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## President's Message - Victor Saroki, FAIA



Greetings members! I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday weekend and that you are reenergized for all of our fast-approaching fall events. One event in particular that I am very honored to be a part of is the AIA Large States meeting. Last month I mentioned the dates (October 11-13) and this month I am even more positive about the meeting as plans continue to develop. SmithGroupJJR will host a reception and tour the first evening of the meeting and after the meeting sessions on Friday we will tour the Affleck House and Cranbrook, including the Saarinen House. It is an honor for our state to be hosting the other AIA large states and I am pleased we will be able to share a few examples of the great architecture and design that Michigan has to offer.

*For those of you who missed the newsletter last month, Michigan is hosting the AIA Large States meeting this year and there will be five states gathered for the 2012 session. The meeting is an opportunity for large states, who are also their own regions due to physical size and membership numbers, to come together and discuss important AIA-specific issues. The facilitation of conversation between states experiencing similar situations due to their size results in better diffusion of information and solutions for all.*

Sincerely,

Victor Saroki, FAIA



We are in event-mode here at the AIA Michigan headquarters. So many wonderful events are around the corner and I hope all of you take advantage of all the opportunities for learning and professional growth that will be offered this fall.

I am very excited about our annual Design Retreat, Sept 21-23rd. I talked about it in last month's newsletter and the online registration has been updated since, so check out our website to [view the details](#) and [register online](#). The retreat provides students, emerging professionals and established professionals with the opportunity to talk about architectural design together in a beautiful lake-side setting. Certainly an event not to be missed!

The 15th Annual Heritage Conference of the Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services is Sept 19, 2012 in downtown Milford, MI. "Placemaking" is the conference theme this year and AIA CEU credits have been applied for, so be sure to register before by September 12th! For information and registration, click [here](#).

Another fall event that I am awaiting eagerly is our Annual Meeting Day on Oct 26th. It is a great opportunity for AIA members and AIAS members to learn and lead together. It only happens once a year, but the inspiration and motivation the Annual Meeting Day provides last all year long. For those of you attending this event, please consider attending [The Build Environment Showcase- Today and Tomorrow \(BESTT\)](#) event the day before on October 25th. This event, organized by the MSU Land Policy Institute (LPI) will be truly informative and both events will qualify for CEU's. More information will be sent out as plans develop, so mark your calendar for Oct 25th and 26th and we'll see you there!

Please take a moment to answer this month's poll question at the top left of this newsletter. We love reading your responses! Last month we asked about what continuing education opportunities were most appealing to members. The responses were very diverse, but they revealed that you like a variety of options (building tours, lunch and learns, webinars, etc) but interest in learning must be balanced with the necessity to be productive in the office everyday, so time is the most limiting criterion, not subject or format. With this in mind, we can make recommendations for learning opportunities and will make sure to keep our [calendar](#) updated. (The calendar is updated when we receive event notices, so if you have an event to promote, email [christine@aiami.com](mailto:christine@aiami.com) so we can add it to the calendar). We add CES opportunities and events from across the state, so check it every week for the most up to date information. This month we are curious to know if you hear about CE's opportunities and events at work or if you search for them on your own? If you take the time to answer the poll, I promise we will take the time to consider your suggestions!

If you are not following the AIA Michigan on Facebook, Linked In or Twitter, click below:



Don't forget the **Facebook Contest** I issued on Monday! Click the link above to "like" us on Facebook and you will automatically be entered to win a copy of *American City: Detroit Architecture 1845-2005!* The contest ends Monday at 12:01am and I will announce the winner, (*chosen at random, but gifts and bribes can still be sent to the office*), in next week's Monday Minutes.

- **Design Plus, Inc.**, an architectural and engineering firm in Grand Rapids, recently hired **Brian Welsh, AIA LEED AP** as a licensed architect.
- **AIA Grand Rapids'** new President is former Vice-President **Brian Swem, AIA LEED AP**. The wife of former President **Nate Golin, AIA** has been transferred to Minneapolis, MN for work and Nate will follow her there. We wish Nate the best and welcome Brian to his new position!
- **SHW Group** broke ground on a 13,480-square-foot addition to its Berkley office on September 4, 2012. The addition is intended to accommodate recent office growth for the firm, which has doubled its personnel since it moved into the space in 2003.

## AIA Grand Valley is now AIA Grand Rapids!

The decision has been two years in the making, but as of September 1st, the AIA Grand Valley is now the AIA Grand Rapids! To read the press release about the name change and see the timeline of name changes for this chapter, [click here](#).

## The CLFMI Design Award Contest is Accepting Entries!

The Chain Link Fence Manufacturers Institute (CLFMI) is now accepting applications for the 2012 Les Grube Memorial Design Award contest. The best and most unique use of chain link fence materials will earn a \$2,500 prize to the architect (and \$1,000 prize to the installing contractor) of the winning entry. Entries will be accepted until November 1, 2012. For more information and to register, visit the CLFMI website [here](#).

## In Memory of Richard D. Licata, FAIA

We regretfully announce the loss of Richard D. Licata, FAIA, who passed away August 18, 2012. Licata was very active with the USGBC, the AIA at local, state and national levels, and was an advocate of renewable energy and sustainability. He graduated from Lawrence Tech in 1976 with a BS in Architecture and was chosen as the LTU 2012 Distinguished Architecture Alumni Award recipient. Due to his passing, Lawrence Tech has rescheduled the [award presentation](#) to October 3, 2012 and his family will be present to accept the honor.

## Save the Dates

**Clear your calendar! Check out the links below for more information about these highly anticipated events and make sure to consult the full calendar on our website so you don't miss out on networking opportunities and celebrations across the state:**

Annual Design Retreat, September 21-23, 2012 (at Torch Lake)  
 Large States Meeting, October 11-13, 2012  
 NOMA Conference, October 18-20, 2012  
 AIA Michigan Leadership Day, Oct 26, 2012

**2012 Upcoming Events and Calendar - Check [Website](#) for updates.**

## [WEBSITE CALENDAR](#)

**Follow the link for all of the calendar items.**

## Architectural University Lecture Series

 [Andrews University](#)

LAWRENCE  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
UNIVERSITY

[Lawrence Technological University](#)



[University of Detroit/Mercy](#)



[EVENT CALENDAR University of Michigan](#)

## Click Calendar Links

[Engineering Society of Detroit \(ESD\)](#)

[AGC of Michigan Calendar](#)

[Michigan Society of Professional Engineers \(MSPE\)](#)

[American Council of Engineering Companies \(ACECM\)](#)

[MIOSHA- Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

[SMPS Upcoming Events](#)

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