Measuring Success

AIA Chicago Announces its Firm of the Year, Young Architect, and Distinguished Service Award Winners
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On the Cover: O’Donnell Wicklund Pigozzi and Peterson were the recipients of this year’s Firm of the Year Award from AIA Chicago. With a combined staff of 230, the firm’s offices are located at 111 West Washington Street. Photograph: Hedrich Blessing
A frequent truism repeated by active AIA members is that “you get out of the organization what you put into it.” As my term concludes, I experienced the veracity of these words. The highlight of my year was the opportunity and privilege to work alongside so many colleagues dedicated to this profession. With everyone pulling in the same direction, and united in common goals, it is a fabulous team to be a part of. I thank you—one and all.

Those of you who remained on the sidelines in 1998 might make a New Year’s resolution to get active: You missed some great experiences this year.

- The PIAs have great programs. The new format of the Design PIA and Interiors PIA programs have drawn record attendance under the respective leaderships of Dan Wheeler and Jim Prendergast.
- The Design Excellence Awards is evolving into an annual architecture party. This year, 730 attendees enjoyed the great space and inspiring views of Navy Pier as well as emcee Nick Luzietti’s amazing architectural humor.
- The second annual Professional Development Conference, master-minded by Jonathan Fischel, Kevin Hall, Barry Koren, and Lisa Willis-Brown, featured keynote speakers Bob Ivy and Richard Stein. Four hundred thirty members, including AIA members from six adjacent states, earned between 14 to 28 Learning Units at this event.
- Jack Hartray will entertain and educate us with his always unique and insightful observations of the profession at this year’s Annual Meeting.

Come to these and other events next year and you’ll get tremendous value for your dues. Tom Fridstein’s Sponsorship Committee raised more than $100,000 to underwrite event costs in 1998 and has even bigger plans for 1999. To learn about AIA Chicago events, visit our Web site (www.aiachicago.org). It is one of the most successful and cutting-edge chapter Web sites in the country thanks to the contributions of Tom Zurowski and his staff.

1999 also includes the debut of AIA National’s television ad campaign which brings special benefit to Chicago members. The first ads were shot in Chicago, and will communicate not only the value of our services, but also the high quality of work produced here. Starting in February, these ads will run nationally on programs such as The Today Show, Larry King Live, NBC Nightly News, ABC News with Peter Jennings, and on CNN.

We all owe thanks to our executive director, Alice Sinkevitch, and the AIA Chicago staff. Their efforts have made this year’s events possible, successful, and tremendously valuable to our members and the profession.

Deborah Doyle, AIA
President, AIA Chicago

Call For Submissions

We are putting the finishing touches on next year’s Focus editorial calendar. If you haven’t done so already, please add Focus to your media list.

We’d love to know what you are working on. Send us information on new or finished projects for consideration for publication in the “Notebook” section of Focus. In addition, we are seeking the following project types for upcoming features in Focus.

- New projects/projects “on the boards”;
- Architecture for entertainment, e.g., theaters, recreational facilities, museums, etc.
- Restoration, Preservation, or Renovations.

Please send photographs and project descriptions by January 1, 1999, to: Barbara Hower, Focus Editor, AIA Chicago, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, #1049, Chicago, IL 60654. For information, call 312/670-7770 or e-mail: bhower@aiachicago.org.
AIA Chicago Annual Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 5:30 p.m.
The Cliff Dwellers, 200 S. Michigan Ave., 22nd Fl.
At 5:30 p.m. sharp, AIA Chicago will present the 1998 Professional Excellence awards: Firm, Young Architect, and Distinguished Service awards. A short business meeting, including the election of Chapter officers for 1999, will follow. We will then enjoy remarks from a distinguished member of the Chapter, John F. Hartray, Jr., FAIA, of Nagle Hartray Danker Kagan McKay. Refreshments will be served after the program concludes.
Thanks once again to the generous underwriting of Euclid Insurance Agencies, Inc., the cost of this event is $10 for AIA Chicago members and $15 for your guests. Please make your reservation by December 3rd.

Young Architects Holiday Party
Wed., December 9, 6:00 p.m., Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson Blvd.
Sponsor: Young Architects PIA
Hosted by the International Masonry Institute, this annual event is an opportunity for young architects to learn more about the Young Architects PIA’s activities. This is a great time to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, and to try your hand at the plastering craft! (Club policies require that men wear a jacket.)

