Hey Kids, Let’s Restore an Icon! In 1972 came The Color Wall – the product of artist and NCSU School of Design professor named Joe Cox, a 12 foot by 36 foot panel at NCSU with colored lights changing by means of a mechanical system he designed himself. The Color Wall changes the lights about 32 times every 2 minutes. It’s been called the most significant work of public art in Raleigh. Unfortunately, the system that Cox designed died a few times over the last few years. It finally took the final bow sometime in 2007 after two decades of mediocre if not failing operation. There is a proposal into the school to change its control system so that the Color Wall can keep inspiring the public and, well, actually lighting up. The system is about $6200 bucks (as of the last quote), and they are halfway there. Donate here to revive this exceptional piece of light arte. Some Raleigh bloggers started a site about the wall. Email an online Color Wall receipt of any amount, and TMH will donate an additional $5, up to a total of $200. Big shout out to blogger Jim Hutchison for reporting this project.
How About Restoring a Nation? The AIA Young Architects Forum, our partners last year for ModStock 2009, invite the public to a fundraising movie for Haiti reconstruction. February 24, 7pm, Galaxy Cinema, Cary. The documentary One Peace at a Time was written and directed by Turk Pipkin. It is a film about a messed up world and how we could fix it. A world with thousands of problems needs millions of solutions. Appearing in the film: Cameron Sinclair, co-founder of Architecture for Humanity. Many thanks to the Galaxy Cinema for donating space. All funds benefit Architecture For Humanity’s Haiti reconstruction efforts. $10 minimum donation, advance ticket purchase required. Help the YAF raise $5000! Email an online Haiti 5000 receipt of any amount, and TMH will donate an additional $5, up to a total of $200.

Ignite is a global phenomenon held in dozens of major metropolitan areas. Presenters, who must be voted in by the public, are given five minutes to speak on a subject accompanied by 20 slides, each displayed for 15 seconds. Ignite’s second event in Raleigh is March 3 at the Lincoln Theatre. Support TMH’s Ignite 2 entry: Mayberry Modernism: Why the Triangle is America’s Hotspot for Way Cool Houses. Barney Fife spent his weekends in Raleigh, and for good reason - we are one of the country's hotspots for mid-century modernist architecture. I'll share why -- plus where to find hundreds of local examples of great houses -- and what you can do to save some of these "works of art" from destruction!

If you had trouble previously, please try again, this link is a lot easier. Sign in, and give Mayberry Modernism up to three votes (you get ten total).

Mid-Century Modern Furniture Auction, Friday, Feb 12, 300 PM. No buyers premiums, reserves or online bidding. Attend an auction with classic designs by leading designers of the mid-20th century: http://www.mebaneauction.com/. See photos such as the Eames chair, left, at http://tinyurl.com/yhya5u9.

Final Profile: Pioneering Women in North Carolina Architecture: Up to the 1970’s, architecture was heavily dominated by men, many of whom did not want women in roles other than wives and secretaries. It was “Mad Men” -- for real. Today we feature the grand dame of NC Architecture: Elizabeth Bobbitt (Lib) Lee. Sadly, she passed away last week. She was the first woman to graduate from the NCSU School of Design in 1952. See her profile here. See the entire series of profiles here. We’ll have a short video documentary soon about Lee, filmed in December 2009. Thanks to Erin Sterling of Frank
Bring a friend, bring a date, bring a spouse! The Nowells Architecture Movie Series continues with the romantic drama The Lake House (click for trailer), the 2006 reunion between Speed stars Sandra Bullock and Keanu Reaves. 7pm, February 18, at the Galaxy Cinema in Cary.

The real star is the unique steel and glass house designed by Nathan Crowley. The “Lake House” was built at Maple Lake near Chicago expressly for the movie. Architect Crowley collaborated with engineers McDonough Associates and veteran Chicago construction coordinator Troy Osman. Because the house was built in a protected watershed, the producers had to promise to remove it as a condition for filming. The house won an Award of Merit from the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois. Tickets are $7.95 in advance, $9 at the door. Details and tickets. Sponsored by Nowells and: