

PYMON

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AIA BROOKLYN

BKDA SPECIAL
EDITION



BROOKLYN DESIGN AWARDS SPECIAL EDITION

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"Piaule Catskill" by Garrison Architects
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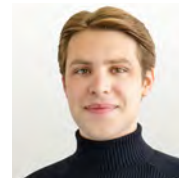
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JASON BOUTIN

is Partner at The Brooklyn Studio. As a LEED Accredited Professional and a Certified Passive House Designer, he helped establish the firm's

sustainability practices. Jason is also keen on understanding and working with the relationship between community and the built environment. For the past 10 years, as a District Committee member, he worked with local council members to organize and implement Participatory Budgeting in New York City. Jason currently resides in Park Slope with his wife and two boys.

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“Make it Brooklyn!”



In a recent AIA Brooklyn Board of Directors planning meeting, our group considered a question all members might contemplate, “name one benefit you experienced from AIA Brooklyn [in 2022]”. I can’t decide which of the many benefits to name: recommendations for materials and energy-smart HVAC equipment during monthly CRAN committee meetings, as well as CRAN’s community Slack message board; expanding my network at in-person events and tours; as well as connections made from the AIA Brooklyn website “Find an Architect” section. I’m still astonished by the 44 LU’s (26 of them HSW) that appeared in my transcript from the past year of attending AIA Brooklyn programs without trying!

One of the more ineffable benefits from the past year is the inspiration and motivation from the 2022 AIA Brooklyn Design Awards. The festive award ceremony, with its holiday party feel, was a perfect finale to a dynamic year of events offered by AIA Brooklyn committees. It brought the many National AIA Knowledge Networks – Custom Residential Architecture Network, Committee on the Environment, Urban Design) full circle back to Brooklyn, with “Make it Brooklyn” its mission statement, while foregrounding both design excellence and building performance.

From the outset, the Brooklyn Design Awards Program (BKDA) was designed to celebrate the aspects that matter in exceptional architecture (design, innovation, environmental sustainability, social impact, and technical skill) and left out the things that don’t (size, firm name recognition and budget). Each entry was anonymously submitted and individually judged for the success with which the project met its requirements and not in comparison or competition with the other entries. The one criterion each project had to meet was to have Brooklyn in its DNA by being located in the borough and/or designed by a Brooklyn firm.

The BKDA program itself could win an award for the formidable teamwork exhibited to rollout the renewed and revamped awards. In this issue of Pylon, you will read about the chapter leaders who set the goals and monitored the collaborative follow-through, the advisors who guided the vision, the technical reviewers who instilled the parameters of the AIA Framework for Design Excellence, and the impressive cast of jurors who evaluated each entry. The nine winning projects showcase the variety of excellent architecture and design in Brooklyn and by Brooklyn firms. Reflections by the winners about their experience with the awards, their practice as it relates to Brooklyn and their involvement in the AIA Brooklyn community clinched the exuberant spirit we all witnessed on December 5, 2022. Some firms noted Brooklyn’s innovation, others expressed gratitude for the recognition by their peers, and many noted their support of the program’s commitment to a more sustainable and equitable Brooklyn.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in any way in the 2022 Brooklyn Design Awards, including those like me who simply enjoyed viewing the projects. We all are winners from this experience.



SARAH G. DRAKE, AIA
AIA BROOKLYN PRESIDENT 2023



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Brooklyn Design Awards Celebration

Location: 501 Union
Gowanus, Brooklyn
Event Planning: Gowanus Hospitality Group
Catering: Night Kitchen
Photography: Anastasiia Davyadova



The Brooklyn Design Awards: An Overview

AIA Brooklyn’s annual Brooklyn Design Awards program (BKDA) encourages excellence in architectural design through recognition of outstanding projects in Brooklyn and beyond. An invited jury of respected design professionals reviewed submissions and selected compelling entries to be commended for design excellence, technical skill, innovation, environmental responsiveness, and social impact.

This year, the BKDA program responded in order to better address to the complex issues that communities are facing all over the world (Learn more about the evolution on Page 8). The call to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public has a new and broader meaning in the context of challenges such as increasing climate extremes and social inequity. Going forward, the [AIA’s Framework for Design Excellence](#) will be phased into the selection process, and submitted work will be judged not just on aesthetics, but also on measurable performance metrics.

Beyond this, the BKDA program seeks to highlight the borough of Brooklyn, with its design community serving as a creative hub for innovation, and its diverse neighborhoods as a dynamic network and unique urban fabric. Entries were evaluated individually, not in competition with others. The goal was to highlight outstanding projects by Brooklyn firms and exceptional design work within the borough, in whatever form it took. Projects were submitted anonymously, and were accompanied by general project data, a graphic presentation, and a publicity package.

THE AIA FRAMEWORK FOR DESIGN EXCELLENCE

The Framework was developed to define principles to inform progress towards a zero-carbon, equitable, resilient and healthy built environment. The ten principles are intended to be accessible and relevant for all architects and projects regardless of size, location or typology. The AIA provides a tool kit of practical resources to help architects achieve the vision, including a Common Application worksheet to help evaluate the measures intended to be incorporated into a project.

The Awards committee introduced the Framework into the Awards Program by incorporating all questions from the Common App into the Performance Statement section of the online submittal platform. In 2022, providing responses in the Performance Statement section was optional but encouraged, and was noted as a contributing factor for consideration for any award. In future BKDA programs, the Framework will become a more integral part of the submission process and judging criteria.

TECHNICAL REVIEW

For submitters who provide information about their projects in the Performance Statement Section, the BKDA program conducted a technical review of those submittals. Each submittal was reviewed independently by two reviewers and scored according to a rubric developed over the years that ranks each project from a low of 1 – low performance – to a score of 5 – for high-performing projects that successfully integrate all aspects of sustainability into the design of their projects. Technical reviewers were drawn from a community of architects and

MEASURE 1

Design for Integration

MEASURE 2

Design for Equitable Communities

MEASURE 3

Design for Ecosystems

MEASURE 4

Design for Water

MEASURE 5

Design for Economy

MEASURE 6**Design for Energy**

engineers who understood the measures and metrics and could evaluate them fairly. The scores were averaged, and the final score was given to the jury along with brief comments the Technical Reviewers made about each project. Below are guidelines for the rating scale:

1. No consideration, or minimal but inaccurate consideration
2. Basic level of consideration
3. Elevated level of consideration
4. Strong, holistic consideration
5. Aspirational consideration

MEASURE 7**Design for Wellbeing**

The intention of the preliminary review was to assist the jurors with their deliberations by providing context and an initial evaluation from an experienced professional. Jurors could then examine and discuss the measures and metrics on each project if they cared to do so.

MEASURE 8**Design for Resources****MEASURE 9****Design for Change****JURY REVIEW PROCESS**

An entry in the awards program was judged on the success with which it met the individual project requirements. An “award winning project” demonstrated a high level of design resolution. A project which also advanced the contemporary understanding of design by proposing new approaches to the development of architectural form would also be awarded. Entries were weighed individually, not in comparison with each other. Jurors were instructed that awards could be given in as many or as few projects as are deemed worthy to receive recognition as the Jury believes were justified by the quality of the submissions.

Jury considerations included design quality, functional utility, economy, environmental harmony, sustainability, accessibility, aesthetic delight, creativity, craftsmanship and innovation. More specifically, the submissions were rated and judged around the following criteria:

- Design Excellence
- Community Impact
- Sustainable Design/Resiliency

MEASURE 10**Design for Discovery**

CO Adaptive –
Commendation for
Climate Action



The Evolution of the Brooklyn Design Awards

BY JASON BOUTIN, AIA, CPHD, LEED AP

This year the design awards evolved. From the outset one of our goals was to find a way to respond to the moment in our role as architects.

There is a growing recognition that the environmental and social challenges we face are global, complex, and with potentially catastrophic outcomes to be seen in our lifetime. Meeting the moment means addressing the full spectrum of sustainability. Architectural interventions are hyper-local, but they are intricately connected to our global challenges. And while we may not be able to act 100% perfectly – we can strive to do better.

To that end, the Design Awards incorporated the AIA Framework for Design Excellence, into several aspects of the process. Comprised of 10 principles and accompanied by searching questions, the Framework seeks to inform progress toward a zero-carbon, equitable, resilient, and healthy built environment.

Another piece of the evolution of the awards was the introduction of Technical Reviews of the Performance Statement, prior to judging. The purpose of the Technical Reviews was to provide a rating and contextual information to the jurors to help with their deliberations. The reviewers were recruited based on experience either with the framework or sustainability measures.

