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Cover photo of the New Model Apartments at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine is by Antony Rieck. Architecture by ENB Architects.
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Editorial / Diane D. Greer

The process of chipping away the historic fabric of American cities continues in 2006. Historic buildings and significant examples of American architecture are being lost at an alarming rate. During the early 1970s when I worked as Architectural Historian for the Florida Department of State, Division of Archives and History, there was a massive campaign undertaken to record every building in Florida over 50 years of age on a county-by-county basis. From that Statewide Inventory, nominations were made to the National Register of Historic Places for buildings of particular importance. Suffice to say that at the time, I thought historic preservation had taken hold and that people had come to understand that once a building was lost, either through neglect, rezoning, development, whatever, there was no replacing it.

In fact, I'm not so sure anymore. The president of Preservation Chicago, Jonathan Fine, was quoted as saying, "All you need to know is that Chicago is tearing down real Victorian buildings at the same time it is putting up fake Victorian streetlights." To that, the Mayor of Chicago responded, "If you aren't willing to accept change, then you stay in the past, and we're never going to stay in the past in this city."

Chicago is a city with a dense historic fabric. Most of the cities in Florida do not fall into that category. Outside of a few historic districts scattered around the state, Florida's architectural legacy is modest because we just haven't been building here that long. Hence, it becomes critical that, whenever possible, we hold onto what we have.

Last November, a Circuit Judge upheld a decision by the Daytona Beach City Commission to call a beachside neighborhood "blighted" by dilapidated buildings and other hazards. Houses are not yet condemned, but the neighborhood consists of historic bungalows, houses with coquina walls and Spanish mission-style architecture. There is concern that developers want the area for new projects.

Outside of Orlando, in College Park, a recent study revealed "substantially fewer historic buildings exist now than after a 2001 study indicating, perhaps, that the current real estate boom has accelerated both the demolition of older homes and transformations that change their character."

One month after Miami's preservation board declared the Coconut Grove Playhouse an historic landmark, the nonprofit theatre's board of directors is asking City Commissioners to set aside the designation as "arbitrary and capricious." This sort of disagreement between preservationists and building owners/boards points up the fact that in many camps historic designations thwart plans for additions, alterations and partial or whole demolition. That, of course, is the point.

On the other hand, in Deland, nearly every inch of the historic Volusia County Courthouse (seen in the Winter '06 cover of this magazine) from the clock to the rotunda was accurately and painstakingly restored over a 10-year period. The greatest challenge to the project was performing the extensive restoration, including the addition of high-tech heating and air-conditioning systems, while maintaining the architectural integrity of what restoration architect Kenneth Smith describes as "one of the most beautiful historic courthouses in Florida." Kudos to all who were involved in this project.

Every morning as I park my car at Florida State University, I look at a wonderful residence that my parking lot literally abuts. It is an exquisite example of the Bungalow style that originally enjoyed a beautiful site at the main entrance to the University. It is now hemmed in by two parking lots and I fear for its future. This is just a small example of a building that should be preserved. Florida, unlike New England and the Midwest, has a relatively small inventory of architectural treasures. We must encourage the preservation of noteworthy buildings, even at the cost of business.
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In embarking on our aggressive campaign to foster "design mindfulness..." in our members, our constituencies and our communities, AIA Florida is venturing into the realm of theatrics to prove a point. A call went out a few months ago to establish a Task Force to create a DVD that will convey this message in a 10-12 minute format spoken by the users and owners of exemplary facilities throughout the state. We believe this message carries greater poignancy when spoken not by the architect, but through eloquent testimony by those for whom the design was created. We architects have long spun our wheels talking to ourselves about how important design is... and seemingly to the deaf ears of the public. Now is the time to bring the public into the process through its own acclamations.

The sophistication of today’s consumers and the increasing importance of effective design in their daily experience – from our homes and communities to the products and services we buy – has driven home the fact that good design is now a fundamental ingredient of successful business and successful communities. Consumers should not only expect good design, they should demand it as their right to a quality environment. Design can transform cheap, everyday goods into status products. It can transform a city from post-industrial wasteland to chic downtown address and can change companies from cheap, me-too competitors, to world-class operations.

Design is at the heart and the center of global competitiveness.
Design differentiates.
Design inspires.
Design gives meaning to places, products and people.
Design transforms.
Design adds value.

In its January meeting, the AIA Florida Board of Directors authorized this Task Force to proceed with creating this message "by the people, for the people...". AIA Florida has engaged the services of Ron Sachs Communications to film and produce the DVD. The consultant and the Task Force have met and the project is underway. We look to premier the DVD at the July Convention – so be there or be square!!

Our efforts for advocacy are designed to be far-reaching and statewide.

The DVD will be made available to every AIA member, along with a guideline and “talking points” for presentations at community meetings, Rotary, Chambers of Commerce, etc. AIA Florida will also be assisting in creating the network and linkages within communities to schedule presentations. Visibility and prominence of AIA members throughout the State creates opportunities for advocacy and leadership – “voices” for quality of life/environment issues.

AIA Florida is reinitiating a dialogue with Schools of Architecture in an effort to once again bridge the gap between education and practice in a way that will encourage the faculties of the schools to step up to the plate as professional role models, embracing the principals of AIA, becoming members themselves and promoting professionalism and leadership within the next generations of architects.
HuntonBrady Architects has been selected to design the new Biomedical Science Building (BSB) at the University of Florida (UF) in Gainesville. The proposed 200,000 sf building will be a multidisciplinary facility for the Health Science Center Colleges, the Biomedical Engineering Department of the College of Engineering and Animal Care Services. The construction budget is estimated to be $65 million, with completion in 2008.

Schwab, Twitty & Hanser (STH) is designing the new Humanities and Technology Building on the Boca Raton campus of Palm Beach Community College (PBCC). The 48,000 sf center will feature first floor labs, lecture hall, art gallery and garden. Second and third floors will house classrooms, offices and conference room. The new building was designed to stimulate student creativity through virtual field trips on a 16-foot tall screen and lectures in the round.

The ADP Group, Sarasota, has been awarded the contract for the interior renovation of, and an addition to, the dining room at the Bradenton Country Club. The 850-member club has been in continuous operation since its founding in 1924. Completion of the project is anticipated for late 2006 or early 2007.

JSA Architects Interiors Planners, Daytona Beach, is designing a four-story, 76,000 square foot, 280-bed residence hall for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU). The building’s placement adjacent to the Daytona Beach International Airport runways will pro-
MGE Architects’ addition to Baptist Health’s South Miami Medical Arts Building, above and right top, contains 100,000 gross square feet of outpatient surgical space.

vide students with unique views of the tarmac while strategically placed glass-enclosed study lounges on each floor and a rooftop observation deck will provide views of incoming and outgoing aircraft.

**MGE Architects**, Coral Gables, designed an addition to the South Miami Medical Arts Building and ambulatory surgical center. The six-story building is attached to a 600-space parking garage via a covered pedestrian bridge. Included in the project are an outpatient surgery center, pre- and post-recovery facilities and physician’s offices.

**Cuhaci & Peterson Architects**, Orlando, is designing the four-story, 28,000 sf Harbor Federal Bank building in Fort Pierce. The firm has also been awarded contracts to design Harbor Federal Bank facilities in Stuart and Lake Wales.

**Currie Sowards Aguila Architects**, Delray Beach, is designing Monroe County’s Murray E. Nelson Government & Cultural Center in Key Largo, Florida. The two-story complex will include a 6,000 sf theater/commission chamber and almost 25,000 square feet of office space housing governmental offices for the Upper Keys. In addition, a one-acre passive park will occupy the property along the Tarpon Basin with three shelters and benches along the waterfront.

**Currie Sowards Aguila’s design for the Murray E. Nelson Government & Cultural Center in Key Largo.**
Awards

Beame Architectural Partnership, Coral Gables, was honored with a Certificate of Merit by the International Council of Shopping Centers for its design of Terra Mall, a 500,000 square foot retail/entertainment facility in San Jose, Costa Rica. The site of the dramatic three-level structure is a hillside surrounded by national parks and rainforest. It includes a 10-screen cinemaplex, a supermarket, shops, an entertainment court and a number of restaurants.

HuntonBrady Architects, Orlando, has received a first place award from the Florida Educational Facility Planners Association (FEFPA) for their design and renovation of the Valencia Community College (VCC) Health Sciences Building in Orlando. The firm was recognized in the Architectural Showcase component of the FEFPA's Annual Winter Conference.

