As you will see documented in the pages of this report, AIA Indianapolis was involved in an impressive number of quality programs in 2008. We expanded our community partnerships and co-sponsored a number of events that proved very popular with the public, from Maya Lin’s talk at the Indianapolis Museum of Art to Daniel Pink’s sold-out lecture at Clowes Memorial Hall. Our biennial home tour attracted nearly 700 tour-goers who had the opportunity to observe the latest currents of residential design by architects. I chose the theme “creative integration,” which is imaginatively illustrated on the front cover, to represent our efforts to integrate the creative talents of architects into community endeavors.

This year’s Indiana High School Design Competition was exceptionally successful on a number of levels. We welcomed more competitors than in past years and offered larger prizes to the winners, which was made possible by soliciting more sponsorships. For the first time in the 35 years that this competition has been held, we offered a preliminary workshop to give students a better idea of expectations. For many of them, it was the first time they had ever stepped foot in an architectural office. While not all the competitors will go on to architectural school, we hope that their experience with the competition will serve them in their future communities, wherever a new building could benefit from their input.

I am particularly happy to have revived the annual breakfast meeting held for past chapter presidents. More than solely an honorary event, this get-together gives us a chance to engage past leadership in current topics of concern to all. Many of the past presidents expressed appreciation for the event and have renewed their involvement with the chapter.

I have found my year as president to be a very rewarding one, and I’d like to thank the chapter’s board members and committee chairs who supported me in my efforts. One of the highlights of the year was the pre-opening tour that we organized for the new Indianapolis Airport terminal in July. Beyond the enthusiastic response of our members, who attended in great number, the event represented the synergy of architects, engineers, contractors, and artists who came together to create a landmark for the city—one that has received wide public acclaim for its design and function. It typifies the kind of creative integration that I hope will be the hallmark of future large-scale public projects in the city.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Weinheimer, President
AIA Indianapolis, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects
Westerley’s gracious living room welcomed participants of the Architect’s Home Tour. The traditional interiors offered counterpoint to the contemporary houses.
On the first weekend of October, two lovely days of weather encouraged a fabulous turnout at the 2008 Architects’ Home Tour. Nearly 700 tour-goers had the opportunity to see a variety of housing types designed by local architects. From a grand estate in Golden Hill to a multi-level condominium above a commercial storefront in Fall Creek Place, people observed good design in an array of lifestyles. Construction dates of the seven tour homes ranged from the 1920s to one just completed. Reflecting a resurgence in interest in mid-century modern design, the tour also included a suburban, one-story ranch home from 1954 designed by the eminent architect Edward Pierre.

The Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) offered tour-goers a rare opportunity to see Westerley, now home of its director, his wife and children. It was the first time the house was widely opened to the public after the extensive $2-million renovation of Allen Clowes’ former home. Westerley enjoys a tranquil setting, and most of its rooms open to outdoor terraces that view the beautifully landscaped grounds. Original features of the house—such as its wide hallways, abundant light, and magnificent sunken living room with ornamental plaster ceiling—convey a sense of gracious living. The renovation did away with antiquated rooms like the butler's quarters and servant bedrooms in favor of enlarging spaces more important to today’s lifestyle, such as a new but classic kitchen and a second-floor family room.

Three new houses next to each other in Herron-Morton exemplify the infill construction that has been rejuvenating this historic residential neighborhood. While each contemporary house has a unique design, they share common themes: they respect the general form and massing of the surrounding 19th-century houses; they favor open interior plans on the ground floor with kitchens as focal points; and their fenestration patterns maximize natural lighting of the interior spaces. At the David Residence, four local artists exhibited their works through the AIA’s collaboration with BeIndyPendent, and all of the furniture was on loan from the IMA’s new design center.

As always, the tour would not be possible without the generosity of the homeowners who opened their abodes to public viewing: Maxwell and Jacqueline Anderson; Rod Collier and John Strachan; Ursula David; Aaron and Kristin Kohn; Micah Frank; John Suter; and Charmian Quigley. AIA Indianapolis would like to thank David Perkins, AIA, for an outstanding job as the tour’s organizer.

The proceeds of the tour have always been donated to local non-profit organizations related to the theme of shelter: Habitat for Humanity, Horizon House, and the Julian Center. This year over $5,000 was contributed to the Wheeler Mission, which has provided meals and overnight lodging to the homeless since 1893. A gift of $1,000 was also made to the Indianapolis Museum of Art towards acquisitions for its newly established Department of Design Arts.