Use and Abuse of Acoustics in Architecture
Thurs., December 17 12:00 noon, Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Ct.
Sponsor: Technical Issues PIA
Architects rarely receive adequate training in acoustics. Every decision about materials, systems, and surface treatments affects the acoustics of your space. Dawn Schuette, AIA, and Scott Pfeiffer of Kirkegaard & Associates, consultants in architectural acoustics, will review the necessary basic principles of sound isolation and interior room acoustics for designing a variety of spaces. 3 LUs/HSW

Roasts and Resolutions: A Holiday Social
Thurs., December 17, 6:00 p.m., 1-Space, 230 W. Superior St.
Sponsors: Design and Interior Architecture PIA's
Review the current state of architecture in Chicago. View a continuous slide show of submissions to this year's Design Excellence Awards, watch a short videotape of comments by the Distinguished Building Awards jury, and then listen to Douglas Garofalo, AIA, Neil Frankel, AIA, and Jack Hartray, FAIA, discuss “Invisible

CES Self Report Form Open House
Tues, December 16, 5:00 p.m., AIA Chicago
To assist members who need help with their Self Report Forms, the AIA Chicago Chapter will sponsor two open houses at the chapter office in the Merchandise Mart to offer one-on-one advice and hands-on assistance in completing their forms.
Please call AIA Chicago at 312/670-7770 to sign up for the Self Help Open House or for answers to any other CES questions you might have.

REGISTRATION FORM

☐ 12/8 AIA Chicago Annual Meeting
☐ 12/9 Young Architects Holiday Party
☐ 12/17 Acoustics in Architecture
☐ 12/17 Roasts and Resolutions

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Two AIA Chicago Firms' Work Highlighted

During the week of October 26, the first two ads for the upcoming AIA TV ads were filmed in Chicago. As noteworthy examples of an office and school project for the TV ad campaign, AIA national selected the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Headquarters, designed by Lohan Associates, and the Little Village Academy, designed by Boss Barney + Jankowski Inc. The TV ad campaign will be used to expand the current AIA print advertising campaign. The TV ads are designed to convey the notion that a relationship with an AIA architect is a rewarding and exciting experience that produces a better place in which to live and work. The ads featuring the Chicago projects will begin airing in January.

Information a Mouse-click Away

If you've misplaced your AIA Chicago Quarterly Calendar and are curious about upcoming programs, don't forget to check the AIA Chicago Web site. All of the programs that appear in the Quarterly Calendar are within easy reach by logging on to www.aiachicago.org. We also have been updating some of the materials on our Web site to make information retrieval easier. Soon you can print off a copy of AIA Chicago's document order form from our Web site. Simply fill out your order and fax it to AIA Chicago at 312/670-2422. If you wish to check your CES transcript, you can access that information via a direct link to the continuing education page of AIAonline. If you are a member firm, e-mail your request to (membership@aiachicago.org) for a hotlink from AIA Chicago to your firm's Web site.

ARE Update

As of August 10, candidates for an architecture license in Illinois were required to complete the Intern Development Program (IDP) before being eligible to take the Architect Registration Exam (ARE).

An application to take the ARE can be ordered from the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation (DPR) at 320 West Washington Street, 3rd Floor, Springfield, IL 62716, or by calling 217/782-4977. AIA Chicago has a limited number of the applications, which you can pick up in the AIA Chicago office. Information from DPR is also available at www.state.il.us/dpr.

All divisions of the ARE are administered exclusively on computers year-round at a network of test centers.
across the U.S. Testing centers are located throughout the Chicagoland area, including Carpentersville (847/426-6606); Homewood (708/798-0238); Northbrook (847/559-2461); Westchester (708/947-2800); and two Chicago locations (312/609-2525 and 312/663-5632).

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) has developed a tutorial program and practice vignettes for candidates to use before taking the exam. The tutorial will be sent to all candidates who sign up for any of the three graphic divisions. The practice questions also can be downloaded at www.ncarb.org.

Early in 1999, AIA Chicago will be presenting an introduction to the ARE with featured speakers from NCARB and the Illinois Architecture Licensing Board. Watch upcoming issues of Focus (and future mailings) for date and time.