The state-of-the-art Health Sciences building is a remodel of VCC's Physical Education Building that HuntonBrady Architects designed in 1978 and for which they received an award from the American Institute of Architects.

The current remodeling converted the 28-year-old building into a $5.5 million, 79,000-square-foot facility that enhances the college's ability to expand course offerings with the latest health science technologies. It includes a new Multipurpose Space/Auditorium in place of the original gymnasium, Nursing Labs that simulate hospital environments and a Student Lounge. A new second floor had to be constructed in the original gymnasium without affecting the existing structure.
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Fred H. Pryor, Jr., President of HuntonBrady Architects, Passes

Fred H. Pryor, Jr., President and Managing Principal of HuntonBrady Architects in Orlando, passed away on December 4, 2005, while vacationing in South Carolina. Fred is survived by his wife, Angela, and sons Fred III (17), Owen (15), and Evan (11).

Fred, 54 years old, was an employee of HuntonBrady Architects for 23 years and a Principal of the firm for 20 years. He was one of five partners in the 58-year-old Orlando firm. Fred Pryor served the Central Florida community for over 20 years, holding significant positions in many local civic, service and professional organizations.

A Councilman for the Town of Windemere, he was instrumental in spearheading the implementation of Windemere's 20/20 Vision Plan, a comprehensive effort to address significant traffic issues and the revitalization of the downtown. He also served as Windemere Budget and Finance Council Liaison, Historic Preservation Board Member, Long Range Planning Committee Council Liaison and past Chairman and Parks and Recreation Committee Member. Fred cared deeply about the quality of life in Windemere and backed it up with service to the community.

Fred also had a long record of service to other organizations in Central Florida. He served as a Board Member for Princeton House Charter School, where his son Evan is a student. He was a member of the Seminole Community College President's Council, the Valencia Community College President's Club and a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Windemere. Fred also served the Central Florida Builders Exchange as a Secretary and Director and the Construction Industry Council of Central Florida as an officer and director.

In 2004, the American Institute of Architects Orlando Chapter awarded Fred the Nils Schweizer Community Service Award in recognition of his outstanding leadership and voluntary service to the community and his efforts toward raising awareness within the architectural profession.

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Concourse J is part of the South Terminal Expansion located at the southeast tip of the horseshoe-shaped airport. Construction of the concourse began in the fall of 2002 and completion is anticipated by mid-2006. The $130 million project is part of a $4.5 billion airport overhaul and expansion. The 350,000-square-foot, 15-gate facility will house both domestic and international passengers. Its location makes it strikingly visible to highway commuters.

The U-shaped terminal mimics an airplane fuselage. Through the use of modern materials, primarily steel and glass, fluid design elements could be achieved in the seven-story structure. The design includes high-tech systems and innovative equipment with a vaulted roofing system finished with an aluminum standing seam roof. With the traveler always of primary importance to the designers, the multi-million dollar project focused on issues of convenience and practicality.

**Project Credits:**


*Top: Model rendering of the design concept for Concourse J; middle: model rendering of an aerial view of the entire airport including a concept image of Concourse J and bottom: a rendering of an interior view of the concourse showing secure international travelers overhead bridge. All renderings courtesy of Carlos Zapata Studio.*
Federal law requires that students between the ages of 18 and 22 be allowed to remain on the campus of the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind even if they have graduated but aren’t yet ready to leave. Housing these students, most of whom are older, has been challenging because of their varying levels of disability.

The design concept for these new apartments involved creating an environment for learning independent living skills. Interestingly, the apartments were not designed to provide extensive handicapped accessibility features beyond what is required by code. Rather, the goal was to create a living environment that would closely resemble what the students can expect when they are living independently.

The project includes two buildings, one for males and one for females. Each building is two stories with two individual apartments per floor connected by a central lobby. Each apartment contains six bedrooms, two bathrooms, a powder room, laundry room, kitchen, dining room and living area. This arrangement allows the school to group the sight impaired students separately from the hearing impaired students. Because the levels of disability vary so greatly, it was important that the room arrangement provide easy
accessibility for the staff to meet the students' individual needs. An attendant is on-site 24 hours a day monitoring both students and visitors.

The building's massing, materials and aesthetic were designed to complement and blend with the older buildings on campus. This was a requirement of both the school and the City of St. Augustine's Corridor Design Standards. These standards are intended to preserve and reinforce the character of the streets that lead into St. Augustine's historic district.

The buildings are entered through a courtyard designed around an existing oak tree. Surrounded on two sides by a loggia, both the courtyard and the loggia provide an attractive outdoor setting for the students to congregate. The first floor of each building is raised above the flood plain and is accessible via brick-walled concrete ramps. The richly decorated older buildings on campus heavily influenced the fenestration and the use of ornamental brackets and medallions. Structurally, the new apartments are stucco applied to double-width concrete walls and a clay tile roof.

The safety and security of the students was foremost in the minds of both the school and the architect. The buildings are protected by a fire sprinkler system, fire suppression hoods over each range and a full fire alarm system. A wrought iron fence surrounds the building site which is accessed with a camera-monitored gate card. The placement of 24-hour staff in each building also allows attendants to monitor everyone entering and leaving the building.

The ultimate collaboration between art and science produced the design for the new 47,000 square foot Student Health Services Building at UCF. From the initial programming through charrette to the final design program, this project brought together architects, consultants, medical staff, administration, facilities personnel and construction team to design a building that was beautiful, functional and cost-efficient.

The program charrette resulted in a design direction that proposed a multi-level building that was appropriately responsive to the site. The site is bounded on three sides by existing campus buildings and on the fourth by a pedestrian “orbit” circulation path.

Volumetrically, the building is organized into medical care, administrative and pharmacy/business components. The medical care components are arranged as pods with two on each of three floors. The administrative “wing” on the second floor is convenient to all floors and clad in a brick skin. The Pharmacy and Business Office are located on the ground floor in a one-story volume that hugs the pedestrian path and acts as the frontispiece for the composition. It is also clad in brick and its one-story volume relates to the scale of the original Health Sciences Building on its east side.

The massing of the building responds contextually to the adjacent structures and creates an appropriate transition that reinforces existing circulation patterns. The extension of the second floor administrative wing at the edge of the pedestrian circulation path helps engage the Health Center with its clients by announcing its pres-
Project Credits: Fred Pryor, AIA: Principal-in-Charge; Roney J. Mateu, AIA: Design Principal; Steve Bellflower, AIA: Project Manager; Burton Braswell Middlebrooks: Structural Engineer; TLC Engineering: MEP; Glatting Jackson Kercher Anglin Lopez Rinehart: Landscape Architecture; Harris Civil Engineers: Civil; LLC: SKANKA USA Building, Inc.: Contractor.

Left and below: East elevation showing main entrance and landscaping between the existing health center and the new Student Health Center.

ence visually without sacrificing emergency/service vehicle access to it or other parts of the central campus.

The entry sequence to the building is clear and direct, open and friendly. Vistas from the main entry/registration lobby open to the east and allow a view of the new courtyard that connects this building with an existing structure that will be renovated to house Counseling/Victim Services and REACH programs. Conference Room and immunization offices are located at the north end of the ground floor where they are easily accessible.

The medical care areas are composed of two pods per floor with the Sports Medicine/Urgent Care and X-Ray/Laboratory pods on the ground floor and Women's Health Care and Primary pods on the second and third floors. All mechanical systems are centrally located for maximum cost-efficiency and function. The overall plan affords a very logical patient circulation pattern that is controlled and easy to navigate.
After nearly four years of planning and design, the Kight Center for Emerging Technologies at Indian River Community College (IRCC) opened in the fall of 2005. The design process that produced the 108,000 square foot, four-story facility involved significant legislative and community support.

Located at IRCC’s Main Campus in Fort Pierce, the building represents the largest capital investment in the history of the College and stands as a symbol of the school’s commitment to providing the highest caliber of training in nearly all aspects of AV/IT communications. The structure’s exterior architecture takes its cues from the ever-changing nature of technology. The façade provides an element of surprise and interest as it changes to offer new perspectives from different angles. The large, sloped exterior wall expresses the center’s “technology heart” and its construction utilized techniques that required current technology to accomplish. The College Master Plan includes linkage from the Kight Center to a future technology building expansion where the sloped-wall areas would be connected by a pedestrian bridge.

