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**Member Spotlight
Ryan Sisti, Assoc. AIA**

I am a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) because... It has connected me to an incredibly talented network of individuals, while also providing me with a wide variety of opportunities. I have witnessed members' dedication to the betterment of the profession, and the development of our youth. I have been honored to act as the Chairman of the High School Design Awards Program for the past 7 years, helping nurture students' interest in architecture and design. I've had the privilege to know and work with several individuals who have, themselves, participated in the 47-year-old program and gone on to be Architects and Industry Leaders. Every year I'm amazed by the talent exhibited by these young designers and look forward to what they have to offer us in the future.

I am a New Yorker, born and raised... but traded the extreme cold for the extreme heat in 2007 after receiving my Master of Architecture from the University at Buffalo. I moved out to Las Vegas to join Welles Pugsley Architects, where I was first introduced to the AIA High School Design Awards Program—acting as a mentor and judge under the program leadership of a couple of my colleagues. While at WPA and under some phenomenal tutelage, my primary focus was on new educational facilities for the Clark County School District, working on several of the new CTA campuses throughout the valley. After transitioning to Gensler in 2013, I've had the opportunity to work on a wide array of unique projects across the country and globe—before shifting to once again focus heavily on the design and construction of new school facilities for the District. I love history and historic preservation. I think that cooking is great... but that eating is even better. I enjoy metal and woodworking and use that passion to design and build furniture in my free time.



RYAN SISTI, ASSOC., AIA

What is the most important thing you've learned?

- 1) Get involved in Construction Administration. As a result of a very unfortunate situation (the recession years), I was given an opportunity to step in and help out with Construction Administration on a couple of new Career and Technical Academies. The knowledge gained from first-hand experience and observing how things are "really done" is invaluable; and isn't something an individual will learn in school or even in an office setting. It offers a new perspective when working through the design and then the development of construction documents—how things are detailed; anticipating and then solving (before the fact) areas that may come up as RFIs; and really just helping to understand what areas require the most focus in order to get the thing built.
- 2) Organization is key. Write a task list. Get overly detailed and specific. Assign durations... and then multiply by three. We're all busy, and frequently juggling a hundred different things at once... and even though people often roll their eyes when I mention the idea of a project task list, it helps keep the team's "eyes on the prize" while encouraging the feeling of ownership and accountability.
- 3) Fight for what you believe in... but realize when to compromise. Ask yourself, "is this the hill you want to die on?" We all strive to do what's best for the design and what's best for the owner... but is your mountain really just a molehill in the eyes of the client? Trust me... I'm still trying to learn this one every day.
- 4) Lastly, I've learned... wait, let me rephrase that... I've "heard" that we all must create and maintain an appropriate work/life balance. This is something I struggle with but understand is integral to our profession—and any profession, really. Spend time with your family and friends; take up a hobby; just enjoy life. Work to live, not live to work... right?

What is your favorite piece of architecture? Why? There are only a couple of pieces of architecture that I feel have really influenced my career—not necessarily from a design standpoint, but that have given me a greater appreciation of the profession purely by the way that they have made me feel... something...that I can't necessarily describe. One of these is TWA Terminal 5 at JFK Airport by Eero Saarinen. I was able to tour this building in 2006 while it was still shuttered, and the attention to detail and fluid use of concrete amazed me. When I knew I was flying through NYC again last month, I made it a point to spend the night in the newly opened TWA Hotel, which transformed the old terminal into the common space of the new hotel. Although a little "hokey," (with the 60s music playing on repeat throughout) it was great to feel the energy once again fill the space... and I certainly didn't mind spending a few hours sitting in the sunken lounge waiting for my flight.

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How do you think the profession will evolve in the next 5 - 10 years? If you asked me this question 6 weeks ago, I probably would have had a different answer. However, with the current pandemic that is influencing all of our lives, it has—in my opinion—shed some light on what might be the "new normal." Most of our Gensler offices are on the 6th week of working from home. Our company was lucky to make a successful transition while maintaining "business as usual," but other companies may still be experiencing growing pains. This pandemic is teaching us all how to adapt—how to meet virtually via webcam to maintain a "face to face" relationship—how to conduct site visits—and how to maintain an appropriate work/life balance when our work has now entered our personal environments. We are relying on technology now, more than

For many of us, May is the start of our seventh or eighth week of working from home. I suspect most of us have adapted to what feels like a work-life normalcy now. As I think about how the practice of architecture may look in the foreseeable future, I recall the changes we adapted to after the Northridge Earthquake, Oklahoma City bombing, 9/11, and the 2008 financial crisis. The changes that felt daunting at that time were exhibited in our building codes, site and building designs, approach to space planning, products and materials, and our business acumen. All of our fears at that time became our new normal and we adapted, grew and changed for the better because we are resilient and adaptable as a profession and society.

Sarah Stein Greenberg, who is executive director of the Stanford d.school, offers this insight, "In times of great uncertainty, the most critical skill is to be able to adapt as conditions change. This is a kind of ambidexterity: focusing on surviving in the current moment while you also build toward thriving in a future that will look different."

The challenges we are facing now with cashflow, productivity, furloughing, project delays or cancellation, invoice payments taking longer, and keeping staff optimistic also come with many opportunities to focus on growth and adaptability.

How we spend our time now will greatly affect how well we are ready for the inevitable new ways of practicing architecture. Communication with our colleagues and staff are more important than ever. Moreover, providing opportunities for personal and staff learning and growth, mentoring our young professionals, developing new skillsets, exploring new ways to be more effective and efficient, discover new approaches to business development, and exploring what it means to be resilient as architects, community leaders and businesses.

An important item to keep in mind is that our clients, colleagues, associates, and friends are all experiencing the same or similar circumstances. We are all going through this life-changing event together and processing how to work differently.

