

Celebrate Architecture in Colorado During Colorado Architecture Month, April 2010

Several exciting free events and educational activities offered throughout the month-long celebration

DENVER (March 22, 2010) — The Colorado Component of The American Institute of Architects (AIA Colorado) has declared April “Colorado Architecture Month.” Colorado Architecture Month provides a series of free events, which are open to the public and are intended to celebrate the importance of architecture in people’s every day lives. Architecture impacts how we live, work, play and even eat.

In addition to AIA Colorado, the four local chapters of AIA in Colorado will host or sponsor events and programs ranging from educational seminars on how to work with an architect, to “Doors Open Denver,” to the ever-popular Box City Event, where children experience the design and construction industry firsthand by requesting permits, ordering materials, designing buildings and constructing those buildings into a cardboard city.

“Colorado Architecture Month provides a unique opportunity for all Colorado citizens to enjoy the rich and varied architecture our state has to offer, through several free events and educational opportunities,” said Mary Morissette, AIA, AIA Colorado 2010 President. “Many people associate Colorado architecture with the traditional mountain home, but there is a wide range of architectural styles to observe and experience. The month-long celebration also creates an occasion to meet architects and learn about the profession.”

A total of nine events are scheduled across the state, beginning on Tuesday, April 6, and ending on Saturday, April 24. For more information, visit www.coloradoarchitecturemonth.org.

Tuesday, April 6

Boulder Architecture, Art & Appetizers

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado North

Location: The Dairy Center for the Arts (2590 Walnut St., Boulder, Colo.)

Cost: Free

Attend this free public education event featuring 10 speakers each giving 10-slide, 10-minute presentations about topics related to architecture or art. Presentations range from projects and inspirations to experiences and philosophies. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Friday, April 9

Young Architects Awards Gala

6 – 10 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado

Location: Denver Design Center (595 S. Broadway, Denver)

Cost: Tickets prices vary; visit www.coloradoarchitecturemonth.org

Join novice and veteran architects from across the state for an awards ceremony and gala. The evening’s events will honor Colorado’s passionate young architects, students and interns through a celebration of their extraordinary achievements. In addition to design awards, special honors will be given to AIA Colorado’s selection for 2010 Young Architect of the Year, Intern of the Year, Mentor of the Year and Instructor of the Year.

Tuesday, April 13

PechaKucha Night Denver

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Presented in part by AIA Denver and Create Denver Week

Location: Flower Garage (15th St. and Delgany St., Denver)

Cost: Free

Attend this free public education event featuring 10 speakers, who will present 20 images for 20-seconds each, resulting in face-paced, seven-minute presentations about topics related to architecture, design or art. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

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Wednesday, April 14

Clyfford Still Museum: The Final Design

6 p.m.

Presented by the Clyfford Still Museum with support from AIA Denver

Location: Denver Art Museum Sharp Auditorium (100 W. 14th Ave., Denver)

Cost: Free

Speaker: Brad Cloepfil, AIA, Allied Works Architecture (Portland, Ore.)

Since the schematic design unveiling, the museum design has advanced in exciting ways. Cloepfil will detail innovative solutions conceived to present Still's artworks.

Thursday, April 15

Confluence: Social Responsibility > Sustainability

8:30 – 11 a.m.

Presented by AIA Denver

Location: Driscoll Ballroom, University of Denver

Cost: Visit www.coloradoarchitecturemonth.org for prices and registration

Attend this educational event with community leaders, developers, planners and architects on the unique opportunities and challenges presented by the development of affordable housing. Learn the benefits of social responsibility and what architects are doing to improve the sustainability opportunities within Denver's community.

Saturday, April 17

Denver Box City Event (Educational Activity for Children)

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Presented by AIA Denver

Location: Wellington E. Webb Municipal Building, Atrium (201 W. Colfax, Denver)

Cost: Free; however, reservations are requested to ensure entry (call 303.446.2266)

Participate in this unique children's event that promotes an understanding of historic preservation and urban design by combining art, architecture, creative thinking, city planning, design, construction, fun and learning into one comprehensive educational experience. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade (accompanied by adults) will experience the design and construction industry firsthand by requesting permits, ordering materials, designing buildings and constructing those buildings into a cardboard city. AIA-member architects and design professionals will offer advice and assistance to participants.

Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18

Doors Open Denver - Expert- and Self-guided Tours

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sponsored by AIA Denver and presented by Denver Architectural Foundation in conjunction with City & County of Denver Headquarters Location: Union Station (1701 Wynkoop St., Denver)

Cost: Free; however, tickets for expert-guided tours are limited to four per person and two tours per day, per person (visit www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver)

Explore Denver from the inside out while visiting some of the city's best-known and lesser-known architectural treasures. Pre-registration for all expert tours will take place at the Doors Open Denver Headquarters. These tours have limited capacity and run 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alternately, self-guided tours may begin at any participating Doors Open Denver location. Stop by event headquarters to speak with event staff for recommendations, or visit the www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver for a map and complete list of the more than 80 participating sites.

Tuesday, April 20

How to Work with an Architect

6 – 8 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado

Location: BSH Home Appliances Showroom (11220 E. 53rd Ave., Denver)

Cost: Free

Enjoy hearing from Denver-based architects about how to work with a residential architect—whether remodeling a basement or building a home—on any budget.

Saturday, April 25

Colorado Springs Box City Event (Educational Activity for Children)

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Presented by AIA Colorado South

Location: Queen Palmer Elementary School (Gymnasium, 1921 E. Yampa St., Colorado Springs, Colo.)

Cost: Free; however, reservations are requested to ensure entry (call 303.446.2266)

Participate in this unique children's event that promotes an understanding of historic preservation and urban design by combining art, architecture, creative thinking, city planning, design, construction, fun and learning into one comprehensive educational experience. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade (accompanied by adults) will experience the design and construction industry firsthand by requesting permits, ordering materials, designing buildings and constructing those buildings into a cardboard city. AIA-member architects and design professionals will offer advice and assistance to participants.

About AIA & AIA Colorado

For more than 150 years, members of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. AIA members have access to the right people, knowledge and tools to create better design, and through such resources and access, they help clients and communities make their visions real. With more than 2,500 members, AIA Colorado is the voice of the architectural profession and the primary resource for its members. Visit www.aiacolorado.org for more information.

Doors Open Denver is taking place in celebration with Colorado Architecture Month. Visit www.ColoradoArchitectureMonth.org for more information.

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