

CHICAGO ARCHITECT



Up Front:
Vladimir Radutny // 34
20 Years Later // 28



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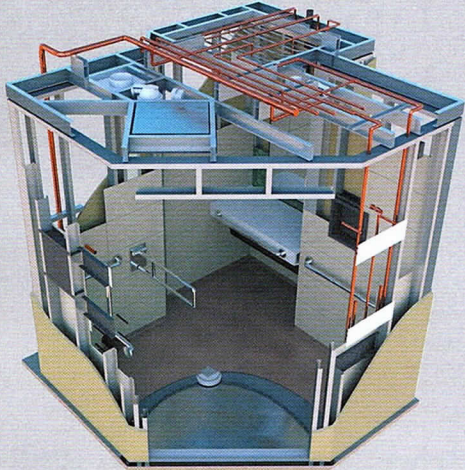
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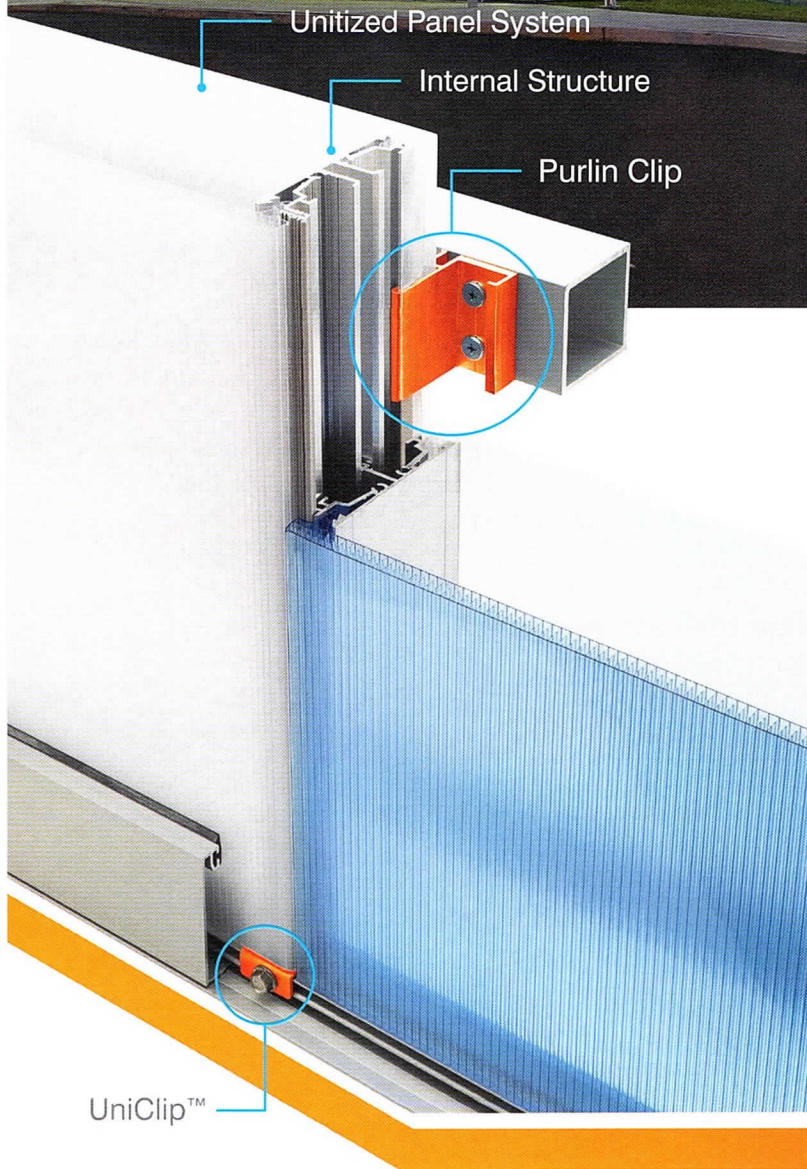
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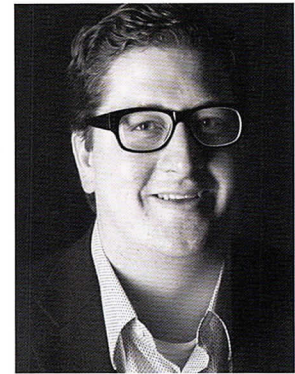


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PUBLICATION DIRECTOR

Rich Esposito
resposito@aiachicago.org

EDITORS

Julie Rao
jrao@aiachicago.org

Anna Strange
anna@innovativepublishing.com

SIGNER

Matt Wood

VERTISING SALES

Innovative Publishing
vertise@innovativepublishing.com
4.423.7272

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Happy 2017 from AIA Chicago! I am honored to represent you as this year's Board president and excited to introduce our new Board of Directors — an exceptional group of leaders serving our professional community. I would like to thank Dawn Schuette, FAIA, our 2016 president, for her leadership and guidance through another extremely successful year for AIA Chicago and our members.

AIA Chicago is a robust, member-driven organization, and we rely on your energy, ideas and leadership in the profession and our community. As we begin this new year, I encourage you to actively engage with our chapter. There is no shortage of programs organized by our knowledge communities and events to meet and connect with your colleagues.

