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Architext

**AIA EASTERN NEW YORK
A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS**

AIAENY

AIAENY PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lobby Day

Please join us for AIA New York State Lobby Day in Albany on May 3, 2011. This is one of the many things that we, as an Executive Committee, do on behalf of our members: meet with our legislators to advocate for legislation and policy items that are of concern to architects. But the event is not just for the Officers of the Chapter, it is for all the members as well. This is our chance to represent our profession to the people who make our state's laws. The more of you who come, the better a showing it is.

Our top legislative items for 2011 are:

- The Reinstatement of the Historic Preservation Tax Credit
- Permitting non-design professionals to have a minority ownership in professional firms
- Design Liability Reform
- Alternative Methods of Project Delivery
- Qualifications-Based Selection For Professional Design Services
- The Good Samaritan Act

A full list of our legislative agenda with a description of each item is available at http://aianys.org/main/government_advocacy.shtml

**Jeffrey R. Mural, AIA
AIA ENY Past President, 2011**

CALL FOR A CHAMPION!!

The Empire State Challenge is a program sponsored by AIANYS recognizing and rewarding an individual AIA Chapter for exemplary leadership in the profession and/or in society. Submissions may be for new or existing Chapter initiatives, programs, symposia, workshops, community design events, Regional Urban Design Assistance Team efforts, publications, lectures, consultations, etc. to the theme of "Everyday Sustainability."

AIA Eastern NY Chapter is looking for a Champion to step out and claim this Challenge as his or her own! Contact Jillian Merriam, Executive Assistant with any questions or ideas.



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2011 AIA Eastern New York Board of Directors and Executive Committee

Architext is a publication of the Eastern New York Chapter of the AIA. Please send photo, article, announcement, or presentation information for consideration for publication to Jillian R. Merriam, Executive Assistant & Editor - admin@aiaeny.org.

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*Requests can be made by contacting Information Central: infocentral@aia.org or by phone: 1-800-242-3837, opt. 2

Contact Jillian Merriam for assistance or with any questions.

CANstruction from the Eyes of RPI

This year we had 3 students from the AIAS Chapter at RPI help out with the first CANstruction event in the capital region. Jessica Bristow (5th year), Julia Grabazs (2nd year) and I (Tyler Hopf, 3rd year) all participated and were honored to be a part of the event. Jessica and I helped prepare, build and solve several of the design problems involved with our team's airplane. We worked with the Louis Berger Group, Inc. and we were very proud to see the finished product. Julia Grabazs participated as a part of the EYP team and helped prepare the structure and carry through the design of her team's tulip. Unfortunately, the airplane didn't win any awards but we were all happy to see the tulip win "Judge's Favorite." It was a great event to be a part of for the first time and we were very impressed by it. It was a lot of fun, a great experience, helped a good cause and we hope to be a part of it again in the future!

Tyler Hopf
AIAS-RPI, President

Find out more about the Canstruction event on the pages following.

✂ CLIP AND SAVE EVENT REMINDER

2011 AIA ENY *Calendar*

- May**
- 12-14 - Annual Convention –New Orleans [AIA National]
 - 20 - June *Architext* V21 I3 Materials Due
 - 25 - Executive Committee Meeting
 - 30 - Memorial Day—ENY Office Closed
- June**
- 21 - Green Interior Program at Business Environments in Troy, NY [AIAENY/COTE]
 - 22 - Executive Committee Meeting
- July**
- 04 - Independence Day—ENY Office Closed
 - 22 - August *Architext* V21 I4 Materials Due
 - 27 - Board of Directors Meeting
- August**
- Annual Boat Cruise—Date TBD
 - 24 - Executive Committee Meeting
- September**
- 05 - Labor Day—ENY Office Closed
 - 20 - Canadian Consulate Green Building Seminar—Holiday Inn, Albany [AIAENY/COTE]
 - 23 - October *Architext* V21 I5 Materials Due
 - 22-24 - Annual Convention –Atlantic City, NJ [AIA New York State]
 - 28 - Executive Committee Meeting
- October**
- Green Schools—LEED vs. CHPS—Date TBD [AIAENY/COTE]
 - 10 - Columbus Day—ENY Office Closed
 - 26 - AIA ENY Annual Business Meeting
Board of Directors Meeting (to follow)

www.aiaeny.org
www.aianys.org
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AIA ENY BRINGS CONSTRUCTION TO THE CAPITAL REGION FOOD BENEFITS THE FOOD PANTRIES

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New York State Museum

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ALBANY, NY— As part of a competition to benefit the Capital District Food Pantries, nine teams of local architecture, engineering, and design firms, as well as design students, built 10 x 10 x 8 canned food sculptures that are on display at the New York State Museum April 14 – 27. The Capital Region “Canstruction” exhibit is designed to help raise awareness of hunger in the community. All 36,000 cans or 15.5 tons of food were purchased from Price Chopper, the major event sponsor, and all food will be donated to The Food Pantries of the Capital Region. Since its inception in 1992, “Canstruction” has grown rapidly and is currently held in over 150 cities worldwide.

