Architects, Inc.

### Loan and Banking Center Easthampton, MA

Construction Manager: Barr & Barr, Inc.  
Geotechnical: O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Associates  
Structural Engineer: Barry Engineers & Constructors, Inc.  
Interior Design: Spec's Design  
MEP-FP: Consulting Engineering Services  
Landscape Architect: William A. Canon, Landscape Architect  
Civil Engineer: Heritage Survey  
Photo: Woodruff/Brown Architectural Photography



## Scholarship Winners

Contratulations to the winners of this year's WMAIA Scholarship. The student award honors design excellence for a graduate student of architecture at UMass Amherst (an accredited degree program). This year AIA National double matched WMAIA's contribution so that we were able to offer two scholarships. Katrina Spade received the \$1000 award and Katie Wetherbee won \$500.

**CITATION AWARD**  
**Burr and McCallum Architects**  
**S-N New Construction**  
**Lenox, MA**

Contractor: Paul Severance, Builder  
Structural Engineers: Barry Constructors  
Photo: Michael Lavin Flower



**CITATION AWARD**  
**TIA Architects**  
**Queen Truss House**  
**Leverett, MA**

Builder: Doug Donnell, Tullio and Judith Inglese  
Photo: TIA Architects

**MERIT AWARD**  
**Kuhn Riddle Architects**  
**SIP Café & Coffee Bar**  
**Northampton, MA**

Contractor: Wright Builders  
Photo: Chattman Photography



**Exhibit Thanks**

Thanks to our Annual Meeting and “Be Local, Build Local” exhibition sponsor, rkMILES and exhibition donors Knoll Inc. of Boston and Barclay Furniture of Holyoke. We are also grateful to the A.P.E. Gallery for hosting our second annual review of local architecture for the public.



**MERIT AWARD**  
**Burr and McCallum Architects**

**L-W Renovation**  
**Williamstown, MA**

Contractor: Vince Martel  
Structural Engineers: Barry Constructors  
Color Consultant: Doug Paisley  
Photo: Peter Vanderwarker



**MERIT + PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD**  
**SITELAB Architecture + Design**  
**Architect of Record: Stephen Jablonski AIA**

**EcoBuilding Bargains**  
**Springfield, MA**

Construction Manager: Steve Ferrari, FCM Smart Build, Inc.  
Interior Layout: Spec's Design  
LEED Consultant: Carol Vincze AIA LEED AP  
Landscape Architect: Elmore Design Collaborative  
Structural Engineer: Ryan S Hellwig PE  
Systems Engineer: Marc Rosenbaum, PE South Mountain Co.  
HVAC Consultant: Harry Grodsky & Co., Inc.  
Lighting Design: Benya Lighting Design  
Photo: Caryn Brause AIA LEED AP

**HONOR AWARD**  
**Crookedworks Architecture**

**Community Meet-up Hub**  
**Gentilly, New Orleans, LA**

Framing, concrete, roofing: Sheppard Construction  
Cistern: Seth Welty  
Landscape: Crookedworks, St. Paul's Homecoming Center and volunteers, Project Home Again Staff, Green Man Dan  
Electrical: Ru's Electric  
Photo: Karley Frankic







**HONOR AWARD**

**Crookedworks Architecture**

**The Tiny House  
Amherst, MA**

Partner Schools: Yestermorrow Design Build School and University of Massachusetts Amherst, Architecture+Design  
Design / Build: Student Team  
Photo: Henry Shepley

**HONOR AWARD**

**Principal Architect: Tessier Associates  
Associate Architect: Margo Jones  
Architects**

**Hoosac Valley Middle and High School  
Cheshire, MA**

Photo: D. Brooks



**People's Choice Awards**

We were happy to host, for the second year in a row, a public exhibition at the A.P.E. Gallery in Northampton. A key part of the show is the People's Choice Award - visitors were invited to vote on the project they felt exhibited the strongest example of architectural excellence in the region. This year 155 ballots were cast during the two-week exhibit. Technically there was one winner but we announced the second and third place because the voting was so close.