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Measuring Success

OWP&P Receives Firm of the Year Award From AIA Chicago

The 1998 AIA Chicago Firm Award, which was inaugurated in 1991, was given to O'Donnell Wicklund Pigozzi and Peterson (OWP&P). The award was established to recognize a single architectural firm for outstanding achievement in the architectural profession. Often recognized through other awards and honors, the winning firm is selected for its ongoing excellence in design, building, technology, planning, and research, and for its notable efforts to advance the architectural profession. This year’s jury was composed of architects from AIA Houston.

Jury Comments

Quite often entrants become so enthralled with their accomplishments that they lose sight of the importance of putting together a very clear and understandable submission. The desire to include as much as possible gets in the way of structuring a package that succinctly addresses the issues that the jury might be most interested in. OWP&P did an excellent job of prioritizing the information, displaying it clearly, and conveying a complete message about the significant accomplishments of the firm. The quality of the package and the targeted approach to the packaging led the jury to feel that OWP&P cared very much about this award.

The jury felt that, regardless of other accomplishments, the architectural work of the selected firm should be exemplary. While exhibiting a broad range of project types with stylistic differences, OWP&P conveyed a consistent quality of architecture and sensitivity to the individual needs of their projects.

OWP&P’s submission illustrated the importance of the firm’s principals setting an example for the rest of the staff for involvement in professional activities and community service. The jury was impressed by the extent of involvement on the part of all members of the firm in volunteering for activities outside of the project-related activities of the company.

Few architectural firms survive the retirement of the founding principals (Lawrence J. O'Donnell, FAIA; Leonard S. Wicklund, FAIA; Raymond A. Pigozzi, FAIA; and Leonard A. Peterson, FAIA). OWP&P not only has achieved that hurdle, but has also prospered in the process. Such success is not the result of happenstance but more likely is the product of deliberate mentorship over several years, husbanding of cultural compatibility throughout the firm, and teamwork on the part of all members of the organization.

OWP&P was the only firm to address the financial status and performance of the firm. The jury was impressed that the firm recognized that good business practices and economic success should be an integral part of any evaluation of a “Firm of the Year.”

OWP & P Overview

Throughout its history, OWP&P Architects has collected many accolades, beginning with AIA Chicago Distinguished Building Awards in 1968, 1971, and 1976. Most recently, in 1998, it received two Distinguished Building Awards for the design of the Wauconda Area Public Library and the Northwest Community Healthcare Wellness Center in Arlington Heights. In addition to design awards, in recent years, the firm has received increased recognition for its management as well. In its January 1997
issue, *Architectural Record* selected OWP&P as one of the 30 best-managed firms in the country. OWP&P is consistently ranked with national architectural giants and top design firms by *Crain’s Chicago Business, Commercial Renovation, Interior Design Magazine,* and *ENR.*

In 1998, OWP&P celebrated its 40th anniversary. One of the crowning achievements the firm celebrated in its anniversary year was the successful realization of the 1991 Vision Process, which was authored by the firm’s president, Leonard Peterson, FAIA.

In 1991, OWP&P Architects was an office of 150 people in Deerfield, Illinois. Peterson fostered a six-month Vision Process because the firm’s ownership transition had increased the number of principals to 20. He wanted to assure that the staff embraced the firm’s goals and that everyone was moving in the same direction. The 1991 Vision sought design and quality excellence; to provide value to both clients and staff; a balanced practice that ensures financial stability; and to consistently practice ethically for ethical clients.

By 1997, OWP&P had acquired the design practices of John Syvertsen, AIA, and John Macsai, FAIA, and opened a branch office of about 90 people in Chicago. Finally, the Deerfield and Chicago offices were consolidated and the combined staff of 230 relocated to an office at 111 West Washington Street in Chicago’s Loop. Among the benefits of a consolidated presence in the Loop, the move allowed the firm to increase its productivity; cross-market services; and provide more professional participation in AIA activities.

- **Productivity.** Consolidating the office in one location resulted in an increase in productivity, from the mid-50 percent direct time ratio to consistently over 60 percent;
- **Cross-market services.** Cross-marketing allowed the firm to draw on the strengths of market and “building” specialists, i.e., athletic facilities for hospital wellness centers;
- **Professional participation.** In 1997, Leonard Peterson, FAIA, was AIA Illinois president, and John Syvertsen, AIA, was AIA Chicago president in 1996. In addition, Gregory Heiser, AIA, is chair of the Health PIA, Angie Lee, AIA, is cochair of the Interiors PIA, and marketing director Pat Rosenzweig is a member of the Focus advisory committee.