We celebrate design leadership and share stories about Chicago architects' impacts in our community and throughout the world. This issue highlights our 2016 Firm Award winner Wheeler Kearns Architects, an outstanding collective, bringing creative and thoughtful design solutions and a sense of craftsmanship to projects ranging from public institutions and nonprofits to private residences. We also recognize architect and educator Vladimir Radutny, AIA, the 2016 Dubin Family Young Architect Award recipient. Since founding Vladimir Radutny Architects in 2008, he has developed an impressive portfolio of elegant residential projects, office renovations and furniture designs.

We are all messengers, and, collectively, we have a loud and powerful voice to heighten awareness of the value of design and important work we do each day. Whether you're an established leader in your firm or an emerging professional, I am charging each of you to speak up and share your stories about the profound impacts we make through architecture. Please join me by contributing your expertise and engaging in regular dialogues with clients, collaborators, neighbors, public officials and students.

I look forward to hearing your stories, making new connections and celebrating our Chicago design community at the epicenter of architecture.

Cheers to a successful 2017!

Matthew Dumich, AIA



Chicago Architect, the primary outreach publication of AIA Chicago, is published six times a year as an authoritative resource for architects, the larger design community and the public about architecture and related issues of interest to Chicago architects. The magazine communicates industry trends, the value of high-quality design and the role of AIA Chicago and its members in the world of architecture.

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BLUMEN: A COLLABORATIVE INSTALLATION LIGHTS UP HOMAN SQUARE

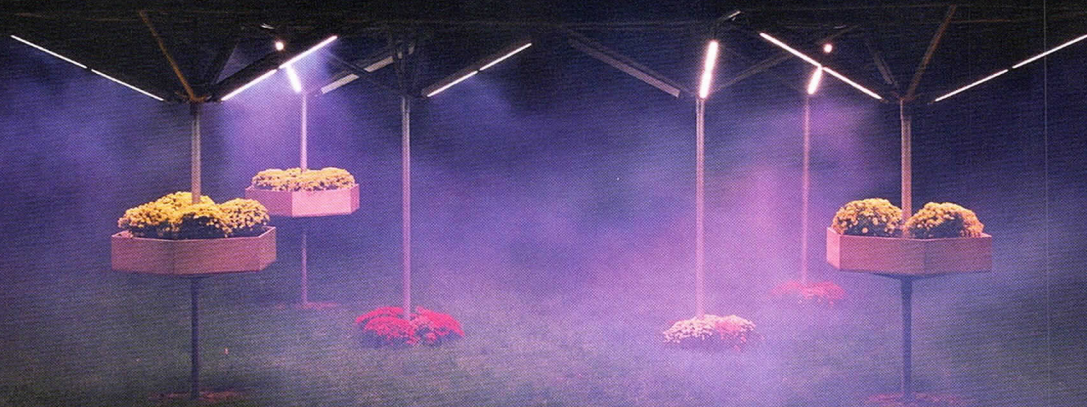


PHOTO CREDIT: DAVID SCHALLIOL

Standing in stark contrast to the darkened streets, there is a beacon of light that glows in Homan Square Park. To clarify, there are several lights circulating around illuminated planter boxes. Though aptly symbolic in the formerly abandoned Nichols Tower plaza, bLUMEN — an installation designed in collaboration between the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)'s Architecture, Interior Architecture and Designed Objects (AIADO) students and the artist duo LUFTWERK — the structure brightens a small area where flowers bloom.



PHOTO CREDIT: IKER GIL

Design: LUFTWERK and MAS Studio with SAIC bLUMEN students: Mauricio Casian, Beril Cuhadaroglu, Carrie Jim, Farnaz Khosh-Sirat, Jessica Moon, Ravina Puri, Andrew Rutherfordale, Celine Setiadi, Melis Simsek and Danrui Xiang

Structural Engineer: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP

Metal Fabrication: Active Alloys

Partners: School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), SAIC's Shapiro Center for Research and Collaboration, Chicago Park District and the Foundation for Homan Square

Acknowledgements: Philips Lighting, 24th Ward Alderman Michael Scott Jr., and the Homan Square community

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Nichols Tower sat as a symbol of how a neighborhood can deteriorate after an industry leaves town, taking with it jobs and services. In 2009, however, new plans were hatched to convert the empty tower into a mixed-use hub for leadership development, youth activities, and a secondary site for SAIC to host art classes for students and adults.

Iker Gil, director of MAS Studio and teacher at SAIC, brought a group of eight SAIC students to the Nichols Tower site for a three-week intensive summer course on lighting. While collaborating with LUFTWERK, he saw a major teaching opportunity. Instead of teaching these concepts in a theoretical approach, we looked to create a solution using core principles: empty space, neighbor space and technology," he said. The course was divided into three-week seminars with LUFTWERK, Philips Lighting and neighborhood advocates such as 24th Ward Alderman Michael Scott Jr.