1st place:

SITELAB Architecture + Design (Stephen Jablonski AIA, Architect of Record)  
EcoBuilding Bargains, Springfield, MA

2nd place:

Kuhn Riddle Architects  
SIP Café and Coffee Bar, Northampton, MA,

3rd place:

Miller Pollin Architecture  
Energy Efficient House in an Existing Neighborhood, Florence, MA



Caryn Brause AIA looks on as her daughter shows off SIELAB's People's Choice Award winning project at the A.P.E. Gallery

## HONORARY WMAIA

**Bonnie Parsons:  
Feeding the  
Squirrels**

By Stephen Jablonski AIA

**How many of you who attended the December WMAIA meeting remember the squirrel acroteria?** They were the ornamental cornice decorations that marked the entrance to the room we met in at the Smith College Alumnae House, and were identified by the only person in the room who knew what they were called: local preservationist Bonnie Parsons.

From belvederes to bolection moldings, from peristyles to stylobates, the world of architectural history can be a daunting collection of tongue twisters. Bonnie has spent her professional life successfully navigating this collection.

I admire Bonnie for her dedication to the field of historic preservation. Those of us old enough to remember our modernist education were not instilled with any appreciation or respect for the history of architecture. We were told that historical architecture was a thing of the past, better ignored than studied. The real action was to be found in designing new and modern facades that express the machine aesthetic! We were all meant to produce machines for living.... Well I for one am very glad that the history of architecture has survived the smothering it got in the sixties through the eighties. We are just now beginning to discover and respect the richness that true knowledge and understanding of the past can bring to our design work. A tip of the hat to Bonnie and those like her who kept the fire burning through those times. I was excited to learn that WMAIA had voted to honor Bonnie for her life time service

to the preservation of architecture.

Bonnie Parsons has been a prominent leader in the field of historic preservation for nearly 35 years. Bonnie has Master's degrees in Art History from the University of Michigan and in Historic Preservation from Columbia University. She has worked in the field of historic preservation in New York and Massachusetts for architectural firms, developers and public agencies. She worked at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (where she served as Principal Planner and Manager of Historic Preservation Projects) from 1991 until her recent retirement in 2012. In this capacity she assisted and educated historic commissions throughout the entirety of western Massachusetts. She was instrumental in the success of the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway Program, and has enthusiastically worked to preserve our region's heritage through the completion of investment tax credit certifications, Section 106 reviews, historic structure reports, inventory and survey projects, National Register nominations, city and town preservation plans, local historic district guidelines, and numerous other historic and preservation planning projects. She has presented at national planning conferences and regional workshops, and has attended hundreds of evening meetings with local officials and historic commissioners to assist with their many needs.

In addition to her field work, which has led to the preservation of properties throughout Massachusetts, Bonnie has authored numerous guidebooks and reports that have served as resources for planners, preservationists, property owners, and developers. Bonnie's efforts have been applauded by many, including the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a 2004 Massachusetts Historical

Commission Regional Preservationist Award, and Preservation Massachusetts as a 2010 Paul E. Tsongas Profiles in Preservation recipient. She is a dedicated preservationist who has worked hard not only to preserve buildings and landscapes but also to educate others about the importance of our history as contained in the natural and built environment around us. This spring Bonnie will be teaching in the Historic Preservation Program at UMASS/Amherst.

Bonnie remembers about 20 years ago in one of the first talks she ever gave in her role at the PVPC, she spoke to WMAIA about Northfield's Federal style architecture. She told me recently, "At the end of the talk someone in the organization very politely asked me if I were aware of the Stearns family of carpenters and builders, thereby revealing that there was a whole lot more to be learned about this region than I ever knew! It showed to me both what I had to do to understand and advocate for the historic architecture of western Massachusetts, but also how very well-informed and thoughtful the architects of WMAIA were." She added, "I am very honored to have received this award and feel privileged to have worked with and among many of our region's architects."

