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DESIGN PITTSBURGH 2015 *DRAWN TO INSPIRE*

Celebrating the places and the people who inspire, shape, build and Design Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, PA – September 22, 2015 The Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects celebrates the inspiring places and people who shape and build Pittsburgh. Design Pittsburgh is a signature program of AIA Pittsburgh, celebrating excellence in architecture and design, and honoring those who create it.

The theme, *Drawn to Inspire*, invites the entire Pittsburgh Region to recognize outstanding architecture and good design. Design Pittsburgh events are open to the public and draw a wide range of design professionals, including landscape architects, interior designers, graphic and product designers, engineers and photographers.

“Design is hugely important and good design makes a difference in people’s lives”, said Anne Swager, Hon. AIA, executive director of AIA Pittsburgh. Swager continued, “Design Pittsburgh is an asset to the Pittsburgh community, raising the profile of architects as critical resources and industry experts and highlights the importance of good design in our region.”

Design Pittsburgh is a unique mix of juried awards, a public vote for the people’s choice award and events to demonstrate how AIA Pittsburgh promotes the value of architecture and design in the places that we work, live, and play.

2015 Design Exhibition Grand Opening

Friday, September 25, 2015

5:30-9:00 pm

805/807 Liberty Avenue | Cultural Trust Education Center | 3rd and 4th Floor, Pittsburgh

Free and open to the public

Come crawl with us during The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District and view the works of talented Pittsburgh architects, designers and photographers! More than 1,000 visitors are expected. Three areas of competition are included in the exhibit.

1. **2015 Design Award Competition** – Recognizing and promoting excellence in architecture and design in the following categories:

Architecture Award

Architectural Detail + Craftsmanship Award

Design + Innovation Award

Engineering + Science Award

Excellence in Sustainable Design

Historic Preservation Award

Interior Architecture Award

Regional + Urban Design Award

Timeless Architecture Award

2015 Design Award Competition Entries – 92 entries were received, a 35% increase from last year.

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2. **Young Architects Studio Competition** - In partnership with the Design Center Pittsburgh. Now in its sixth year, the goal of this competition is to engage young architects, emerging design professionals and students, by challenging them to find innovative ways to approach a regional design problem. This year the Young Architects Studio Competition is partnering with the City of Pittsburgh and the Office of Mayor Peduto. The Young Architects Studio Competition focuses on a true Pittsburgh icon that celebrates our history and future: the Bayer Billboard Site. The challenge for this competition is to propose a new use for this iconic site.

Young Architects Studio Competition – 9 entries were submitted with ideas for how to re-imagine the iconic Bayer Sign.

3. **Places That Inspire**

Individuals are encouraged to submit a photo of a “place” located within the 11-county area. This “place” could exist as is, or it could be a place reimagined within the region.

Places That Inspire Juried Photographic Exhibit received 23 entries of which 12 were selected for the exhibit.

“Architects bring value to the built environment by creating places and spaces where people want to be”, said Alan Schlossberg, president of AIA Board of Directors. “Design Pittsburgh, highlights the value of architecture and design and exposes the architects work to a wide variety of audiences.”

Design Pittsburgh 2015 is made possible by the support of The Gateway Engineers, Inc., the Official Sponsor, and Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc., sponsor of the People’s Choice Award.

About AIA Pittsburgh

AIA Pittsburgh, the professional association of architects, promotes the value of architectural services and the value of good design. Architects are creative problem solvers, matching client needs with the best design solutions. Architects work to improve the user experience in the built environment by designing safe, sustainable, productive, and more enjoyable places. <http://aiapgh.org> [Facebook AIA-Pittsburgh](#) [Twitter @aiapgh](#)

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