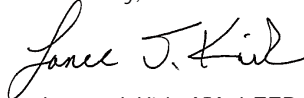
As AIA National looks to the future, the AIA Board of Directors received the final report of the AIA Regions Task Force. At the April 2020 Board meeting, a motion was passed to adopt an "Adaptive Reuse of State Components" approach. This action will eliminate regions from the AIA structure. At this time, it is unclear what form or role the Western Mountain Region (WMR) will take or if WMR will exist in another capacity. The process of eliminating regions will likely happen over the next 1-2 years. For now, the Board has directed AIA President Jane Frederick to "take such actions as may be appropriate toward implementation."

With all the changes happening in the world, AIA Las Vegas is no different. Many of our monthly meetings are moving online and we are constantly working to bring the best programs and events to our members. Our chapter members may not have as much time to connect and socialize as we typically have been able to afford, nevertheless, we can make up for it by reaching out to our colleagues, clients, business associates, and friends to check in and say Hello.

May is also the start of warmer weather and planning our summer adventures with our family and friends. This summer may be a little different, but I am confident each of us can make it our own and create memorable experiences for our loved ones.

Stay healthy, stay positive and stay Vegas Strong!

Sincerely,



Lance J. Kirk, AIA, LEED AP



LANCE KIRK, AIA

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We'll do the rest.

Send all images directly to our Social Media Manager, Lori Lea

lorimlea@aecindustrypro.com

4 AIA NEVADA LOBBYIST REPORT

R. SISTI, ASSOC. AIA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ever. We are being challenged to rethink what we always knew, and the ways that we've always worked. We are all developing new skills and habits that will undoubtedly be brought back to the workspace once we return. It's yet to be seen just how this will impact our profession, but I liken it to the transition from hand drafting to the use of CAD... and then Revit. It will alter the way we work, and our thought process on how things should be done.

How can AIA lead reform and innovation? We need to learn from what is happening around us and adapt. "How Obvious!"—I know. However, take COVID-19, for example. As we all begin to transition back to the physical workplace, I think there will be a massive overhaul in the design of these spaces. I think more of an emphasis will be placed on health, hygiene and technology, as well as a de-densification of workstations. As a result, companies on a whole may start to explore "free address" workstations, with employees rotating between working from home and working from the office. I believe that, not only will we be thinking about what this means in terms of the architecture and design profession—and how we continue to provide the types of services that we do, I think this will affect how we design for our clients as well. We, as AIA, need to be on the forefront of this issue... and any of these issues—to pull from our and others' experiences; to apply what we've learned about how people have been working—and to advise our trusted clients and partners on the best way to move forward.



Please check the **AIA LV COVID-19 UPDATE** page on the www.aialasvegas.org website. News from AIA National and from the CDC and on the State and Federal levels is happening almost too quickly to keep up. But AIA LV will be posting daily to the website and sending constant contact notices to keep you informed.



MICHAEL HILLERBY
AIA NEVADA LOBBYIST

GOVERNOR SISOLAK'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON COVID-19 AS OF APRIL 21, 2020

Governor Sisolak held an extended media briefing on April 21, to give an update on the COVID-19 situation in Nevada. It was widely expected he would address how and when Nevada would begin to re-open the economy. The slide deck and related information from the press conference are available on the www.aianeveda.org website. Below is a summary of how the Governor will determine when Phase I of re-opening might occur.

Significant news included his announcement that schools will remain closed and conduct distance education through the remainder of this school year. He also described, in the broadest possible terms, how Phase I would be handled. He will be looking to the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) to make sector-specific recommendations on how businesses might re-open using appropriate social distancing and other safety measures. He also said Michael Brown, GOED Director, would be working with professions and licensing boards on these issues. The Governor gave hypothetical examples, but was clear that these decisions had yet to be made. He was equally resolute in refusing to talk about a potential date for Phase I. There remains significant uncertainty on what Phase I will look like. Hopefully these unanswered questions will be addressed in coming days.

The Governor and Nevada experts will look at the following to determine whether the state is ready to move into the first phase of re-opening:

- A consistent and sustainable downward trajectory of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations over a 14-day period measured by a decrease in the trend of COVID-19 hospitalizations; and a decline in percentage of people testing positive.
- Healthcare and Public Health Systems should be able to maintain hospital capacity without crisis standards of care, have a sufficient public health workforce capacity between the local and state health departments to conduct case contact tracing (detect, test, trace, isolate), have the expanded ability for healthcare providers to administer tests for symptomatic patients, and have sufficient laboratory testing capacity to process COVID-19 testing samples.
- A sustained ability to protect vulnerable populations, meaning that outbreaks are successfully contained and closed in special settings like health facilities and nursing homes.
- Confirm protective measures are in place before moving to the first phase – social distancing practices are followed, including a strong recommendation that members of the public, employees, and healthcare providers wear masks for the purpose of source control.



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"THE NEW NORMAL"

AIA LAS VEGAS MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING NAVIGATING THE "NEW NORMAL"

What exactly is the New Normal, anyway? Join us on Wednesday, May 13th, 5:30pm for an informal virtual conversation with six leading firm principals and learn more about how they are navigating their way to and through the "New Normal". The COVID-19 pandemic has brought changes and new requirements for business operations and for responding to the design challenges of new

projects. Design functions related to entrances and exits, social distancing, safety for workers, communications, crowd management and much more must now be included in design thinking. This meeting will provide an opportunity to learn what local firms are doing to adjust and integrate new methods into their operations and innovative thinking into their projects. The meeting will be moderated by AIA LV President, Lance Kirk, AIA and include (so far) Craig Galati, AIA, LGA; Michael Del Gatto, AIA, Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto Architects; Eric Roberts, AIA, KNIT; Ed Vance, FAIA, EV&A; Dwayne Eshenbaugh, AIA, NOVUS Architecture; Sean Coulter, AIA, Simpson Coulter | STUDIO; and Anne Johnson, AIA, Sparkflight Studios.