Even if you can't quite remember the difference between a Roman arch & a Gothic one, please keep in mind the importance of the Preservation Movement in the field of architecture. After all, who's gonna take care of your lovely, wonderful buildings after you're gone?

## Teaching the Next Generation: Karen Koehler

By Stephen Schreiber FAIA

### WMAIA recently toasted Karen Koehler with an Honorary WMAIA Award.

Karen is professor of architectural and art history at Hampshire College. She was the coordinator and driving force behind the Five College Architectural Studies project, and is now Co-chair of the Five College Architectural Studies Council.

Under her leadership, faculty and students from across the Five Colleges began to meet in 2000 to create a cooperative program in architectural studies. The group began with a faculty seminar in Architectural History, Theory and Practice that still gathers. She was a principal investigator in planning grant from the Graham Foundation in 2002, which moved to consider different configurations for Architectural Studies in the Five Colleges. That has led to the Five College Architectural Studies major at Amherst, Hampshire and Mount Holyoke. She was instrumental in the development of the Master of Architecture at UMass Amherst.

Karen was key to the successful hiring of three full-time Five College architecture faculty members. She was also a co-principal investigator in the Riverscapes project, an 18 month program of activities funded by the American Delegation to the European Union, including community meetings, public art projects, and an international multidisciplinary symposium featuring the keynote speaker Christo. She is also involved in building issues at Hampshire College as part of President Lash's Sustainability Transition team, and she is also the faculty sponsor for the "Barn Project", a student-led design-build project on campus.

She teaches courses in modern and

Every two years, WMAIA bestows Honorary Membership upon a person or persons outside the profession of architecture. This honor may be granted to any person of esteemed character who is otherwise ineligible for membership in the Institute but who has rendered distinguished service to the profession of architecture or to the arts and sciences allied therewith. Honorary WMAIA membership is granted only if the accomplishments of the nominee are truly outstanding and of "regional significance" (within the four counties of WMAIA) or, if the nominee lives in our service area and has nationally significant accomplishments.



Honorary WMAIA recipients pose with our chapter President.  
From left to right: Karen Koehler, Jeremy Toal AIA, Bonnie Parsons.

contemporary architecture, painting, sculpture, photography and design, with a special emphasis on connections between the built environment, art, critical theory, and socio-political history. Karen received her B.A. in English Literature and M.S. in Library Science from the University of Illinois in Urbana, her M.A. in Art History from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and an M.F.A. and Ph.D. in Art and Archaeology from Princeton University.

Karen is published widely in Europe and in the U.S. on Bauhaus art and architecture, including recent essays for the Prada Foundation in Milan and the Gallery of New South Wales in Australia. She was guest curator of "Bauhaus Modern," an exhibition of prints,

photographs, posters, and architectural drawings, in the Fall of 2008 at the Smith College Museum of Art. Karen is currently part of a program on "Revival: Utopia, Identity, Memory" at the Courtauld Institute in London, where she is presenting her new work on "Bauhaus Ghosts" this November. She looks forward to sabbatical in Fall 2013 to return to her current book project on "Walter Gropius from Exile to Occupation."

Karen says, "I'm really touched and honored by this award. To my mind, I am accepting it on behalf of Five College Architectural Studies, really, and I hope that it can serve as a catalyst for greater collaboration between WMAIA and our amazing students."

## MISCELLANEOUS

## Casino Meeting

By Ludmilla Pavlova, AIA, LEED A.P. BD+C

I recently attended the Massachusetts Gaming Commission Public Education Forum entitled, "Promoting Sustainability and Strengthening Communities: Design Excellence for Massachusetts Casinos," coordinated by AIA Massachusetts and hosted at the Boston Society of Architects (MCEC and DOER also presented).