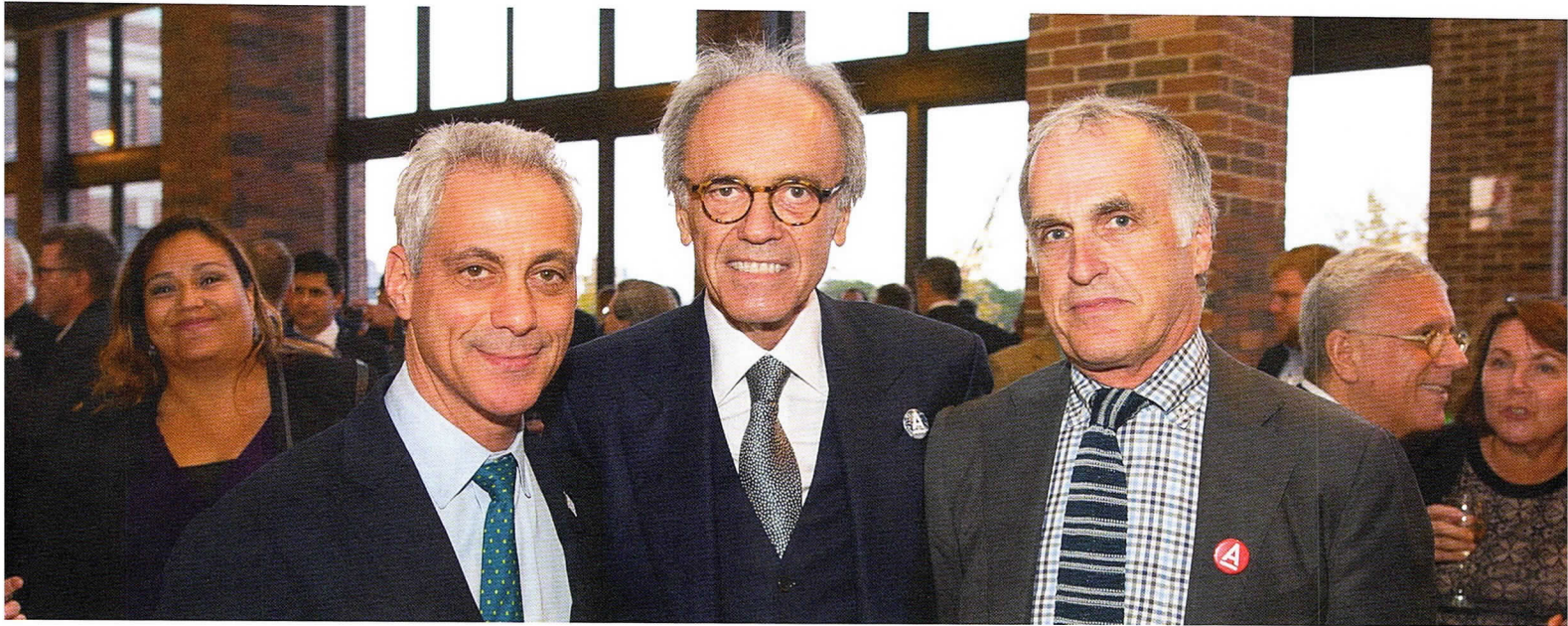
The course structure identified the core community need: Homan Square is a "food desert," and residents are geographically denied access to fresh vegetables. Their solution: a sizeable, modular installation of hexagonal steel structures connected to one another. The canopy acts as the physical framework for 15 interconnected horticulture LED grow lights, which provide daylight to plant boxes after sunset by attaching the sculpture to nearby streetlamps.

"The question we asked wasn't about producing, but rather how the community could use this," Gil stated. "It would be great to replicate the design, as its use is flexible depending on location."

While having the potential to grow food, Gil emphasizes that the sculpture also functions to create a sense of place. "Its odd shape, different-looking lighting — it asks people to reconsider the

space," Gil said. "The informal conversations with people who live there led us to ask, 'How do we extend the life of this space beyond daylight?' We're also extending the notion of food as

culture into space." While the presence of a lighting canopy placed above plants makes the sculpture's purpose wildly clear, Gil noted "It's up to the community to really program it." **CA**



MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL, RON KRUECK, FAIA, AND MARK SEXTON, FAIA, AT THE DESIGNIGHT 2016 COCKTAIL HOUR.

and Development; all moderated by **Bonnie McDonald**, president, Landmarks Illinois.

The day focused on the history of preservation; notably, the projects that originated in community activism, collaboration and storytelling. Following the event, Bharani took to PlaceLab's blog to reflect on the afternoon and her role in the movement, stating, "The same reverence for the meaning of place was at the

heart of early preservationists' efforts, but that value seems to have been eroded over time. Historic preservation's original aim was to prioritize communities over buildings — a good thing — and highlight the stories of people alongside the stories of place. That there is a multiplicity of narratives isn't considered in the current formal process of preservation. Our approach at Place Lab is to layer multiple stories — of the past, the present and the possible future — to develop an even greater narrative of pride in place."

A return to the belief that the narrative of people and place are strongly interdependent may mark the direction for the "Future of Preservation."

Architecture & Design College Day at Harold Washington College

Each year, an independent group of professionals organizes a one-day college fair that brings over 50



TODD FLATO, FAIA, SPEAKS AT ONE OF THE MANY SUCCESSFUL CRAN EVENTS.

"OUR APPROACH AT PLACE LAB IS TO LAYER MULTIPLE STORIES — OF THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE POSSIBLE FUTURE — TO DEVELOP AN EVEN GREATER NARRATIVE OF PRIDE IN PLACE."

– NOOTAN BHARANI

colleges and universities to Chicago to recruit potential students. In an effort to further advocate for the future of the architecture, design and construction management fields, AIA Chicago has been a continuous sponsor of the **Architecture & Design College Day**.