Walt Lewis, AIA Illinois Award sponsor, writing in support of OWP&P’s nomination for Firm of the Year, summed up the firm’s importance to the architectural community. “The firm has established that the highest architectural design standards will be the norm for the office. OWP&P fulfills its obligation superbly to clients, which accounts for repeat business with nearly three-fourths of the clients. By every measurable standard of determining a firm’s excellence, OWP&P not only measures up, the firm excels.”

**Jury**

Frank F. Douglas, FAIA
Douglas/Gallagher
Ken L. Ross, AIA
Watkins Hamilton Ross Architects, Inc.
David H. Watkins, FAIA
Watkins Hamilton Ross Architects, Inc.
AIA Chicago Announces Recipients of the Young Architect and Distinguished Service Awards

The Young Architect Award
The Young Architect Award was established in 1981 to recognize individuals between the ages of 29 and 39 who have demonstrated, through their practice and professional service, general excellence and exceptional promise. Winning candidates are selected because they have been recommended as superior by established members of the architectural community. The jury determines the precise number of awards each year. This year, three individuals were given the Young Architect Award.

Jury
Daniel Cinelli, AIA
OWP&P
Kristine Fallon, FAIA
Kristine Fallon Associates Inc.
Douglas Garofalo, AIA
Garofalo Architects

Ellen Bailey Dickson, AIA
Ellen Bailey Dickson, AIA, is cofounder and co-owner of Bailey Edward Design, a 12-person Chicago-based architecture and interior design firm. A strong educational foundation and passion for teaching have led to a deep commitment to professional service that permeates Dickson’s daily activities and the way she runs her business. She has been involved in peer and professional development, mentoring, and women’s business development and is actively involved in professional training, design and entrepreneurial mentorship, and outreach to the next generation of design professionals.

Bailey Edward Design has won several awards for both traditional and contemporary designs. Designs for Chiasso and for a prototype design for Gingiss formalwear earned awards from the National Association of Store Fixture Manufacturers. A professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Dickson received an Excellence in Teaching award and was named one of “100 Women Making a Difference” by Today’s Chicago Woman.

Dickson’s has been active in AIA Chicago’s Design PIA and has also been a member of AIA Chicago’s Adopt-a-School outreach initiative, which seeks to build awareness among grade school children about the importance of transforming cities and towns into better places to live. For the past three years, Dickson has been active in the Chicago Architecture Foundation’s Newhouse Architecture Competition—the design/drafting program for high school students—and currently serves as a committee member and competition judge.

In writing in support of Dickson’s nomination for the Young Architect Award, one of her sponsors stated: “Ellen’s dedication and willingness to give of herself, to better the profession and to help others, distinguished her among her peers.”

Thomas Hoepf, AIA
Since 1994, Thomas Hoepf, AIA, has been principal design architect with Teng & Associates. Before that, he was a project designer at Holabird & Root LLP for seven years. He received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree from The Ohio State University and his Master of Architecture from the University of Texas at Arlington.

As a project designer at Holabird & Root, Hoepf’s completed work includes the Northern Illinois Gas Headquarters Building, the CTA Randolph Street Office Building, and the Frey Science and Engineering Center for the University of St. Thomas. At Teng & Associates, his completed projects include the CTA Lake/Wells Subway Station (which received a 1996 AIA Chicago Divine Detail Award) and the Knickerbocker Hotel Renovation (which received a 1996 AIA Chicago Interior Architecture Award). He is currently working on the renovation of Concourse G at O’Hare International Airport and the Museum Campus Comfort Station adjacent to the Shedd Aquarium. Hoepf also is a finalist for the 1998 Burnham Prize and received an Honorable Mention in the 1996 Burnham Prize Competition.

Hoepf has assisted Gerald Horn, FAIA, in a graduate-level design studio at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and has served on design juries for student work at IIT, the University of Illinois at Chicago, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. At
AIA Chicago, Hoepf participates on the Corporate Architects PIA. In nominating Hoepf for the Young Architect award, one of his sponsors noted: “[Tom] is an outstanding designer who is able to establish an initial idea and develop it in a logical manner. He has tremendous ability in drawing, which allows him to clearly convey his ideas. He works exceptionally well in a group and is able to draw the best ideas from the individuals around him.”