GALLERY OF RESIDENCES

Westerley
3744 Spring Hollow Road
Eric J. Rowland, AIA
Rowland Design

Collier-Strachan Residence
1646 N. New Jersey Street
Rod Collier, AIA
MSKTD & Associates

David Residence
1654 N. New Jersey Street
Drew White, AIA
Axis Architecture

Kohn Residence
1659 N. Alabama Street
Mark Demerly, AIA
Demerly Architects

Frank Residence
1960 N. Bellefontaine Street
Mark Beebe, AIA

Quigley Residence
6340 E. 56th Street
Dave Gibson, AIA
A2S

Suter Residence
2455 N. Delaware Street
Todd Rottmann, AIA
Rottmann Architects
Sanford Garner, AIA
A2S

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form + function

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Eric Schleef Illustration

Villa Level
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PHOTO: COURTESY OF INDIANAPOLIS MUSEUM OF ART PHOTO SERVICES

DAVID BERGENDORF (MRP)
PHOTOGRAPHER OF EMBARCADERO.

NFS RESIDENCE (OVERLEAF)
PHOTO: COURTESY OF TONY VALAINIS AND INDISTRIAL HOME

WATERMARK (PREVIOUS PAGES)
PHOTOGRAPHER OF EMBARCADERO.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF TONY VALAINIS AND INDINSTRIAL HOME
The open plan of the Collier-Strachan Residence’s first floor reflects the owners’ interest in entertaining.
CHAPTER PROGRAMS

TROUBLESHOOTING THE BUILDING ENVELOPE

In a six-hour workshop designed to make the best use of participants’ time, leaving the afternoon free, experts from four companies gave presentations on various technical aspects of preventing and solving problems in the building envelope. A representative of Prosoco Incorporated spoke about masonry construction issues; a Dryvit Systems rep addressed EIFS cladding; Mortar Net USA’s spokesperson explained cavity wall and single wythe construction; and a May National speaker analyzed sealant applications in wall systems. The architects, engineers, specifiers, contractors, and building managers who attended benefited from a review of the basics as well as information on the most recent technical advances in materials.

IUPUI CAMPUS CENTER TOUR

AIA members enjoyed a behind-the-scene tour of the new $40-million IUPUI Campus Center designed by Smithgroup of Washington, D.C. with Ratio Architects. Dan Maxwell, the building’s manager, shared his insight into the process and led participants through the public and private areas of this much-needed new facility serving over 27,000 students. The tour included nearby engineering buildings and explored a variety of experimental learning spaces designed by local interior designers to facilitate interaction among the students and faculty.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF NATURE

Ever since 1982 when architect Maya Lin emerged on the world scene with her elegant design of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, her work has hovered at the intersection of art, nature and architecture. In the fall of 2007, the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) unveiled her work Above and Below, a commissioned installation inspired by the complex structure of underground White River tributaries in south central Indiana. At the April lecture at the IMA, co-sponsored by AIA Indianapolis, Lin spoke to a large audience about her most recent works around the country, many of them large-scale, site-specific land forms. She is now dedicating much of her efforts to restoring habitats.

TOUR OF INDIANAPOLIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TERMINAL

On July 17, over 250 members of AIA Indianapolis and the Construction Specification Institute participated in a preview tour of the new Weir Cook Terminal, which opened to the public in November as the first new terminal built in the U.S. since September 11, 2001. Mary Inchauste, AIA, gave a presentation on how the efforts of architects, contractors and fabricators were coordinated with the 17 commissioned artists whose art installations enliven the terminal’s check-in hall, civic plaza, security areas, and gate concourses. As indicated by the attendance, the tour proved to be one of the AIA’s most successful events of the year.

A WHOLE NEW MIND: DANIEL PINK LECTURE

AIA Indianapolis co-sponsored a sold-out lecture at Clowes Memorial Hall as part of Butler University’s Leadership through the Arts Forum. Daniel Pink, best known as the author of A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future, offered a fresh look at what it takes to excel in a changing world, claiming that the era of “left brain” dominance (and the Information Age that it engendered) is giving way to a new world in which “right brain” qualities—inventiveness, empathy, meaning—predominate. Pink maintains that U.S. companies are now turning to professionals who work and lead more collaboratively, such as architects and designers, to help differentiate themselves in a world of overwhelming product choices.

OUT THERE: ARCHITECTURE BEYOND BUILDING

Aaron Betsky, director of the Cincinnati Art Museum and formerly director of the Netherlands Architecture Institute (the world’s largest architecture museum), gave a talk at the Midland Arts and Antique Mall on the history and current practice of experimental architecture. Since Betsky served as director of the 11th International Architecture Exhibition at the Venice Biennale in the fall of 2008, attendees also learned about experimental work from around the world displayed there. In conjunction with his talk, a three-week exhibit opened giving local architects a chance to display their un-built works—that is, projects that never made it off the drawing board.