The discussion was engaging and thorough, and every one of the speakers took care to outline the importance of good design at the building and neighborhood level and the wealth of opportunities to further the sustainability goals of Massachusetts and its communities. The MA Gaming Commission has posted the forum agenda, speaker biographies and the transcript: <http://www.mass.gov/gaming/meetings/meeting-archive/a-new-model-for-massachusetts->

[casinos-dec-12-2012.html](#) (look to page 148 for my comments).

I joined in on two conference calls in preparation for the presentation - the first was a wide ranging discussion of presentation outline and content, and the second a follow-up on community issues. I was also able to join the team the day before the presentation and view the final slides. The speakers had been determined before I joined the group and they all did a great job of outlining the major issues at hand. I believe the final presentations were very successful in representing the breadth of experience in the Massachusetts design community for both excellence and sustainability.

Although the discussion placed a greater emphasis on opportunities and challenges of designing gaming resorts in major cities, it did cover all of the essential design concerns of Massachusetts communities. The final message to the commissioners was that they have an

opportunity to brand MA casinos with the theme of sustainable design, and to set a new precedent for ecotourism in the context of gaming resorts.

As a follow-up to the presentation, the team will be developing a white paper that we intend to present to the MA Gaming Commission as a summary and extended discussion of the issues. I'm not sure of the target date of completing the white paper, but if anyone is interested in reviewing a draft please get in touch with me at [lpavlova@cp.umass.edu](mailto:lpavlova@cp.umass.edu).

## Web Surfing

Julie Waggoner Associate AIA recommends this website that lists Randy Deutsch's "107 Reasons Why You, Architect, Matter": <http://www.lifeofanarchitect.com/107-reasons-why-you-architect-matter/>



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### On The River

Here is UMass Architecture+Design student Laura Brooks's Riverscaping entry for the Hadley, MA site near the dike on the Connecticut River in Hadley. The award came with a \$7,500 cash prize to build this wood frame structure. The project proposal is for a raised, linear wooden platform 60' in length with a series of 9' high walls that frame views to the river. UMass's A + D program faculty and AIAS students are planning to help Laura build the project in the spring. Caryn Brause AIA is the faculty sponsor and Miller Pollin Architecture has assisted Laura with design development drawings.

### Super 60

Congratulations to Dietz & Company Architects, Inc. who have been honored with a 2012 Super 60 Award for Growth by ACCGS, the Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of Greater Springfield, Inc. This award is given annually to the top businesses in the region that contribute to the strength of the regional economy in a significant way.

Dietz & Co. is currently working on the historic renovation of three downtown Springfield buildings that make up the new Main Street location of The Caring Health Center, a community health center that has experienced dramatic growth and now services over 15,000 individuals.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2012 myMARVIN ARCHITECT CHALLENGE WINNERS



**James Estes**  
*Estes/Twombly Architects Inc.*  
 Block Island, Rhode Island



**Donald Giambastiani**  
*Solomon+Bauer+Giambastiani Architects Inc.*  
 Tyngham, Massachusetts

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**Cheers, continued from Page 1**

Andy Grogan Associate AIA (film series), Dorrie Brooks Associate AIA, Greg Orlot, Robert Harrison AIA (ABX Monson charrette), Chris Farley AIA, Julie Waggoner Associate AIA, Lorin Starr Affiliate WMAIA, Caryn Brause AIA, Mary Yun AIA (“Be Local, Build Local” exhibition volunteers). He thanked Lorin Starr for her exceptional work as Executive Director of the chapter and presented her with a gift certificate on behalf of the entire committee.

Chapter Treasurer Tom Hartman AIA reported that WMAIA has the equivalent of approximately two years annual expenses in reserves. The chapter took a loss this year, but expects to make it up next year.

Jeremy also spoke about goals that emerged from recent board retreat (read more about this on page 3).

This year we also hosted our second public exhibition at the A.P.E. Gallery in Northampton. Titled, “Be Local Build Local”, for two weeks, the exhibit highlighted projects from across our chapter for the public. After the Annual Meeting, attendees were invited to a wine and cheese reception at the gallery to view the boards and to hear the announcement of the People’s Choice Award (see page 9).

A fitting way to ring in the new year!

**More of the Best****The Most Talked About Buildings of 2012 (The Atlantic Cities)**

<http://www.theatlanticcities.com/design/2012/12/most-talked-about-buildings-2012/4184/>

**Big, Bold, and Buzz-worthy Buildings in 2012 (Architectural Digest)**

<http://www.architecturaldigest.com/architecture/2012-01/best-architectural-projects-article>

**Profile: Max Page**

by Erika Zekos Associate AIA

**Max Page (Graduate Program Director and Professor of Architecture and History at UMass Amherst) arrived at a career in historic preservation through his love of history.** He studied History at Yale and has a Ph.D. in History with an American urban history focus from University of Pennsylvania. Throughout his education, he maintained an interest in architecture and cities and wrote his thesis on the cultural memory of New York City.

Later, at Georgia State University, Max taught American History and directed the Masters in Heritage Preservation Program, merging his scholarly interest into practice. He also taught at Yale before coming to UMass. When he arrived in Amherst in 2001 as a Professor of Architecture and History, there was no preservation program and Max helped to shape it into the robust course of studies that it has become.

As a ‘public historian’, Max is concerned with the preservation of buildings, but also about how to wrestle with the past; asking why do we decide to value (and therefore preserve) the sites we do? What ideas, laws, and agencies and organizations decide what is significant at any given time? Our decisions reflect the times and power structures of the culture. As an example, our perception about what was important in the American South has evolved. Years ago the focus was on saving plantation homes, but in recent decades the attention has turned to preserving, not the homes of the wealthy land owners, but the humble slave shacks.

A few years ago the University developed a unique partnership with the Hancock Shaker Village (HSV), a National Historic Landmark. This collaboration allows the UMass program to offer more than a traditional preservation program.

Students are engaged in a balance of real, hands-on work in Pittsfield at HSV, such as structural assessments and paint analysis, and academic study in history and public policy with experts in the field on the Amherst campus.

The program is designed to accommodate working professionals with classes every other week on Friday and Saturday. While some of the students are following the traditional path and join the program right after finishing their undergraduate degree, many do come from established professions. Max enjoys working with students who bring their life experience to the program. Some students sign on for the whole program to earn a Master’s degree, while others opt to take individual classes. One student took Max’s History and Theory of Preservation class this fall to prepare herself to sit on her town’s Historic Preservation Commission. Notably, four recent program graduates (two architects, a real estate agent and a historic roofer) are now working together and were just awarded a contract to restore the Hadley Town Hall.

Asked how preservationists and architects can better engage one another, Max mentioned that sustainability issues offer new opportunities to work together. After all, what’s more “green” than saving what already exists instead of building new? Here in New England, architects of new projects often have to deal with the past as context. Old buildings are our neighbors and history has informed the public aesthetic and local laws. Max also feels that the historic preservationist field needs to be mindful of new designs. He pointed out that preservationists should be advocating today for the buildings they’ll be preserving later.

For more information about the UMass Amherst and Hancock Shaker Village Master of Science in Design and Historic Preservation program please visit <http://umasshsv.wordpress.com>. You can also write directly to Max at [mpage@art.umass.edu](mailto:mpage@art.umass.edu).

# OPPORTUNITIES

## Historic House Wanted

Cheryl Wilson, a reporter for the Amherst Bulletin, writes frequently about local houses and gardens. She has asked WMAIA's help to identify a recent historic house renovation located in the greater Amherst/Northampton area for an upcoming feature. If you have an idea, please contact Cheryl at [valleygardens@comcast.net](mailto:valleygardens@comcast.net).

## Communicating Boston Exhibit

February 10 - August 31

Boston Society of Architects | Space | Boston MA

Physical interventions can help or hinder our understanding of a city's spaces, clarify or obscure its systems of movement and enable or deny the participation of its various publics. By framing the means through which we interpret and engage with our surroundings, designers can reveal the changing aspects of a city's present, tell stories about its past and speculate on its future.

IN FORM presents a legacy of projects in Boston over the past 50 years envisioned to increase access to the city. Three themes—Legible City, New/Public and Futures—explore how design can shape our understanding of the urban realm, expand its cultural sphere and propose new possibilities for its development.

Combining architecture and urban planning with the design of information, exhibitions and events, each of these built and unbuilt projects embodies a particular vision of what Boston is and what it could be.

## Call For Entries

Carbon Challenge Providence Design Competition

Complete rules and design requirements will be posted January 18 at [www.apawood.org/CarbonChallenge/Providence](http://www.apawood.org/CarbonChallenge/Providence).

Registration ends February 8.  
Design submittals due by March 4.

APA-The Engineered Wood Association, in partnership with AIA Rhode Island, Habitat for Humanity of Rhode Island, the USDA Forest Service, and Forest Products Laboratory, presents the Carbon Challenge Providence Design Competition.

This unique contest encourages designers to create a new Habitat house design while considering the impact that building materials have on the environment.

- Prizes will be awarded to the top three finalists plus the winners of three design categories (Best Use of Wood Products, Best Curb Appeal, and Most Cost-Effective Design)
- Each participant will receive a free copy of Impact Estimator software from the Athena
- Sustainable Materials Institute to determine their life-cycle assessment score.

The Carbon Challenge Providence will kick-off with a free festive event for builders and designers featuring live music, giveaways, food, beer, and wine. Attendees also will learn how to enter the Carbon Challenge and see the actual site of the design competition.

Date: Thursday, January 17, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Roots Cultural Center (276 Westminster St., Providence).  
RSVP to: Nicole Mast: 504-309-8965 or [nmast@arbmeetings.com](mailto:nmast@arbmeetings.com).

## NAC Forward - Call for Submissions

Due: Friday, February 15

The National Associates Committee (NAC) welcomes the submission of essays and projects to publish in their bi-annual design journal, "Forward" ([www.aia.org/NACForward](http://www.aia.org/NACForward)).

For more information, please review Forward 212: Craft Submission Guidelines at <http://www.aia.org/aiaucmp/groups/aia/documents/pdf/aiab096472.pdf>.

## BE13: Save The Date

March 5-7

Seaport World Trade Center, Boston MA

80 Sessions, 150 Exhibitors and You! NESEA's BuildingEnergy is the most established, most cross-disciplinary renewable energy and high-performance building conference and trade show in the northeastern US. Join us for three days of networking, speakers, accredited educational sessions, collaboration, and a high-level trade show. It's a place to shape a vision of a sustainable built environment and to do the whole systems thinking it will take to get there. It's rigorous—no greenwashing here—and it's a blast. <http://www.nesea.org/buildingenergy/>

# WMAIA PROGRAMS

## Update Your Email

Are you receiving regular updates about programs from WMAIA? If not then send Lorin Starr a note right away at [director@wmaia.org](mailto:director@wmaia.org). We are sharing more information electronically these days and you don't want to miss out!

## ...And Your Firm Profile

WMAIA member firms are listed and featured on [www.wmaia.org](http://www.wmaia.org). If you haven't updated your firm's contact information, description or photos in a while, please take a look and send changes to webmaster Julie Waggoner at [jwaggoner@micablue.com](mailto:jwaggoner@micablue.com).



Visitors to the "Be Local, Build Local" exhibition of WMAIA member projects at the A.P.E. Gallery in Northampton on December 14, 2012

WMAIA programs will resume in February with a spring film series, programs, and building tours.

If you have a suggestion for a WMAIA program - a building you'd like us to tour or a professional development topic you like us to cover - please email Lorin Starr, WMAIA Executive Director at [director@wmaia.org](mailto:director@wmaia.org) or call 413-665-2424. And don't forget to check the website for program information: [www.wmaia.org](http://www.wmaia.org).

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