What does it mean to be a member of the American Institute of Architects Indianapolis? It means getting inspired through continuing education, learning from national and local architectural leaders and having a voice in the community. It’s about being part of an organization that works to make Indianapolis and the surrounding communities better places through great design. AIA Indianapolis works to bring it all together. Here’s a snapshot of some the highlights from 2016.
February 360 MARKET SQUARE // Designers laid out the plans for this 27-story mixed-use tower on a portion of the site of the former Market Square Arena.

April GROOMING A NEW GENERATION OF ARCHITECTS // Teens across the state competed in the annual Indiana High School Architecture Design competition.

May MAKING HISTORY // AIA Indianapolis celebrated the 100th running of the Indianapolis 500 with a special event and discussion with Browning Day Mullins Dierdorf about the latest updates at the Speedway.

June MOVERS AND SHAKERS // AIA Members get a rare opportunity to meet with their city-county council members during the annual city-council reception.

July MAKING SOMETHING FROM ALMOST NOTHING // Andrew Freear, director of the Rural Studio at Auburn University, shared the innovation of building a home for about $20,000.

August THE WHEELS ON THE BUS // Indianapolis has a new transportation hub, and AIA members got a special tour of the Julia M. Carson Transit Center with architects from AECOM and AXIS Architects + Interiors.

September TRANSFORMING DOWNTOWN // Architects had a chance to take a hardhat tour of one of the most anticipated new buildings in downtown, Cummins headquarters, designed by Deborah Berke Partners and RATIO.

October HOME SWEET HOME // In conjunction with the 2016 Architects’ Home Tour, AIA Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Museum of Art’s Design Arts Society sponsored the talk, “The Triumph of Regionalism: The Contemporary American House” by Reed Kroloff, principal at jones/kroloff and former director of the Cranbrook Academy of Art.

November ARCHITECTS AS LEADERS // Indianapolis was one of five sites for the national AIA Leadership Institute, which featured Peter Exley, FAIA, co-founder of the Chicago firm, Architecture Is Fun.

November PURPOSEFUL DESIGN // One of the last programs of the year was a talk about purposeful design from Scott T. Reitano of Reitano Design Group, and insights on the design construction industry from Jason Larrison, AIA, Indianapolis Business and Neighborhood Services Director.
One of the most popular AIA Indianapolis events is the Architects’ Home Tour, which drew nearly 1,000 people, who toured eight homes in Indianapolis and Zionsville offering a variety of unique residential home designs.

**BROAD RIPPLE BUNGALOW** // HAUS | Architecture for Modern Lifestyles // 6109 Carrollton Avenue, Indianapolis // Walls were removed to open the space to make this a fun, whimsical design where modern meets vintage in this kid-friendly (there’s an indoor slide) and guest friendly (a furnished second-story apartment) bungalow. 1

**NEON HOUSE** // NEON Architecture // 955 Hosbrook Street, Indianapolis // This tiny house at just over 1,000-square-feet shows how big design can work in even a tiny space. This pre-fab construction in Fountain Square serves as a case study for alternative methods of construction. 2

**GENTILI RESIDENCE** // Demerly Architects // 520 Walnut Street, Indianapolis // A contemporary, three-story townhouse is snuggled into the historic Chatham Arch neighborhood, where the design features panoramic views of downtown Indianapolis. 3

**KESSLER HOUSE** // A3 Design // 1105 Kessler Boulevard West Drive, Indianapolis // A diamond in the rough, this 5,350-square-foot home had been abandoned and neglected. Walls were removed, nearly every inch was remodeled or restored to breathe new life into this 1935 home. 4

**SEIFERTH HOUSE** // Rottmann Collier Architects // 516 New York Street, Indianapolis // Sandwiched between historic homes in Lockerbie, this contemporary home takes advantage of its vertical space with terraces on every level, including a courtyard plunge pool and a rooftop balcony with spectacular views of the city. 5

**AXIS HOUSE** // AXIS Architecture + Interiors // 6100 Irish Hill, Zionsville // A former brick ranch home was transformed into a multi-level modern farmhouse, where designers nearly doubled the size of the home and added lots of character, including a secret treehouse on the second floor. 6

**CEDAR STREET HOUSE** // DELV Design // 580 West Cedar Street, Zionsville // Indiana’s first certified Passive Home shows that a home can be sustainable and energy efficient without sacrificing design. It uses 78 percent less energy than a conventional house thanks to the design and materials. 7

**FITCH PLACE** // David Rausch Studio // 340 Fitch Place, Zionsville // The Midwest’s agrarian roots were the inspiration for this home, which features reclaimed barn wood siding that’s complimented with contemporary materials. The design takes advantage of expansive northern views. 8
AIA Indiana honored awards for professional accomplishments and design leaders during its annual awards programs. AIA Indianapolis members that received awards included:

Brandon Farley, AIA, a senior designer at American Structurepoint, received the Young Architect of the Year Award. Farley has designed projects at every major university in Indiana. He leads American Structurepoint’s Education Studio and its WELL Building Standard, a cutting-edge, evidence-based design system that measures, certifies and monitors the performance of building features that impact health and well-being. Farley also is chairman of the Indiana High School Architectural Design Competition.

kRM Architecture+ received the Distinguished Firm Award. Founded in 1978, kRM is known for its environmentally responsible design that responds to the needs of educational, healthcare and civic clients. Committed to craft and quality, kRM Architecture+ advocates to create solutions to transform communities.