The American Institute of Architects’ (AIA) Eastern New York chapter led the region’s first foray into the national “Canstruction” program, a nonprofit organization that holds annual design and build competitions to construct giant-sized unique structures made entirely out of canned food. The program showcases the high-end design capabilities of several of the area’s leading design firms, which include: CHA, CSArch, EYP, Fraser & Associates, GPI – Greenman-Pedersen Inc., The Louis Berger Group, Mosaic Architecture and Price Chopper. Visitors are encouraged to vote for the Community Choice award by placing canned goods into a bin next to their favorite sculpture. A panel of jurors selected award winners in categories that included Best Meal, Best Use of Labels, Structural Ingenuity, Jurors’ Favorite and Honorable Mention.

Major program sponsors for this inaugural program include Price Chopper, EYP Architecture & Engineering, KeyBank, and CSArch.

Ed Anker, AIA and Chairman of Canstruction said, “We are proud to bring “Canstruction” to the Capital Region showcasing the deep talent of local design firms, and ultimately donating tens of thousands of cans of food to feed the hungry in our region.”



Ed Anker, AIA, Canstruction Chairman/ AIAENY Liaison (in Center) with Canstruction Awards Judges: James Condon, AIA, AIAENY President (to the left) & Anna Campas, AIAENY Secretary (to the right)

CANstruction
c/o CSArch
40 Beaver Street
Albany, NY 12207
518 463 8068 tel
www.aiaeny.org/canstruction.html



AIA Eastern New York

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects



canstruction®

(Continued on page 5)

“There is a tremendous buzz around “Canstruction” coming to the region,” said Sara Stein, AIA, Canstruction President. “Canstruction,” alone, is fascinating and sure to be a big draw, but even more importantly, it provides support for vital community services. This program is helping to make sure those in need in our community won’t have to go hungry.”



“I Can!”

Benji Fox, executive director of The Food Pantries of the Capital Region remarked, “This magnificent event not only helps The Food Pantries infuse its pantries with much needed food, it heightens the awareness of the need in our community. The local numbers are devastating – our Pantries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties received over 215,000 visits in 2010. This event is one huge step forward for us to help eradicate hunger in our local community.”

The cans will benefit The Food Pantries for the Capital District, a coalition of over 50 food pantries in Albany and Rensselaer counties, serving an average of 2.3 million meals annually.

www.thefoodpantries.org

2011 Canstruction Teams (Taken from the Awards Program)

Team 1 - Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI),

Currently celebrating its 45th Anniversary, is a full-service engineering and construction management firm located on Wolf Road in Albany, NY. GPI’s areas of engineering practice include Buildings, Bridges, Roadways, Surveying, Mapping, Planning and associated construction management and inspection in each field.



Team 2 - The Louis Berger Group

Is an internationally recognized consulting firm that provides engineering, architecture, program and construction management, environmental planning and science, aviation, and economic development services. To our diverse client base worldwide, we bring strategic vision and an entrepreneurial spirit, developing innovative solutions to some of the world’s most challenging problems.



Team 3 - CSArch

Has been a vital player in the dynamic design and construction industry since 1991. We are widely recognized as one of the leading school district architects in New York State, bringing outstanding results to both new construction and renovation projects. Headquartered in downtown Albany, NY, with offices in Newburgh, Malone, New York City and Melville, NY, we service clients throughout the state.



(Continued on page 6)

Team 4 - Fraser

Started over 50 years ago as a local, family-owned civil engineering firm that grew into a multi-disciplinary engineering consulting firm offering services in Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Planning, and Surveying. Today, Fraser is part of Weston & Sampson – a 380 person firm, offering an even wider range of services; including GIS & Infrastructure Management, Renewable Energy, Construction Administration, Hazardous Waste Management, as well as water, stormwater and wastewater design services.



Team 5 - CHA

Is a highly diversified, full service engineering firm providing planning and design services to clients throughout the United States. Ranked among the Top 100 US Design Firms by industry watcher Engineering News-Record (ENR); CHA employs a staff of over 600 distributed across 30 offices nationwide.