Frederick H. Wilson, AIA

Frederick H. Wilson, AIA, is a partner in the Chicago firm Morgante Wilson Architects Ltd, a 23-person firm that specializes in residential architecture. While attending the University of Illinois at Chicago to earn his Master of Architecture degree, Wilson worked at Hammond Beeby and Babka. Upon graduation, he was hired by Tigerman, Fugman, McCurry Architects, Ltd., where he was soon named first associate to the firm. Wilson began his own architectural practice, Johnson Rogatz Wilson Architects; in 1994, the firm named changed to Morgante Wilson Architects.

Under Wilson’s direction, his firm received many awards, including an AIA Chicago Interior Architecture Award in 1992 for the USG Showroom and in 1993 an award in Excellence for Masonry Detailing from The Masonry Institute for the Kaplan Residence.

Wilson has been active in the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development and is currently a member of the Townhome Development and Inter-Residential Redevelopment committees for the city. In addition, he participates with local North Side community groups in developing standards and guidelines for ongoing developments in the area.

Wilson has served as a visiting critic at the schools of architecture and design at UIC, The Ohio State University (where he received his Bachelor of Science in Architecture), and the School of the Art Institute. He has also served on the Design PIA for AIA Chicago. One of Wilson’s sponsors for his Young Architect Award nomination wrote: “Fred Wilson’s architecture exemplifies a postmodern design orientation. He blends a deep understanding of historical architectural periods with a refined interpretive style. The result, rather than mimicking or creating a caricature of an historical building, is an inventive, rich, and complex form.”

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the architectural community by an individual or an organization. Nominations are made by AIA Chicago chapter members and voted on by the board of directors. For an individual, the award honors a single project or the work of an entire career. This year, the board of directors chose to honor Harold Olin, FAIA.

Harold Olin, FAIA

Harold Olin, FAIA, has spent his professional life promoting design excellence, better construction, and environmental awareness. His textbook, Construction: Principles, Materials and Methods, is familiar to most undergraduate architecture students and is an integral part of many architectural firms across the country. In his current role as managing deputy commissioner for codes and standards for the Chicago Department of Buildings, Olin is involved with the task of modernizing the Chicago Building Code, updating obsolete requirements, correcting inaccuracies, and making the code consistent with national model codes. Of his efforts at updating the Building Code, an industry observer noted: “Although the code review process is a lengthy, time-consuming, and thankless job, Olin, an architect by trade and a distance runner by avocation, appears to have the talent, the energy, and the perseverance to achieve what many believed to be an impossible task.”

In 1965, Olin went to work for the U.S. League of Savings Associations. In his role there, he headed a staff that researched and published information about sound construction practices, eco-sensitive land planning, and energy-efficient systems.

Olin is actively committed to causes that promote improved living standards for Chicago-area residents. In the mid-1960s, he was one of the central figures at Congressional hearings on the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (Park). When the Park became a reality, Olin was appointed by then Interior Secretary Hickell to the Lakeshore Advisory Commission. In the mid-1970s, he chaired the Lake Michigan Region Planning Council—a regional planning advocacy group organized by AIA Chicago—and was a member of AIA Chicago’s Environment Committee, where he brought together a private-public venture to build energy- and resource-efficient affordable housing in Chicago.

Olin received his Bachelor of Architecture with City Planning Option in 1954. He worked for several local architectural firms, including Olin & Kosover, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Keck & Keck, Pace Associates, and Howard Fisher & John Randall Associates.

In his adult life and professional career, Olin has been devoted to causes that try to improve living standard, make life more rational, and create a sustainable future. Writing in recommendation of giving Olin the Distinguished Service Award, a colleague wrote: “His commitment to causes promoting the improved living standards of people in Chicago is exemplary, and his efforts toward a more sustainable, energy-efficient environment continues to be expressed through code improvements, published articles, lectures, and Congressional testimony...I strongly urge that Harold Olin be recognized with this much-deserved award for his achievements and efforts.”
Emerging Visions Recognizes Top Young Designers

One of the goals of AIA Chicago’s Design and Young Architects PIA is to promote significant architectural endeavors by young architects, new practices, educators, and students. Because the urban environment is constantly evolving and new visions are continuously coming to the fore, the Emerging Visions competition was established to recognize young designers and give them a place to share their visions, inventions, and ideas with others. Submissions could be built, unbuilt, or theoretical. Entrants were required to be 45 years of age or under and live or work in the Chicago area. Architectural registration and AIA membership were not required to enter the competition.