To join the meeting, please [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#).... And you will receive instructions on how to join the meeting closer to the date.. The meeting will begin at 5:30PM and will provide time for questions and answers at the end of the presentation. This program is registered for 1 AIA LU's and 1 HSW Credits. **In order to receive the credits you will need to be registered and online for the entire meeting.**



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The AIA Las Vegas February Membership Meeting

"AIA Framework For Design Excellence" was recorded and is available online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=w7waj9ur53E&feature=emb_logo

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THE JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS "GETTING TO ZERO" FEATURING VINCENT MARTINEZ

AIA Las Vegas Member Meetings Must Go On!!! Even though we can't meet in person, AIA LV will continue our 2020 focus on Climate Change by providing our June Member Meeting online, via Zoom. Our special guest speaker is Vincent Martinez, AIA – Chief Operating Officer for Architecture 2030 who will be providing "Getting to Zero", an informative and inspiring guide for architects and design professionals to the methods and techniques to reach zero-net-carbon buildings.

Through his 13-year tenure at Architecture 2030, Vincent Martinez has been working to solve the climate crisis by catalyzing global building de-carbonization efforts through the development and activation of robust networks focused on private sector commitments, education, training, and public policies. As COO, Vincent executes Architecture 2030's goals by coordinating their exceptional staff on strategic, impactful projects and programs. Vincent also helps set the organization's vision and currently leads Architecture 2030's work on urban zero-net-carbon buildings and public policy, including the ZERO Code, Achieving Zero framework, and Zero Cities Project with 11 leading US cities.

Vincent was the 2018 Chair of the American Institute of Architects' Energy Leaders Group and is a member of the AIA 2030 Commitment Working Group. He is an honorary member of AIA Seattle and was named an Emerging Leader by the Design Futures Council in 2015.

To join the meeting please [CLICK HERE to register](#).... And you will receive JOIN instructions via email as we near the date. Vincent will begin the "Getting to Zero" presentation at 6:00PM and will provide time for questions and answers at the end of the presentation. This program is registered for 1.5 CE/HSW Credits. In order to receive the credits you **MUST be registered and in attendance** for the presentation.



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2021- 2022 ELECTIONS FOR SERVICE ON THE AIA LAS VEGAS BOARD

It is an honor to be elected for service on the Chapter's Board of Directors. Only those members who are most

dedicated and have demonstrated a commitment to the AIA qualify for service. The success of our Chapter depends upon having strong leadership, and looking toward the future with a working Board of Directors that is composed of members who understand the value and purpose of the organization, and are willing to commit their time and resources to strengthening the Chapter. We need leaders who move the Chapter forward while upholding and protecting the profession and leading the way for those who are just entering the profession.

Nominations are also being taken for three (3) Directors positions. The following outlines some of the requirements for service as a Director on the Board.

Each Director must make a commitment to accept the requirements of service as a priority. As a member of the Board and a leader of the Chapter, Directors are required to attend all AIA Membership Meetings, special events and social functions and to support the Chapter's efforts in all programs. Directors are responsible for the financial security of the Chapter and generating the funding for programs and benefits for members. Directors must know and support the Chapter's mission, goals, programs, member benefits and concerns. . They are familiar with the policies and procedures of the Chapter and the Institute, and they act in accordance with these governances. Directors seek out opportunities to be ambassadors for the Chapter and actively work to encourage new members, engage civic and community leaders and positively represent their fellow members and the organization at all times.

If youor someone you know Is ready to make this commitment to Chapter leadership, then now is the time to contact the Nominating Committee and become a candidate for service on the Board of Directors.

Contact Randy Lavigne, Executive Director via email at rlavigne@aianeveda.org or 702-483-3838.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY?

The AIA FORUM is **your** newsletter.

It is provided as a member benefit and to help you stay informed on Chapter happenings, meetings, ideas and activities. We invite your participation in the form of articles and editorials.

If you have information you'd like to share or if you'd like to comment on an article, or provide new information or a point of view, please let us know via email to Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA, rlavigne@aianeveda.org



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CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

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AIA LAS VEGAS GOLF TOURNAMENT



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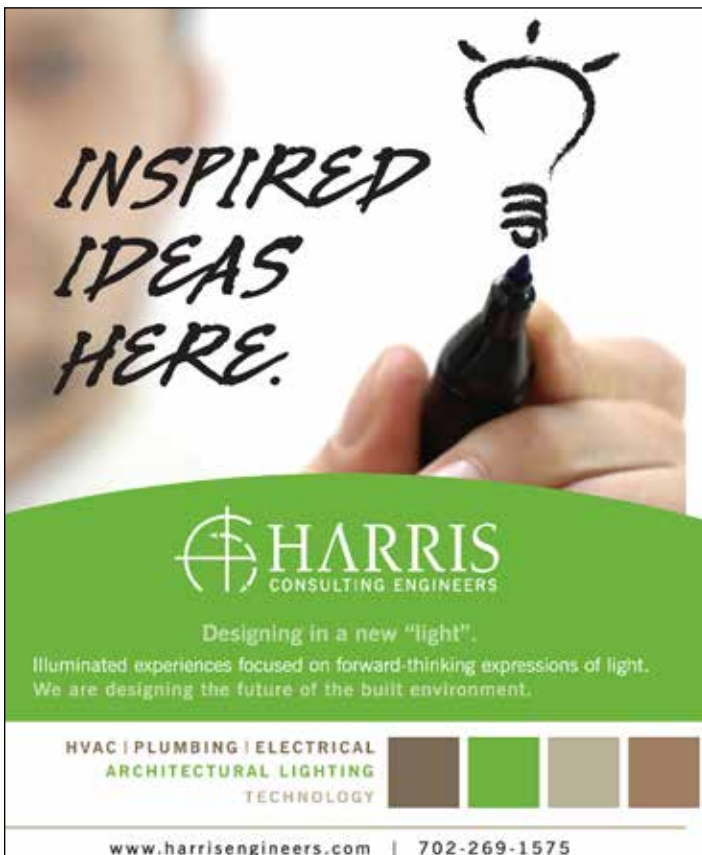
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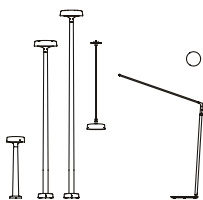
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UNLV SOA NEWS