The last substantial change involved the jury and how the projects were judged. We recruited jurors this year that had experience and skill in sustainability as well as design. The submissions were judged individually and on their own merits. Rather than providing a sustainability award, we instead created a Commendation for Climate Action. This award is for a built project that demonstrated exceptional performance with sustainability measures, and a project could be recognized for this separately or in conjunction with another award.

This year the jury's deliberation took into account that providing information in the Performance Section was optional. Consideration for an award was not contingent on submitting a Performance Statement. Providing responses in this section only helped. And, we had a number of projects that submitted a statement. However, there were few that provided enough specifics to describe a cohesive or meaningful effort.

As with the Framework, the ongoing development of the Brooklyn Design Award Program aims to encourage a more holistic and integrated approach towards sustainability in all projects regardless of size, typology or aspiration.

Getting closer to this goal will require more education about the framework and how we can make more meaningful and positive contributions to the built environment in all our projects. Over the next year we expect it will guide several of our programs.

**THE AWARDS ARE
BOTH A RECOGNITION
AND A CALLING.**



2022 BKLYN Design Awards
Promotional Poster in various
Brooklyn neighborhoods

**THANKS TO THE HELP OF
OUR COMMUNITY:**

BKDA Technical Reviewer and BKDA Advisor Jordan Parnass, AIA LEED AP, CPHD (Circular); Technical Reviewers Leon Frazier, RA (CO Adaptive) and Kendall Claus (Perkins and Will); as well as BKDA Advisors Ruth Mandl, AIA and Bobby Johnston, AIA, CPHD (CO Adaptive), and Kimberly Neuhaus, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, CPHD (Neuhaus Design Architecture) the BKDA program can better respond to the complex issues that communities are facing all over the world.

An Interview with the BKDA Committee Chair, Jason Boutin

The resounding success of the 2022 Brooklyn Design Awards (BKDA) was thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Design Awards Committee, in addition to support from a larger network of individuals. The immense coordination, creativity, and willpower necessary to realize the BKDA remained unseen by most, and is thanks, in large part, to one dedicated citizen architect.

Cole Von Feldt **CV** | Jason Boutin **JB**

Jason Boutin, AIA, CPHD, LEED AP is a Partner at The Brooklyn Studio, serves as the 2022-23 Secretary for AIA Brooklyn, and was chair of the 2022 Brooklyn Design Awards (BKDA). Jason's countless hours of commitment to the success of the program is a testament to not only his character, but his love for the borough. His experience provided a much needed sense of direction and wisdom, while his steadfastness allowed for the rest of the committee members to flourish in their roles.

In late January, once the praise and publicity of the 2022 BKDA settled, Jason was kind enough to meet with me to reflect on the program. Amongst the answers I sought, I was searching for an adamant sense of design within Brooklyn and the necessity for the built environment to put a forefront focus on sustainability measures. The answers that Jason provided eclipsed my notion of where designers within the borough currently stand, and where the potential for improvement exists.

CV: The jurors ultimately chose to not award a 'Best in Competition' because no project stood out as a beacon for ecological stewardship. Why do you think that might set the right tone heading into future years of the Design Awards?

JB: I was definitely caught off guard when the jurors suggested this, and I was a little worried that it might actually set the wrong tone by sounding punitive. However, the jurors exhibited such thoughtfulness throughout the deliberation that this decision became a statement that was both celebratory and aspirational. It highlighted the exemplary design aspects of the award winners, and was also a call to all members that we can, and should, do better. Sustainable design and ecological stewardship are not 'bonus' features added into a few projects. They should be integrated into all our work.

CV: Brooklyn is well known as a borough of proud, tight-knit communities. How do the designs, and designers, within the borough differ from what might be seen elsewhere in the city and region? What makes Brooklyn stand out?

JB: The borough of Brooklyn represents a unique and evolving urban community experiment. It has so much to offer in how we can live and work together, in our modern world, and still have a sense of place and community. Brooklyn is enormous with a density that provides the critical mass needed for commerce, culture, innovation and experimentation. And yet, it

still has many moments of intimacy with its intricate weave of walkable neighborhoods and human scaled buildings. Our borough was profoundly shaped by the forces of the industrial revolution over a century ago. What's fascinating is that in our current age of so much change, the fabric still works. It is durable and adaptable – open to reuse and reinvention.

CV: The amount of construction and change happening within the borough is undeniable. How can the designers, and citizens, make for an improved Brooklyn that addresses the need for ecological stewardship?

JB: Stewardship implies both competency and a responsibility for a something that is not inherently our own. As professionals working in the built environment we can continue to develop a working knowledge and fluency around the integration of sustainable measures into all of our projects. As designers we can employ a broader perspective of the interconnected forces that provide for more equitable, resilient and healthy communities. As citizens we can get involved in civic initiatives outside of our profession that we find interesting and rewarding.

CV: As the climate crisis that impacts our Earth continues, why is now the time to shift attention to sustainability when it comes to awards programs? Why now?

JB: In regard to our climate and ecosystems, there is definitely a growing awareness of a need for urgency. One could easily argue that the shift in attention to sustainability should have happened a long time ago. For our chapter's Design Awards, the changes made in this year's program were more about education than it was about what aspects of a project's design were recognized.

We introduced the AIA's Framework for Design Excellence, because it is an important instrument that can be employed during the early stages of the project to both broaden a designer's perspective and to provide a toolkit for creative solutions. Every project has the opportunity to contribute and address our complex ecological challenges. Additionally, each winner provides great examples of the lessons learned in their application. Over the next year, the Brooklyn Chapter intends to provide additional educational opportunities around both the winning projects and firms and the AIA's Design for Excellence Framework.

A Note from the BKDA 2022 Champion Sponsor

The definition of Sustainability is to fulfill the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations.

We think it's a moral obligation we owe to our society, environment and to our neighbors – it's a mindset. It starts with communities such as at AIA Brooklyn – as designers, decision makers and influencers – to implement this mind-set.

As a manufacturer, Glenwood must do its part by providing/manufacturing sustainable products, so they are available to utilize on your projects.

Glenwood has made that commitment by investing in new technology and materials to lower the carbon footprint of our block. We have partnered with Carbon Cure, CarbonQuest and Pozzotive.

- Pozzotive is a post consumer Ground Glass Pozzolan obtained from the MURFs of NYC. This allows us to reduce the cement used in our block without compromising its performance.
- CarbonQuest is technology that captures CO₂ from the flue liners of buildings in NYC. A real sustainable CO₂.
- Carbon Cure is Technology that turns the sustainable CO₂ from a gas into a solid. This allows us to inject it into our block permanently.

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A SUSTAINABILITY- MINDED JURY

INTERVIEWED BY
COLE VON FELDT



Vivian Loftness FAIA, LEED AP, CPHD



Diana Araujo, Assoc. AIA



Arthur Liu, RA



Dan Piselli AIA, LEED AP, CPHD



Stas Zakrzewski FAIA, LEED AP, CPHD

The jury for the 2022 BKDA was composed of highly qualified professionals who all generously donated their time to recognize award worthy architecture and design by AIA Brooklyn members, Brooklyn architects, and projects based in Brooklyn.

Each one of the jurors — Vivian Loftness of Carnegie Mellon University, Diana Araujo of the Van Alen Institute, Arthur Liu of Studio Gang, Dan Piselli of FX Collaborative, and Stas Zakrzewski of ZH Architects — was invited to participate in the BKDA 2022 because of their unique experiences and knowledge of, as well as contributions to, the practice of architecture. On a Friday morning in October, these five individuals gathered over Zoom to discuss the submitted projects. To ensure that the conversation would run smoothly, each jury member spent hours prior to that meeting reviewing anonymous drawings, images, and narratives that accompanied each project and at the deliberation there was much consensus, very little debate, and a strong commitment to the sustainability-forward focus of the awards.

A few weeks after the awards ceremony, I reconnected with the five jurors to ask about their overall experience with the BKDA process. Each of them provided honest feedback regarding the success of the jury procedures paired with eagerness for the future direction of the awards and the industry, at large. In addition to their admiration for the breadth of projects reviewed, the passion and dedication of each juror was visible throughout the entirety of the process. Jurors responded to questions and provided reflections on their 2022 BKDA experiences.

CV: BKDA included the Framework for Design Excellence in its awards program this year. Albeit optional in 2022, how do you foresee this impacting not only the outcome of the awards in further years, but also the inspiration for design as a whole?

VL: The AIA adopted the Framework for Design Excellence for all of its national awards programs at the end of 2020 to address the urgent challenges of climate change and added goals to address equity as well that reflect the urgency of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group's. The Framework for Design Excellence asks professionals to describe their accomplishments across these 10 areas that truly define great design — descriptions that every firm should want to offer to their clients and to the media. The Framework does have metrics, including the 2030 pledge taken by over 900 firms small and large (and soon the Materials Pledge) — but they are not yet mandated for award submissions since all of the professional community is not used to the quantification, but these too will become standard bearers for the design community as clients and corporations seek CSR and ESG reports for their built environments.

DA: I'd expect the framework will enhance creativity. I believe using it gives architects an opportunity to not only inspire with a beautiful design but to show a comprehensive understanding of the impact and implication of architecture in all its different scales. In this way, I think the framework provides a guideline of considerations to keep in mind in any design process and as such it should be a live framework adapting itself to the new environmental, social, and material challenges that arise.

AL: I foresee the Framework becoming the new common lexicon. Its broad range of categories each focus on precise design issues, and call attention to design problems architects/designers address in any given project, but now foregrounded for the awards submission. The Framework draws to the surface and codifies design problems of projects worthy of design excellence.

DP: Including the Framework for Design Excellence was necessary and important. The Framework rightly reframes the definition of capital "D" Design with greater appreciation of real impacts on people and our shared planet. I was proud that the jury further elevated the Framework through our selection of award winners. Equality, sustainability, climate resilience and adaptation are huge parts of the zeitgeist of our time, and should be inspiration for a whole new design vision.

SZ: Some projects did not fill out the performance section. It is vital for the Framework for Design Excellence to be a required item next year (not just optional) as it will provide more equality in the review process. Projects that meet and exceed certain levels should be rewarded accordingly.

CV: Could you share more about the process of the deliberation: What made you join this jury? What did you enjoy most about deliberating as a group?

VL: The jury for 2022 was surprised and saddened that some of the submissions did not even write the qualitative accomplishments of the project relative to the 10 goals in the Framework for Design Excellence. Were there no advances for Energy, Water, Community, Wellness, Material Resources, Ecology, Economy, Change, Discovery and Integrated Design Process that could be summarized in paragraphs if not metrics? Seems like the foundations for great design to us.

DA: I joined the jury thanks to a lucky recommendation. When given the opportunity, I was interested in joining it one, to be more active with AIA Brooklyn and two, because I was interested in looking at quality design in Brooklyn and by Brooklyn architects. I believe most if not all the participants had something worth mentioning and looking at quality design is always a source of inspiration for me.

The panel was great! Every juror brought in a different perspective and expertise and the deliberation felt complementary. I think the different perspectives made it easy for us to identify the winners and what made those designs unique and valuable. Overall a great experience!

AL: I joined for two reasons. First, for my own exposure to recent design projects and greater context of Brooklyn architectural colleagues. Second, I'm not currently an AIA member, but am AIA-curious and I saw this as a way of learning more about the organization and how I might engage in the future. I really enjoyed the diversity of the group AND our unified position about sustainability. The jury session was very well run – the online platform was easy and intuitive, and the live session was organized well.

DP: As a resident of our fair Borough for almost 25 years and now working in Downtown Brooklyn, participating felt relevant. Since I focus on sustainability at a relatively large architectural firm, AIA Brooklyn's goal to foreground the Framework for Design Excellence was a major draw. Jury deliberations were a rewarding experience. Everyone had very insightful comments, we collaborated seamlessly, and were able to coalesce around decisions easily.

SZ: I joined this jury as I wanted to contribute to the progression and improvement of the AIA awards jury process. For a number of years in AIANY, there was a separate sustainability category, which addressed the more far-reaching projects with that goal. That category was eliminated as it was argued that all projects should have sustainability integrated within them. However, in subsequent AIA awards I have noticed that highly sustainable projects were under-represented. It is time that the profession addressed this by judging all entries with all Framework aspects of water & energy use, embodied energy, equality, etc. in mind and be judged accordingly.

Several Jurors attended the Award Celebration on December 5, 2022

CV: **It was lovely to see the Brooklyn architecture community together for a celebratory evening. As an attendee of the award ceremony, what did you enjoy most about the program?**

AL: It's an intimate community with many seasoned professionals AND a very large population of young members. Brooklyn is such a large, diverse and interesting borough – it even has its own Public Library system! I can see AIA Brooklyn tapping into the borough's assets, its cadre of energetic young architects/designers, and the many amazing architectural practices in the borough.

DP: The award ceremony was my introduction to the AIA Brooklyn community. I appreciated the diverse crowd, and the venue was really fun – it's a stylish but unpretentious example of adaptive reuse.

SZ: Meeting the award winners and discussing their projects with them was a bonus. It was also enjoyable to chat with the other Jury members. We also discussed with BKDA members how the program could evolve over the next few years.

The 2022 Brooklyn Design Awards was reimagined from previous years and its success – and comprehensive selection of winning projects – would not have been possible without the dedication of each of the jurors.



Brooklyn Design Awards Celebration

Location: 501 Union
Gowanus, Brooklyn
Event Planning: Gowanus Hospitality Group
Catering: Night Kitchen
Photography: Anastasiia Davyadova





2022

BROOKLYN DESIGN AWARDEES

PIAULE CATSKILL

Image Credit: Sean Davidson

Firm
Garrison Architects

Location
Catskill, NY

Completion
2020

Structural Engineer
Silman

MEP Engineer
Dagher Engineering

Civil Engineer
Kaaterskill Associates

EXCELLENCE



PROJECT SUMMARY

Since the 19th century, the Catskill Mountains have offered a serene and scenic reprieve for the increasingly urbanized northeastern seaboard. Thomas Cole enshrined the landscape into the American consciousness by painting its grand sylvan panoramas. The Piaule Landscape Retreat was designed to immerse visitors into that same natural setting while emphasizing the pristine beauty that the region is known for.

The hotel is comprised of 24 individual cabins that are scattered among the trees on a secluded, west-facing hill that overlooks the Catskill Escarpment. Each cabin is oriented to a large operable window that opens up to the outdoors to give bedrooms the feel of a screened porch.

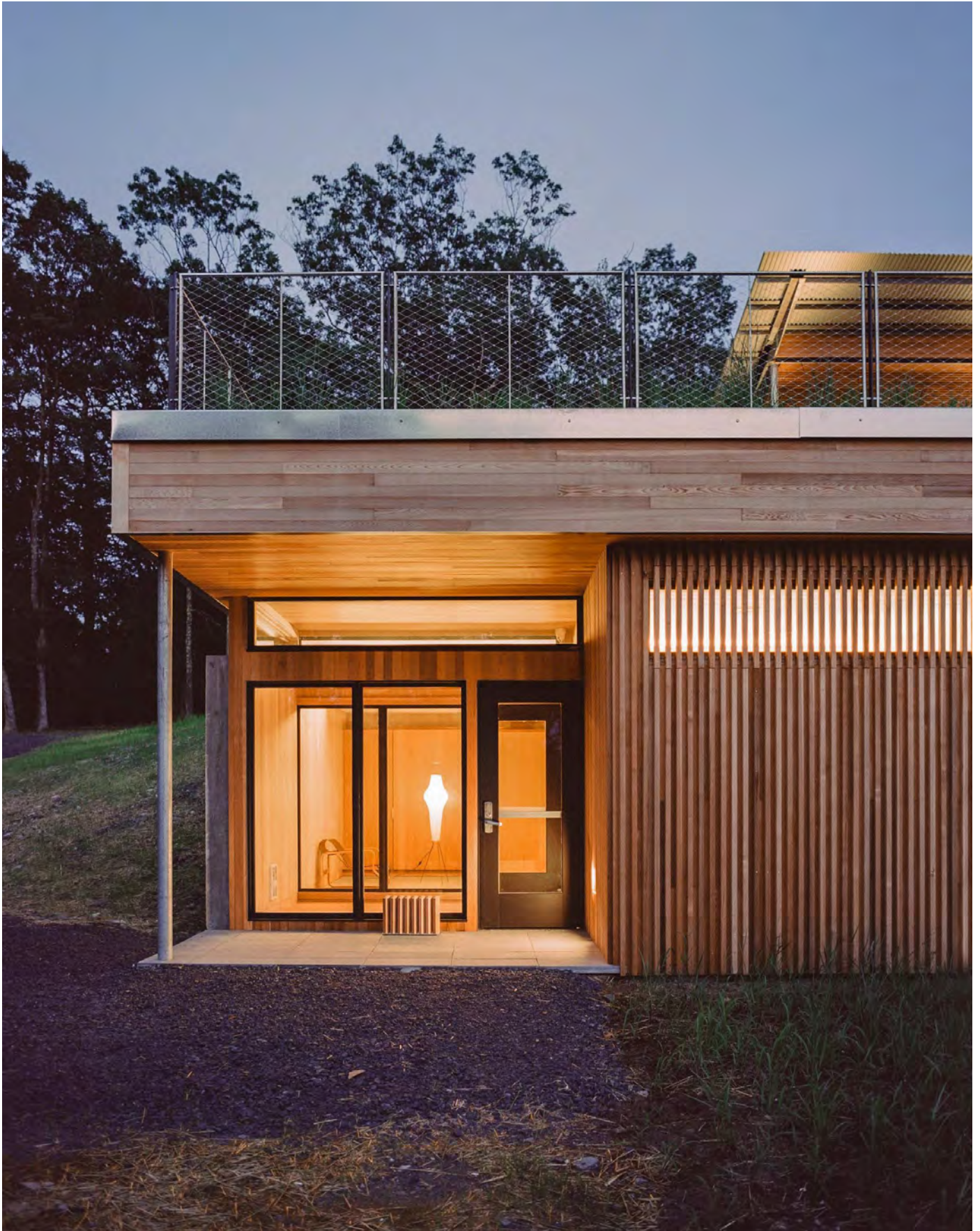
These windows present visitors with a sensory atmosphere of outdoor camping from the comfort and privacy of an indoor cabin.

