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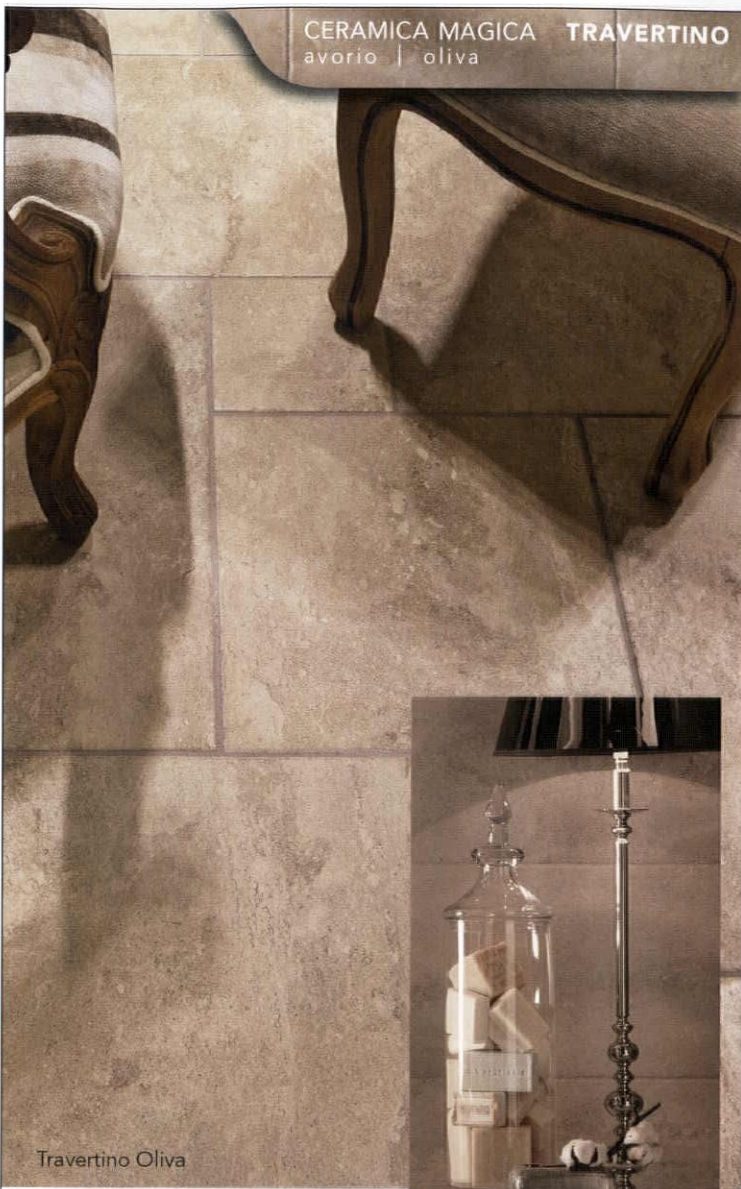
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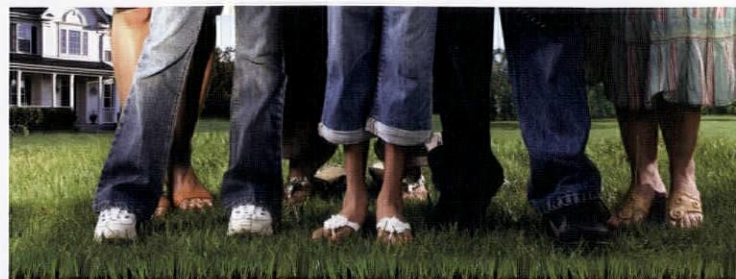
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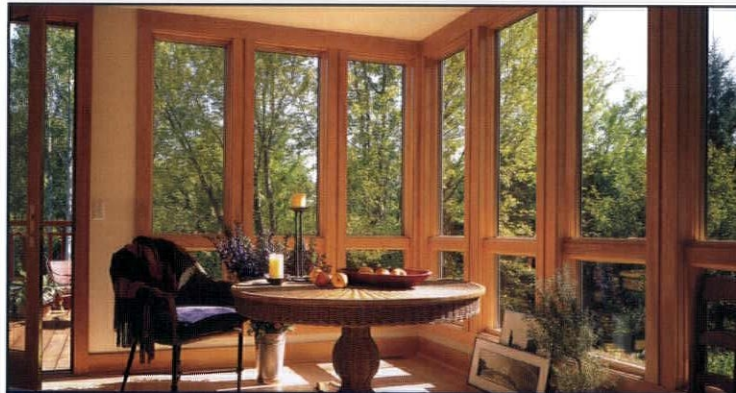
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On the Cover:
The Westwood Child Development Center in Denver, operated by Mile High Montessori Learning Centers, was an important project for AIA Colorado emerging professional Adam Ambro, AIA. The project involved the renovation of an existing 6,600-square-foot child-care center and the addition of a 4,600-square-foot preschool wing and outdoor learning environment.