Dr. Steffen Lehmann, AIA RIBA, RAIA, AoU
Director of the School of Architecture
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LEADING DURING CRISIS: ARCHITECTS ARE LEADERS IN SOCIETY

This has been a very challenging time for many of us. Promoting the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and community, we made the early decision in March to enact online teaching to avoid the gathering of people on campus. All our teaching and learning activities have been transitioned to online delivery mode.

Last month, I wrote in this column that I believe “it’s important to inspire and communicate a positive future of our profession to our young graduates, and show that there is a place for them to contribute in their own way to the future of Southern Nevada’s architecture and its rapid urbanization.” This is truer than ever. The pandemic scenario has unfolded so rapidly that we still have to fully grasp the reality of the situation and its consequences. In times of social distancing, it’s important to remember that architecture is a discipline that can bring people together.

I believe that while the restrictions caused by the crisis are limiting, this can also be a time for personal growth and rich learning. New perspectives and outlooks may well be transformative for the school of architecture. It is much more than working remotely and adapting to the online teaching and learning environment. Like the Great Depression and World War II, the COVID-19 pandemic (along with the climate change crisis) has altered how we think about the future economy, globalization, travel, tourism, the workplace and public space in the everyday situation.

A public health crisis can also leave its mark on cities and architecture. Pandemics can radically alter the way we think about and work in cities. Since the global cholera and tuberculosis outbreaks in the nineteenth century, pandemics have reshaped cities, and some of these consequences included the introduction of new urban systems; e.g. in 1850, European cities introduced modern drinking supply and sewerage systems as a direct result from the devastating cholera pandemic.

During the 2020 health crisis, people have self-isolated, stayed at home and avoided contact with others. At time of writing, it is still unclear how this pandemic will alter urban life and what exactly will be the impact from this crisis on cities and their public spaces. For centuries, the promise of social interaction has always shaped the public spaces. What will be the lasting impact from the COVID-19 pandemic on our public space, such as the Strip?

Some architects have already started to develop post-coronavirus design principles, envisaging how the design of workplaces, mobility and public spaces will change. Post-pandemic, it is likely that our future homes will accommodate home offices and specific working from home areas, while the open-plan office layout seems to be passé.

An obvious question is in regard to density and mobility: How might our built environments—our cities, streets, squares and landscapes—transform to accommodate our conflicting desire for connection and mandate to social-distance during a pandemic? Urban planners will face the apparent tension between densification – the push towards cities becoming more concentrated, which is seen as essential to improving environmental sustainability – and disaggregation, the separating out of populations, which is one of the key tools being used to hold back infection transmission.

However, de-densification will not resolve the public health challenges. In general, density is not bad for our health, as it enables walkable cities, an active public space network and bustling commercial corridors, which fosters health, makes communities more resilient and allows us to curb climate emissions. In all the discussion about the health risks of density, it is important to remember that urban density can also provide for health, resiliency and space for informal activities that are integral to our society. We will now need to rebuild trust in public space and to rethink the types of public space and their role as spaces of shared values.

Once the pandemic is over and life goes back to a “new normal”, we will be able to enjoy again our public spaces for gathering and shared outdoor activities. I hope you and your family are well during these challenging times!

More information on the School of Architecture can be found here: www.unlv.edu/architecture



**Image: Empty space and parking lots without cars and people
The surroundings of the School of architecture during the pandemic**



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N95 Mask

Reusable Face Shield



Disposable Face Shield

ARC*

CONGRATULATIONS CESAR!



A painting by AIA Las Vegas Board Member Cesar Ceballos, AIA was awarded Honorable Mention on March 8, 2020 by the City Lights Art Gallery's Juried Fine Art Exhibit in Henderson. Currently, he has 2 paintings on display in Henderson's City Hall.

In addition, at a reception on January 24th, 2020 in the Mayor's Gallery of the Historic 5th Street School, he received Certificates of Special Recognition from House Representatives Susie Lee, Dina Titus and Steven Horsford for his work in Celebration of the 2020 Year of Rat. Way to go Cesar!

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Having associates that are registered makes you firm more valuable. Because NSBAIDRD's mission is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by assuring the quality of the built environment, we would like to assist you in encouraging associates in your firm to become registered.

NSBAIDRD would like to promote registration within your firm by speaking with your associates about the importance of professional registration and helping them navigate the path to licensure. If you are interested in holding a brief discussion with non-registrants in your firm, hosted by NSBAIDRD, please contact the NSBAIDRD public information coordinator at (702) 486-7300.



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We'd like to share your news!
Send announcements to Kelly at klavigne@aianevada.org

WELCOME NEW & REINSTATED
MEMBERS!

ARCHITECT

Quyen Vu Ha Luu, AIA

ALLIED

Mark Hedge
Lochsa Engineering

Ed Garcia
Peterman Lumber

The two Allied Members above have been Allied Members since January 2019 but, through an oversight, they were not announced in the newsletter till now



Join Us!
CLICK HERE for information on
how to become a Member of
AIA Las Vegas!
What are you waiting for?

SUPPORT AIA ALLIED
MEMBERS

Our Allied Members are committed to the design community of Nevada and they show it by supporting the AIA through advertising, sponsorships and service on committees.

