The AIA New England Design Awards were presented on September 30, 2016 in Portland, Maine. Kuhn Riddle Architects received a People’s Choice Award for Excellence in Architecture for their multi-family housing project: Olympia Oaks Housing, Amherst Massachusetts. Congratulations Kuhn Riddle!
This new, approximately 2,100 SF house will be located adjacent to an old quarry pond deep in the woods outside the town of West Stockbridge, MA. Set into the steeply sloped northern edge of the pond, each of the rooms and accompanying decks of this two story house are directed toward the water to the south. The bifurcated ‘butterfly’ roof system - the narrower section covers the open stairway down from the entry and the garage while the larger portion sits atop the majority of the house - provides protection from the elements as well as the summer sun. Interior lighting and winter heating will be provided as much as possible by passive solar, while prevailing winds will be harnessed to provide supplemental cooling in the summer. The siding and roofing will be corrugated steel and standing seam steel systems respectively. Construction is slated to begin in the Spring of 2017.

IN THE WORKS

BURR AND McCALLUM ARCHITECTS

We took the familiar barn form and stretched it to new lengths. Our clients wanted to leave the field as untouched as possible, so all landscape is contained within the 24' width. The roof is continuous over the 300 foot span, with one gap for the pool and associated recreational spaces. The parking and garage are under the covered roof. The two small buildings at the two ends house the guest house and the pool house.

STEPHEN DIETEMANN ARCHITECTS

IN THE WORKS
The Academy of Music Theatre has unveiled an historic gem that has not been seen by the public in a century: a beautiful, antique scenic curtain depicting a classic Northampton vista. During the Academy’s auditorium restoration in 2014, theater staff discovered a scenic drop curtain stapled to the back of the 1917 cut velvet main drape that still graces the stage’s proscenium opening. Once carefully removed from the main drape, a 40’ by 30’ local landscape painting was revealed, signed and dated 1913 by Maurice Tuttle, a renowned scenic painter of the time. Mr. Tuttle, based out of Milwaukee and New York City, worked as a freelance artist, creating scenic paintings throughout the United States and Canada. He was often hired by theatre magnate, Sylvester Zeffiretti Poli who was heralded as the largest individual theater owner in the world, and Jessie Bonetelle, the most successful stock theater producer in the country in the early 20th century. Many of Mr. Tuttle’s scenic designs were retained for subsequent Broadway runs of stock productions, including 1912’s premiere of Little Women. He worked at the Academy of Music for several seasons in the 1910s, generally as a scenic designer and painter and sometimes also appearing onstage.

Through in-depth research, the history of the curtain unfolded. The painting created in 1913 depicts Northampton's Paradise Pond, a crest for the city of Northampton, and, perhaps most intriguing, the distinctive tower of Maynard's Hoe Shop, which burned down just four years later. The design was painted over top of what had been the original main proscenium curtain, a blue-and-white striped canvas decorated in floral stencils and hand-painted pinstripes, dating from the building’s opening in 1891. Mr. Tuttle repainted it for The Liars, the opening production of the Northampton Players’ second season in October 1913. An article from the Northampton Daily Herald recalls the success of the opening night and shines light on the curtain’s history: “The Academy of Music was packed to the doors….It was all a great success and the opening of the season has nothing but good fortune in the promise it gives. And a new curtain, which was meant to be a surprise, was more than that, it was a delight.” The article describes the original curtain’s “striped fadedness,” which the new painting masked, helping the Academy to confirm the identity of its rediscovery.

Even prior to this research, it was immediately evident that the Academy had stumbled upon a stunning and truly unique find that had been under everyone’s noses for decades. Curtains Without Borders, a scenic curtain conservator based in Vermont, was called in to consult. They noted that this was the largest scenic curtain known to exist on the East Coast and recommended it be conserved as soon as possible. Community Preservation Act funds were acquired, allowing the conservation process to be completed over two weeks in early August 2016.