Team 6 and Team 8 - EYP

Is the expertise-based, integrated architecture and engineering design firm that specializes in forward-thinking education, government, and energy projects. The firm's offices at the University at Albany's College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering reflects EYP's commitment to redefining energy-efficient design. EYP's leadership in pioneering innovation is just one of the reasons Architect Magazine ranked the firm 22nd among A/E firms nationwide and 2nd for sustainable design.



Team 7 - Mosaic Associates Architects

With a 100 year plus history in the Capital Region, **Mosaic Associates Architects** is a 40 person architectural firm located in East Greenbush, NY, specializing in Educational, Cultural and Commercial projects across New York State.



Team 9 - Price Chopper Supermarkets

Based in Schenectady, New York since 1932, **Price Chopper Supermarkets**, is the "hometown" grocer. The American owned, family-managed company is parented by the Golub Corporation, which operates 128 stores in six Northeastern states - New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Vermont - and prides itself on longstanding traditions of innovative food merchandising, leadership in community service and cooperative employee relations.





GPI- TEAM 1 (Above)

Girls Scouts (Below)



Price Chopper- TEAM 9 (Above)

EYP-TEAM 6&8 (Below)



AIA ENY COMMITTEES

There are many ways for AIA members to stay connected with their colleagues and also make a difference in their communities locally and globally. AIA offers many opportunities to customize your membership with the AIA Knowledge Communities in your specific professional interest areas. Joining these communities will help the AIA provide you with timely information on awards, research, industry news, programs and opportunities to network both in-person and online in your specific areas of interest. [AIA National—<http://www.aia.org/practicing/groups/index.htm>] AIA ENY is looking for you to get involved—take a look at the Committees offered below:

- **AIAS-RPI**- Tyler Hopf, President: (TylerHopf@gmail.com).
- **Canstruction** Ed Anker, AIA, AIAENY Canstruction Liaison (eanker@csarchpc.com).
April 14-28 - Canstruction Exhibit Open to Public at the New York State Museum, 4th Floor, Albany
- **Committee On The Environment (COTE)** - Co-Chairpersons: Anna Campas, AIA (penrose@nycap.rr.com) & Baani Singh, Assoc. AIA (bsingh@csarchpc.com). The group meets at 6:00 PM on the third Wednesday of each month.
- **Convention (2012) Committee** - Chairperson: Jeffrey Morris, AIA (jeffrey.morris@thruway.ny.gov).
- **Design Awards Committee** - Chairperson: George Green, AIA (ggreen@jmzarchitects.com).
- **Historic Resources Committee (HRC)** - Chairperson: Matthew Scheidt, AIA (mscheidt@jgwaarchitects.com).
- **Programs Committee** - Chairperson: Daniel J. Wilson, AIA (dwilson@djwilsonarch.com).

For the contact information, committee description and contact, please refer to the AIAENY website.

AIAS PORTFOLIO REVIEW

This year's annual AIAS – AIA Portfolio and Resume Review at RPI was a huge success. We had 30 students sign up, 13 more than last year! With 6 architects from the AIA involved, the architects were able to spend 20 or more minutes with each student in a one on one constructive review of their work. It is a great opportunity to get feedback for the students from real, working architects in the field and to ask any questions they have. On the other side, it is also a great way for local architects to see what RPI students are producing and see some very creative and quality work. Many of the students came up to me immediately following their reviews or the day after to tell me how helpful the constructive feedback was and how they will definitely sign up again next year. It's definitely a great opportunity to talk one on one and create a relationship between students and working architects. The architects also seemed very enthusiastic about participating again as well. We hope to continue to improve this successful event each year, Thanks! —Tyler Hopf, AIAS

Reviewers from AIA Eastern NY:

Sandra M. Baptie, AIA LEED AP contributes more than 25 years of experience in educational, religious and institutional projects, along with her exceptional design, technical and managerial skills. Believing the essence of architecture lies in combining function, vitality and beauty, she leads the firm's environmental design and provides expertise in LEED Certification and Sustainable Design Strategies. Sandy joined Envision Architects in 1994 and he has been a managing principal since 1997.

Brian Barker, AIA, joined architecture+ in 1986. Brian's professional experience includes programming, design, contract documentation and construction administration for a large variety of institutional and commercial and community projects. He has acted as Project Architect and Project Manager on numerous new construction projects as well as historic preservation, commercial renovation and interior design projects. He enjoys using his design skills at the conceptual and schematic design level and has helped develop numerous master plans for various community and institutional clients. He also employs his talents for graphic representation within the firm, including rendering, computer modeling and graphic design. Brian is a member of the firm's Marketing Committee.