SUPPORT OUR AIA ALLIED MEMBERS
and keep our Chapters strong.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PAYING
YOUR AIA DUES

To all those who have paid their 2020 dues.... **THANK YOU!!!** and for those who haven't, we are sorry to tell you that **you've been lapsed!**

Unpaid members have been "lapsed" as of April 28, 2020.... And that means losing all AIA benefits...on the Local, State and National levels. Including and most particularly.... The use of the AIA designation (AIA or Associate AIA) with your name in any and all forms.... On all printed materials, business cards, letterhead, promotional materials, as well as online.... Websites, social media and all posts. So don't wait too long.... Pay your dues today and keep your membership and all benefits active.

If you'd like to pay your dues in installments.... You can still arrange to do that at www.aia.org. You would have May and June to pay your dues in two installments.

Keep your membership current. We are stronger together.



IN MEMORIAM

Long-time AIA Member Danielle Walliser passed away at home late Sunday evening March 15, 2020 from complications associated with cancer. She was born in Pittsburgh, PA on March 15, 1951. Danielle received a BS degree in Architecture from the Pennsylvania State University in 1974 and held architectural registrations in the states of Pennsylvania, California and

Nevada. During her 40 year career, she worked for both the City of Las Vegas and for Clark County in Nevada. Interment was at the John Anderson Memorial Cemetery in Raccoon Township, PA with her parents. No local services or memorials are scheduled.

Rick Van Diepen, AIA was Danielle's friend and has these words to say about her.

I have known Danielle Walliser since 1997 when we worked together at Tate Snyder Kimsey (TSK). I was a rookie designer new to Las Vegas and Danielle (then known as David) was this lanky gruff and seasoned architect who wore a big salt & pepper beard and cowboy boots and walked around the office with this larger than life swagger. Danielle was the consummate hands-on architect who was much more in her element chewing out contractors at a job site trailer than she was sitting behind a desk typing emails. Danielle was the go-to construction administration expert in the office and was in charge of overseeing the more complicated projects where it was particularly important that the architect's office was seen by the client as their ally fighting back on every change order and value-engineering scheme that came in from the GC's. Danielle knew every trick in the book and my only regret is that we didn't have more time to work together because I know he would have been a really great mentor.



I continued my gypsy ways and jumped to another firm two years later and I didn't run into Danielle until several years later when I was submitting permit drawings at the County Building Department on Russell Road. Danielle had taken a job as a plans examiner and she happened to pull my ticket and we sat down to review my drawings. Danielle had gone through a gender reassignment surgery and it was obvious that I didn't recognize the sandy blonde woman with lots of tattoos sitting across from me. She re-introduced herself as Danielle Walliser and said it was great to see me again.

This was at least 10 years before Caitlyn Jenner went public and it occurred to me how difficult and courageous that must have been for Danielle to make that change and to have to confront her old colleagues every day when they brought in their plans for review. I did hear some whispered jokes a couple of times from some small minded male co-workers however I never heard anyone say anything negative about Danielle as a human being or as an architect.

About 6 years ago I ran into Danielle at the 5th Street School downtown and we had a nice talk catching up about my career

change and she told me about how much she was looking forward to her upcoming retirement from the County. She also told me about her political aspirations to run for County Commissioner so she could bring a strong voice for better communities and equality in southern Nevada.

She also confided in me about her gender change and about how difficult the physical changes had been, particularly considering how late in life she had decided to do it. I felt honored that she would confide in me, especially considering that we were not close friends and hadn't seen each other in years however it was the last part of our conversation that day that made a lasting impression on me. Danielle told me that since she was a young child she had felt like she was a girl deep down and that she always felt confused like she was hiding inside a boy's body. She told me that she felt her entire life like everyone around her was looking at her and that at any time they would figure out her deepest secret and she would become a laughing stock.

She told me that was why she had always pretended to be such a tough guy, wearing 'shit kickers,' getting lots of tattoos and playing the role of the ultra-manly architect because he was scared to death that people were going to see through his facade and think that he was gay, or worse yet, figure out that he was transgender.

I decided to share this very personal story with all of you because I think that Danielle was incredibly courageous and I feel like she would have wanted the whole world to know her story and to know how happy and relieved she felt to finally live outwardly as the woman she had always know was inside her heart. I also felt that I owed it to Danielle for sharing her big heart with me and I hope that her story will at best inspire some of us to speak out in support of equality for LGBTQ Americans and at least to be a little more mindful and compassionate the next time we see someone on the street (or at a service counter) who may appear to be transgender, or gay, or gender neutral- or who may just look a little different and just see them as a human being who is worthy of admiration and respect for their honesty and their courage.

WHAT DOES AIA Las Vegas STAND FOR?

- **We stand for equity and human rights**
- **We stand for architecture that strengthens our communities**
- **We stand for a sustainable future**
- **We stand for protecting communities from the impact of climate change**
- **We stand for investing in the future**
- **We speak up, and policymakers listen**

If you stand for these things, and you value the work you do as an architect, then stand with the AIA as an active member and work to protect your profession and improve your community and your world.



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AIA/NSBAIDRD C.E. SEMINAR IS NOW A SERIES OF VIRTUAL SEMINARS NOVEMBER 16TH THROUGH 19TH

With an awareness of the current need for social distancing and a concern for the safety of our members, AIA Nevada and the NSBAIDRD have made the decision to provide our annual Continuing Education Seminars as virtual seminars over four days, November 16, 17, 18, 19, 2020, from 10am to 12pm on each day.

**To register for these seminars and receive the full 8 hours of
C.E./HSW Credits and 2 Code Requirements,
[PLEASE CLICK HERE.](#)**

You will receive instructions by email on how to join the seminars as the date nears.

In order to receive credits, you must be registered and in attendance for the presentation.