The landscape hotel is designed to foster interaction among visitors in communal spaces, the lodge is a gathering space for dining and relaxing. Hidden below a green terrace is a fully featured spa with a pool and hot tub which overlook the western view.

Piaule Catskill encourages visitors to continue their exploration beyond the hotel grounds on foot with nature trails that loop in and out of the surrounding woods and wetlands.

The Awardees







THE SEVENTY-SIX

Image Credit: Garrison Architects

Firm
Garrison Architects

Location
Albany, NY

Completion
In Progress - 2025

Structural Engineer
The Chazen Companies

MEP Engineer
M/E Engineers

Civil Engineer
The Chazen Companies

EXCELLENCE



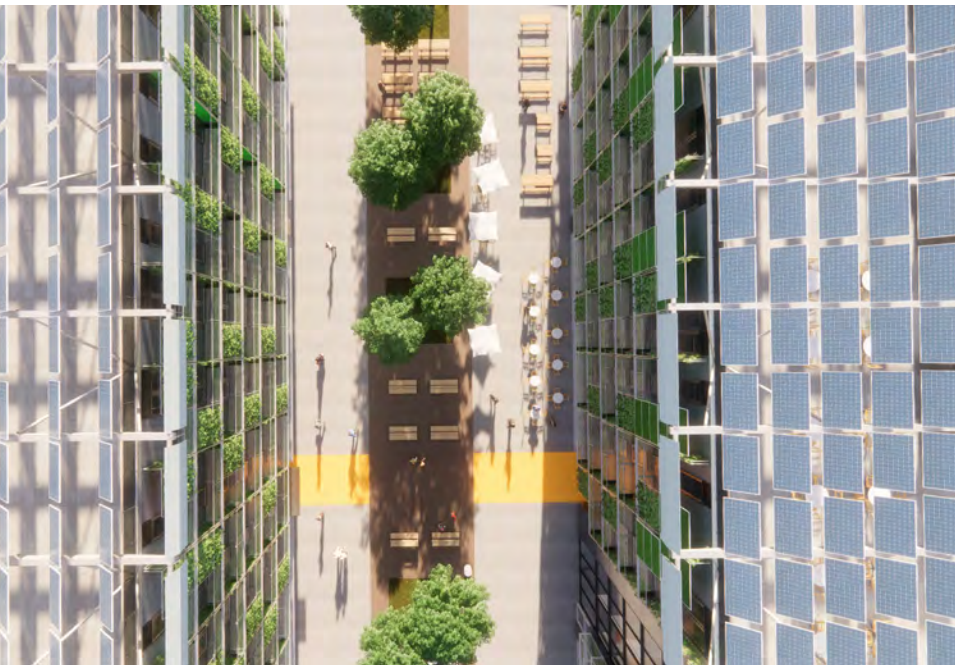
PROJECT SUMMARY

The Seventy-Six will be the first triple Net Zero (Energy, Water, and Waste) multifamily/mixed-use project in the United States. The project seeks to create a complete transformation of the area, including the creation of economic and environmental equity by integrating scalable ownership models into businesses and homes. A radically sustainable infrastructure with high-quality, affordable, and flexible housing that meets universal design and accessibility requirements that can accommodate aging, changes in family size, and alternative living arrangements.

This Zero Impact Development will generate 100% of its energy demand from renewable sources, conserve 100% of its water consumption, and recycle and compost 100% of its waste. It will utilize interdependent biological cycles, including constructed wetlands, organics

composting, and water reuse to achieve environmental justice. Regional food production and urban farming infrastructure are integrated through the use of vertical gardens and marine organism/terrestrial aquaculture, to create stable food markets, affordable, high-quality foods, and job opportunities.

Living Machine principles will be implemented and demonstrate interdependent biological cycles to grow, clean, and maintain the environment including constructed wetlands, organics composting, and water reuse; that will help to achieve environmental balance by providing clean air, water, and nutritious foods in a non-toxic material environment.



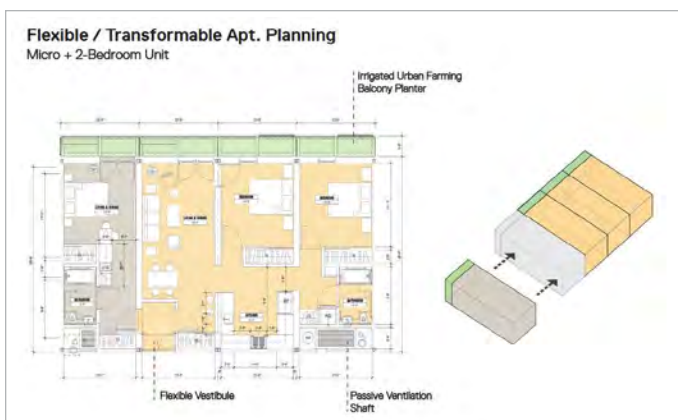
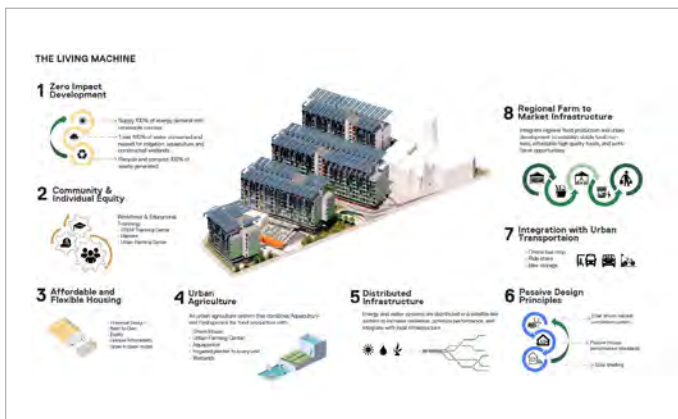
DESIGN FOR WELLBEING

Wellbeing through regular contact with nature is an integrated design element in The Seventy-Six. Each apartment includes irrigated balcony planters, and all residents have access to a greenhouse, wetlands and private/public outdoor areas.

Rooftop solar arrays perform an additional function as shades for the sides of the buildings, and the infrastructure for energy and water is distributed throughout the complex to increase the overall resilience of the systems. Aquaponic growing space perform a double duty of contributing to the water filtration system, alongside food production.

Each solar array (roof and facades) was analyzed and optimized via energy modeling.





HITHER HILL MONTAUK

Image Credit: James Ewing/JBSA

Firm
ARCHITECTUREFIRM

Location
Montauk, NY

Completion
2019

Landscape Architect
Nelson Byrd Woltz

Code Consultant
Forden & Co Builders

MERIT



PROJECT SUMMARY

Hither Hill was designed for a family with five grown children who live within a beach-side community focused around the natural environment, food, health, and wellness. The site and buildings were created to allow for a small-scale farm-to-table life, integrating a contemporary but contextual residence and a multi-use pavilion and guest house into a garden with outdoor trellises and recreational space. Linking the landscape to food production and respecting the area's rich history of farming connects

Hither Hills to a long cultural landscape heritage while also serving as a catalyst for the interactions and conversations that will take place on this site for decades to come. This one-acre site is defined by their proximity to the ocean and distinct seasonal changes, therefore, creating a productive garden at the center of the project was the most important step in connecting to the cultural and ecological landscape of this region.