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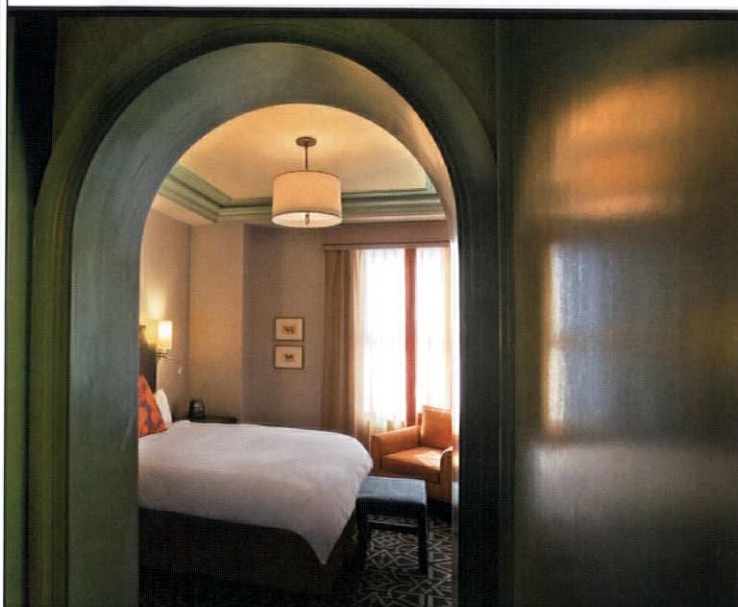
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SLATERPAULL Architects Celebrates 40 Years

In 2012, SLATERPAULL Architects celebrated its 40th anniversary in the Denver business community. The firm marked the occasion with a firmwide day of service and partnership with Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) to build the first community garden at a Jefferson County Public School under the DUG program, which supports more than 100 community gardens in low-income urban neighborhoods and schools.

AIA Colorado Office Wins ENR Award

Congratulations to our entire tenant finish project team, including Studio B Architects and Hutton Architecture Studio! The recent project has been given a 2012 Colorado, Wyoming and

Plains States Best Projects Award by *ENR Mountain States*. Our project, among others, was covered in more detail in the October issue of *ENR* and at the *ENR Mountain States Awards Banquet* on November 6.

Architect Magazine Honors Colorado Firms

Architect magazine's The Architect 50 is an annual ranking of U.S. architecture firms based on business, sustainability and design excellence/*pro bono*. The following Colorado firms or firms with Colorado offices were honored:

- #1: DLR Group
- #11: HDR Architecture
- #20: RNL
- #27: AECOM

Corrections

The fall issue article featuring Red Hawk Elementary School by RB+B Architects, Inc., should have also credited Institute for the Built Environment, LEED Consultant; Geiler & Associates, Acoustical Consultant; Kitchen Tech, Kitchen Consultant; and D.L. Adams Associates, Audio/Visual Consultants.

The fall issue article featuring the Royal Gorge Dinosaur Museum by The Roybal Corporation should have also credited Johan Kemp Estimating.

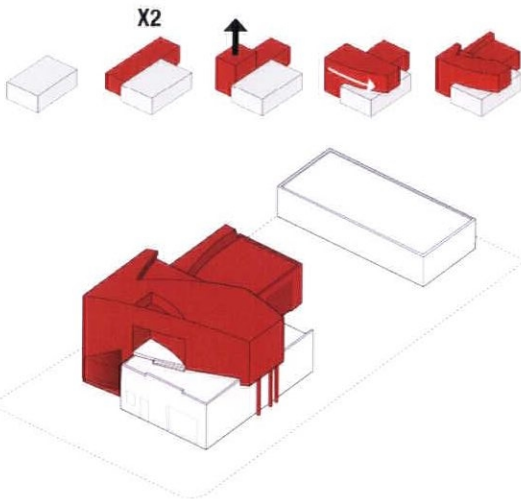
The fall issue article featuring Rawlings Elementary School by MOA Architecture should have also credited the following team members who worked on the project: Kevin Sullivan, AIA, Principle in Charge; Jack Mousseau, AIA, Director of Design, Lead Designer; Chris Cole, Project Manager; Patrick Beaton, Assoc. AIA, Senior Designer; and Nate Martin, Job Captain.

Showing Signs of Excellence

Studio H:T Architecture Founders Leverage the Power of Design in Their Projects and Their Partnership
by Michael Adkins



MORPHOLOGY 03



The concept is driven by the most important client requirement – the business needed to remain open while the expansion was being constructed.

This pushed the concept to a parasitic approach of building around, up and over.

- 1 Existing Building
- 2 Extend Addition adjacent to existing building to avoid disrupting business
- 3 Addition extend upward to maximize space
- 4 Addition bridges over, wraps around and embrace the neighborhood with the directional curve
- 5 Carve along the curves to create clerestory and roof
- 6 Create additional windows and deck following the same language and approach



Prior to their meeting at the University of Florida, the only factor linking emerging professionals Christopher Herr, AIA, LEED BD+C, and Brad Tomecek, AIA, LEED BD+C, was a mutual childhood love of Lego® construction toys.

While the two may have taken different paths, no one can argue with the results of their shared direction. The founders and principals of Studio H:T Architecture have combined their talents and unique approaches to architecture to fulfill their clients' visions.

Tomecek came to the field of architecture in a fairly conventional way, having been exposed to the world of design and construction through his father, a general contractor, before earning his bachelor's degree in design at the University of Florida.

The teaching assistant in one of Tomecek's undergraduate courses was Herr — who had taken a more circuitous route to the industry, having earned a degree in French horn performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music before his interest in acoustical design led him to the University of Florida to obtain a master's degree in architecture with an emphasis in acoustics.