This year's event set record attendance with over 250 high school students, counselors, teachers and parents seeking program and scholarship information.

CRAN Leads Successful Lecture Season

The AIA Chicago chapter of the Custom Residential Architects Network (CRAN), led by Stuart Cohen, FAIA, produced an educational and riveting lecture series, co-presented by Pella Crafted Luxury and held in their magnificent showroom. The series included talks by **Geoffrey Baer, Merrill Elam, AIA**, and, in October, **Todd Flato, FAIA**, of Lake | Flato Architects. [CA](#)

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HOK Chicago and Delos have partnered to expand the global reach of the WELL Building Standard, which sets research-based performance requirements in seven categories related to occupant health in the built environment. This partnership will advance the way HOK's design team integrates the principles of the WELL Building Standards.



Pappageorge Haymes Partners announces recent promotions: Robert Harris, LEED Green Associate; Adam Lavey, AIA, NCARB; Patrick Shanahan; and Elizabeth Zaverdas, Associate AIA, LEED AP BD+C, have been promoted to Associate II. Gregory L. Klosowski, AIA, and Joseph P. Villanti, AIA, have been promoted to Associate.



Janet King, FAIA, LEED AP BD+C, has been named a 2016 Women in Sustainability Leadership Award winner by Green Building & Design.



Goettsch Partners opened their North American headquarters for Swiss-based Zurich Insurance Group. Located in Schaumburg, Illinois, the LEED Platinum building is structurally characterized by three distinctively placed and stacked "bars."

PHOTO CREDIT: JAMES STEINKAMP, STEINKAMP PHOTOGRAPHY



Legat Architects designed a 55,000-square-foot science and classroom expansion at Mundelein High School. The addition, which supports the school's career-based curriculum, features a STEM Lab, a Project Lead The Way Lab, and a business incubator, in which students work with local business leaders.

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Janet Simpson, IIDA, has been named the new president of **tvdesign**, succeeding longtime president Roger Neuenschwander. Simpson is a principal in tvdesign's workplace design studio and has been with the firm for nine years.



CallisonRTKL designed Lalaport Tachihi, a shopping center just west of Tokyo's central business district, to be a new civic living room for residents and visitors.



Jennifer London has joined Wight & Company as vice president, director of marketing & communications.



Douglas Voigt, AIA, AICP, has been promoted to partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; and, **Lucas Tryggestad, AIA, LEED AP**, has been promoted to director.



Michael Schur, AIA, LEED AP, and **Ryan Stahlman, AIA, LEED AP**, have been promoted to associates at the Perkins Eastman Chicago office.



The Arts Club of Chicago's new Drawing Room opened to club members in November and was designed by **Alex Krikhaar, AIA, of Vinci-Hamp Architects**, and **Nada Andric, of SOM**. The Drawing Room's design reflects John Vinci, FAIA's, original modernist architecture for The Arts Club.



Catherine Corbin, AIA, LEED AP, was named one of *Building Design & Construction* magazine's "40 Under 40" in 2016 for her work as a principal at CannonDesign's health care management practice.

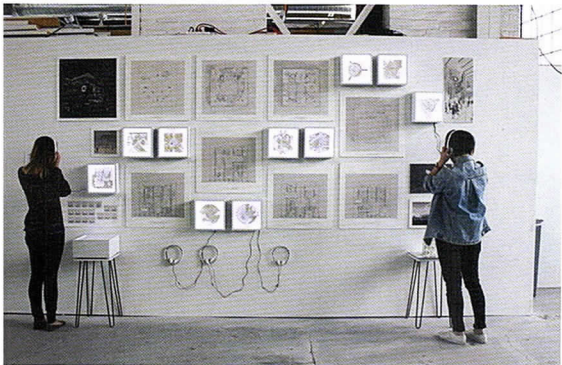
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Matthew L. Wagner, SE, Patrick E. Reicher, SE, REWC, REWO, and Patrick Olechno, PE, have recently joined Chicago-based Raths, Stephens & Johnson, Inc.



Studio Talo received AIA National's Technology in Architectural Practice (TAP) award for Exemplary Use in a Small Firm for their Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.th) building renderings. As part of the owner's fundraising and community outreach campaign, the architect produced a number of 360-degree virtual reality renderings that included video avatars of youth participants as tour guides in the new building.



The winner of the newly established student award, MCHAP.student, was awarded to (a)typical office by Tommy Kyung-Tae Nam and Yungho Kim from the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan.



PHOTO CREDIT: IWAAN BAAH

The 2014-15 Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize (MCHAP) presented by the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) was awarded to SANAA for their Grace Farms project in New Canaan, Connecticut. The firm — originally founded in Tokyo, Japan, by architects Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa — won a Pritzker Prize in 2010, and with their newest prize will receive \$50,000 to pursue further research and publications. They will also give a public lecture at a date to be announced.



Real Restoration completed two units located on the 23rd floor of The Grant Five Star Living building, located in Chicago's South Loop neighborhood. The interior design and architecture was a collaborative effort between 2design and Vladimir Radutny Architects, as well as CEO/founder of Real Restoration Morris Gershengorin and project partner/investor Dustin Tallisman.