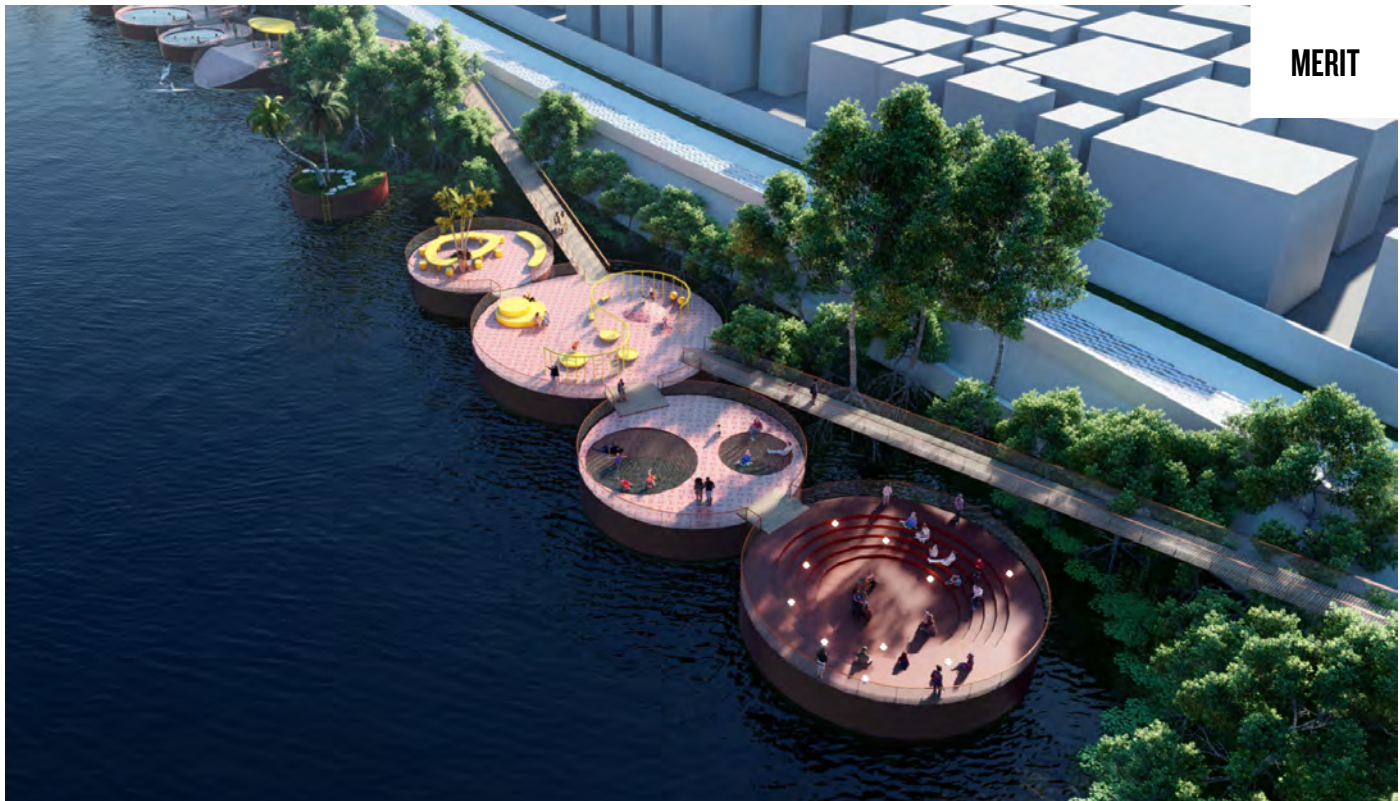
PASIG CITY PARKS RIVERFRONT

Firm
ALAO

Location
The Philippines

Completion
2022

Image Credit: ALAO



PROJECT SUMMARY

The Pasig City Parks Riverfront project is a system of waterfront parks that create recreational space, mitigate flooding, and redevelop natural habitat to create a cleaner, healthier Pasig River. The declared “dead” Pasig River has been revived by a mix of governmental and grassroots efforts that have had promising results in cleaning the river. As a result, the new administration seeks to continue these efforts through design and to reclaim these spaces for the citizens of Pasig. The Pasig Riverfront Project develops a community and environmental infrastructure that reinterprets the unique forms of a riveren people — as a series of floating parklets. On the river, floating parklets

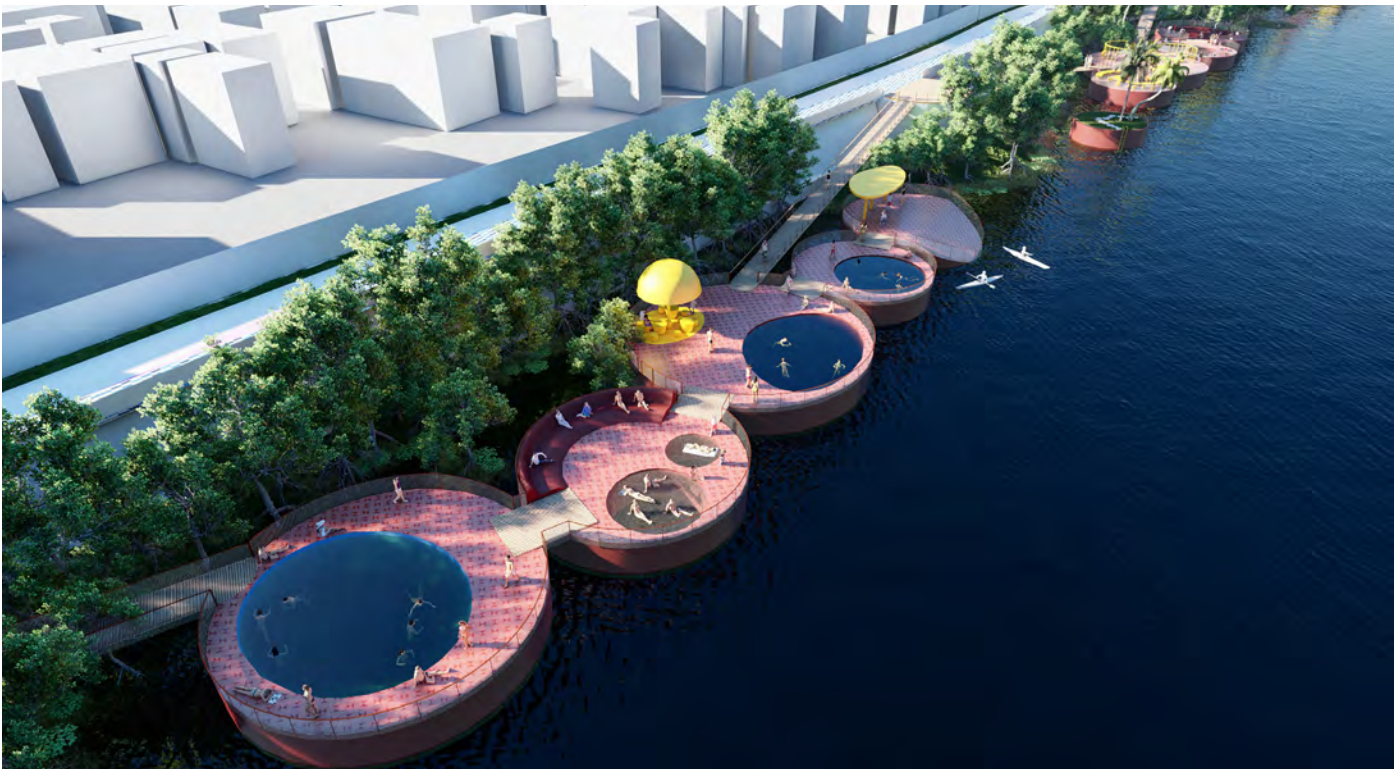
are reminiscent of the coconut rafts traditionally used to transport the fruit through the area’s waterways. These floating parks include amenities for sports, play, cultural events, and transit. They also protect a narrow habitat to restore the mangroves on the river embankment. These trees clean the river while also providing the rich habitat to reintroduce fish, mollusks, and native birds to the water’s edge. Further down-river a series of playful park follies, drawn from the history of the river’s fishing industry. These Salambaw bounce with the waves and reposition themselves with the tides.

STATEMENT OF DESIGN EXCELLENCE

Cultural Sustainability: The project recognizes the importance of history towards the development of new design as a way to enrich and preserve cultural identity. Careful research of historic maps, images, and photographs revealed a number of critical design opportunities that we have sought to tie into the design including: the recognition of a currently hidden but very culturally important pre-colonial dynasty at the existing site, the local flora and fauna at the water's edge, the forms of commerce such as coconut rafts and salambaw, and the multitude of uses along the waterways. This allows us to reconnect the population to the cleaner, healthier Pasig River waterway.