The two students quickly struck up a friendship, Herr said. "Brad and I ended up sitting next to each other in design studio," Herr added. "I sat down with my Beethoven and Mozart CDs, and he sat down with his AC/DC and Metallica CDs, and we thought at first we were headed for trouble — but we ended up with a good relationship."

"We were always the ones talking about architecture after class was over," Tomecek added.

Progressive Signs

Architect: Studio H:T Architecture

Principal in Charge: Brad Tomecek, AIA, LEED BD+C

Project Manager: Kevin Sietmann

Design Collaborator/Critic: Christopher Herr, AIA, LEED BD+C

General Contractor: Interworks

Structural Engineer: Conkle, Inc.

Location: Denver

Scope: 2,940 square feet (1,800 square feet for addition; 1,140 square feet for original structure)

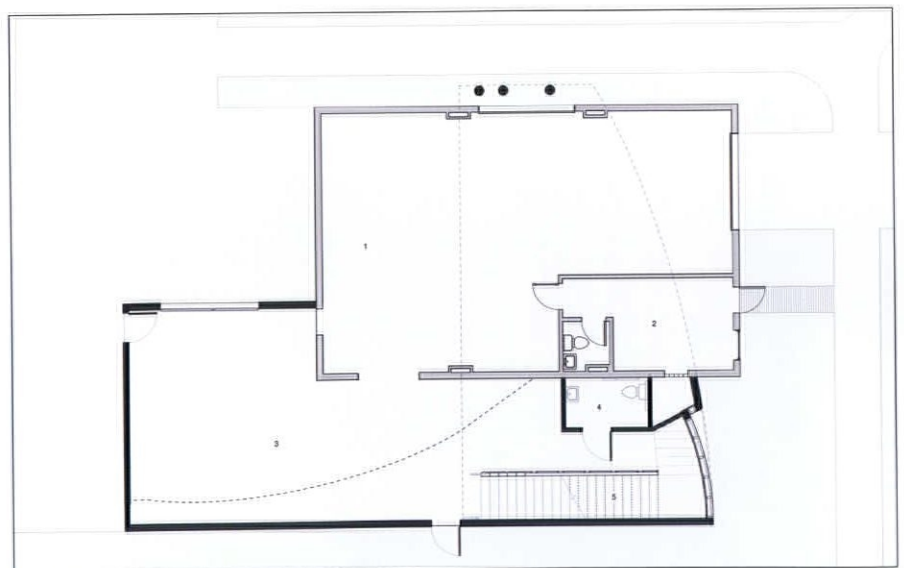
After graduation in 1999, Herr — a Fort Collins native — returned home and joined a local architecture firm, but he found himself wanting to strike out on his own. Meanwhile, Tomecek — now with his master's degree in architecture — had been laid off from his previous firm, due to the downturn in 2001, and he soon found that the options for employment were slim. Ready for a change, he too decided to establish his own practice.

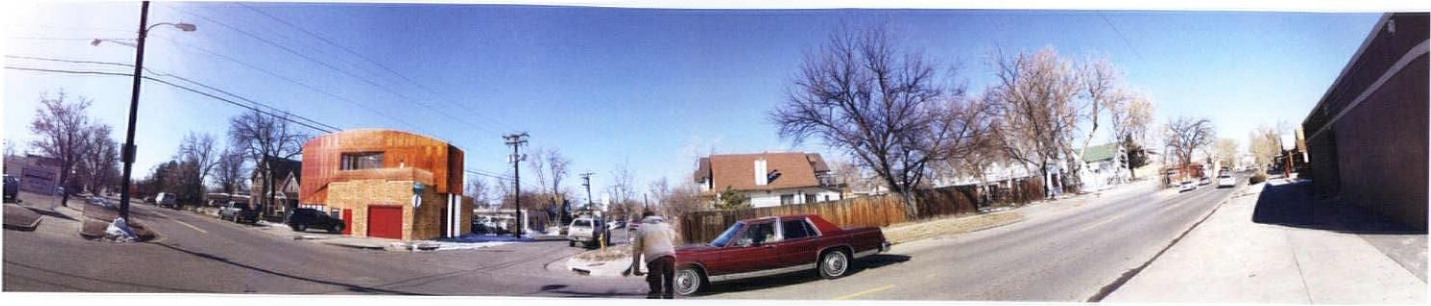
In December 2002, after Tomecek moved to Colorado, the two friends founded their own semi-independent practices — Studio H and Studio T — that contracted with each other and shared office space.

This arrangement lasted until 2005, when the practices merged, and Studio H:T Architecture was formed.

Herr jokingly described the partners' leap of faith as "blissful ignorance." "We didn't know what we were getting into!" he laughed. "We bushwhacked our own path. It might not be the most efficient manner, but we learned a lot along the way, and because we learned in such a bootstrap manner, it sticks."

Part of that learning process involved the partners learning how to work together on projects. Herr and Tomecek approach each project in a collaborative fashion, with one naturally taking the lead as the project





progresses while the other serves as a design critic.

This approach came into play on Studio H:T's latest project: a 1,800-square-foot addition to Progressive Signs, a downtown Denver business that provides custom signs, graphics, layout and printing services, including yard signs, banners and lettering for both commercial vehicles and race cars.