Dong-Ha Chung, AIA, holds a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Michigan, and has the last ten years in professional practice in New York City. He has worked at very well-known firms in New York City, including Perkins Eastman Architect, HLW International and Callison. He has served as the Project Architect for a 42-level high rise residential tower for Avalon Bay in downtown Brooklyn, as well as the new flagship store for Victoria Secret in Ala Moana, Hawaii. Currently, Chung is managing institutional projects for the State University Construction Fund.

David Dembling, AIA, has over fifty years' experience including 4 1/2 years with the NY Port Authority, 14 years with the State University Construction Fund, 1 year with NYS OGS, 1 year with City of Albany Urban Renewal and over 30 years in private practice, including 12 years with EYP and 14 years at Dembling + Dembling Architects, P.C. This extensive and varied experience has resulted in a thorough understanding of both government and private aspects of architectural practice. This experience included many significant public projects such as conversion of Albany's Union Station to Norstar Bancorp Headquarters (Kiernan Plaza), conversion of the NY State Education Building Museum to offices and rehabilitation of the Alfred E. Smith State Office Building.

I participated in this event at least two previous years and found this time to be even more satisfying than the others. The professor's introduction and presentation was more effective and the students I interacted with seemed to be more serious and better prepared.

The most frequent criticism I offered was that the student's description of school projects in their portfolios were written as if to the professors and not in straight forward terms that would be clearly understood by a prospective employer. They all seemed to appreciate that criticism and any other suggestions offered. I think the students benefited from this effort and I would do it again next year.

David M. Dembling, AIA

John Jehring, AIA is an architecture alumnus from University of Notre Dame with over 30 years of experience in the practice of architecture. His expansive experience includes various building types in various geographical locations. For the past five years, John has been architect of record and has supervised architecture teams with M+W US, Inc. for many high tech building projects. M+W Group is a design/build global company and a design leader in high tech research market sector. M+W US, Inc. has been recognized nationally by the AIA with award for its architecture Intern Development Program.

Iiona Khalili, Assoc. AIA studied architecture in Europe, as an architect's daughter. While studying and after graduating, she travelled extensively throughout Europe and the Near East learning and working in the architectural field. From 1991 she has dedicated her work to humanitarian goals, serving an extended apprenticeship with her late husband, architect and author Nader Khalili, helping to establish Cal-Earth Institute and becoming a "Master Builder" in Earth Architecture. In 2009, she formed Ansari Sustainable Living LLC with four partners, continuing her goals to help humanity and the environment through sustainable living practices at the QRT Church Farm and currently works around the world to promote a sustainable way of life.

AIA ENY MEMBER NEWS

THE BUSINESS REVIEW'S: TOP 40 UNDER 40

Two of AIA Eastern NY's Members are being honored on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Albany, NY by The Business Review's: Top 40 Under 40.

Brett W. Balzer, AIA, LEED AP

As the founding partner of **Balzer Hodge Tuck Architecture (BHT|A)**, a design firm specializing in commercial, residential, institutional and adaptive reuse projects, **Brett W. Balzer AIA LEED^{AP}** has contributed widely to the success and leadership of BHT|A. Growing up the youngest of nine siblings, Brett developed a keen sense for "negotiating" at an early age. Upon graduating Cum Laude from New York Institute of Technology in 1994, he worked in Manhattan for a small architectural firm for five years. It was during this time that Brett gained the confidence and knowledge to realize he had the potential to eventually own and operate an architectural practice. In 2000, Brett returned to the Capital Region and in 2002, he founded Balzer Hodge Tuck Architecture with his two Partners, Michael Tuck, AIA LEED^{AP} and Gabe Hodge, AIA in Saratoga Springs, New York.

With over fifteen years of architectural design expertise, Brett is active in the Capital Region community. He is an Alumni of the Leadership Saratoga Class of 2010 and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County.

In addition Brett has served on the AIA New England awards jury and has participated as a guest critic at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's School of Architecture.

Outside of work Brett can be found training for his next triathlon. He lives in East Greenbush and enjoys spending every free minute he can find with his wife and their two daughters.



"Brett is one of the few people I have met that consistently demonstrates a clarity of vision and the ability to translate that vision into exceptionally designed buildings. It is a pleasure to work alongside him, we are all proud of his accomplishments. Congratulations!"