Eileen Jones, IIDA, AIGA, SEGD, LEED AP ID+C, (Perkins+Will) has been honored by the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) with the Leadership Award of Excellence. Eileen was recognized for 40 years of outstanding branded environments, working across a variety of disciplines, including corporate, health care, education and civic projects.



Nagle Hartray Architecture recently completed the DeKalb Public Library. This expansion of the historic Haish Memorial Library tripled the size of the facility while respectfully referencing the language of the existing architecture.



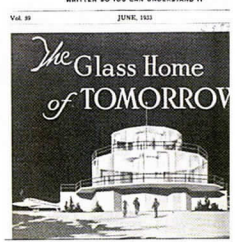
From September through October 2016, Stuart Cohen, FAIA, lectured and led a tour of 14 historic single family homes in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff designed by Howard Van Doren Shaw and David Adler. The tour was organized for the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art, and the 35 participants came from all over the country.



Bailey Edward Design, Inc. recently completed a dual-purpose Compounding Simulation Laboratory for the University of Illinois at Chicago's College of Pharmacy. The new flexible laboratory space allows students to experience real-world sterile and non-sterile simulated laboratory settings.

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Popular Mechanics Magazine



The House of Tomorrow, a Chicago landmark at the Indiana Dunes, received status as a national treasure by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Thanks to new designation, a number of preservation organizations will begin efforts to restore the home.



Anne Gang, FAIA, and Studio Gang Architects partnered with Project&, in collaboration with Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Lynsey Addario, to present *Working in America*, a multimedia exhibit designed, conceived and curated by Jane M. Saks and hosted at the Chicago Public Library. The exhibit is on display September 14 to January 30 at the Harold Washington Library.



Landmarks Illinois, in partnership with **Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) LLP**, has released a study exploring the adaptive reuse of the Elgin Laundry Building. Originally designed by Bertrand Goldberg and completed in 1967, the accordion-shaped structure has been envisioned as a multiuse sports and recreational facility.



Christopher Frye, AIA, founder of (R)evolution Architecture, has completed several new projects, including the new McIntosh Memorial Public Library in Viroqua, Wisconsin, an addition to the Mayo Clinic's Dan Abraham Healthy Living Center, and an interior buildout for the National Alliance for Mental Illness in La Grange, Illinois.



The National Public Housing Museum is slated to start construction following approval from the Chicago Housing Authority to convert the last of the remaining Addams Homes into a permanent museum for public housing. Designed by **don Bone Baker Architects**, the 33,000-square-foot rehabilitation project will adaptively interpret several original apartments and the building's shell while creating optimal program and exhibition spaces. During construction, the museum will participate in the upcoming 2017 Chicago Architecture Biennial as a program partner.



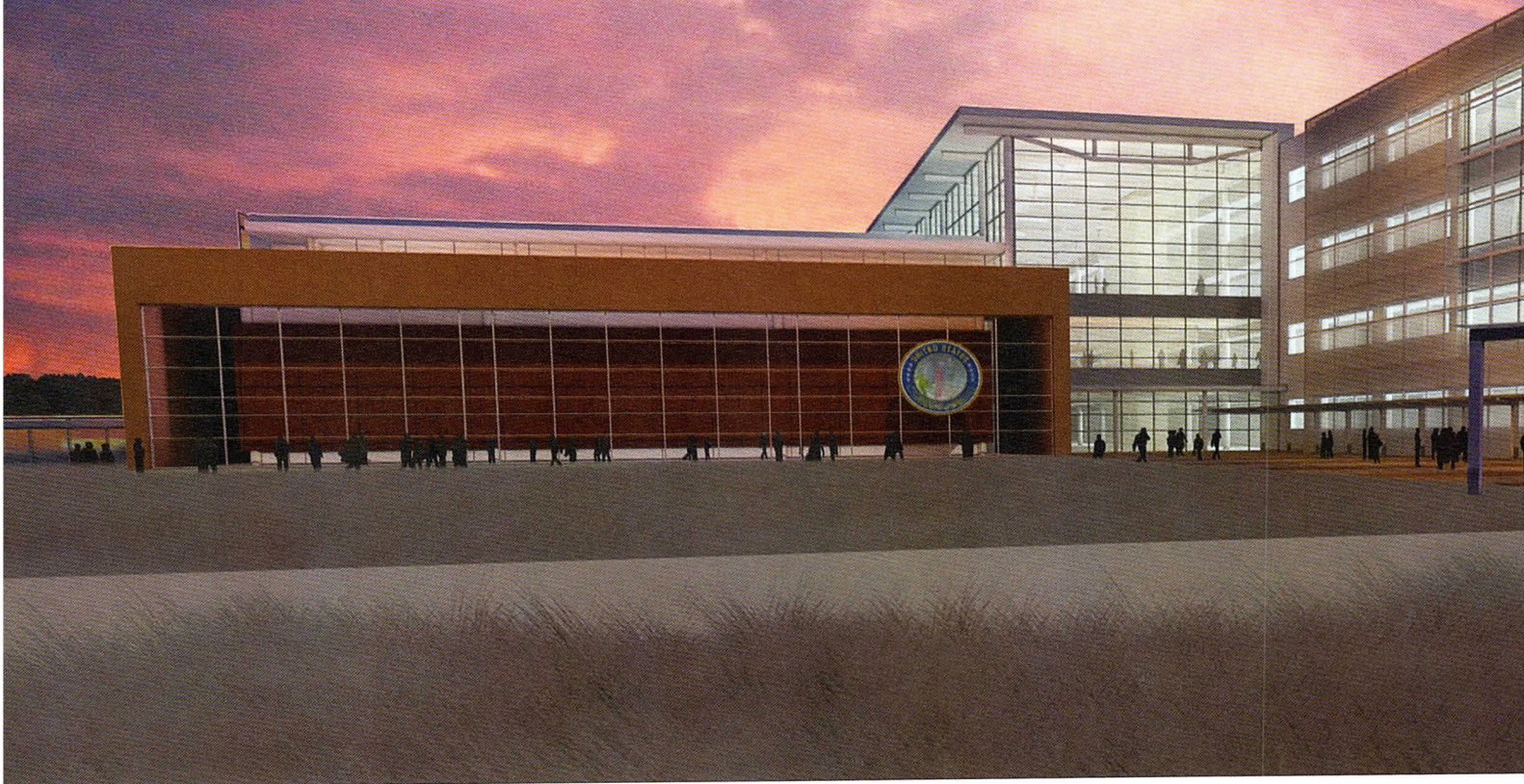
Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. FIIDA, LEED AP, executive vice president and CEO of the International Interior Design Association, has been inducted into the *Interior Design* magazine Hall of Fame, a prestigious honor recognizing her outstanding contributions to the design industry.