**The registration fee is \$30 per seminar or
the Discount Price of \$95 for all four.**

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

**please [click here](#) for descriptions of each seminar*

Session 1 - Monday, November 16th - 10am - 12pm

Scoping for Accessibility in New and Existing Buildings

Presented by Todd Snider, SE, CBO / Regional Manager WC3

Session 2 - Tuesday, November 17th - 10am - 12pm

The Future of Design and Its Impact on the Health, Safety and Welfare of All Stakeholders

*Presented by Jared Zurn Jared N. Zurn, AIA, NCARB, CAE, NCARB
VP, Examination and
Andy McIntyre, NCARB VP, Marketing & Communications*

Session 3 - Wednesday, November 18th - 10am - 12pm

Introduction to the IEBC

Presented by Todd Snider, SE, CBO / Regional Manager WC3

Session 4 - Thursday, November 19th - 10am - 12pm

Navigating Contract and Legal Issues Facing Nevada Design Professionals in 2020

Presented by John Wendland, Weil & Drage

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Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA
AIA Las Vegas / AIA Nevada
Executive Director

“ADAPTIVE REUSE OF STATE COMPONENTS” – ELIMINATION OF AIA REGIONS

The AIA National Board of Directors has made a major change in the four levels of the Institute. (Local, State, Region and National). The Regional levels are being eliminated and will be replaced by “Adaptive Reuse of State Components”, giving states a stronger and more active role in the future of the Institute.

As background, The AIA Western Mountain Region has been a part of the regional structure of the Institute for 65 years. Nevada, as well as Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming have constituted the Western Mountain Region. All AIA members of these six states are also members on this regional level. A small portion of your local dues was allocated to the WMR to fund regional activities and operations on your behalf. The Region provided for the election of members to the National Board of Directors, provided the WMR Design and Service Awards, hosted the WMR annual Conference and provided a pathway to leadership for all those who aspired to serve on the Regional and National levels of AIA.

At the 2018 AIA Conference in Orlando, FL, AIA Resolution 18-7 called for “A Study of AIA Regions” and was passed by a vote of 3,936 to 339 (201 abstentions), and the AIA Regions Task Force was established. The

Task Force studied the Regions for over a year, and made their recommendation to the AIA National Board earlier this year. On April 20, 2020 the AIA National Board “Having considered the final report of the Regions Task Force, as presented at this meeting, the Board expressed its preference for the “Adaptive Reuse of State Components” approach, and directs that the President, Mrs. Jane Frederick, FAIA, take such actions as may be appropriate toward implementation.” This approach will eliminate regions from the AIA structure.

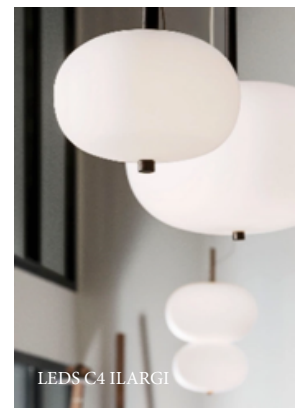
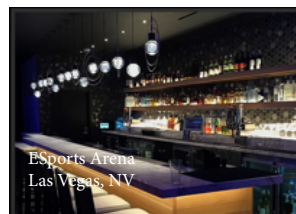
While the exact implications of the “Adaptive Reuse of State Components” are not known at this time, the model creates a direct connection of state components to AIA National through state-elected Strategic Councilors. The elimination of regions is designed to maintain the flexible consortia of components currently underway and regional coherency on issues, events, etc. It is intended to provide more opportunities to engage new future leaders of AIA. The Board seeks more transparent and equitable election processes of AIA leaders to increase inclusion and diversity.

President, Jane Frederick, FAIA will appoint a new task group to analyze the Regions Task Force report and the Board’s direction, to develop recommendations for moving forward, and present their findings to the Board in 2021. The change from “Regions” to “Adaptive Reuse of State Components” is expected to be completed and in place by the end of 2021 and be instituted in 2022.

This change in AIA structure is intended to create and support stronger State components and to provide a more diverse and effective pathway for members to leadership. Additional information will be provided as the recommendations for moving forward are developed.



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CITIZEN ARCHITECT(S) OF THE MONTH

Citizen Architects began engaging with local, state, and federal authorities and the medical community before the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic—and even before it hit the United States.



Molly M. Scanlon, FAIA (above), Illya Azaaroff, AIA (right) and Kenneth Drake, AIA (below) share their



perspectives on how architects are helping communities during this trying time. They are three Citizen Architects advising government officials about how to increase hospital-bed capacity, contain the virus, and keep millions of Americans safe at home.



[CLICK HERE](#) to read their perspectives and stories

NOMINATE A CITIZEN ARCHITECT

Do you know an AIA member that brings their insights, talents, training, and experience to make positive contributions to their community through engaging in the administrative and legislative political process? [CLICK HERE](#) to Nominate a Citizen Architect



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The challenge we face as architects is making sure Congress understands our role and the urgency of school safety. That's why we are mobilizing our advocacy now.

- AIA is carrying the message to legislators and their staff.
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Why ArchiPAC?

ArchiPAC is AIA's best tool for carrying our message about school safety to the congressional campaigns of elected officials. ArchiPAC is our PAC. It supports candidates, regardless of party, who support our agenda. Candidates get to know who we are, what we stand for and how we impact our communities because of the investments made in ArchiPAC. Over 1,300 architects have invested in ArchiPAC this year. The only question left to answer is, **will you join them today?** www.archipac.org.



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AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

Monica Gresser, AIA, Chair

A REMARKABLE EVENT

Work may have not stopped for our profession, but we hit the Affordable Housing Committee pause button for a few weeks to adjust to virtual working conditions – which seems to include kids vying for our attention and cats walking on our keyboards.