Jurors for the Emerging Visions competition were James Jankowski, AIA, partner, Ross Barney + Jankowski; Blair Kamin, architecture critic, The Chicago Tribune; Andrew Metter, FAIA, principal, A. Epstein; Donna Robertson, AIA, dean, Illinois Institute of Technology School of Architecture; and Sidney Robinson, AIA, professor of architecture, University of Illinois at Chicago. The jurors selected Michael Wilkinson and J. Stephen Ward, AIA, of Urban Design Group/Hnc. as winners in the Emerging Visions competition. They presented their work at a June Design PIA meeting at AIA Chicago.

Following are excerpts from their design statements and descriptions of the projects entered in the competition.

J. Stephen Ward, AIA

“I am interested in developing a contextual modernism—“context” defined in the most liberal sense, incorporating not only the physical and the vernacular, but also the particular functional and abstract aspects of a program or a place that inevitably affect the architecture. It is a modernism that strives to establish a simple fundamental vocabulary and then allows contextual influences to enrich the form.

“The following—all governmental projects—proved to be fertile territory for the application of these ideas. Rather than introducing unconventional concepts to an unreceptive bureaucracy, the designs were based on carefully abstracting and highlighting inherent building features and logical use patterns and thereby attempting to elevate the prosaic into architecture.”

Bachelors’ Enlisted Quarters
Waukegan, Illinois

The Department of the Navy requested that their barracks not only reflect its new “Quality of Life Standards,” but also remain as functionally consistent as possible. What resulted was a program very unique to this building type—that essentially of a state-of-the-art dormitory—in that there was comparatively little common area in relation to the unvarying 455-suite standard unit. Varying building materials were integrated into the design, while a variety of unique exterior spaces were introduced to the base.

Damage Control School
Waukegan, Illinois

This facility for the Department of the Navy incorporates a “fire fighter trainer” and a “wet trainer,” classrooms, laboratories, and administrative spaces. The fire fighter trainer is a four-story building-within-a-building in which intense computer controlled fires are created and chemical fire retardants are used in recreated ship spaces. The wet trainer is a ship mock-up that is routinely flooded with thousands of gallons of stored water to enable training on the patching of ship hulls. The architectural solution was to develop a vocabulary that addressed both the Navy’s concerns in integrating the industrial aspects of the facility within the academic campus while allowing for the full development and operation of the demanding technical program.

Tonti-Peck Elementary School
Chicago, Illinois

This southwest side elementary school is based on the school prototype developed by DeStefano and Partners. A place-defining pattern was created and applied throughout the school. The exterior pattern, created by
contrasting brick colors, attempts to simultaneously reinforce the traditional design vocabulary and create a playful contrast. Inside, the pattern runs through the corridors and classrooms and is overlaid with additional color identifiers. The courtyard established a simple grid, recalling the urban residential neighborhood surrounding the site.

Michael Wilkinson

“The projects described vary greatly in scale, program, site, and execution. All three proposals attempt to articulate positions relative to the landscape, context, and modernity and search for the point at which architecture ends and landscape begins. Furthermore, strategies aimed toward programmatic speculation and invention attempt to elevate the typical ‘program’ document to a kind of narrative that drives and suggests formal architectural solutions. Each project looks for ways to be specific and unique to the place.

“The following themes describe conditions within each project, yet can also be understood as universal strategies that are important in the articulation of any architectural intervention: Site, Program, and Views. We try to look at site as a means of deriving inspiration for the architecture of the place. We try to create opportunities out of problematic or difficult programmatic requirements. As a subplot in the organization of a building, we try to use natural light and views to draw the user through the spaces. This tactic serves as both an ordering device, as well as a connection to the site.”

Weekend House
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Local vernacular farm buildings were the inspiration for the 3,400 square foot weekend house and painting studio. Upon entry, a transparent rear wall reveals views through the building to a court that separates the two structures and the landscape beyond. The interior spaces of the house are modern, with spaces interlocking and overlapping from room to room. This strategy allows small rooms to feel larger and to continue the notion of framing views.