ANNUAL MEETING AND HOLIDAY PARTY

Preceding the annual business meeting for the election of the 2009 board, Phil Best of XLDP presented an hour-long continuing education talk titled “LEED Us Not into Temptation.” After a discussion of conflicting information about green design, participants learned the steps that should be taken to manage its risk in their practice. AIA members gathered in the bookstore for the traditional holiday party after the business meeting.

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ANNUAL CONVENTION OF AIA KENTUCKY AND AIA INDIANA

Reflecting the 100th anniversary of the AIA in Kentucky, the theme for the convention held in Louisville was “The Evolution of Architecture: From Chisel to BIM.” The opening night’s reception took place on Thursday, October 9 at the 21c Museum, North America’s first museum dedicated to exhibiting solely 21st-century art.

Keynote presenters in Friday’s sessions included Phil Bernstein, FAIA, of Autodesk; Markku Al- lison, AIA, of the national AIA headquarters; and acclaimed author Sarah Susanka, FAIA, who has written the popular series of “Not So Big” books. Other presentations focused on historic preservation tax credits, disaster assistance programs of the AIA, and LEED certification.

The centerpiece of the program on Saturday was a dialogue on the changing nature of architectural practice, featuring panelists Michael Speaks, dean of the University of Kentucky College of Design; Chris Sharples, AIA, of SHoP Architects in New York; and Bill Zahn, president of A Zahner Architectural Metal Company. Representing Indianapolis, Wil Marquez of A2SO4 participated in a subsequent panel discussion with these panelists on the use of BIM (building information modeling) software. Following the closing luncheon with Louisville historian Tom Owen, three architectural tours of local neighborhoods were offered, as well as a special session on “didactic field drawing.”

GOLF OUTING

Walter Netsch, FAIA (1920-2008) was remembered in this year’s Memorial Golf Outing. A long-time partner of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) in Chicago, Netsch was known for bold projects like the Air Force Academy’s Cadet Chapel in Colorado Springs and Regenstein Library at the University of Chicago.

On August 28, Old Oakland Golf Club welcomed a record number of members (140) to a day of golf and camaraderie. Golfers enjoyed lunch, a reception with awards and prizes, and beverages at hospitality holes. Chairman Mike Hoopingarner, AIA, assisted by Steve Hanscom, AIA, did a stellar job in organizing the 2008 golf outing and summed up the day: “Great weather, great crowd, great sponsors—and a relatively quick pace considering the crowd.” He and his committee arranged for an interesting variety of door prizes, plus commemorative T-shirts designed by Steve Schaecher for all participants. Proceeds from this very successful event are devoted to community programs, scholarships, and chapter programs.

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HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION

High school students from across Indiana have been submitting their entries to the annual design competition sponsored by AIA Indianapolis for more than 35 years. In 2008, 139 students from 19 schools across the state competed, representing an upsurge in participation of more than 70 percent over 2007. The program called for students to design a campus living environment for themselves and two roommates. The architects who served as judges were impressed with students’ abilities to develop thoughtful building concepts with appealing building forms while maximizing site features and incorporating principles of sustainability. AIA Indianapolis president Dan Weinheimer stated: “It’s so encouraging to see the creative talent in our young people. These students not only designed terrific looking buildings, but many included features that support green design.”

Hundreds of students, parents, faculty and friends joined architects for the judging and awards ceremony held April 17 at the ArtsGarden in Circle Centre Mall. Awards of Excellence, comprised of a trophy and a cash prize of $600, went to Harry Murzin of Carmel High School, Carlton Bradley of Merrillville High School, and Kevin Snyder of Lake Central High School. Awards of Honor, consisting of a trophy and prize of $375, went to Garrett Koch and Steve Nestor of Lake Central High School, Thomas Humbert and Jeremy Bushboy of Carroll High School, and Trevor Bianchi of Merrillville High School. At the awards ceremony, guest speaker Mark Demerly, AIA, of Demerly Architects helped the assembled audience gain a better understanding of the work of the architectural profession.

DESIGN FILM SERIES

In collaboration with the chapter, the Indianapolis Museum of Art presented the documentary film Sir John Soane: An English Architect, An American Legacy as part of its design film series. Vop Osili, AIA, introduced this film about the formative influence the English architect and his refined Neoclassical style had on a generation of Post-Modern American architects. Following the film, Osili led a discussion of the documentary’s themes.

CITY COUNCIL RECEPTION

The June 2008 reception for members of the Indianapolis City County Council drew a large crowd and was one of the most successful of these events in the past several years. Councilors and AIA members had an opportunity for some informal conversation together at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Past president Sarah Hempstead introduced the AIA Indianapolis project commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the AIA: a 3D digital model of the heart of the city, which realistically visualizes over 2,500 buildings. Capable of photo mapping and GIS integration, this comprehensive tool will enable better planning, encourage better design, and provide a resource for productive discussions regarding the impact of architecture on our city.