Materials used in the building envelope were selected for sustainability and resistance to hurricanes. Protecting the facility’s users and equipment is of paramount importance. Even so, the design promotes transparency through the extensive use of laminated and fire-rated glazing systems. Exterior impact-resistant laminated glazing allows the atrium and other spaces to fill with diffused natural light without the need for protective shutters. A concrete frame, constructed on site, supports the large open volumes, heavy loads, curved balconies and sloping walls without sacrificing strength and longevity.

The interior is finished in neutral colors that accentuate the plasma and
LED screens and the lights located throughout the facility. The four-story atrium is lined with balconies that serve as a vertical pre-function auditorium.

Inside, the Center's state-of-the-art technology features include wireless communication, interactive video conferencing and satellite links that enable students, educators and business leaders to communicate visually, verbally and globally in real-time. Some examples of the building's designated technology areas include the Network Operations Center (NOC), a 9,880 square foot area providing the latest technology for mass storage with broadband high-speed access, webcasting and digital studio capabilities and recorded classroom fields for after-hours student access. The 3,400 square foot, 215-seat Distance Learning Auditorium features two balconies with adjoining presentation areas that have two-way Internet-based teleconferencing capabilities to other IRCC campuses and beyond. The 2,700 square foot Imaging Dome, which can be divided into
two, 900 square foot interactive class­rooms, is outfitted to accommodate future synchronized imaging technol­ogy systems. In addition, the 1,200 square foot interior-exterior Cyber Café provides an on-site venue for refreshments and socializing that is appropriately equipped with numerous ports for laptop computers and an array of video monitors, in addi­tion to wireless network access.

The Kight Center's curriculum includes more than 100 courses and specialized programs, as well as sponsored rooms and dedicated technology areas. The Center is named in honor of IRCC Foundation benefac­tors Alonzo and Audrey Kight.

Project Credits: FLA / Florida Architects, Inc. Design Team included Joseph Sorci, Principal-in-Charge and Designer; Marcus Gemsch, Project Architect; Bradley James, Intern Architect; Raymond Soliven, 3D CAD; Ken Singleton, CA, QA; Matern Professional Engineering: Electrical Engineer; OCI Associates, Inc.: Mechanical, Plumbing, Fire Protection; LBFH, Inc.: Civil Engineer; HJ High Construction Company: Construction Manager; Technology Research & Consulting: Technology Consultant.

Beach House 5 is a 3,700 square foot custom-designed residence proposed for construction on a small infill lot that is 60' wide by 110' deep. The house was designed in the cultural tradition unique to Florida modernism - a tradition that was established on Florida's Gulf coast. The elevated two-story house is organized by a single continuous folded plane that wraps around the perimeter forming a unique outdoor room on the Gulf side. The structure is raised on concrete pilotis to meet the required base flood elevation of +13 feet. The ground floor of the residence is partially open with a garage and storage area constructed of "break-away" type construction.

The house is entered from the street, east side, through a palm court surrounded by low garden walls. The modest street façade is typical for the neighborhood. There is a single large window strategically placed on the second floor. Because views to the south are limited by existing structures, a device for allowing diffused light to enter the interior rooms from the east and west was incorporated into the design. A double-height roof terrace was strategically designed into the house in order to conform to a building height restriction of +30 feet above base flood elevation (excluding the elevator room).

Structurally, the house is engineered for a 120 mph wind speed in a wind-borne debris region. The primary building materials are reinforced concrete and masonry with some interior wood framing and an exterior stucco finish. The design makes use of impact resistant glazing throughout and the metal work is either high-grade stainless steel or powder-coated aluminum.

Beach house graphics courtesy of the architect.
“Eastside Church” is a project for an 8,000-square-foot sanctuary and educational facility proposed for construction as a component of a Brown-Field Reclamation Project in Gainesville, Florida. The project is located on the site of an abandoned community swimming pool in the East Gainesville Enterprise Zone and is perceived as the anchor for a mixed-use development intended to help catalyze and foster redevelopment in this neglected area of the City. A central goal of the project is the reclamation and revitalization of the eastside Brown-Field site in order to make a positive contribution to the community through remediation, as well as reducing environmental impacts by utilizing the strategy of land reuse. In addition to the proposed church building, the development will eventually include a youth center, a daycare center, basketball courts and other recreational amenities.