Cory Kamholz, AIA, has joined HED as associate, senior designer.

Architectural Design fo

One of our nation's top priorities today is national and cyber security and cyber-intelligence gathering. To be able to accomplish this objective, we need a unique administrative and operational facility with cutting-edge technologies coupling with top security measures in a protective environment. How to express it aesthetically is a challenge. As architects, it is our responsibility to give this sophisticated building type its deserved architectural attention while satisfying the unique functional requirements.



National

and Cyber Security

BY JUNJIAN TANG, AIA, LEED AP

To be able to do that, first we need to understand the importance of technology and security measures employed in it, then we let them inspire our design and architectural expression — **form follows function** as we often call it.

Design for Security-in-Depth

The security-in-depth method is critical for this building type. To create a layered defense against threats, it effectively utilizes measures, including separations, setbacks, hardening of structural façades and electronic security.

HDR designed a new major Department of Defense headquarters. The security-in-depth design strategy for this project began with analyzing the complicated project program; then categorizing and grouping various functional spaces into different hierarchical security zones, based on the nature of the activities that would occur within a particular zone. Next, we designed these security elements starting from the perimeter and working inward to the core of the facility and its most critical assets.

Upon entering the secure campus and passing the security gate of the headquarters compound, the facility is accessed by a

ring road that feeds parking. The design establishes a remote visitor center and a loading dock/material storage facility for visitors to enter and deliveries to be made, which are connected to the main building via an enclosed corridor from each point of entry. Upon entering in the main building, various security zones are organized around an atrium which acts as the primary element of orientation — from the exterior and within the building — also allows air and light and establishes a sense of place and scale for the occupants of the complex. The secure public space, including the conference center, auditorium and cafeteria are all directly adjacent to the atrium, providing a central gathering place for the community. Various secure administrative spaces are connected via elevator banks and bridges in the atrium. Finally, the basement level is the most secure area in the facility.

Additionally, the design enhances social dynamics by creating opportunities for formal and informal interaction and collaboration. Through an innovative approach to wayfinding and branding, the vast space is broken down to the human scale,



EARLY CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF A NEW UNIFIED COM-
MAND HEADQUARTERS DEPICTS TWO SOLID
ENTRY BARS THAT ENCLOSE A CENTRAL, AIRY ATRIUM
PROTECTED BY LAYERS OF SECURITY MEASURES.

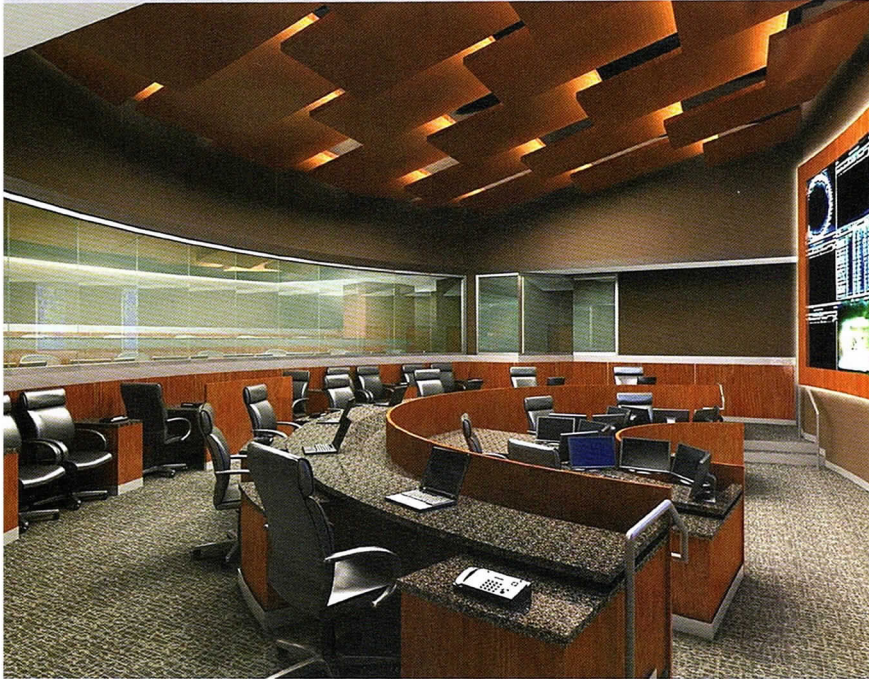


FIGURE 1: THE 24/7-OPERATION CENTER TYPICALLY IS THE BACKBONE OF ANY SECURITY FACILITY. THE CENTER UTILIZES CUTTING-EDGE AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR DATA COLLECTION AND VISUALIZATION.

providing employees with a sense of place and ownership.

