

Member Project Highlight



Photo: Halkin Mason Photography

2022 Design Awards, Award with Honor and Sustainable Citation **Botanic Bathrooms, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware**

Just a few miles inland from the Southern Delaware Beaches, an oasis of tranquility and beauty has been steadily cultivated at the Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek. With a focus on native plants, community involvement, and environmental stewardship, the DBG team has established an environment that offers an innovative take on the botanical garden experience.

These principles now extend to their recently completed restroom facilities. Situated gently at the threshold between the Meadow Garden and the Woodlands, the building combines contemporary forms and a thoughtful material palette in a structure that both enhances the landscape and serves its function as a fully accessible restroom. Undoubtedly, the bathrooms at the DBG are truly part of the unique garden experience.

Design Architect: [SEA Studio Architects](#)
Owner: Delaware Botanic Gardens

AIA Delaware is committed to excellence in architecture and to celebrating outstanding works of architecture through its biennial Design Awards Program.

[View 2022 Design Awards Recipients](#)

Advocacy

The Future of Resilience & Sustainability

The Hurricane Strong Home may change the

future of resilient design.

In 2012, as Hurricane Sandy battered the east coast, Diane Hellriegel made the most difficult decision of her life—to abandon her home in Breezy Point, New York. “My father built that house,” she says. “It was heartbreaking. I didn’t know what I was going to do.”

**Fight climate change
and inequities in the
built environment.**

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In the aftermath of the storm, one that would devastate the northeast coast—causing \$71 billion in damage in the U.S. according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and claiming 117 lives according to the American Red Cross—Hellriegel returned to find her home destroyed.

Soon after, unsure of her future, she was chatting with a neighbor in Queens when she heard of an experimental plan from Illya Azaroff, FAIA, a Brooklyn architect who wanted to create a house with unrivaled resilience and sustainability. “I talked with Diane and she was excited to try this new type of home,” says Azaroff, founding principal of architecture firm +Lab.

“So, I teamed up with the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) and brought together an amazing group of industry professionals. We gathered all the best practices and put them into this one house — the idea was to use science to find a better way to build.”

[Continue >](#)

Climate Action Business Playbook

The Climate Action Business Playbook is for building an architectural practice that embraces climate change mitigation and adaptation.

[Access the playbook >](#)



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Special offer—\$99 for new members (terms and conditions)

Join AIA as a new member and get a \$99 ticket to the AIA Conference on Architecture 2023, the architecture and design event of the year. The AIA community will be there to welcome you!

[Join AIA today](#)



Welcome New Members!

- Emily Camac, Associate AIA
- Jerry Chilimidos, Associate AIA
- Christopher D. DeSantis, AIA
- Rachel Reichert, Associate AIA
- Sarah Rigot, AIA

Small Firm Series on **AIAU**

As a small firm owner, you often must be the architect, the business leader, marketing professional, strategic planner, personal assistant, and account manager all rolled into one.

The Small Firm Exchange selected the courses in this series to make the most of your time by providing you actionable tools, resources, and knowledge to grow your small firm into the prosperous business you envision.

Questions about ?

Reach out to Willard F. Hurd, AIA, Delaware State SFx Representative at whurd@footprintarch.com.

Small Firm Exchange

AIA Member group

- Profit ... then Art: 12 Steps to Building a Successful Small Firm
- A More Productive and Fun Approach to Business Development
- Win More Work: Communicate Your Value
- More ...

AIA

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Emerging Professionals

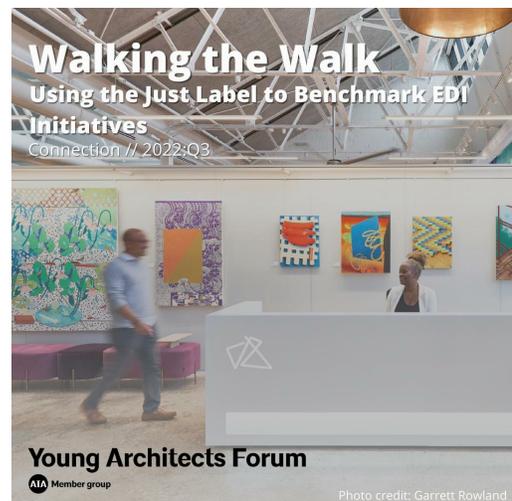
Walking the Walk

Using the Just Label to Benchmark EDI initiatives

"The Just label requires reporting on 22 indicators organized into six themes: diversity and inclusion, equity, employee health, employee benefits, stewardship, and purchasing and supply chain. Each indicator outlines accountability metrics organizations must meet to earn recognition at four levels of performance."

In our recent Connection, Abigail Brown and Laura Ewan dive into how the JUST label can be used to benchmark EDI initiatives.