MONUMENTAL AWARDS

Nearly 500 people attended the 31st annual Monumental Affair to celebrate awards for excellence in design, development, construction, engineering, neighborhood beautification, and public art in Indianapolis. AIA Indianapolis—one of the 10 sponsoring organizations under the auspices of the program’s sponsor, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful—judgethe awards in the category of architecture. The Honor Award for architecture was given to the Indianapolis International Airport’s Operations Center, designed by Ratio Architects. The Buckingham Headquarters at 941 N. Meridian Street won the Merit Award. Achievement awards were bestowed on the Central Library, designed by Woollen, Molzan and Partners, and the Earth Discovery Center, by Schmidt Associates. The Monumental Award, representing the most significant visual and physical enhancement in Marion County, is chosen from among honor award winners in each category. The 2008 Monumental Award was presented to the new patient care facility at the IU Simon Cancer Center, designed by Cannon Design of St. Louis (see photo below). Prominently located at the corner of West Michigan Street and University Boulevard and connected to IU Hospital, this first phase of the $150-million center brings inpatient and outpatient care under one roof.
BRENNER NAMED TO THE COLLEGE OF FELLOWS

Diana M.H. Brenner of Indianapolis was elected to the American Institute of Architects’ esteemed College of Fellows, representing the third woman in Indiana to be honored with this award. Prior to the investiture ceremony at the national AIA convention in Boston, which took place in Old South Church, Brenner was feted at an event organized by Women in Architecture at the Hunt Construction Group’s headquarters, one of her own projects.

Both an architect and an interior designer, Brenner founded Brenner Design incorporated in 1992. In the firm’s 17-year history, it has won numerous awards including Excellence in Design awards from ABC, IIDA, and ASID. She was primarily responsible for the concept, organization, and realization of the book Significant Interiors, which presents past winners of the national AIA’s awards for interior architecture. She has played a key role in crafting state legislative policy and has been an outspoken advocate for the profession. As a lecturer, she has made 11 presentations at national and regional AIA conventions. In 2008 the Indiana Commission for Women honored Brenner with the Torchbearer Award, the first in the category of architecture.


EDWARD D. PIERRE AWARD

The board of directors of AIA Indiana bestows this award in honor of its former president, Edward D. Pierre, FAIA (1890-1971), who exemplified the architect as civic leader and advocate of the architectural profession in public affairs. The 2008 Pierre Award was bestowed on Don Altemeyer, AIA, executive director and a founding principal of BSA LifeStructures. Altemeyer was honored for his civic and career achievements, including leading the new Indianapolis airport, promoting the relevance of good design, and advocating that local companies hire local designers.

JULIET PEDDELL AWARD

In 1999 the first Juliet Peddle Award was granted to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the first female registered architect in Indiana. AIA Indianapolis is a founding sponsor of this endowed award, which was inaugurated by the chapter’s Women in Architecture committee. This year’s award recipient, Dean Illingworth, FAIA, is the executive director of Habitat for Humanity. Illingworth decided to take a leadership position with the local, non-profit organization after a 28-year career with the architectural firm Schmidt Associates.

INDIANA ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Each year AIA Indianapolis supports the Indiana Architectural Foundation’s scholarship program for Indiana students enrolled in accredited programs leading to an architectural degree. Emily Hoyt of Brownsburg, currently a fourth-year student at Ball State University, was selected to receive the $1,000 scholarship sponsored by the chapter. In all the IAF awarded a record sum of $28,200 in scholarship funds to 19 students.

AIA INDIANA PRESIDENT’S AWARDS

Bestowed at the discretion of AIA Indiana’s president, this award recognizes unique contributions to the architectural profession in Indiana. The 2008 President’s Award went to three generations of architects from the Miller family in recognition of their impact upon the quality of architecture in Indiana: Matthew Miller; Warren Miller, FAIA; Ewing H. Miller, AIA; and Ewing H. Miller II, FAIA. During careers that spanned more than 100 years of practice, the Millers have been known for their service to the profession and for mentoring a wealth of young talent. Ewing H. Miller II, FAIA, turned 85 years old during the same week in which he accepted the award on behalf of his family.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Among the three Distinguished Service Awards given by AIA Indiana in 2008, one was awarded to Indianapolis architect Wayne Schmidt, FAIA, for his service with state legislative issues on behalf of the architectural profession. Schmidt’s testimony in the Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee was instrumental in changing the tenor of the debate and helped enlighten legislators on various architectural issues.
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