Design for Secure Space

This type of facility contains various secure spaces, which require design to provide resistance to forced and covert entry; visual evidence of surreptitious penetration; high level of sound attenuation; and radio frequency (RF) shielding. But by no means does the design have to be a fortified bunker. There are many creative solutions that can make the facility aesthetically pleasing as well as allowing abundant daylight into its workplace.

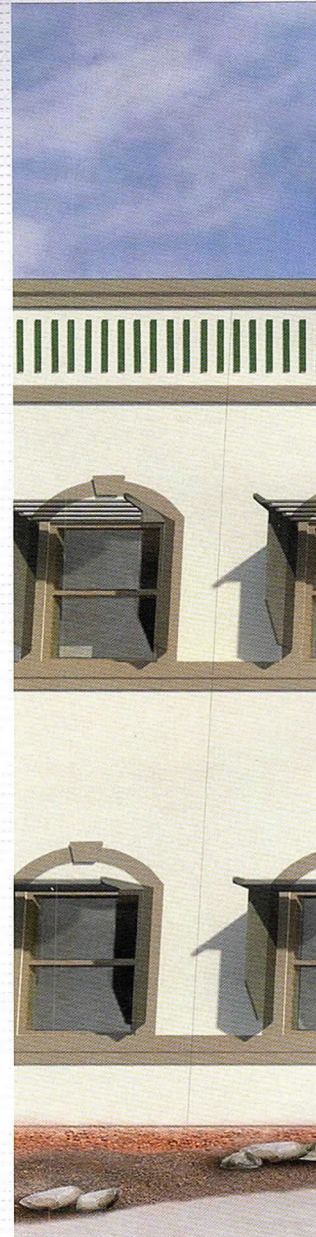
By employing intrusion and visual-detection systems and satisfying ATFP glazing requirements, windows, curtainwall and skylight systems can certainly be added to architectural design and articulation tool boxes. In many cases, this building type does require electromagnetic RF shielding wrapping the entire

exterior enclosures, including all penetrations and openings. An RF film could be applied to the entire glazing surface. If no window is permitted in a particular secure zone, especially in some secure facilities outside the United States, we still have options to make the building aesthetically attractive. One option is to organize the building layout in such a way that the windowless secure spaces are located in the less visual, secondary façades or imbedded in the center of the building block.

We used this approach in the design of P230 Headquarter/Joint Operations Center in Africa with great success — the design expressed local French and Arabic architectural style with articulated window fenestrations on the main façades for the first-floor unsecure spaces and second-floor secure spaces, while the most secure spaces are grouped together and tucked in the back side of the facility.

Design for Uniqueness

One of the key functions of national and cyber-security operations is data collection and data visualization. This activity typically happens in the space called the operation center or watch floor. The information coming in via the communication system needs to be visually presented to the operators so they are capable of constantly monitor-



ing, evaluating and assessing the information. Traditionally, the operation center is the backbone any national security/cyber-security facility. It utilizes cutting-edge audio/visual technologies, including many very large high-definition video display screens grouped together to form what is generally termed a video wall (Figure 1).

DESIGNING A NEW COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY IN AFRICA, IT WAS A MATTER OF BALANCING FUNCTIONALITY AND FLEXIBILITY. THE DESIGN ALSO EXPRESSES LOCAL FRENCH AND ARABIC ARCHITECTURAL STYLES.



Design for Resilience and Redundancy
 Operational and cyber-security facilities require 24/7 operation. Especially at times of crises, these facilities have to maintain operations. It is, therefore, essential to undertake the threat and risk assessments and ensure the necessary resilience and redundancy are built into the design. From

MEP perspective, these resilience and redundancy features include fault tolerant and concurrently maintainable critical-power systems cooled by redundant and reliable HVAC systems. In the event of a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, tornado or hurricane, the facility must be structurally sound and maintained operational. Requirements often include

designing to withstand extremely high-wind speeds and/or meeting elevated seismic design criteria for both the structural and nonstructural.
 In short, as architects and designers, we have to be able to understand the mission the building serves. When mission informs design, it can become such a powerful inspiration that the

architecture can have a lasting impact and be very memorable for this important building typology. CA
Junjian (J.J.) Tang, AIA, LEED AP, is a principal with HDR's federal programs. He is the recipient of 2015 Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) President's Medal and 2011 SAME Urbahn Medal awarded to one architect annually for eminent and notable contribution in the field of architecture.