A remarkable event happened in the US and in the Vegas Valley during the pandemic: homeless people were sheltered and housed. It took the fear of major infection to shelter and house more people. Many of these new solutions are not sustainable, but they are temporarily protecting vulnerable people.

The cost to operate sheltering systems to alleviate infection rates is straining jurisdictions, and unemployment is at an all-time high. We're stressed. The "system" is stressed. Housing is stressed.

In March, rent was more less expensive than buying as the cost to purchase homes began the ascent back into the clouds. This is not to say that rent was an easy burden for people in March; but to point out that the home buying options are more and more unreachable. In turn, apartment housing is in demand and the rental rates reflect that demand, making safe and affordable places to live difficult for many.

Home sales dropped dramatically in April, and experts believe the housing market will rebound with gusto. This is great for some but means more people will be at risk of becoming unhoused and homeless. And, even though people will soon be working again, that does not mean they will be better able to afford rent, especially if they are already behind on payments.

Nothing has changed since the Affordable Housing Committee began to research housing and homelessness in 2019: people still need affordable housing options.

Recently, the committee adjusted our publication schedule with a plan to publish by the end of 2020. We still need help verifying and completing the documentation. We can use your help and expertise in gathering and recording information.

Whether you're curious about our work or want to help with one small task, please contact Randy Lavigne at rlavigne@aianevada.org and she'll include you in the next virtual committee meeting.

See you Tuesday, May 12th on zoom!

Be well,
Monica

"Design is not about just creating good looking spaces. As architects and designers, you have a certain responsibility towards society at large and the evolution of people's perception through your work. Realize that, live it and love your work!"

Ar Shabnam Gupta



Unfortunately, there will be no Sketchers meeting in May.

The Urban Sketchers next meeting will be

**Saturday, June 13th, 2020
from 9:00am to 12:00pm**

They will be meeting at the Public Works Coffee Bar

314 S. Water St., #110 Henderson, NV. 89015

702-498-3658 Eric's Cell

You should bring your own sketch supplies, some water and your water colors (if you'd like). Don't forget some money for coffee, something to sit on (you'll be glad you did)! A jacket and hat would be handy and sunscreen is still a must!!

See you On Saturday, June 13th!



Nevada State Railroad Museum by AIA LV Urban Sketcher Barbara Weisenburg



STEP UP! JOIN AN AIA COMMITTEE

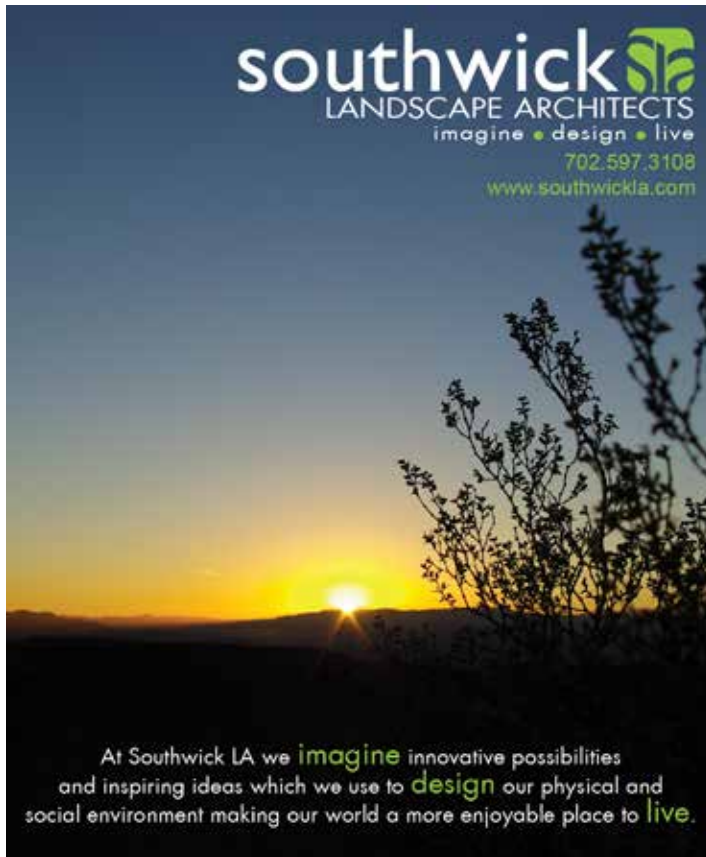
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Step Up!



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AIA LAS VEGAS EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

John O. Torpey, AIA
Chair

CORONAVIRUS IMPACT

Our planned activities for April and May were impacted by the Coronavirus school closures. Several planned events were cancelled or postponed until further notice. Career Day at Foothill High School which was to offer

Junior and Senior students a chance to discuss future alternatives in architectural careers, the bus tour of several architecturally significant Las Vegas buildings including a drive down the Las Vegas Strip and an architectural presentation to students of Valley High School by two alumni of that school who have become principals of their own firms here in Las Vegas, Mike DelGado, AIA and Wade Simpson, AIA. We want to thank all those who had worked on the preparation of these activities and hope that we can reschedule these events for next fall.

Currently our schools remain closed and are practicing distance education where students are learning at home. When our elementary, middle and high schools resume, we will continue to provide opportunities to reach out to students and provide information on careers in architecture. Based on current information this will probably be in the 2020-2021 school year. Suggestions for additional schools that would be receptive to partnering with us will be reviewed for our fall planning.

The High School Design Competition was also impacted with the in-person awards program being cancelled. Ryan Sisti, AIA, has contacted the teachers involved to see what is possible for the remaining part of this school year.



