



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIA Colorado Grows Architecture Week into a Month-long Celebration
Several free events and educational activities offered throughout the month of April

March 19, 2009 (Denver) — The Colorado component of The American Institute of Architects (AIA Colorado) has declared April “Colorado Architecture Month,” and will expand and extend the special events and educational opportunities previously offered during Colorado Architecture Week.

In addition to AIA Colorado, the four local chapters of AIA in Colorado will host or sponsor events and programs ranging from educational seminars on how to work with an architect, to “Doors Open Denver,” to the ever-popular Box City Event, where children experience the design and construction industry firsthand by requesting permits, ordering materials, designing buildings and constructing those buildings into a cardboard city.

“Colorado has both a rich history of incredibly diverse architecture and some of the most celebrated and talented architects in the country,” said Sonia Riggs, executive director of AIA Colorado. “We decided to utilize those assets to provide more free opportunities for people to experience architecture than ever before.”

A total of 10 events are scheduled across the state, beginning on Thursday, April 2, and ending on Saturday, April 25. For more information or to make reservations for any event, contact AIA Colorado at 303-446-2266 or visit www.coloradoarchitecturemonth.org.

Thursday, April 2

Universal Design at an Urban Scale

8 – 10 a.m.

Sponsored by AIA Denver, Denver’s Age Matters Task Force, Denver Office of Disability Rights and Denver Regional Council of Governments

Location: Colorado Convention Center, Denver

Cost: Free

Attend *Universal Design at an Urban Scale*, a lecture presented by Wolfgang F.E. Preiser, Ph.D., a professor emeritus of architecture at the University of Cincinnati. Preiser will cover the seven principles of universal design and the human factor principles as applied to the urban environment. Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper will be present, and a panel discussion will follow the lecture.

Tuesday, April 7

Architecture, Art & Appetizers

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by AIA Denver

Location: The Event Gallery at 910Arts (910 Santa Fe Dr., Denver)

Cost: Free

Attend this free public education event featuring 10 speakers each giving 10-slide, 10-minute presentations about topics related to architecture or art. Topics range from projects and inspirations to experiences and philosophies. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, April 8

How to Work with an Architect

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado West

Location: Avon Branch Library (200 W. Benchmark Road, Avon, Colo.)

Cost: Free

Enjoy hearing from two Eagle Valley-based architects about how to work with a residential architect—whether remodeling a basement or building a home—on any budget.

Tuesday, April 14

How to Work with an Architect

6:30 p.m. (reception) and 7 – 8 p.m. (lecture)

Presented by AIA Colorado

Location: A 2008-09 Architects' Choice Award-winning home in Washington Park, Denver

Cost: Free; however, space is limited and reservations are required, without exception (call 303-446-2266)

Enjoy hearing from three Denver-area architects, Sean O'Hara, AIA—EV Studio (Denver), Gary Godden, AIA—Godden|Sudik Architects (Centennial) and Sean Garrett, AIA—Sean Garrett Architecture (Denver), about how to work with a residential architect - whether remodeling a basement or building a home – on any budget.

Friday, April 17

Young Architects Awards Gala

5:30 – 10 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado

Location: RedLine (2350 Arapahoe St., Denver)

Cost: Tickets prices vary; visit www.coloradoarchitecturemonth.org

Join novice and veteran architects from across the state for an awards ceremony and gala. The evening's events will honor Colorado's passionate young architects, students and interns through a celebration of their extraordinary achievements. In addition to design awards, special honors will be given to AIA Colorado's selection for 2009 Young Architect of the Year, Intern of the Year, Mentor of the Year and Instructor of the Year.

Saturday, April 18

Denver Box City Event (Educational Activity for Children)

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Presented by AIA Denver

Location: Dora Moore Elementary School (Gymnasium, 846 Corona St, Denver)

Cost: Free; however, reservations are requested to ensure entry (call 303-446-2266)

Participate in this unique children's event that promotes an understanding of historic preservation and urban design by combining art, architecture, creative thinking, city planning, design, construction, fun and learning into one comprehensive educational experience. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade (accompanied by adults) will experience the design and construction industry firsthand by requesting permits, ordering materials, designing buildings and constructing those buildings into a cardboard city. AIA-member architects and design professionals will offer advice and assistance to participants.

Saturday-Sunday, April 18-19

Doors Open Denver - Expert- and Self-guided Tours

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sponsored by AIA Denver and presented by Denver Architectural Foundation in conjunction with City & County of Denver Headquarters Location: Union Station (1701 Wynkoop St., Denver)

Cost: Free; however, tickets for expert-guided tours are limited to four per person and two tours per day, per person (visit www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver)

Explore Denver from the inside out while visiting some of the city's best-known and lesser-known architectural treasures. Pre-registration for all expert tours will take place at the Doors Open Denver Headquarters. These tours have limited capacity and run 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alternately, self-guided tours may begin at any participating Doors Open Denver location. Stop by event headquarters to speak with event staff for recommendations, or visit the www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver for a map and complete list of the more than 80 participating sites.

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Tuesday, April 21

Architecture, Art & Appetizers

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado North

Location: The Dairy Center for the Arts (2590 Walnut St., Boulder, Colo.)

Cost: Free

Attend this free public education event featuring 10 speakers each giving 10-slide, 10-minute presentations about topics related to architecture or art. Topics range from projects and inspirations to experiences and philosophies. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Thursday, April 23

Confluence: Creating an Inclusive Community

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by AIA Denver

Location: The Collection (899 Broadway, Denver)

Cost: Free

Attend this free public education event with community leaders, developers, planners and architects on the unique opportunities and challenges presented by the development of affordable housing. Learn how these projects can be integrated into the urban fabric, the benefits of sustainability and what architects are doing to improve the affordable housing opportunities within Denver's community.

Saturday, April 25

Colorado Springs Box City Event (Educational Activity for Children)

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado South

Location: Hillside Community Center (Gymnasium, 925 S. Institute, Colorado Springs, Colo.)

Cost: Free; however, reservations are requested to ensure entry (call 800-628-5598)

Participate in this unique children's event that promotes an understanding of historic preservation and urban design by combining art, architecture, creative thinking, city planning, design, construction, fun and learning into one comprehensive educational experience. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade (accompanied by adults) will experience the design and construction industry firsthand by requesting permits, ordering materials, designing buildings and constructing those buildings into a cardboard city. AIA-member architects and design professionals will offer advice and assistance to participants.

About AIA & AIA Colorado

For more than 150 years, members of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. AIA members have access to the right people, knowledge and tools to create better design, and through such resources and access, they help clients and communities make their visions real.

With more than 2,400 members, AIA Colorado, the voice of the profession of architecture, inspires and supports its members as leaders to improve and sustain the quality of the built environment. We promote the value of the profession and provide resources and education for members. www.aiacolorado.org

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