20 *Years Later*

Wheeler Kearns Architects finds strength in growth and a vision for a balanced world



TOM BADER/WHEELER KEARNS ARCHITECTS

A TEAM SITE



The Firm of the Year award celebrates more than just a body of work completed by a Chicago architecture firm. It is an examination of firm practice, culture and growth. This year's award winner demonstrates that it isn't a firm's "Lifetime Achievement" award; it doesn't come at its peak but instead at a continuum of practice. Wheeler Kearns Architects received the award in 1996 and again in 2016. Twenty years later, much has changed but Wheeler Kearns maintains its reputation as a firm of integrity, transparency and longevity — characterized also by its work and culture.

THE CULTURE

Wheeler Kearns has grown its staff significantly, from six to 19 employees. Six principals — Dan Wheeler, Larry Kearns, Joy Meek, Tom Bader, Jon Heinert and Mark Weber — and 14 architects make up the robust design studio in Chicago's Loop. Even before its first Firm of the Year award, however, Wheeler Kearns had established a unique firm culture.

"Dan and Larry set the tone very early on it wasn't a typical practice: the 'two heads make all the decisions' — that's the traditional architecture practice," Bader described. "When I came on in 1991, it was already in place that

this was going to be a flat structure." This "flatness" pervades many elements of the practice. From the open office floorplan without private offices to the project team structure, the firm is committed to a collaborative and equal environment.

Project teams are organized differently for each project. "Nobody's hired to fill just one role, to just do one task," Heinert explained. "Whether they're starting out their career or they're a few years in, everybody's brought in to lead as a project architect." A team of three might include one principal who is not necessarily leading the project.

"NOBODY'S HIRED TO FILL JUST ONE ROLE. TO JUST DO ONE TASK. WHETHER THEY'RE STARTING OUT THEIR CAREER OR THEY'RE A FEW YEARS IN, EVERYBODY'S BROUGHT IN TO LEAD AS A PROJECT ARCHITECT."

— JON HEINERT



SUN'S END RETREAT, LOCATED IN HARBERT, MICHIGAN, WAS COMPLETED BY WHEELER KEARNS IN 2014.



This way, younger architects are encouraged to pilot.

“Other times, you’re just lobbing critiques when they pin projects up,” Meek said. A bi-monthly, staff-wide meeting allows project teams to present, challenge and critique projects in the works. According to the team, it can get messy but the whole staff participates in the design progression, called Collective Process. Meek continued, “Any one of these people could be soul practitioners and do things without conflict and struggle.”

“Conflict is a sign of a healthy creative environment,” Heinert added.

Giving Wheeler a nudge for comments, Bader leans back and laughs. “Dan really knows how to sit back and let other people take the lead. He’s been doing it for 30 years.”

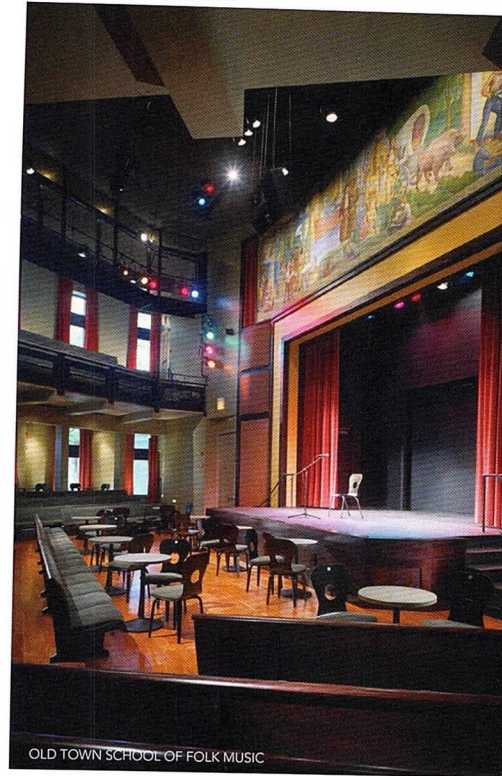
THE WORK

Ultimately, the firm’s collective process and cognitive diversity have led to systems that make for award-winning work and greater demands for desirable projects. However, many principals consider some of their earliest projects to be most seminal, notably the Old Town School of Folk 22 years ago.

“It wasn’t architecture with a ‘big A,’” Bader explained. “It was an existing building that had great bones. We had to restructure it in a way that needed new purpose. But the organization was really concerned about losing the space’s intimacy. How do we scale it up without losing that intimacy? It was a different way of doing architecture than I was used to. That set the tone for a number of projects — including the tight budget.”

Wheeler commented that the projects he most appreciates are “the stuff that is most modest. Limited budget, high constraints, where the firm’s skill is to bring benefit to the project no matter

STEVE HALL / HEDRICH BLESSING



OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC

what the type is — whether it is residential or nonprofit — we’re making magic out of nothing.”

Kearns looked back on user-focused projects, including East Garfield’s Inspiration Kitchens and the award-winning Intrinsic School, in which they designed flexible learning spaces focused on experiential and intersectional education. In both cases, and in many other projects, the firm sees innovation potential — not just the “ability to replicate the final product but to be able to ‘assist’ others in rethinking the environment,” he said.

Balance is a clear theme in the firm’s portfolio, as well. Wheeler stated, “We’re not a firm where you’d come in and bring an image and say, ‘We want one of those.’ We position the project that has the right balance benefitting the client and community.” Applying this to its transit-oriented development projects (1611 W.



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