Jason Larrison, AIA, received the Edward D. Pierre Award, named in honor of the architect who was a crusader for the welfare of children, decent housing for all and progressive urban planning. Larrison, director of Indianapolis' business and neighborhood services, proactively promotes quality design throughout the city. He developed new procedures and standards for temporary structures for public and private events, which have become a model that other cities have adopted.

Lisa Gomperts, AIA, a principal at Schmidt Associates, received the Juliet Peddle Award, which recognizes individuals for their commitment to architecture. Gomperts has been project manager on more than 50 higher education, workplace and community projects throughout the state. A natural leader, when she was chairwoman of the national education committee, she launched AIAU to provide 24/7 access to continuing education programs. She transformed Schmidt Associates’ learning program into a holistic training program that’s provided more than 350 classes (about 5,000 learning units) for staff.

John White, president of Associated Construction Publications, received the Walter S. Blackburn Award named after the long-time Indianapolis architect and civic leader. He founded Building Excellence in 2005, as a way to promote great design and construction in Indiana. He now owns 14 regional construction magazines and helps use them to champion causes such as safety, diversity and workforce development. When AIA Indiana was looking for new office space for its bookstore, White offered space in his offices and even agreed to man the bookstore.

Browning Day Mullins Dierdorf Architects received the 25-year Award for its design of the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art. Since its opening in 1989, the museum has become an Indiana landmark.

ONE 10 STUDIO Architects received a Merit Award for its adaptive reuse project transforming a 1920’s school into the Marion County Public Defender Agency. The firm also received a Citation Award for its design of Reliant Partners, a $1.2 million office building in Broad Ripple.

Timothy Gray, AIA, and Ball State University Department of Architecture students received a Merit Award for a non-traditional project for GrOwING GREEN, a mobile greenhouse at Butler University Center for urban ecology.
“It’s one of the most important projects AIA Indianapolis sponsors to cultivate a new generation of architects,” said Brandon Farley, AIA, IHSADC chairman, who has been a volunteer for the competition for 11 years.

CULTIVATING A NEW GENERATION OF ARCHITECTS

For nearly 50 years, AIA Indianapolis has been inspiring the next generation of architects through its Indiana High School Architecture Design Competition (IHSADC). Founded in 1971, it is AIA Indianapolis’ longest-running program.

The competition gives students a chance to be real problem-solvers by not only designing a structure but also considering how it will fit into its surroundings. For most teens, it’s their first chance to design a building, and for many, that experience inspires them to want to become an architect.

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The competition offers a chance for students to interact with Indianapolis architects during a winter workshop, and get professional feedback from designers during the annual spring awards program.

NATIONAL SPEAKERS BRING NEW IDEAS AND INSPIRATION

The $20,000 House // You can’t buy a lot of house for $20,000, unless you’re Andrew Freear and his students. Freear, architecture professor and director of Auburn University’s Rural Studio, came to Indianapolis to talk about what’s been dubbed, the 20K Home – a home that is affordable for almost anyone, even in rural Alabama, a place where most designers don’t even want to step foot. Through the Rural Studio project, designers created an alternative to mobile homes by designing micro cottages.

Designing the firm of the future // AIA Indiana was the Midwest host for the annual AIA Leadership Institute, a one-day event that provides leadership education for architects and emerging professionals. While it was the first time for Indianapolis to host the Leadership Institute, it had more attendance than any of the other regional venues, which included Dallas, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Keynote speaker Peter Exley, FAIA, co-founder of the Chicago firm, Architecture is Fun, shared insights on designing the architecture practice of the future.

The Contemporary American House // What influences modernism in home designs? A sense of place and culture, that is according to Reed Kroloff, principal at jones/kroloff in Washington, D.C. and the former director of the Cranbrook Academy
of Art, Kroloff showed a collection of contemporary home designs from across the country during a special event co-hosted by AIA Indianapolis and the Design Arts Society. The presentation showed how regionalism has impacted contemporary residential designs.

MONUMENTAL AWARDS

Several local architects received accolades during the annual Monumental Awards sponsored by the Indy Chamber. BSA LifeStructures received the Architecture Honor Award for its design of the IUPUI Science Engineering Lab building. CSO Architects received an Honor Award in Interior Design for LDI, Ltd. The firm also received the People’s Choice Award for its design of University of Indianapolis Health Pavilion.

One 10 Studio Architects received a Merit Award in Architecture for the design of Reliant Partners. PHÄNOMEN/design received an Achievement Award in Architecture for its design of Vida. Browning Day Mullins Dierdorf received awards in Innovate Reuse and Real Estate Development for Penn Street Tower.

RECOGNITIONS

Matt Gutwein named Design Champion // It’s no secret that great design is a combination of a talented architecture team in addition to a building owner who understands and values architecture. Matt Gutwein, CEO of Marion County Health & Hospital Corp. of Marion County, is a true believer in the positive difference architecture can make on patients, employees and the public. Because of his leadership in advocating for great design, AIA Indianapolis named Gutwein the 2016 Architecture and Design Champion.

SERVICE AWARDS

Wes Snyder, Assoc. AIA, received a Distinguished Service Award for his leadership of the 2016 Architects’ Home Tour. Snyder, a designer at AXIS Architecture + Interiors, was instrumental in making the tour one of the most profitable tours AIA Indianapolis has ever had, which included bringing in new sponsors and implementing new marketing strategies.

AIA Indianapolis also presented Laura Musall a Special Service Award for her work in promoting architecture and AIA Indianapolis. The owner of Musall Strategic Communications, she has been the public relations representative for AIA Indianapolis for the past 10 years.