[Find the full article!](#)



The YAF is the voice of architects in the early stages of their career and the catalyst for change within the profession

Balancing Family Life and the Architect Registration Examination

by Destiny Johnson

Licensure candidate and new mother Harpreet Cosgrove shares her experiences while studying for the ARE and offers advice and study tips for other candidates.



[Read the blog on NCARB](#)



Now YA (Young Architect) Know,

a newsletter from the AIA Young Architects Forum (YAF). Look out for important news, AIA updates, and ways to engage, no biggie.

The AIA Young Architects Forum (YAF) is a program of the American Institute of Architects and the College of Fellows organized to address issues of particular importance to recently licensed architects.

[Learn more here.](#)

Look forward to the Future Forward Grant

This \$10k grant supports emerging and early career professionals in the testing of new ideas that disrupt the traditional conception of practice, process, and product in the field of architecture.

[Learn more here](#)

NYK Funnies



"Trying to have a seat at the grown up table."

Join the YAF for an open mic night!

Join YAF National for the inaugural Open Mic night where you can learn more about the national committee and their 2023 priorities for Architects in Action, Catalyzing for Change.

[Learn more here](#)

Just Released: Connection Issue Q3

This issue: **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**
Read interviews from architects about their career path, getting licensed and figuring out "now what?"

[Check it out here](#)

Want to Participate in Connection Q1?

Q1's issue: **YAF Summit-Mission 2130**

Connection's editorial committee welcomes the submission of articles, editorials, and interviews / spotlights from those who participated in the YAF Summit: Mission 2130

Draft Deadline: 02/17/2023
Contact the editor in chief at: gbermea@vlkarchitects.com

Important Links:

- [YAF Leadership](#)
- [YAF KnowledgeNet](#)
- [YAF Issuu page](#)
- [YAF on Instagram](#)
- [YAF on LinkedIn](#)
- [YAF on Facebook](#)
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Young Architects Forum

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AIA Career Center

Programs and Events

Building Sustainably: Wood's Role in Healthy Forests and Healthy Buildings

WoodWorks Regional Director John O'Donald II, PE presents "Building Sustainably: Wood's Role in Healthy Forests and Healthy Buildings" on March 2. This course – worth 2 AIA HSW LUs – is great for architects interested in learning about forestry and the impact of wood use on forest health, the relevance of wood to green building rating systems, and biophilic design strategies for healthy buildings.



March 2, 2023, 12:00 – 2:00 PM ONLINE

Cost: \$20

[Info & Registration](#)

In addition to seminars like this, John offers in-office (or virtual) lunch-and-learns customized to meet the needs of your team. Contact John to get one on the calendar for your team in 2023.

John O'Donald II, PE

Regional Director | VA, DC, DE, MD, WV

(814) 880-5636 | john.odonald@woodworks.org



GREEN BUILDING UNITED
2023 Sustainability Symposium

Green Building United is excited to announce the 13th Annual Sustainability Symposium taking place May 24th, 2023 at Drexel University! The Symposium is a full day of educational sessions covering cutting-edge green building and sustainability topics and industry best practices, including LEED, Passive House, Living Building Challenge, Enterprise Green Communities, WELL, green stormwater infrastructure, and 2030 Districts. Join us to hear experts from across the region and beyond as they discuss their current work, opportunities for social, environmental, and economic impact, and challenges ahead in the sustainability field.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn and earn various CEUs (AIA, GBCI, PHIUS, LACES), explore the expo hall, and network with speakers and fellow attendees.

May 24, 2023 at Drexel University

Early Bird Pricing

Members: \$140 | Non-members: \$250

Student/Gov/Non-Profit: \$50

[More info and to register](#)

Our Partners



Partner News

New Trend Setting Products from TimberTech!

We are adding 2 new colors to our collections this year to stay at the head of the trend curve.



New to our Advanced PVC Landmark Collection is Boardwalk®

We're always keeping an eye on outdoor living trends, and lately, homeowners are increasingly seeking weathered wood aesthetics, which is why we're adding a new color to the rustic Landmark Collection. Boardwalk is an on-trend gray that resembles hardwoods like white oak or cypress that have been heavily weathered. This light hue rounds out the collection nicely, as it fits in well with the distinct, seasoned wood aesthetic. What makes Landmark so unique?

