



# AIA Eastern New York

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

## AIA Eastern New York Membership Benefits

**AIA ENY Mission Statement:** *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 act as 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 facilitate the OneAIA concept and act as a conduit to AIA New York State and AIA National – the voice of the architectural profession and the resource for its members in service to society.*

Based upon the AIA ENY mission statement, the following are examples on how AIA ENY provides these services:

- **Networking**

The opportunity to engage and participate, take an active part in the events and programs offered, particularly in the areas of professional development and community advocacy. Opportunities to engage can be found on many of the pages of our website: [www.aiaeny.org](http://www.aiaeny.org). Examples of these networking opportunities are: the annual Boat Cruise, monthly continuing education programs and the Design Awards reception/ceremony.

These activities provide valuable networking opportunities, ways to develop leadership skills and create greater visibility within your community. We at the AIA ENY realize that many of our programs are located in the population center of our chapter is too far for many of our members in the northern counties. We are currently looking into having some of our programs located in a more convenient area to accommodate these members.

- **Advocacy**

AIA ENY participates directly with AIA NYS' Architects in Albany – Lobby Day each year, April or May. The President and President-Elect schedule meetings to discuss the issues that are important to the design build profession. Members are encouraged to participate in the preparation before and the meetings scheduled with their elected officials, as well. In 2011, through the involvement of the AIA ENY members, AIANYS and the other AIA chapters in New York State, we had a very successful lobbying event in May. We were able to get the Non Design Professional Ownership bill passed and signed into law while also successfully defeating numerous bills that were not in our members' interest. Other areas where AIA ENY advocates for its members are within the National and State AIA Components, where designated board members represent the chapter: AIA National's Grassroots Conference, AIA National and AIANYS conventions and the AIANYS Annual Meeting during convention.

- **Knowledge**

Like AIA National's Knowledge Communities, AIA ENY offers the opportunity for members to become involved with various committees (knowledge communities) in the chapter area. If there is a knowledge community members are interested in attending that AIA ENY does not offer, AIA ENY accepts proposals from its members to start a new committee in the chapter area. Right now, AIA ENY has the following committees available (which all can be found on the Committees page of the website- <http://www.aiaeny.org/aboutaiaeasternny/aiaenycommittees.html>):

- **AIAS-RPI** – Student Component at RPI. The students are looking for ways to connect with AIA ENY members including portfolio reviews, meet & greets, internships, etc. Although this is a student component, AIAS president, Tyler Hopf, would be open to have an AIA ENY member act as liaison between AIAS and architects in the area.



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- **Construction** – a charity committed to ending hunger and raising awareness. The 2012 “Zoo Can Do It” event will be at the NYS Museum in April 2012. Members have the opportunity to participate in the competition, network at the event and fight hunger.
- **Committee on the Environment (COTE)** – seeks to expand awareness and knowledge of green technologies and sustainability in building design and construction. COTE partners with the VP of Programs and the Programs Committee to provide continuing education programs with a sustainable focus. In 2011, there were five (5) programs offered: a LEED exam workshop, a tour of EMPAC, a full-day seminar with the Canadian Consulate, green interiors and green schools.
- **Convention 2012 Committee** – AIANYS has an annual convention within the various chapters across New York State. In 2012, the convention will be held in the AIA ENY chapter area - Saratoga Springs. The convention committee coordinates with AIANYS to provide volunteers, programs and tours ideas, welcome party location and more.
- **Design Awards** – AIA ENY has an annual Design Awards competition to showcase the work of its members. Winners are awarded with a certificate, posting in the first newsletter of the year and on the website for a year. Also, in 2012, the winners’ boards will be posted at the 2012 AIANYS Convention Welcome Party.
- **Fellows Committee** – Encourages and assists AIA ENY members who are candidates for Fellowship.
- **Historic Resource Committee (HRC)** – Focuses on providing access to educational and advocacy opportunities relating to the many aspects of the Capital region’s rich historic resources.
- **Programs Committee** - Continuing education is a required part of license renewing in New York State. As an AIA Provider for continuing education, AIA ENY’s VP of Programs and Programs Committee do their best to provide continuing education opportunities, at a discounted rate to its members, to help fulfill these requirements. Input from the members is crucial for AIA ENY to decide what programs are most important and desired. Some of our programs topics include: lectures from prestigious architects and design professionals, the annual boat cruise, codes updates and IPD. In 2012, the AIANYS Convention will provide many programs to help fulfill AIA and NYS continuing education requirements.
- **Communications**

AIA ENY provides many communicative outlets for AIA business, Capital Region information and National information to reach its members.

  - **Architext** – 6 newsletter issues are distributed to AIA ENY members either by mail or electronically with project spotlight articles from members, member news and more. Please review the Publications Page to review the newsletters electronically and to see how your firm/work can be featured in the newsletter.
  - **Weekly Email Broadcasts** – Typically, once a week, an email broadcast is sent to all AIA ENY members with information about upcoming events, programs and important information for the chapter area.
  - **Monthly Meetings** – AIA ENY’s Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Annual Meetings allow members to make suggestions, comment and question the business, benefits and practices of AIA ENY.
  - **Website** – All AIA ENY business is available for review on the website.
- **Access**

AIA ENY provides its members a conduit to AIANYS and AIA National. AIA ENY facilitates: (not limited to)

  - Any issue directly with the appropriate AIANYS and AIA National staff.
  - Assistance contacting continuing education providers to post credits on members’ transcripts.
  - Any use of the chapter office for meetings or business use.