*-Michael J. Tuck AIA LEED^{AP}
Partner
Balzer Hodge Tuck Architecture PLLC*

Michael R. Phinney, R.A., AIA, LEED AP

Michael R. Phinney is the founder of Phinney Design Group; an Architecture and Interior Design firm that possesses the expertise required to sensibly incorporate "green building" technologies and sustainable design features into building projects. Principal of Phinney Design Group, Michael has over seventeen years of experience in architectural design and construction observation services and is a LEED Accredited Design Professional, familiar with its concepts as defined and administered by the USGBC. The firm handles a multitude of project types; custom residential, commercial, resort, retail, adaptive re-use, restoration and land planning with a focus on incorporating designs that minimize impact to the natural environment while achieving the operational goals of the client.

Diverse design experience categorizes Mr. Phinney's portfolio, including building design, landscape design, land use analysis, and urban and rural planning. As a graduate from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's School of Architecture and having completed his Architectural Thesis on "Environmental Awareness in Architecture," Mr. Phinney brings a revolutionary way of thinking to the way people build and develop in today's society. As a frequent lecturer to different design, engineering, and construction groups, he is a vocal advocate for Green Building and environmentally



(Continued on page 10)

AIA ENY MEMBER NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

sensitive construction methods.

Mr. Phinney has been the Lead Architect and Project Designer for many architecturally significant projects that notably include the Bio Building at The Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks in Tupper Lake, the first LEED Certified Building in the Adirondack Park; as well as the first LEED Platinum Rated Residence in Saratoga Springs, New York. The firm's diversity is represented through a range of projects, including designs for the renovations and expansion to the historic Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, NY, The Sagamore Resort on Lake George, Adaptive re-use of Victory Mills in Victory, NY and Harmony Mills in Cohoes, NY, The Lake George Firehouse and Hotel Square, an urban infill project in downtown Saratoga Springs to include 45,000 sf of mixed use commercial space with 65 townhouses. The firm has also completed dozens of custom homes throughout New England incorporating a blend of historic vernaculars with a modern interpretation for today's lifestyles.

We at Phinney Design Group are proud of Michael for being recognized as being one of the Capital Region's '40 under 40'. Michael's drive and continued commitment to the profession of architecture and his focus providing superior client service are both commendable and inspiring.

*Andrew Allison, R.A., AIA, LEED
Senior Architect
Phinney Design Group*

AIA ENY would also like to acknowledge **Benji Fox** of The Food Pantries (The Food Pantries for the Capital District, Inc.) who is being honored by The Business Review because of his recent assistance with AIA ENY to organize the Capital District Construction Event.

Greenman-Pedersen's Benjamin Lind visits Africa

GPI's Benjamin Lind, EIT | Structural Engineer recently traveled with the Loudonville Community Church to assist with construction at the Kijabe Christian Hospital in Kenya. Ben helped construct a retaining wall, many windows and electrical and medical lines in the new medical unit. Ben's efforts were greatly appreciated by the people of Kenya.

<http://www.gpinet.com/userfiles/Kenya.pdf>

Submitted by John G. Rizzo, P.E., AIAENY Allied Member

For full press releases or more information about the Member News, contact AIA ENY or the Firms directly.

MATERIALS FOR THE Architext

To include your member news, please go to the AIA ENY Publication Page on the website for guidelines to submit your news. [<http://www.aiaeny.org/publications.html>] Also, please pass along any articles you believe are relevant to be included in the Architext. We are always looking to keep our Members informed.

The Architext Submission deadline for Volume 21, Issues 3 is May 20, 2011

CORRECTIONS:

Please contact Jillian Merriam at admin@aiaeny.org if you find any areas that need correction in the Architext.

AIA Eastern NY appreciates all comments and feedback.

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Thank you for the ongoing support of our Allied Members.

Please thank them for their support when you contact them for assistance with your next project.

To become an AIA ENY Allied Member, please visit our Website: www.aiaeny.org

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- complete binding
- ...and cookies too!

A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

ALIA Eastern New York

MISSION

To provide meaningful value and services to member architects and assist in their professional development and success

To promote the profession and practice of architecture in the Eastern New York area through public outreach and be a visible point of contact to the local community

To develop opportunities for members to dialogue and interact with one another in substantive ways

To nurture young architectural professionals to become our future members and leaders

To highlight the achievements of our members

To responsibly maintain a stable organization from which to pursue our mission

To support architectural initiatives which seek to improve the quality of the built environment and create livable communities

To act as a conduit between our members and ALIA New York State and ALIA National – the voice of the architectural profession and the resource for its members in service to society

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