Ecological Sustainability: The project will float at the top of the water so as not to obstruct the movement of water while still protecting a new mangrove edge. These mangroves will become home to fish, mollusks, and invite the return of native birds to the area.







TIMBER ADAPTIVE REUSE THEATER

Image Credit: Naho Kubota

Firm
CO Adaptive Architecture

Location
Brooklyn, NY

Completion
2021

Structural Engineer
A Degree of Freedom
Structural Engineers

MEP Engineer
ABSEngineers

COMMENDATION FOR CLIMATE ACTION



PROJECT SUMMARY

An 1180 square meter metal foundry was transformed into a light-filled developmental space for theater artists. The adaptive reuse project updates and opens the original timber-and-brick building, repurposing removed elements as the basis for new architectural features. Wood is the project's dominant material: old longleaf pine is reconstituted, while new insertions are made from cross-laminated timber. The project represents the first use of CLT on a fully commercial building in New York City.

Dating to 1902 and located in Brooklyn's Gowanus Canal district, the building had three previous lives: First, as the Royal Metal Furniture Company foundry; next, as a warehouse and storage facility; and, just prior to this

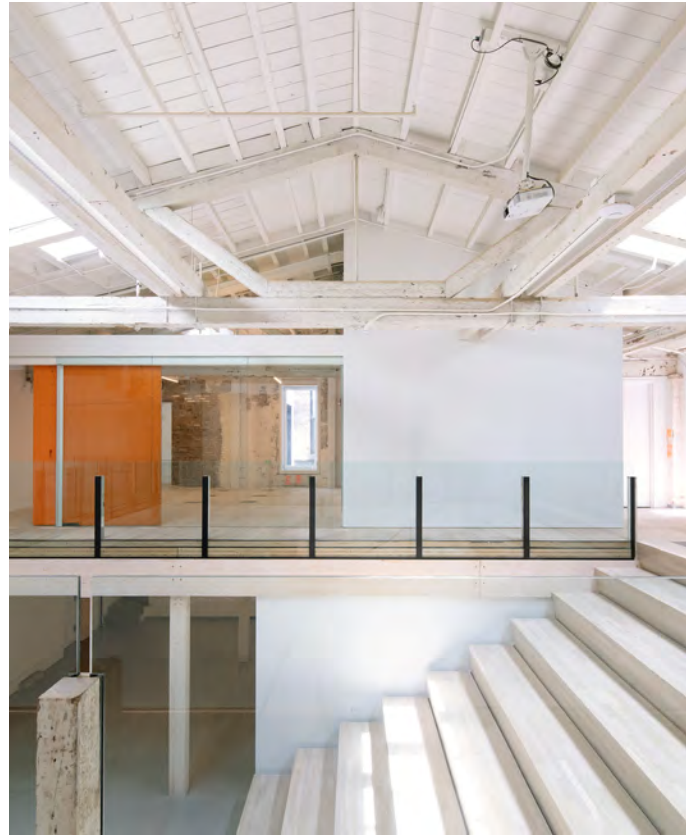
renovation, as highly compartmentalized art studios and office space. Within the context of the Gowanus neighborhoods vigorous transformation, the building's renovation and change of use aims to blend in with the industrial neighborhood.

The project focuses on restoring the character of the heavy timber building, exposing and honoring its substantial wood trusses and reinforcing the double A-frame, while also adapting the building to meet the new program. From a highly compartmentalized warren of dark spaces, it was transformed into an interconnected, spacious, and flexible environment for theater rehearsals and performances.

DESIGN FOR RESOURCES

Overall, the project exemplifies a commitment to low-carbon design thinking in three major ways. First, in the evolution of existing building stock to support an innovative new use, simultaneously reducing demolition waste and engaging with the history of the site. Second, in leveraging low-carbon alternatives to standard construction practices, with the application of CLT, in the required structural insertions. Finally, in repurposing removed building materials to create architectural features, while minimizing the use of virgin materials.







THE COURTS OF SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Image Credit: L-ines/Ines Leong

Firm

Gans and Company; David Cunningham Architecture Planning PLLC; H2M Architects + Engineers

Location

Brooklyn, NY

Completion

2020

Structural Engineer

Markis Consulting Engineering PLLC

Landscape Architect

Ryan Consulting Engineers

COMMENDATION FOR RESILIENCE



PROJECT SUMMARY

The reconstruction of Stanton Court after Superstorm Sandy is a prototype for resilient design at the scale of a neighborhood according to the will of the community. This scale is missing from current policy and practice. Block scale planning required the team to challenge the standards of the City's Build-it-Back program to foster collaboration among city agencies. It produced urban mews united in its architectural character, collective social space and shared stormwater management infrastructures.

The historic character of the Court was threatened by both Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines calling for the single-story cottages to be raised ten feet, and current

zoning requirements mandating for them to be replaced by narrower, two-story buildings. To preserve the scale of the block, the team developed a new typology that places the two-story massing of the new house behind a living room with a lower bungalow profile. On the inside, that living room is double height, with an expansive sense of space. Balconies, in lieu of the original porches, connect neighbors, who can often be found chatting across the court. The shady space beneath the house functions as an outdoor summer room that connects to the court at grade.







APARTMENT ON GARDEN PLACE

Image Credit: Julian Wass

Firm

Khanna Schultz

Location

Brooklyn, NY

Completion

2022

Structural Engineer

Ross Dalland PE

MEP Engineer

On Point Engineering

Landscape Architect

XS Space/Julie Farris

Code Consultant

J. Callahan Consulting

COMMENDATION FOR BIOPHILIC DESIGN



PROJECT SUMMARY

Garden Place is a short street in Brooklyn Heights with splendid 19th century residential architecture. This house dates from the 1840s, with Greek Revival detailing on the façade. In the 1980s the house was divided into two apartments. Our clients' apartment, occupying three floors in the top of the building, had been modified to include a skylit double height space taking over part of the old attic. The 1980s renovations had grown tired, and the space had been subdivided in ways that compromised the intrinsic elegance of the building. Our renovation was conceptually a 'deep cleaning,' like polishing a neglected artifact. Though not apparent in the finished product, substantial structural

modifications were required to create a more gracious flow of spaces. To highlight the unexpected nature of the double-height space, we clad the remaining sections of the old attic in walnut planks, which continue onto the ceiling of the living room below – and surprisingly – into the interior of the low-ceilinged, Hobbit-like attic room. Materials were selected to be both earthy and modern. A terrace extends the interior language of the apartment into the outdoors and gives this upper floor apartment a green space.

STATEMENT OF DESIGN EXCELLENCE

By carefully preserving and altering the existing structure, the environmental and resource impact of construction was minimized, in comparison to new construction. Improvements to the exterior contribute to the integrity of the context while also upgrading the quality of the interior space. Within the constraints of its location in a Landmarks district, the apartment was designed to maximize its openness to the outdoors, through maximizing daylight and maximizing screened operable glazing. The open layout and double-height space capture cross breezes and reinforce the quality of bringing the outdoors to an interior urban space. These strategies maximize the well being of the occupants. Energy conservation strategies were employed in the historic building envelope, and outdated and inefficient heating and cooling equipment was replaced.







PARK SLOPE NEO-FEDERAL

ROWHOUSE

Firm
The Brooklyn Studio

Location
Brooklyn, NY

Completion
2021

Structural Engineer
Martos Engineering

Landscape Architect
Alive Structures

Image Credit: David Mitchell, Nicole Franzen

COMMENDATION FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH THE OUTDOORS



PROJECT SUMMARY

This three-story, 5280-square-foot Neo-Federal rowhouse is located in Brooklyn's Park Slope Historic District. It was built circa 1910. Our challenge was to preserve the architectural and historic integrity of this home while updating it for modern use. Our most significant intervention was the relocation of the kitchen. Originally, the kitchen was housed in the rear extension, closed off from the rest of the house. We swapped the location of the kitchen and the dining room — a simple move that helped reorient the building's entire center of gravity. The new dining room is housed in a long, narrow space. To create a feeling of openness, we added large, curved windows,

which were inspired by the observation windows found on early twentieth-century passenger trains. We then applied this design language to the remainder of the rear façade. We rehabilitated the interior of the entire home. We restored the stoop and vestibule, repointed the masonry, restored the cornice, and installed modern windows in the original masonry openings. As one moves through the home, the design transitions from classical to contemporary. The result is a building that reflects the nature of architecture itself: a conversation across time, transcending generations and sensibilities.



DESIGN FOR EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES

Per New York City's Landmarks law, when rehabilitating a building in an historic district, the front façade must retain its original appearance. Modifications to the rear façade must be sensitive and contextually appropriate, and are subject to the approval of local community boards and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. We restored the historical and aesthetic integrity of this street wall adjacent to Prospect Park in the Park Slope Historic District. One of our millwork installations at the front of the home contains storage for our client's e-bike. The millwork incorporates a concealed charging station and mount for the e-bike. This integrated transportation strategy favors human-powered mobility, decreases dependence on cars, and connects people to place.





pARC

Image Credit: Tom Waldenberg,
Anna Routh Barzin, Christopher Brickman

Firm
The Urban Conga

Location
Chapel Hill, NC

Completion
2022

Structural Engineer
Midwest Design Group

COMMENDATION FOR SITE ACTIVATION



PROJECT SUMMARY

pARC is an open-ended programmable extension to the conversations, events, teachings, and more that currently exist within the doors of the Ackland Art Museum in Chapel Hill, NC. The spatial installation serves as a visual landmark inviting people up off the street and into the museum. The design both mimics and contrasts the museum's Georgian-style architecture through an interconnected system of arcs that frame out various open-ended social spaces. The space consists of two defined stages or seating areas and a multitude of other open-ended social opportunities. The

work provides an opportunity for the user to put their identity onto the work, museum, and surrounding space. Through utilizing various play methodologies, the design begins to break down social barriers and democratize the public/private terrace of the museum. The work utilizes light both during the day and at night as a tool to evoke spontaneity and wonder through its shadow play component. pARC becomes a flexible communal space evoking endless ways to play, gather, perform, teach, converse, or even take a nap.









Interview with the Awardees

The Brooklyn Design Awards (BKDA) welcomed north of 125 guests to a festive Gowanus venue, 501 Union, in early December to celebrate Brooklyn-based and Brooklyn-made architecture and design.

Amongst the hors d'oeuvres, inspiring remarks, and friendly conversations, the projects of eight local firms were recognized for their outstanding design and contribution to the community. After the new year, AIA Brooklyn was able to catch up with each of the winning firms to ask them a few questions about the awards, the Brooklyn community and the future of architecture. Each of them was kind enough to share thorough and thoughtful responses.

What is your current connection to the Brooklyn architecture and design community?

Khanna Schultz:

We have had our independent practice in Brooklyn since 2006. For the first few years most of our work was in India, so we were isolated from the Brooklyn architecture scene. As we began to take on more local work, we found our greatest resource was colleagues and friends in the Brooklyn architectural community. From trading recommendations, to sharing design feedback and inspiration, to troubleshooting during the inevitable snags, the architects and designers of Brooklyn are a constant source of support.

Garrison Architects:

As architects who practice, live, and teach in Brooklyn our architectural community is essential to our identity and growth. This is fueled by the complex ecological, infrastructure, and urban planning issues that surround us. Three of us teach at the Pratt Institute where Brooklyn forms the context for thinking about the city and its architecture.

The Urban Conga:

We moved our firm to Brooklyn, NY, in the fall of 2019. When the pandemic hit in 2020, it was challenging to start a relationship with the local design community with everything closed down and turning digital. We were extremely thankful that AIA Brooklyn reached out to us and really opened their doors to us as new members. The Brooklyn architecture and design community has been extremely supportive of our work in the short period of time we have been in the city. We do work all over the world but are proud to call Brooklyn our home.

CO Adaptive:

We have been dialing up our involvement with AIA Brooklyn over the past year, both due to the fantastic engagement of their amazing Executive Director and also because one of our Associates, Dave Sidick, is very committed to the Chapter and has been slowly but surely pulling us in.

What does an award from AIA Brooklyn mean to you?**Khanna Schultz:**

We were thrilled to receive the award. Knowing that Brooklyn is such a center of innovative design made our selection by the jury so exciting. The new award application format using the AIA Common App was also a testament to the depth of analysis with which the projects were assessed. We also appreciated that the AIA Brooklyn Awards program focuses on projects and practices of many different types and scales.

ARCHITECTUREFIRM:

The AIA Brooklyn awards have been an important measure of our work in a group of peers that we respect as well as a great way to improve our outreach to the community of designers in BK and NYC, and to create a higher profile among current and prospective clients. Receiving the recognition from our amazing peers in Brooklyn is a huge bonus, knowing our work is paying off among people who know how hard our jobs can be.

**Gans & Company, David Cunningham
Architecture Planning:**

We are grateful to have our team of architects and community members recognized for the collaborative effort that made the project possible. This award is a recognition of our aspirations for a more sustainable and equitable Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn Studio:

We are delighted to receive this recognition. Of course, it's always an honor to have one's work recognized. But we also view this award as an affirmation of the architectural, civic, and environmental significance of the rowhouse. An inherently modest building type, the rowhouse provides a blueprint for community-based living and it offers a unique model for sustainability. We find great joy in preserving and modernizing these historic structures, preparing them for the next 100 years of use.

Does receiving a BKDA change and/or strengthen the way you relate to Brooklyn, Brooklyn architects, and the chapter? If so, how?**ARCHITECTUREFIRM:**

It does, it gives us more exposure to more of our friends in Brooklyn who we want to know and be collaborative or supportive with as designers. It also matters that we work and live here and are a recognized part of this creative and productive scene in Brooklyn. And as people who are not from Brooklyn originally, it gives us an enormous sense of community and welcomeness when we are recognized as contributing members of this group.

The Urban Conga:

Even though we continue to do work all over the world, we would love to get more opportunities to work on local projects within our community here in Brooklyn. Receiving this award allows us to connect to a broader audience locally.

The Brooklyn Studio:

Yes, it does! We are excited to see Brooklyn's AIA chapter grow, providing a stronger platform to showcase the beautiful and important work that architects are doing in this great borough.

ALAO:

We were honored to have received a number of AIA awards this year, but it feels the most special to receive an award from your home chapter. In many ways it grounds us and reminds us that Brooklyn is not only where we are but where we belong.



What is exciting to you about architecture in 2023?

Garrison Architects:

Our relationship to nature is changing rapidly as we start to understand how interwoven with and dependent we are upon our collective ecology. The architecture of the machine age must give way to the need for a more nuanced and sensitive touch. In response architects must reinvent themselves and their manner of operation — a big job but one we will do together.

Gans & Company, David Cunningham Architecture Planning:

As the BKDA's new approach to the awards reflects, architects must shift our values and priorities towards a holistic architecture that integrates beauty, resilience and sustainability. Brooklyn is on the cutting edge here.

CO Adaptive:

We are excited to see and hear more practices tackle the subject of embodied carbon in our built environment, which is a really essential aspect in meeting our 2030 climate goals.

ALAO:

At the same time exciting as it is unnerving — the architecture of today is a sort of infrastructure for moments. Fleeting moments and repetitive moments. Individual moments and collective moments. Moments shared and moments closely held. We are excited to design beyond the visual collection of these moments — to create spaces that engage all of the senses and evoke both past and future memory.



Brooklyn Design Awards Celebration

Location: 501 Union

Gowanus, Brooklyn

Event Planning: Gowanus Hospitality Group

Catering: Night Kitchen

Photography: Anastasiia Davydova



Chapter Partners, Existing Conditions





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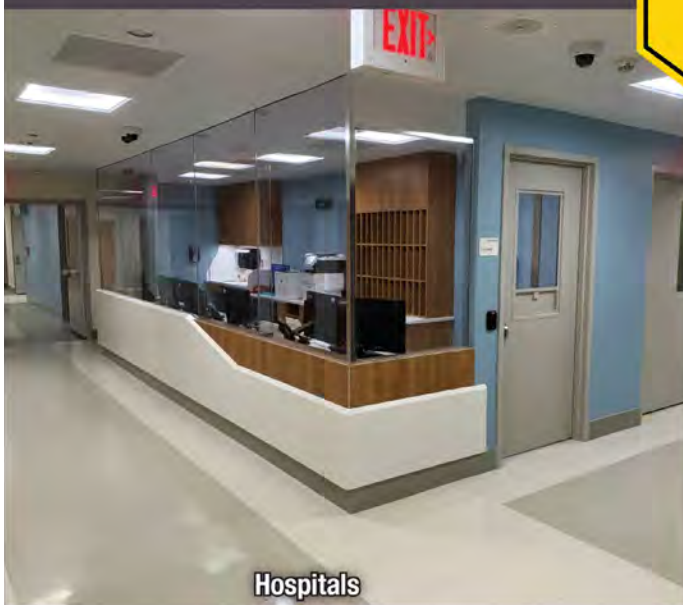
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Vincent S. Nativo, AIA *Past President of AIA Brooklyn, 2018 - 2019*

Building in Brooklyn: A Conversation

Urban Design Committee Chair Jane McGroarty of AIA Brooklyn and designer Cole Von Feldt had a conversation about their favorite borough. Cole recently spent several months working for a small architecture firm in Dumbo. Jane, a long-time Brooklyn resident, and Cole share their thoughts about Brooklyn's past and future.