- Realistic look of popular hardwoods
- Cathedral wood grain with crosscut finish
- Highly blended with unique coloring
- Class A Flame Spread Index
- And Barefoot friendly; up to 30 degrees cooler and 40% better traction than typical composite competitors decking



Boardwalk®



Reclaimed Chestnut™

New to our Composite Reserve Collection is Reclaimed Chestnut™

Given the growing demand for weathered, reclaimed wood among homeowners, we're adding a new inviting color to the Reserve Collection. This new light brown tone resembles chestnut or white oak, but with a gray cast that reflects gentle weathering. The effect is a cool yet inviting light brown hue with multi-tonal coloring and a rustic cathedral grain. The unique qualities are:

- Reclaimed wood look
- Cathedral wood grain finish
- Highly color-blended
- WUI-Compliant (Fire-Resistant)
- 4 sided Mold-Guard cap technology

Please reach out to me if you have a project that you need samples, I can provide 4" or 2' board samples for selections. Stay tuned to next month when we highlight new rail options, or you can visit our special landing page, www.newthingsondeck.com to learn about them now!

Sharon Moore, Area Manager covering the Delmarva Peninsula and sometimes beyond!
(302) 233-5358 | Sharon.Moore@azekco.com.



Don't Let Your Project Get "Bogged" Down

Bog Turtle Season 2023 is Fast Approaching!

Landmark Science & Engineering's Bog Turtle (BT) team, led by Amy Nazdrowicz, a Professional Wetland Scientist, is gearing up for the 2023 BT season and is now scheduling Phase II Bog Turtle Investigations (BTI).

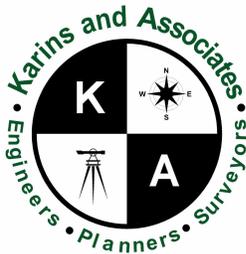
What is it you need to know about the endangered BT to keep your project's schedule on track? There are seasonal restrictions for BTI. If potential BT habitat has been identified on your site through a Phase I, it must be provided a 300' buffer or a Phase II BTI. The timing of a Phase II BTI is specific, and, if missed, your project could be delayed.



Phase II BTI can only be conducted between **April 15 and June 15** (to coincide with the turtles' breeding season). It consists of four separate surveys where at least two of the surveys must be conducted in May (when the turtles are most active).

Up-front planning and agency coordination is the first step that can take time to complete. So, it is important to reach out to a Recognized Qualified BT Surveyor, certified in the state in which the property is located, as soon as you are aware that an investigation is needed. Amy is a Recognized Qualified BT Surveyor certified in Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Read our [blog](#) for more information and reasons why procrastinating will do you no favors. Amy can be contacted by phone at 302.218.3630 or by e-mail at AmyN@landmark-se.com.

Allied Member News



Karins and Associates DeIDOT DBE Spotlight

Karins and Associates is an engineering consulting firm that provides civil engineering and surveying services to Delaware and the surrounding region. With a full staff of professional engineers, land surveyors, and survey crews, the firm offers services including site engineering, high-density laser scanning, storm water management/water resources, utility planning, and construction permitting.

Founded in 1973, the firm is willing to provide site-specific engineering and analyses for complex projects, as well as assist clients with navigating the maze of regulations, design hurdles, and challenging site issues. The firm's experienced field personnel are equipped with the latest technology including robotic total stations, GPS equipment, digital 3D laser scanning equipment, and a robotic unmanned surface vessel (USV) for hydrographic surveying.



The firm creates masterpieces for an assortment of clients ranging from private firms, municipalities, and governmental agencies in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. Karins and Associates has contributed to different projects in residential, commercial, and institutional areas such as the Silver Maple Farm 55+ community housing development in Middletown, DE and the Rockford Tower in Rockford Park in Wilmington, DE.

Karins and Associates has become a trusted adviser to public and private clients by providing practical approaches to their individual project needs. The firm is committed to creating extraordinary projects that come alive in the communities they serve and aims to work with the upcoming generation of engineers to bring more talent to the company and expand their project offerings



901 Market Street Tower Opens

Wohlson Construction and The Westover Companies recently celebrated with a ribbon cutting to officially open the doors to the newly renovated 901 Market Street Tower building in Wilmington, Delaware.

This 139,000 square-foot building is comprised of a nine-story wood structure building, a rooftop deck on the tenth floor, and is joined to a fourteen-story steel and concrete building.

This unique, transformational project converted floors 2 – 14 from office space into 82 units of multi-family housing and features new commercial and retail space on the first floor, all in the heart of Wilmington's downtown central business district.



Wohlson Construction provides construction management, general contracting, and design/build services to clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions. As a leading merit shop firm, Wohlson provides construction services in the senior living, education, healthcare, manufacturing, and commercial markets and maintains full-service offices in Wilmington, DE; Lancaster, Harrisburg, & Berwyn, PA; Baltimore, MD; Parsippany, NJ; Hamden, CT; & Vienna, VA.

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DiSabatino Construction Company	Verdantas
Electronic Home Solutions (EHS)	Wohlsen Construction Company
Karins & Associates	WoodWorks Wood Products Council
Marvin	Become a Partner or Allied Member

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