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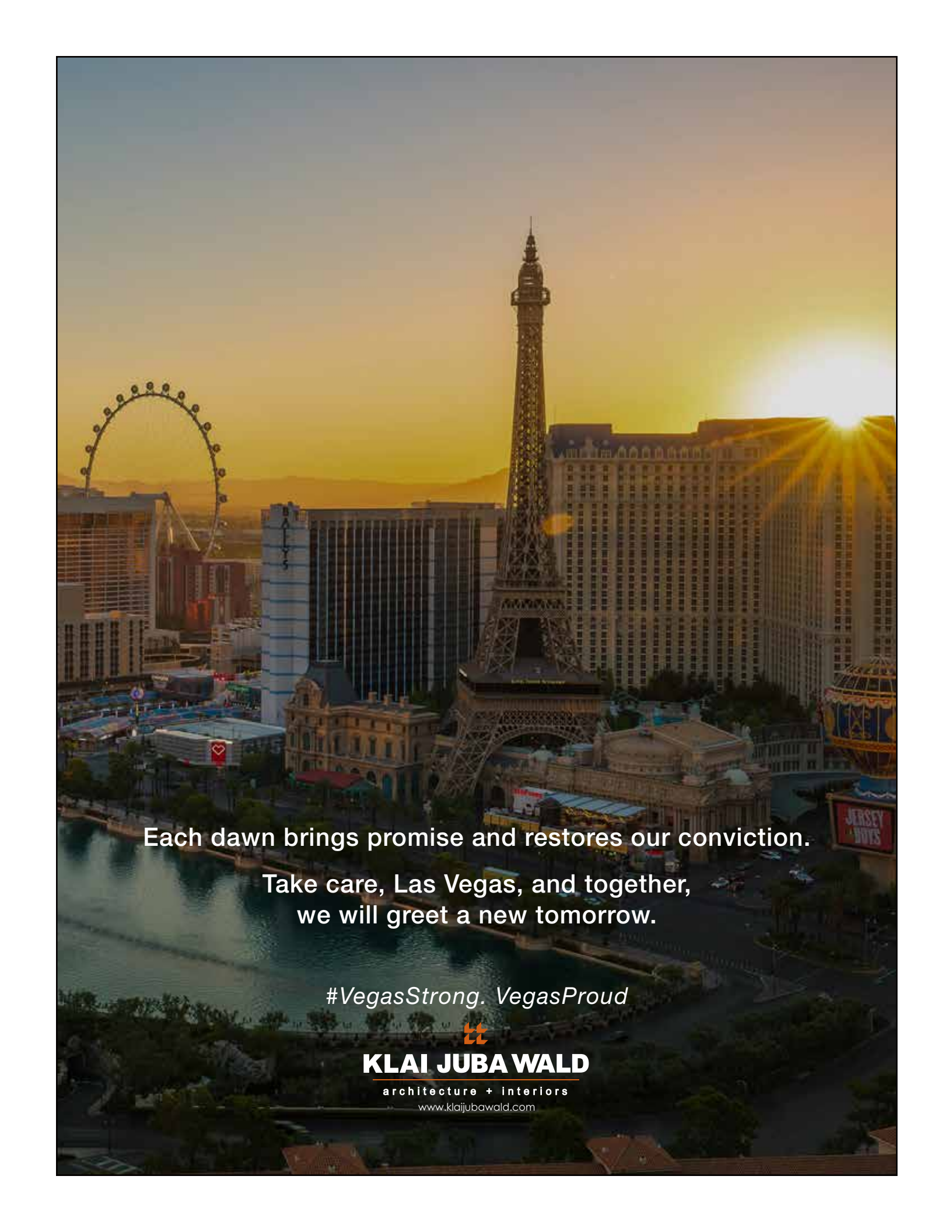
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Send announcements to Kelly at klavigne@aianevada.org

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ASK THE EXPERTS

SOCIAL DISTANCING TIPS FROM ENGINEERS

Tip # 42
Remind your mom of the Stay at Home Order when she tells you it's time you moved out of the basement.

No doubt more than one basement-bound 30-something nerd is pointing to the COVID-19 Stay at Home order as another excuse to extend his stay in his parent's basement. I know - there are legitimate reasons why some adults live with their parents. But this guy's an engineer, so a lack of sufficient income is probably not the reason. Maybe it's the fully stocked fridge, his mom's home cooking, or the free unlimited high-speed internet for his video games? I recommend his mom swaps those fluffy slippers for some steel-toed shoes and gives him the boot.



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WE OBSERVE SAFE PRACTICES REGARDING COVID-19

Our primary concerns are for the people who work for us and the customers we are servicing through these difficult times.

The best practices we are employing include:

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- Maintaining social distancing at all times possible
- Attempting "contactless" transactions
- Disinfecting and cleaning our premises several times a day
- When customers arrive we are happy to interact with them while they wait in their vehicles



It's not just about understanding the numbers.

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AIA LAS VEGAS CALENDAR

All Committee Meetings, Board Meetings and ExCom Meetings are held via Conference Call or ZOOM unless otherwise noted

MAY

- 4 Fellows Committee Meeting
- 6 Fundraising Committee Meeting
- 10 Mother's Day
- 12 Affordable Housing Committee Meeting
- 13 Finance Committee Meeting
- 13 and AIA LV Virtual Membership Meeting "NeW NoRMaL"
- 19 AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting
- 21 AIA Nevada ExCom Meeting
- 26 Education Outreach Committee Meeting

JUN

- 1 Fellows Committee Meeting
- 3 Fundraising Committee Meeting
- 9 Affordable Housing Committee Meeting
- 10 Finance Committee Meeting
- 12 Clays For A Cause benefitting St. Baldrick's
- 13 Urban Sketchers
- 16 AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting
- 17 AIA LV Virtual Membership Meeting Vincent Martino - Net Zero
- 18 AIA Nevada ExCom Meeting
- 21 Father's Day
- 23 Education Outreach Committee Meeting

JUL

- 4 4th of July!!
- 11 Urban Sketchers
- 16 AIA Nevada ExCom Meeting
- 21 AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting