



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AIA MICHIGAN GOLD MEDAL WINNER ANNOUNCED

June 12, 2013- Detroit, Michigan- The American Institute of Architects Michigan will award its Gold Medal to Arthur F. Smith, FAIA at the annual Celebration of Architecture on June 14th at the University of Michigan Museum of Art in Ann Arbor. The Gold Medal is the highest honor that can be given to an AIA Michigan architect. It is reserved for an architect who is distinguished in his or her career, works to advance the professional standing of all architects and lives up the ethical standards of the American Institute of Architects.

Throughout his career, Arthur F. Smith, FAIA, has been passionate about design excellence. His ability to creatively solve complex issues with innovation has resulted in more than 30 design honors and awards, including regional and national landmarks such as the Lawrence Tech University Taubman Student Services Center, Detroit Lions Training Facility; Regent Court; the Steel House; E-Port, a 1.2 million sf office and retail renovation in Chicago; and the \$100 million renovation of General Motors' Research and Development Facilities originally designed by Eero Saarinen.

After earning his Architecture degree from Lawrence Technological University (LTU), Smith's loyalty to the university and the profession has been unwavering. He is currently a thesis advisor for the Master's Program and an adjunct professor for Interior Architecture. From 1995 through 1999, Arthur F. Smith Architects generously sponsored a design scholarship for the School of Architecture, and today Harley Ellis Devereaux supports scholarships at LTU, University of Michigan and The Michigan Architectural Foundation. While serving as Director of Design at Neumann/Smith & Associates, Inc., Art participated on the Dean Selection Committee and on the School of Architecture Curriculum Advisory Committee. Today, Art serves as the primary Design Principal at Harley Ellis Devereaux.

Smith's commitment to the American Institute of Architects is evident in the various positions he has participated in. In addition to being an active member within the organization, he served as President of AIA Michigan and AIA Detroit and was the recipient of the Young Architect of the Year from both AIA Michigan and AIA Detroit. Smith received his Fellowship into the American Institute of Architects in 1999 and the AIA Detroit Gold Medal in 2004.

Currently, he serves as the Chair of both the AIA Michigan and AIA Detroit Honor Awards Committees. As Chair of the Annual AIA Michigan Design Retreat, Smith continues to promote his passion of design excellence by providing opportunities for young interns and practitioners that are active within the organization and attend the annual retreat. Smith is always available to support the profession and the Institute and does so enthusiastically.

The American Institute of Architects Michigan, headquartered in the historic Beaubien House across from the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit, established its awards program to bring to public attention the value and importance of architectural excellence and to recognize those whose notable achievements encourage all to make excellence in architecture the standard.

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