The two-story church facility is organized around a centrally located main sanctuary that will also serve as a meeting space for the community. The church support programs are layered around the space of community worship in order to establish an inner sacred zone within the larger multi-use development. Organized along an east-west axis, the sanctuary is bathed in light from above the point where a suspended cloud ceiling serves as a light and sound modulator.

The entry courtyard and gardens are located on the north and the classrooms, offices and multipurpose room are on the south and east. Worshipers catch glimpses of the entry courtyard and gardens through various slots and portals in the north wall of the sanctuary. A subtle light that emanates from the concealed translucent glass side panels at the east end of the sanctuary illuminates the full body immersion baptism pool.

Budget constraints played an important role in the choice of the project’s construction systems. An optimized pre-engineered steel frame was chosen as the primary structural system for the project design. Masonry and steel studs were utilized for the support spaces. The primary building materials include corrugated metal, stucco, concrete, and translucent and clear glazing.

Project Credits: Nancy M. Clark, Michael W. Kuenstle, AIA: Design Architects/Firm Principals; Eugene Daniaso, Intern Project Assistant.
Vu Southbank, Jacksonville, Florida

The 40-story Vu Southbank luxury condominium tower is the third and final phase of the St. Johns Planned Unit Development in Jacksonville, Florida. Located on the south bank of St. Johns River, the mixed-use development includes three residential towers with a total of 719 units, 1,342 parking spaces, 7,000 square feet of retail space and 3,500 square feet of office space.

The three buildings of 28, 37 and 40-story heights incorporate common design elements including brick finished podiums with colonnades at the ground level that assimilate the imagery of existing industrial buildings in downtown Jacksonville. In order to provide additional depth to the podium skin, two variations of brick colors and off-white bricks were combined. The blue-green glazing in gray aluminum frames and the screen mesh in the parking structure were integrated into the design composition. Moving up the tower, colors gradually become lighter and softer in intensity. Podium colors were again used at the top of the structure.

The typical floor has seven units with an average unit size of 1,800 square feet. The floor plate was designed to maximize the view with about 30 percent of the units having 270-degree direct views of the river. A riverside whirlpool and spa is located on the 11th floor and a south-facing pool deck and additional amenities are located on the 40th floor.
AIA 150 - Celebrating the Past, Designing the Future
by Mickey Jacob, AIA

In 2007, the members of the American Institute of Architects will mark 150 years of service to the profession and the nation by working with their communities to create a better future by design. This commitment to creating a community legacy, led by architects, is called the Blueprint for America and it is the cornerstone for the AIA 150 celebration. Making a meaningful and direct connection with the public is critical to advancing a shared commitment to healthier, safer and more dynamic communities. The AIA 150 celebration is a great opportunity for members to make and strengthen their contributions to their communities.

The goal of the AIA 150 celebration of its past accomplishment and future legacy is three-fold:
- To advocate and advance in partnership with other members of the design and construction industry, the public, and their representatives, a vision of more livable, healthy and beautiful communities;
- To strengthen the profession of architecture; and
- To increase the visibility and appreciation of the AIA's value and contributions to the profession of architecture and the community.

AIA National has established a program that will provide for each local and regional component to identify a local “AIA 150 Champion” - someone who will serve as the Project Manager and spokesperson for the AIA 150 Component Program. As part of AIA 150, each component will have the opportunity to create an individual program that is specific to its community. The concept is to have all AIA components participating in their communities to create initiatives that will not only be a part of the AIA 150 celebration but will continue to create a legacy of participation for years to come.

That is the most important part of what AIA 150 is all about. This initiative promotes architects becoming and continuing to take on leadership responsibilities that will create a lasting influence in the community as an advocate of architecture. This program fits right into what we in Florida have been developing for the past few years - a culture of leadership, advocacy and commitment in our profession. At AIA Florida, our goal for the AIA 150 program is to continue to advocate our participation as leaders in the community by working with each Chapter to help coordinate its AIA 150 programs and to assist as a liaison with AIA National.

Additionally, AIA Florida will be proposing a new program for AIA 150 to be called the “AIA Florida Leadership Network.” This program will be designed to help AIA Florida members attain positions of leadership in their communities and to act as an advocacy network for the importance of architecture. The goals of the AIA Florida Leadership Network include:
- Identify and encourage AIA Florida members to attain leadership positions in local, state and national components of the AIA
- Identify AIA Florida members who currently serve in appointed or elected government positions and index this information and publish to all AIA Florida members
- Continue to be engaged in the process of the State of Florida Hurricane Preparedness Programs and work with DCA to be a part of the state’s initial plan-
Becoming a part of the State's efforts to manage Growth Management
Participate in the political process including creating, supporting and lobbying to get legislation passed that has a positive effect on the practice of architecture
Create a campaign and fundraising network for candidates for political office who support AIA Florida Government Advocacy Initiatives including the “Breakfast of Champions” Program, hosting fundraising events, distribution of FAPAC Campaign Contributions and organizing volunteers to assist in local campaigning
Identify, encourage and support AIA members interested in running for municipal or statewide political office
Provide assistance to AIA Florida Local Chapters that are engaged in local community issues
Create an “Architect’s Speakers Bureau” across the state that will create opportunities for architects to speak in public or at civic organization meetings or at Legislative Committees to advocate architecture and address community issues of importance
Identify, encourage, support and fund AIA Florida members to participate in the Leadership Florida program
Identify, encourage and support AIA Florida members to participate in local leadership programs
Publicize to a greater extent design awards and personal interest stories regarding architects/architecture to local and statewide publications
Assist in the production of an AIA Florida Design Advocacy video

These initial ideas are the foundation of our response to the AIA 150 celebration, but they are also intended to create a lasting program that will grow and continuously support the leadership efforts of AIA Florida members. With each AIA Florida Chapter participating in its own “Blueprint for America” program, the commonalities of these visions will be refined to inspire AIA leadership to support healthy, safe and sustainable American communities. It is the goal of the AIA to provide a national “mosaic” with interrelated themes, issues and solutions to local issues designed by AIA architects in partnership with the community in which they live. The resulting “mosaic” will create a lasting and continuous leadership legacy that will be a testament to the value of design and of the AIA architect.

Mickey Jacob, AIA, is the Immediate Past President of AIA Florida. He is the AIA 150 Champion representing AIA Florida.
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According to recent studies, people are more likely to get sick from poor indoor air quality in the home than from outdoor air pollution. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, pollutant levels in the home are often two to 10 times higher than those found outdoors. And with people spending, on average, more than 65 percent of their time indoors, it's important to reduce the risks of indoor air pollution as much as possible.

Recently, tighter construction standards have virtually "sealed" the rooms in today's new homes and therein lies one important problem. The energy conservation codes adopted by most states have significantly restricted outdoor air exchange rates.

Direct vent fireplaces, as well as tank-less water heaters, are getting an enthusiastic response from high-rise commercial and residential builders. This opens up a whole new wave of opportunities for architects who are designing buildings for people who want the elegance, simplicity and "green" aspects of natural gas energy while protecting the health and safety of the end users.

Sealed combustion, or direct vent fireplaces, eliminates combustion byproducts from entering the home. They are able to withstand both interior and exterior pressures without spilling gases into the home. This prevents moisture, particulates and pollutants from entering the room while the fireplace is in use. Direct vent fireplaces can be roof-vented or rear-vented directly through the exterior wall.

All gas fireplaces give designers new floor plan possibilities. There are still many vent-free the market that are ent for well-ventilated h homes. They prov efficient heating for the offer a wide range of de nities. The choice betw is ultimately up to the a builder and the homebu

Living Area Redesigners

With the advances in technology, bolstered by ers' responses to consum luxury homes in Florida and more likely to inclu kitchens and living areas. footage line item that go under air," "porch" and "garage" may soon include something like "outdoor living spaces with the fol lowing features..."

Cooking outdoors with natural gas has long been a mainstay of the Florida lifestyle and a wide range of outdoor appliances and apparatus are now available. Grill islands consisting of a refrigerator, sink, natural gas grill and cook top are sealed, water proof and energy efficient. Each island can be custom-designed to fit the footprint of the outdoor plan. Swimming pools and spas can be integrated into the entire system to create a complete living area without walls. Water resistant cases for tele visions and other electronics are also available for outdoor entertainment.

Outdoor elements are delivered to the job site prefabricated and, for all intents and purposes, fully assembled to save time and money. The modular units are finish-ready and come in a multitude of configurations. As a general rule, almost any finish, substrate or material can be

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