Private Residence
Glenview, Illinois

In order to accommodate the requirement that the family remain in the house during construction, the addition was conceived as a shell that could be built over and around the existing house, leaving the extant house intact under the new construction. The original house, a post-World War II ranch, was expanded to include a new second story, two-story great room and loft, and new garage.

Center for Sport and Leisure
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The site for this speculative proposal was interstitial space between the grid of the city and the Schuylkill River. In order to cross the river, bridges to the north and south of the site literally pulled the ground plane of activity up and away from the site, creating the sense that the site is below grade, even though it is not. The design solution was to create a building that could be understood as a carpet that could be pulled up and over various programmatic components to both conceal and reveal a connection between the landscape and the architecture.
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Calls For Entry
Papers are being sought for the Alvar Aalto/Baker House/Preservation of Modern Architecture Conference, which will be held October 1-2, 1999, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The conference's sponsors are seeking to identify new voices bearing innovative messages on the following themes: Interpretation of the Work of Aalto, Significance of the Work of Aalto Today, Baker House as Architecture and Social Environment, Social and Educational Impact of Student Housing, and the Preservation of Modern Architecture. Send a 250 word abstract by no later than January 2, 1999 to: Stanford Anderson, Head, Dept. of Architecture, MIT7-337, Cambridge, MA 02139. For more information, write to soa@mit.edu.

The Village of Wheeling is sponsoring a Millennium Plaza—At the Crossroads competition for the design of a new entrance and gateway into the Village. The Millennium Plaza is intended to provide visual, physical, and symbolic features to create a memorable entry for Wheeling. The competition site is at the junction of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road and consists of three corners of the crossroads. The first place winner will receive $10,000 and the right to enter negotiations with the client for the realization of the design. The deadline is March 1999. For more information, contact: The Wheeling Design Competition, Jim Grabowski, Wheeling Village Hall, 225 West Dundee Road, Wheeling, IL 60090. Phone: 847/459-2600; Fax: 847-459-9682.

Various Matters
On January 28, The Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation will present a program, Frank Lloyd Wright: From the Prairie. Professor Don Kalec, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Historic Preservation Program; former Taliesin Fellow; and director of research and restoration at the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, will discuss how Wright created a true American style of architecture—the Prairie style. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Graham Foundation, 4 West Burton Place. Cost: $8 Home and Studio members, $12 nonmembers. Information: 708/848-1976.

Correction
Due to computer problems that arose in the October issue, the text that accompanied the photographs of three individuals whose photographs appeared on pages 14 and 15 was inadvertently omitted. Michael Yoshimura, AIA, and Richard Dewar, AIA, were promoted from senior associates to principals with O’Donnell Wicklund Pigozzi and Peterson Architects, Inc. John H. Carr, AIA, joined Perkins & Will as a principal in the firm’s healthcare facility design group. Carr is responsible for healthcare project management and business development efforts. Focus regrets the error.
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Tour: Northwestern Memorial Hospital Redevelopment Project. 4:30 p.m. 259 E. Erie St., 3rd Fl. For information, call AIA Chicago: 312/670-7770.

The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and the Getty Center in Los Angeles: Icons of 20th-Century Architecture? A lecture by Martha Thorne, associate curator of architecture, Art Institute of Chicago. 2:30 p.m. in the Dining Rooms of the Art Institute. Call for reservations and further information: 312/443-3915


Young Architects Holiday Party. 6:00 p.m. Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson Blvd. For information, call AIA Chicago: 312/670-7770.

From Skyscrapers to the Stars: Twenty-Five Years of Women in Architecture, 1973-1998. Sponsored by Chicago Women in Architecture, the speaker for this event will be Doris Cole, author of From Tipi to Skyscraper: A History of Women in Architecture. 6:00 p.m. Santa Fe building, Chicago Architecture Foundation Auditorium. Information: 312/409-8855.

CES Open House. Come to AIA Chicago headquarters to receive one-on-one advice and assistance in completing the AIA/CES Self-Report Form. 5:00 p.m. Merchandise Mart, Suite 1049. To register, call 312/670-7770.

Acoustics in Architecture. 12:00 noon. Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Ct. For information, call AIA Chicago: 312/670-7770.

Roast and Resolutions. 6:00 p.m. I-Space, 230 W. Superior St. Cost: $5 for Architecture Club members. For information, call AIA Chicago: 312/670-7770.