Studio H:T began working on the preliminary design of the project in

fall 2008, and the project was scheduled for completion in late October. Tomecek served as the principal in charge of the project, with Studio Manager Kevin Sietmann serving as project manager. Tomecek, Sietmann and Herr all worked collaboratively on the design, and Herr also served in the design-critic role later in the process.

The concept for the addition to Progressive Signs was driven by owner Rock Speicher's most important requirement: the business had

Combining the client's needs and the specificities of the site created a unique solution for Progressive Signs that combines functionality and elegance — a philosophy that the designers carry into all of their projects.



to remain open during construction. Consequently, Studio H:T's design utilized what the principals called a "parasitic addition," which starts behind the original one-story brick structure, extends upward, bridges over the original space and curves around to encompass it. The addition includes a system of clerestory openings that help illuminate the interior, and these clerestories — along with the design's goal of providing variation in the structure's interior spaces — helped juxtapose the addition with the original structure and created an animated feeling for the roof plane.

The final result of this design is an addition that creates a new aesthetic for a formerly stoic brick-box structure. "Our client, Rock Speicher, was very encouraging of the concepts behind the project and, ultimately,

the realization of the project," Tomecek noted.

Combining the client's needs and the specificities of the site created a unique solution for Progressive Signs that combines functionality and elegance — a philosophy that the designers carry into all of their projects. "You don't look at a project and go, 'H:T built that,'" Tomecek said. "Everything we do is so client-specific and not based on a particular style we might like."

As recent winners of the national AIA Young Architect Award — Herr in 2011 and Tomecek in 2012 — the Studio H:T principals urged their emerging-professional peers to take part in the shaping of architecture's future. "Architects are the ones who provide the vision for place, no matter what the scale they're working at," Tomecek emphasized. "It's when



there is no vision that we can find ourselves in trouble."

"I would get on my soapbox and lead the charge that all emerging professionals think differently and affect all they can affect," Herr said. "The world needs more architects to create the world we live in. ... It's critical that emerging professionals and architects in general question the pat answers. Always ask the question: 'Is this the best way?'" ●

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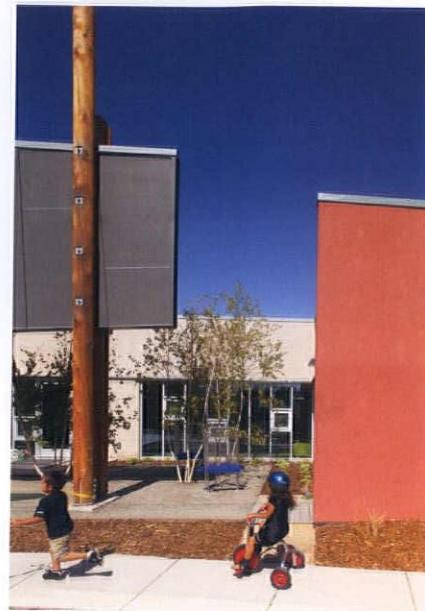
Learning Center Provides a Learning Experience

Westwood Child Development Center Provides a Gateway for Young Architect

by Deanna Strange



To make the transition from student to professional, studying, observing and asking questions are essentials. However, at some point, the best way to take the step is by using that acquired knowledge and learning from experience. Humphries Poli Architects provided Adam Ambro, AIA, with an opportunity to do that when he was asked to take on the Westwood Child Development Center.



Westwood was a pre-existing facility operated by Mile High Montessori in Denver. Originally built in the 1980s, the center needed renovating and, having previously worked with Humphries Poli, tapped the firm to design an addition and to create outdoor learning spaces. "We had done some work on it a couple years prior to this commission — new color on the exterior, new windows," said Dennis Humphries, AIA, principal with Humphries Poli Architects. "Since the City had already used us to polish the building, it seemed like a natural transition to have us expand it."

Humphries had been responsible for nurturing the relationship with the City

and creating a strong foundation on which more projects would come to fruition. With that in mind, he made the decision to place that relationship into the hands of an up-and-coming architect at the firm, Adam Ambro, AIA. "That relationship was entrusted to me, and those relationships shouldn't be taken lightly," recalled Ambro, presently an architect with Gensler. "I had been at the firm for about six years at the time, earning the trust of the people I worked for. I earned their confidence in my abilities with that relationship by keeping it intact and strengthening it. [Westwood] was really my gateway into doing more City and County of Denver work."

Humphries recognized qualities in Ambro that made the Westwood project a perfect fit for the young architect. "He seemed to have a strong sense of creating a learning environment," Humphries pointed out. "It was, in my mind, natural to have him take this on, and he did it with energy and passion. The design of the building is much stronger because of his influence. Westwood was his steppingstone for taking on more design at our office."

The challenges and opportunities presented at Westwood provided Ambro with ample experience he would be able to reuse later. Being a City project, closing the facility while it was reno-



Westwood Child Development Center

Architect: Humphries Poli Architects

Location: Denver

Purpose: Early childhood education

Scope: 5,600-square-foot renovation; 4,600-square-foot addition





"[Ambro] seemed to have a strong sense of creating a learning environment," Humphries pointed out. "It was, in my mind, natural to have him take this on, and he did it with energy and passion. The design of the building is much stronger because of his influence. Westwood was his steppingstone for taking on more design at our office."

— Dennis Humphries, AIA

vated was not in the budget, so keeping the children and faculty members safe was paramount. Keeping the client in mind also inspired one of the interesting features of the center. Wanting not only to create a greener facility but also to teach the students the importance of the environment, Humphries Poli wanted to utilize recycled materials where possible. Recycled street signs were obtained to create a unique, colorful and educational outdoor space for the children. "You see this mosaic of traffic

signs clouding one of the walls — it was a gesture of taking all that steel and reusing it," Humphries explained.

As a community-centered project, Ambro had the chance to lead a unique type of project and gain a new perspective. "It was great because we had a very engaged client, and it really brought us the notion this was the owner's and the community's, not the architect's, project," he said. "These buildings are for other people and not ourselves, and that can be a difficult concept to get your arms

around. It's one of the nuances reality brings to the profession."

For Humphries, he appreciated the experience of seeing an emerging architect come into his own. "You could see his eyes get big and his smile get wider — he was energized by the project," Humphries recalled. "I think he was able to continue on with that passion on other jobs for our office. ... It's always sad to see someone move on, but I look for him to do great things with his future." ●



Launching Rockets, Launching a Career

Young Architect Jessie Johnson Manages Renovation of United Launch Alliance Headquarters

by Erin Pinkerton



Thanks in part to United Launch Alliance (ULA) and its launch vehicle, NASA's space rover *Curiosity* landed on Mars on August 6, 2012. Before *Curiosity* launched, Jessie Johnson, AIA, LEED AP, a young architect with DLR Group, managed all major aspects of ULA headquarters' extensive renovation — including design, production, construction and communication with the client — in an effort to launch her career.



Since graduating from Iowa State University in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in architecture, Johnson has worked on many large projects, but ULA's renovation was the first large-scale project she managed. The ULA project was many times larger than projects she managed in the past, which had budgets of \$5 million or less. Angela Castleton, principal and Southwest corporate sector leader at DLR Group, said, "It wouldn't be unexpected to have somebody



United Launch Alliance Headquarters

Architect: DLR Group

Location: Centennial, Colo.

Client/Owner: Lockheed Martin and
The Boeing Company

Scope: 478,000 square feet

General Contractor: Pinkard Construction

Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing

Engineer: BCER Engineering

Structural Engineer: Bush Reese & Company

Project Management: Catalyst Planning Group

Technology Consultant: Technology Plus, Inc.

Furniture Dealer: Elements

Construction Completion Date: November 2011



ULA was formed in 2006 as a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and The Boeing Company, so DLR Group used the companies' common purpose of aiding U.S. government space exploration in the design to create a more unified culture.

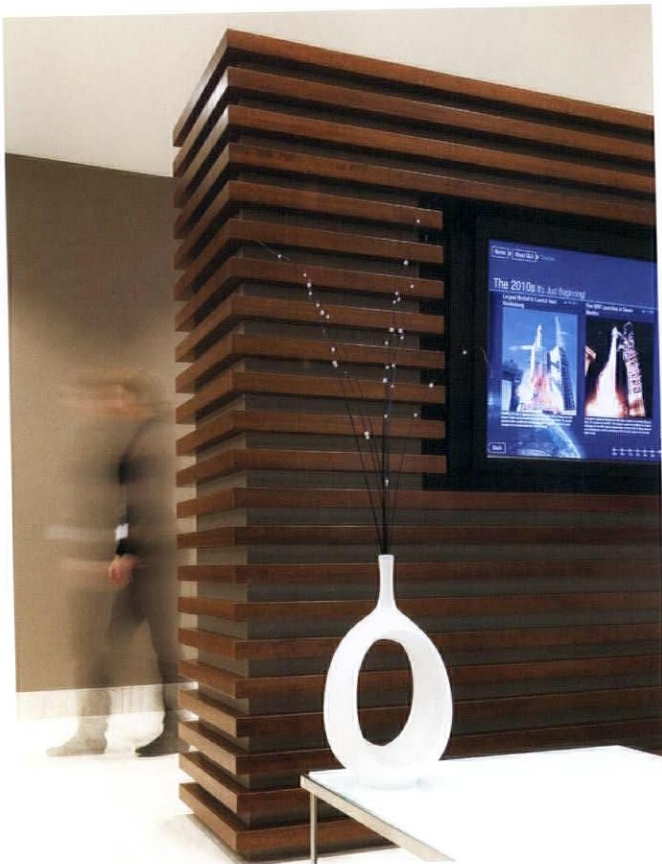
with 20 to 30 years' experience managing a project of this complexity." But, as Castleton noted, Johnson "had very good instincts on the project."

"This was a big project for me," Johnson admitted. "It was a lot of firsts. It was the first time that I was part of the real estate portion of the design team. It was the first total reorganization of this size. It was the first time that I worked in four different buildings in four different phases." With a laugh, Johnson added, "It was the first time my design schedule was surrounded by rocket launches."

Previously without consistent, equitable workspace for its employees, the ULA headquarters was consolidated into a four-building campus that included both avionics labs and consistent, unified corporate office space. Johnson stated, "We have done this [reorganization] for smaller companies, but it was the first time a 2,100-person organization all moved, every person. I was able to be a part of the team that changed the organization culturally."