Brooklyn Fire
Photo by Jane McGroarty

Cole Von Feldt **CV** | Jane McGroarty **JMG**

CV: It seems that Brooklyn has always been more affordable than Manhattan, until recently. The commercial redevelopment of downtown Brooklyn spurred unanticipated residential construction, as did Brooklyn Bridge Park and Atlantic Center. This, in turn, made parts of Brooklyn quite unaffordable. As transplants from Texas, Florida, the west coast, and the Midwest move to New York, Brooklyn has become a much more attractive option. As a borough known for its unique cultures and communities that provide a specific ethos, Brooklyn could potentially face the challenge of maintaining a grasp on what makes Brooklyn, well, Brooklyn?

JMG: What makes Brooklyn unique? Looking back to the late 19th century, Italian and Eastern European Jews moved from crowded quarters in lower Manhattan to Brooklyn. The City of Brooklyn was run by descendants of the original settlers, as well as some Irish and German immigrants. The upper- and middle-class conservative residents of Brooklyn did not appreciate what one writer termed as the influx of “detritus of Europe.” By the 20th century, the old guard had largely disappeared and were replaced by communities settled by European immigrants, African Americans, and Caribbean immigrants. The 1970’s brought Polish immigrants to Greenpoint and Russian immigrants to Brighton Beach. Later, Guyanese, Pakistani, Chinese, and Bangladeshi immigrants established communities in Brooklyn. Brooklyn keeps changing, so which Brooklyn do we want to preserve?

CV: The Brooklyn that should be preserved is the Brooklyn that we currently know; a borough that caters to, and accepts, all. The Brooklyn that is family-friendly and quaint, vibrant and bohemian; a borough where artists flourish and children succeed. As a mecca of culture for decades, Brooklynites are extremely prideful in their home and are incredibly adaptable to, and even sometimes embrace, the continuous change. There are a multitude of notable architecture firms in Brooklyn whose portfolios boast work from the scale of ancient brownstones all the way up to contemporary stadiums and transportation centers that accommodate thousands of users. While this displays the broad variety of work in the

borough, it even more importantly highlights the vast timeline of the character of Brooklyn still applicable today.

JMG: Brooklyn is changing before our eyes. Recent census data shows that over the last decade Bedford Stuyvesant lost more than 20,000 Black residents while gaining 30,000 white residents. This community has a strong connection to Black history from Weeksville to Malcolm X, as well as scores of religious leaders who were at the forefront of civil and economic rights organizations for decades. It will be a shame if the Brooklyn black experience is relegated to a few plaques. The major reason for the loss of black families is affordability and historical disparities that, sadly, still exist in the financial and mortgage sectors.

Brooklyn is changing and will continue to change. It is no longer a five-story borough, now that high rise construction has come to many neighborhoods. Brooklyn is much less of the bedroom suburb of the 1930’s where Dad commuted to a job in Manhattan. Along with more housing, the city needs to get serious about transportation planning for city residents. I know we are enthralled by the new \$11 billion LIRR Madison Station at Grand Central, but there are plenty of New Yorkers who live in transit deserts and could also benefit from transit improvements.

CV: Transit deserts are particularly noticeable throughout Brooklyn, the largest and most populous of New York’s five boroughs. It therefore shouldn’t come as much of a surprise, either, that there are currently more building permits open in Brooklyn than there are in Manhattan.

This, at surface level, is cause for celebration as Brooklyn inches closer to Manhattan in terms of appeal and attraction to those – residents and businesses – that are either priced out of Manhattan, simply cannot find space, or both.

Ideally, an increasing number of the new building permits would be for multi-family housing, which would service the many needs of a growing population as well a large homeless community and those living in overcrowded conditions with



Brooklyn Street. Photo by Jane McGroarty

family members or friends. The popularity of Brooklyn could ignite interest and political will for new public transit lines, infrastructure improvements, and public spaces. Manhattan has benefited from recent high-dollar projects such as One Vanderbilt, Moynihan Train Hall, and Hudson Yards in Manhattan – while those in Brooklyn have been humbler.

JMG: Manhattan does get the big projects, but Brooklyn may have been lucky in not getting a Hudson Yards type development. New York Times architecture critic, Michael Kimmelman, wrote that it (Hudson Yards) “is, at heart, a supersized suburban-style office park, with a shopping mall and a quasi-gated condo community targeted at the 0.1 percent.”

In my opinion, Brooklyn would be well served to have a comprehensive urban plan. New York City has not produced a real urban plan since 1969 when John Lindsay was Mayor and Don Elliot was

Chairman of the City Planning Commission. Because the financial markets have dictated much of what has been built in Brooklyn over the last thirty years, infrastructure, affordable housing, transportation, and parks have been shortchanged.

CV: Well, hopefully the influx of residents and growing popularity of Brooklyn will provide enough pressure for such an urban plan to be formulated in hopes to curb mounting rent prices, amongst other problems facing the people of the borough.

Programming

Join AIA Brooklyn at upcoming committee programs and monthly chapter meetings to learn more about the award-winning projects, as well as the Framework for Design Excellence.

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
ADAMS STREET LIBRARY, DUMBO

COTE

The Committee on the Environment (COTE) works to advance, disseminate, and advocate – to the profession, the building industry, the academy, and the public – design practices that integrate built and natural systems and enhance both the design quality and environmental performance of the built environment

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
VIRTUAL + SELECT EVENTS IN-PERSON

CRAN

The AIA Brooklyn Custom Residential Architects Network (CRAN) is a Knowledge Community of architects in Brooklyn practicing residential architecture. CRAN supports all architects whose practices engage with residential work. We provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and resources. Participating architects can improve their own practices while contributing to a general knowledge base for the profession.

SPEAKER SERIES

Good Trouble: Creativity + Collaboration

Features architects, academics and change makers – and considers solutions to some of the most pressing problems in the built environment. The AIA Framework for Design Excellence serves as an anchor and a springboard to explore sustainability, inclusivity and resilience in our borough, our city, and beyond.

City Tech, New Academic Building
285 Jay Street, Brooklyn
Third Wednesday, 6–8 PM

April 19, 2023: Design for Integration
May 17, 2023: Design for Ecosystem

Previous Programs in the Series

SEPTEMBER 2022

Design for Equitable Communities –
Brooklyn Libraries

OCTOBER 2022

Design for Resources

NOVEMBER 2022

Design for Equitable Communities –
International Diplomacy

JANUARY 2023

Design for Energy

FEBRUARY 2023

Design for Change

MARCH 2023

Design for Water

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BKDA

2023



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New Construction

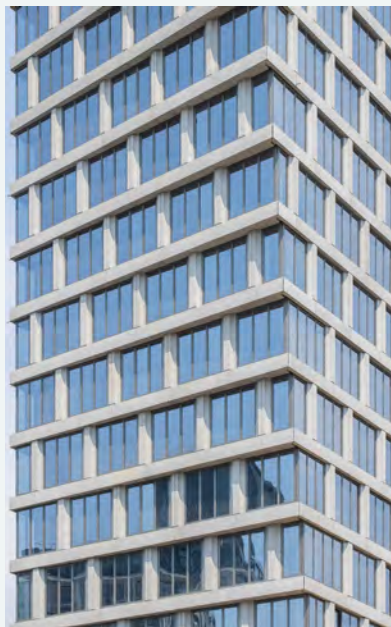
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From the thoughts of a cold winter:

**A compelling view from a window
inspires future outdoor activity.**

**Sometimes, the connection to sustain
us humans requires a framework – both
physically, and in the design process.**

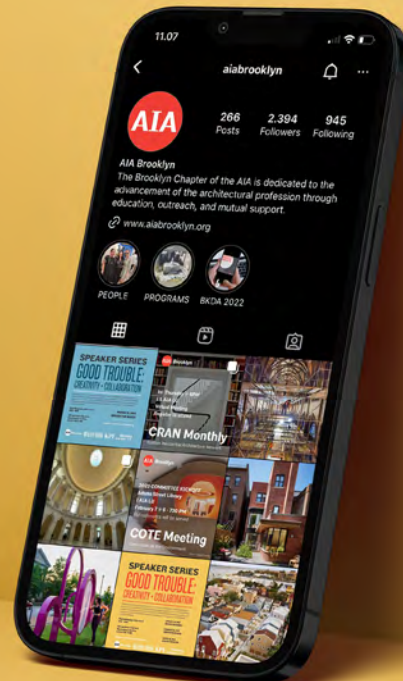


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