The Academy is thrilled to offer this piece of Northampton history back to the community!
A 118 kilowatt solar array on the roof exceeds the building's remaining energy demands, making it a net-positive system. All the building's systems are extensively metered, and a digital dashboard enables occupant engagement with the building's energy production, water use, and overall performance. All diagrams by Bruner / Cott Architects.

The Kern Center exemplifies an innovative values-based approach to materials selection. Rather than designing the building and then choosing compatible materials and structural systems, the design team sought out the best available materials and designed the building around this palette. Materials were selected to meet the intersecting imperatives for local sourcing, responsible industrial practices, and avoidance of “red list” substances which have adverse effects on human health and the environment. Kern is clad in Ashfield schist veneer taken from a quarry located only 30 miles from campus, and accented with a locally fabricated concrete. The building is constructed of laminated timber from sustainably forested wood. The interior is grounded by polished concrete with local exposed aggregate and salvaged red oak planks.

The Kern Center employs a net-positive water system, capturing, treating, and disposing of all its own water on site. Rainwater is collected from the roof and stored in two 5,000-gallon reservoirs adjacent to the building; from there it is processed and treated for drinking. Composting toilets use no water, reducing the overall water consumption to just 150 gallons per day. Greywater is collected and filtered through indoor planters in the building’s central common space, and then out to an on-site constructed wetland of native plantings. As a DEP pilot project, this innovative system has already made an impact on environmental water policy in Massachusetts.
ReCyclingWorks C&D STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS THIS FALL

WMAIA COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

WMAIA is interested in starting a COTE – Committee on the Environment – and we are looking for community members who would like to help form and sustain this committee. The committee would determine how COTE could support professionals engaged in designing and building environmentally sound structures and sustainable communities.

A steering committee met and discussed a preliminary vision for this committee, that may include the following, but that would be formalized by the committee:

a. Mission: To provide resources to our members and our greater community that fosters the development of environmentally sound structures and sustainable communities.

b. Goals:
   i. Hold monthly gatherings with a focused topic of discussion that relates to Green Building and sustainable development.
   ii. Hold one annual event and continue on alternate years the Green Giants program initiated by the West Branch USGBC.
   iii. Coordinate between the AIA, USGBC, NESEA and other environmentally focused design/build organizations for education opportunities.

c. Committee Members: Possibly 5 to 8 WMAIA members, 2 to 3 building industry/trade leaders and 1 to 2 graduate students.

d. Meetings: Monthly meetings with the exception of July and August on the second Tuesday of the month.

You can help RecyclingWorks develop best management practices for building professionals to increase recycling and reuse of construction and demolition (C&D) materials. RecyclingWorks is coordinating a series of stakeholder meetings that will inform the development of this guidance. Through these meetings, RecyclingWorks is learning about reuse and recycling of these materials from the experience of contractors, architects, C&D haulers and processors, salvage outlets, and others involved in the C&D waste stream with reuse and recycling of these materials.

Topics for discussion include:
1. Reuse: Connecting with salvage outlets to capture reusable materials.
2. Source Separation: What materials make sense to separate on-site and at what scale of project?
3. C&D Processing: Best practices for capturing high-value materials at comingled facilities.

Please attend one of these meetings to share your experience with these or other issues related to diverting construction and demolition materials from disposal.

WESTERN MASS C&D STAKEHOLDER MEETING
http://recyclingworksmca.com/events/western-mass-cd-stakeholder-mtg/
Date: November 10, 2016 Time: 2:30pm – 4:00pm
Location: EcoBuilding Bargains, Springfield

C&D MATERIALS DISCUSSION AT BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS
Date: November 30, 2016 Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Location: Boston Society of Architects

About Recycling Works: RecyclingWorks in MA is a free recycling assistance program, funded by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and administered by the Center for EcoTechnology, that helps businesses and institutions maximize recycling, reuse, and composting opportunities.

For more information or to add yourself to the event invite list, call the RecyclingWorks hotline at (888) 254-5525 or email info@recyclingworksmca.com.

Website: www.recyclingworksmca.com
Contact: info@recyclingworksmca.com
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ARCHITECTURE THROUGH FILM

October 11
The Green Effect:
Victor Grunen and the Shopping Mall (2009)
Lib 1.5

October 25
How Much Does Your Building Weigh Mr. Foster (2010)
Lib 1.5

November 22
Lib 1.5

Location: Room 113 @ Fayweather Hall • Amherst College • 6:30 PM
All films followed by discussion. Free and Open to the Public

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FARMERS MARKET

WAMC Fall 2016
Rail Trail Track Meet
C. C. Brown School
Amherst
November 26
Register at wamc.org

FALL
2016
AIA Western
Massachusetts

Presented by the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Five College Architectural Studies Program

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MASS MoCA

Artist Rico Gatson inaugurates Hall Walls, an annual project that gives artists and students the freedom to create an ephemeral artwork on the walls of the museum. Beginning in October, Gatson and Amherst students will work together to create the mural at the Mead, to be unveiled in Spring 2017.

THINGS TO DO + SEE IN WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?
CONTACT DIRECT@WMAIA.ORG!

ALEX DA CORTE:

Through mid-January 2017 Provocative, puzzling, and visually seductive, in his first museum survey Alex Da Corte’s neon-bright, exuberant works merge the languages of abstraction and modern design with banal, off-brand items, ranging from shampoo to soda to tchotchkes and household cleaning supplies.

LIVING ON EARTH:
The Work of Robert Hite

This dual-site exhibition is on view at Hancock Shaker Village and Berkshire Museum through October 30, 2016. Robert Hite is an accomplished painter, sculptor, and photographer, whose work often includes components of all three disciplines. He creates small-scale structures, dwellings, and living spaces, many of which then become central to his photographs once they are sited in the landscape. Hite finds inspiration in the ever-present influence of nature and the narrative tradition of his Southern upbringing. His images have an engaging, intriguing ambiance, created by the way he captures the three-dimensional structures as they are placed in nature.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR FEATURED ARTISAN?
EMAIL EDITOR@WMAIA.ORG

Douglas Thayer Woodworking & Design, located in Florence Massachusetts, offers unique hand built benches and tables made to heirloom standards.

Douglas Thayer Woodworking & Design has a long standing commitment to socially responsible production and conscientious design. Thayer incorporates reclaimed and local woods with natural concrete and metal. From salvaging wood used for pickling and wine making in South Deerfield, MA, to most recently developing a line of furniture from the IPE lumber that lined the Coney Island Boardwalk in Brooklyn, NY, Thayer is as creative and careful with material sourcing as he is with designing and building.

SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2016
WMAIA ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS PRESENTATION
SPONSORED BY PELLA PRODUCTS
LOCATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON!

WMAIA DESIGN AWARDS
This is a WMAIA Design Awards Year!
Submissions are due by October 21st. See call for entries on our website wmaia.org. Awards will be presented at our Annual Meeting on December 1st. This year we are once again partnering with the Western Massachusetts Section of the Boston Society of Landscape Architects so there is a Landscape Architecture category and a combined Architecture/Landscape Architecture category.
Start planning your submission now!
If you have any questions, please contact director@wmaia.org

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE? WMAIA is co-sponsoring a panel discussion at the BSA on Wednesday, October 19th 6-8PM that focuses on the four LBC projects in Western Massachusetts:
Bechtel Environmental Classroom, Smith College, Whately, MA
R.W. Kern Center, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
Hitchcock Center for the Environment, Amherst MA
Zilkha Center for Environmental Initiatives, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
For more information visit: http://www.architects.org/programs-and-events/living-building-challenge
Registration is required. 2 HSW.

Congratulations 2016 MARVIN ARCHITECTS Challenge Winners

2016 WINNER - BEST COMMERCIAL
THE FREDERICK C. HAMILTON MATH AND SCIENCE CENTER, Milton, NY
Architect: Danely Holt Architects
Architect Firm: Yahil & Manook Architect LLP

Let us help you turn your blueprints into beautiful spaces. To explore solutions for your next project, contact your Western Massachusetts Marvin Representative:
Stephen Hoyt at 413.923.8321 or shoyt@awhastings.com