ULA was formed in 2006 as a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and The Boeing Company, so DLR Group used the companies' common purpose of aiding U.S. government space exploration in the design to create a more unified culture. Castleton explained that the DLR Group team tried to brand the buildings by decorating with models of rockets and using pieces of rockets as ceiling features. "They're rocket scientists; they love that," she said.

According to Castleton, the most important part of the project was the 40,000 square feet of avionics labs, which are unlike any other project. Johnson said, "With rocket science, there are a lot of one-offs. ... We had to work with one-of-a-kind cabling and labs, so it's not off-the-shelf items. A lot of the things we had to do technically were pretty advanced to make sure that their product works on launch day." In addition to its space-inspired décor and avionics



labs, the ULA headquarters provides employees with natural lighting, mountain views, collaboration spaces, a cafeteria, fitness centers, bike storage, proximity to public transportation and sustainable finishes.

While managing the largest project of her career, Johnson was eager to prove herself. "I think my energy, enthusiasm and dedication were top priorities. I wanted both DLR Group and ULA to view this project as a success," Johnson said. "I personally took a lot of ownership in this project." But, according to Johnson, the most rewarding part of a project "is when the client is extremely happy." She explained, "That's the reason I like

doing project management. I don't feel that a successful design is just something that our firm comes up with. I think it's [creating a design] that responds to the client's needs and then making it better than they ever imagined."

After a successful beginning to her career, the sky — or perhaps the galaxy — is the limit for Johnson. Castleton, who has worked with Johnson for four years, boasted that, as an architect and project manager, "Jessie is the whole package. ... I'm just in awe of her. She's going to do great things. She's going to go to great places." Castleton insisted, "People in the Denver area should know her name." ●





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AIA Colorado *Emerging Professionals Coalition*

The AIA Colorado Emerging Professionals Coalition was formed to serve as a collective voice for emerging professionals in Colorado. The coalition conducts a wide variety of activities throughout the year, from two forums —

complete with panel discussions and portfolio reviews — to social events such as a group outing to a Colorado Rockies game. The coalition is comprised of the following members:

SNAPSHOT

Associate Director

The associate director for AIA Colorado serves as the chair of the Emerging Professionals Coalition and the representative of the coalition's activities and constituents on the AIA Colorado board of directors. This role includes development of the coalition's budget and assistance in the organization of related programs. The associate director also serves as a co-chair on the planning committee for the annual Young Architects Awards Gala (YAAG).

Associate Director-Elect

The associate director-elect assists the associate director in the duties required by the position and is also a voting member on the AIA Colorado board of directors. The associate director-elect serves on the YAAG planning committee, the Strategic Planning committee and the Emerging Professionals Coalition.

Intern Development Program (IDP) State Coordinator

The IDP state coordinator serves as the information resource on the required components of licensure (education, experience and examination) for emerging professionals in Colorado. The state IDP coordinator also provides emerging professionals with the information necessary for the transition from internship to licensure within the context of state regulatory requirements, reciprocity and NCARB certification.

Young Architects' Forum (YAF) Chair

The YAF chair represents young architects (those licensed 10 years or less). The YAF chair plans YAF events, sends e-mails on pertinent information and works with AIA Colorado College of Fellows members on joint events.

AIAS University of Colorado Denver (UC-Denver) Chapter President

The AIAS UC-Denver chapter president represents architecture students on the Coalition. The AIAS UC-Denver chapter is one of the largest in the country, and the president helps to bridge the gap between students and interns and architects.

AIA Colorado Emerging Professionals Blog Representative

The AIA Colorado Emerging Professionals blog representative serves as the link between the EPC and the online voice of emerging professionals in the state.

For more information about the Emerging Professionals Coalition, contact Associate Director Cynthia Fishman, AIA, at cynfish@gmail.com.

Compiled by Stephen Cole, Assoc. AIA

Cara Hlad, AIA



It is rare to meet an AIA Denver emerging professional member who does not know (or know of) Cara Hlad, AIA. Cara's involvement with AIA Denver and AIA Colorado includes board of directors and committee involvement, and numerous awards.

In college, Cara was very involved with AIAS, but, after graduating from the University of Miami with a bachelor's degree in architecture and moving to Denver, she did not consider the next level of AIA membership until it was suggested to her by her supervisor as a good way to meet other young architects and build a solid network of professional peers.

When asked if her involvement in AIA has had an effect on her career, Cara responded, "I absolutely believe that AIA has significantly impacted my career! I work at a firm with only a few other architects, so AIA has supported my growth, built my confidence and introduced me to a number of educational programs that have helped shape and advance my career. When I was on AIA Denver's board of directors, I felt propelled into a community of other emerging professionals who understood what I was going through, such as maintaining a good job, getting the right experience to fulfill IDP credits, broadening my scope of knowledge and technical skills and so much more. I joined the Diversity Committee and co-founded the ARE Study Group as well as the first AIA Denver Associates' Committee (ACAD). All it takes is getting involved in one thing that you like, and it opens so many more doors and opportunities within the broader AIA community."

Now licensed, Cara is mentoring younger professionals, and she admits that "curiosity on a broader level has gotten the best of

me, so I've joined national committees in AIA and NCARB, too." She is also the chair of AIA Colorado's Young Architects' Forum (YAF) and is focused on having a good work-life balance and taking her career to the next level.

How does she do it all? She doesn't sleep. "I recently gave birth to my first child and am coincidentally trying to do all of this on as little sleep as I had back in architecture school!"

Her advice for emerging professionals is to get involved with AIA. "I bet you hear that a lot. But, frankly, it's true. Without AIA, I would be missing out on all these great experiences, friendships, mentors and programs. When things aren't going your way professionally, it's nice to know you aren't alone and, better yet, that there are people who have gotten through it before you and can guide you. On the other hand, when things are going great, you have a community of peers who want to support you and celebrate you, and then you get to be the one who shares the encouragement. It's a cycle that only a network as large and as welcoming as AIA Colorado can provide for young architects."

Cara is also a LEED Accredited Professional and the director of sustainable design initiatives at MWH Global in Denver. Cara has managed various industrial, commercial and LEED-certified projects and tasks for federal, municipal and international clients. She specializes in the sustainability and durability of water-infrastructure projects all over the world.

Allison Johnson, Assoc. AIA

"Design has the potential to better lives," stated Allison Johnson, Assoc. AIA. Before joining RTA Architects in 2007, Allison worked as an intern for Engineering Ministries International as part of a team that provided free engineering and design services in developing nations. That experience included developing a year-round greenhouse to feed hungry North Koreans and designing a university in rural Cambodia. Last year, Allison traveled with the group to design a hospital renovation in Sierra Leone.



Locally, Allison first became involved in AIA as a new intern in Colorado Springs, seeking to make connections and get involved in the architecture community in southern Colorado. "Through these connections, I have met some interesting and passionate people."

In 2010 and 2011, Allison served as the associate director on the AIA Colorado South board of directors. The local chapter traditionally sends the associate director to the AIA National Grassroots Conference, and Allison was granted this generous opportunity. "Though we lovingly call it the 'Grassroots of the Snowpocalypse' (can you imagine D.C. blanketed in 33 inches of snow?!), the experience opened my eyes to the depth, breadth and diversity of AIA and the importance it has to our profession and the future of architecture."

It is no secret that these last four years have been trying for the architecture profession. "When I graduated, I didn't foresee how dependent the health of our profession was on the economy. However, today, I am hopeful," Allison said. "By nature, we are inquisitive, creative and often fiercely passionate. I believe with these attributes we have the ability to partner with other professions to provide healthy, intelligent solutions to many aspects of our built environment. My biggest passion for architecture is serving underserved populations. I strongly believe that everyone should have access to good design, and I see a need for our profession to seek ways to meet this need. We can't solve homelessness or end

human trafficking — but I do foresee design professionals being a piece of the puzzle."

In 2010, Allison was the recipient of the Hobart D. Wagener, FAIA, Traveling Scholarship and traveled to New York City, London and Copenhagen "in search of how other cities around the world address homelessness by architecture. While I did not find the answer to this age-old issue, I was inspired and found some unique solutions where designers have provided cost-effective solutions for shelter."

Allison urges emerging professionals who are seeking inspiration to be flexible, to be inquisitive and diversify their abilities. "I know architecture is already a little bit about everything, but I've found when I bring my other abilities and strengths to the table (photography is what comes to mind), sometimes I can benefit my firm and do something interesting or out of the ordinary."

RTA has designed several schools in the past few years, and Allison suggested bringing her photography skills into the design process. "We partnered with the [Holly, Colo., and Ignacio, Colo.] schools to teach classes on photography. Through the 'assignment', the kids, in turn, showed us their communities through their eyes, through photographs. It has been a rewarding partnership, and, I dare say, I have learned far more from the kids than I have taught them."

Allison joined RTA Architects in 2007 after receiving her bachelor of architecture degree from the University of Kansas. Allison is also a LEED Accredited Professional.

Kevin Keady, Assoc. AIA



Presented with the AIA Colorado 2012 Intern of the Year award and elected as the component's 2013 associate director-elect (2014's associate director), Kevin Keady, Assoc. AIA, is very excited for what the future has to offer.

He first became involved with AIA as a graduate student. In his own words, Kevin explained, "I was naive to the world of professional architecture and was eager to learn anything anywhere. As a means of supplementing my education, I joined the local AIAS chapter. When I attended my first design conference in Vail, I had the great opportunity to see a presentation by Brian MacKay-Lyons. This was a keystone moment when I really understood that I was in the right place."

And it is in Colorado's architecture community that Kevin finds balance. "One of the pitfalls of our profession is the ease by which we get sucked into a project while the world continues to turn around us. AIA gives the opportunity to interact with like-minded individuals outside of our offices while also providing a contact point for the industry as a whole."

When asked about the future of the profession, Kevin responded, "I see a lot of promise and opportunity in the future ... but it's not like we're going to wake up in a fairy tale one day. The pieces are in place for a paradigm-shifting experience, but a lot of work has to go into establishing a direction toward prosperity — one that is different from the one we have been on for the past few years. It has been my observation that our profession is great at selling ourselves to ourselves but terrible at selling ourselves to the outside world. I would really like to see a

more active dialogue with those on the outside — one that is conducted in a common language, not [the] industry-specific lexicon."

Kevin thinks that much of this progress rests on the shoulders of the industry's junior people. "Companies do things now that were fantasies a few years ago. The emerging professionals of today are multithreat assets armed with new and powerful tools, multidimensional processes and critical eyes trained on abstract problem-solving. They are more connected, more versatile and more diverse than ever and in a position to establish themselves as agents of change in ways that may have only been present a handful of times in the past 60 years."

His advice for other emerging professionals is to develop a concise process for communicating ideas that are visual, verbal and written. "Then get out of your studios, and get into the world. Constantly operate outside of your comfort zone, and gain as much experience as you can anywhere, because, when your opportunity presents itself, you must be prepared to do something spectacular."

After earning a bachelor of fine arts degree from Colorado State University and a master of architecture degree from the University of Colorado Denver, Kevin spent time in the offices of Anderson Mason Dale Architects and The Studiotrope Design Collective. He is currently a designer with RNL.

Angela Van Do, AIA

"My first introduction to AIA was a result of a conversation with a colleague serving on the AIA Colorado North chapter board. I don't remember exactly what I was griping about, but the conversation ended with a challenge: if I had so many ideas about how things 'should' be, then perhaps I should get involved with the organization instead of just running commentary from the sidelines. Fortunately, a director position opened up the next year on the AIA Colorado North board, and I jumped at the opportunity to serve," Angela said.



Angela's involvement did not end there. Today, she is the treasurer on the AIA Colorado board of directors, but, she explained, "The most rewarding experience I've had with AIA Colorado was my time as associate director. The opportunity to give a voice to the concerns of students, young architects and my fellow interns was so important. While we didn't always agree, it was great to hear everyone's opinions, goals and hopes for their futures and the future of our profession. Those conversations helped to lay the foundation for the future of the Emerging Professionals Coalition."

She admits it is "a little cliché, but architecture as we know it is changing ... I see ambition from emerging professionals who see the way things are and who are willing to make their own paths to achieve their goals. They are outspoken, creative and thoughtful in their approach to their careers and to architecture as an art, craft and profession. Similarly, as a young architect, I see how my peers are continuing to change the profession and rewrite the rules for what it means to be an architect in the 21st century. It's exciting to be part of a group that is at the forefront of evolving technology, building science research and new project-delivery methods and continues to move forward while still remaining grounded in their fundamental love of design and creating spaces for people that brought them to architecture in the first place."

Mentorship is another way Angela gives back, and she urges other architects to do the same. "While interns coming out of school typically have amazing computer skills, they still lack the professional and technical knowledge needed to become well-rounded architects. Across the profession, this is often seen as a weakness or failure of the system, but, in my opinion, it's exactly right," Angela explained. "The schools are charged with fostering the creative and artistic side of architectural design in their students, while introducing the technical aspects of materials and construction methods. It is our responsibility as professionals to mentor interns, teach them the professional side of architecture, and help refine their knowledge of constructability and the technical aspects of their designs."

Angela offered this advice for professionals at every career stage: "Tune out every once in a while; turn off the technology; and sketch, doodle, build, create. An architect's eyes are meant for more than staring at a computer screen, and their hands are wasted if relegated to clicking a mouse."

A graduate of Clemson University (bachelor of science degree in design) and the University of Tennessee (master of architecture degree), Angela received her architectural license in Colorado in 2010 and has been a project manager with Boulder Associates Architects since 2001. Angela was awarded the AIA Colorado North 2007 Associate of the Year award and the AIA Western Mountain Region 2008 Jason Pettigrew, Assoc. AIA, Memorial Leadership Scholarship.

Brandon Anderson, AIA



After serving three years as the Intern Development Program (IDP) state coordinator, Brandon's term came to a close at the end of 2012. But the AIA Denver 2012 Young Architect of the Year is not ending his service to AIA or the profession — he joined the AIA Colorado 2013 board of directors as secretary.

His history of volunteer involvement with AIA began when he was an intern. "I first became involved with AIA as an associate member for the support they provided to emerging professionals. The study materials AIA provided were helpful, but more importantly the connection to others on the same path helped me to stay focused on my goals. AIA Colorado has provided me a chance to plug into the profession. Committees provide the best opportunity to meet and learn from some of our state's best architects. Great buildings are derived from ideas; therefore, it is important to get to know these people instead of simply reading about their buildings."

Brandon is encouraged by the next generation of design professionals. "I am excited about the future of the architectural profession because of the determination I have seen in our emerging professionals. I hear each day that the younger generation feels entitled. As an IDP state coordinator and adjunct instructor at the University of Colorado, I have seen the opposite. I have witnessed a generation forced to fight to become architects. The last few years have created a group of emerging professionals with more determination and creativity than when I graduated. I expect the architectural

business model to continue to change because they/we are not satisfied with the status quo."

The constants Brandon encourages all members of the profession to engage in are service and listening. "Serve your clients. Serve your community. Serve the profession. Don't forget that we are a service industry and brilliant design starts with listening." These strategies have created many award-winning projects but also offered a singular lesson: to listen, understand and collaboratively integrate the needs of those directly and indirectly impacted by our projects and profession."

Brandon studied architecture at Texas Tech University and graduated with a master of architecture degree. Directly upon graduation, Brandon moved to Colorado and worked for Parkhill Ivins Architects, later joining Brendle APV and Roth Sheppard Architects. In 2006, Brandon took the opportunity to move back to Texas and work with Lake|Flato Architects. After three years, he debunked the statement "You can take the man out of Texas, but you can't take Texas out of the man" and moved his growing family back to Colorado. Today, Brandon and his wife spend each day developing their new firm, LIVstudio, and raising two amazing children.

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