

BERKSHIRES POOL HOUSE BURR AND MCCALLUM ARCHITECTS Ζ

### NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

# AIA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

I had the pleasure of attending the AIA Leadership Summit (formerly AIA Grassroots Conference) in Washington, D.C. in mid-February. Attendees included over 600 representatives from all 50 states. It was great to meet and spend time with other architects and AIA members from across Massachusetts. The four-day conference began with a three-member panel discussion titled "Citizen Architect," including new AIA President Emily Grandstaff-Rice, FAIA, from the BSA. Emily joined our Massachusetts table on Wednesday for breakfast. Other panel members included Kevin Holland, FAIA and Amber Dodge, AIA Senior VP of Advocacy and Relationships, and was moderated by Lakisha Ann Woods, AIA EVP/CEO.

Political icon James Carville also took the stage to offer advice ahead our visits with Congressional representatives on the following day. He suggested we train ourselves to "tell a story" including set-up, conflict, and resolution. As someone who lives in a flood-prone area (New Orleans), he spoke about climate change. Mr. Carville said that climate activists are missing "an anthem", and that if we had one, the movement would be more effective. As architects he said, "Be articulate and passionate about how important resilience is." Right on!

After breakfast on the following day, we spread out and headed to various congressional buildings to meet with members or their representatives. AIA MA Executive Director John Nunnari joined the Central and Western MA attendees, Tony DiManno and me, at the offices of Representative James McGovern and Representative Richard Neal. We spoke in support of both the Resilient AMERICA Act and the Democracy in Design Act.

The Resilient AMERICA Act (RAA) was introduced in the House during the last congress with bipartisan support. The Act would increase funding for FEMA's BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) program. It would also increase BRIC program eligibility for non-profits, establish a Residential Retrofit and Resilience Pilot Program, and include more types of disasters eligible for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program. The bill needs to be re-introduced in the new Congress.

The Democracy in Design Act was introduced in the House and Senate during the last Congress, also with bipartisan support. The Act would codify the GSA's (U.S. General Services Administration) 1962 Guiding Principles for Federal Architecture, which the AIA supports. The bill would prevent future Presidential executive orders mandating a particular style of architecture without regard to location or local community. Again, the bill needs to be re-introduced in the new Congress.

Tony, John and I re-joined the rest of the MA delegation to visit both Senator Warren and Senator Markey's offices. While we met with her staff, Senator Warren zipped by with a smile and a wave on her way to her next meeting.

Select videos and workshop materials are available online at ttps://www.aia.org/pages/6378577-aia-leadership-summit-2023

Photography: Wendy Brown AIA

Thursday's opening plenary included a conversation with AIA leadership, including Emily Grandstaff-Rice, FAIA, AIA's CEO Lakisha Ann Woods, Amber Lombardo, CACE President, and Kimberly Dowdell, AIA VP Elect, along with moderator Korey White. The panel spoke about the younger generation in the workforce, being willing to help them move forward with their ideas, and being mindful of what it takes to attract and retain talent. Amber also noted that this generation is not limited by "geographical sorting." In the vein of the theme of the conference, Architecture's Generations at Work, Andrea shared the idea of Interconnected Leadership: sharing ideas, learning, and solving problems together. We were also treated to a very interesting and humorous presentation by demography and sociology expert Kim Lear on "Decoding Generational Trends." After speaking about the shared experiences and culture that shaped Baby Boomers, Gen X'ers, Millenials, and Gen Z, she said a major trend now is a well-being revolution. Young employees are asking themselves, "What am I willing to sacrifice for my job?" Kim is currently working on a pandemic study.

Friday's closing keynote included an interview with entrepreneur Sheila Johnson, co-founder of BET, CEO of Salamander Hotels and Resorts, and the first billionaire African-American woman. She spoke about her efforts developing the Salamander resorts, including the first project in Middleburg, VA, where her life was threatened. She also supports employees in various ways and mentors others outside her organization. Regarding entrepreneurship she said to focus on "what gets you out of bed in the morning." Also, bring in people who are going to help you, people who understand your vision.

Workshops and other sessions were also held during all four days. The ones I attended included: Beyond Washington-State and Local Advocacy, Creative Programming for Non-dues Revenue, The Generational Tech Divide, and A Conversation on Civic Engagement. As a true "Citizen Architect," I did come away with more resources and ideas for reaching my elected officials on the issues I care most about. I'm happy to talk further with anyone about approaches to civic engagement. I hope we all find something we are passionate about and help improve the world beyond the built environment.







Above Left + Right: John Nunnari, Executive Director AIA Massachusetts Tony DiManno AIA, Wendy Brown AIA

Left: John Swords Sr., Legislative Assistant to Rep. McGovern Eric White, Executive Director BSA Hon. AIA, Ellen Watts AIA, Etty Padmodipoetro AIA, Robin Seidel AIA, Wendy Brown AIA

# OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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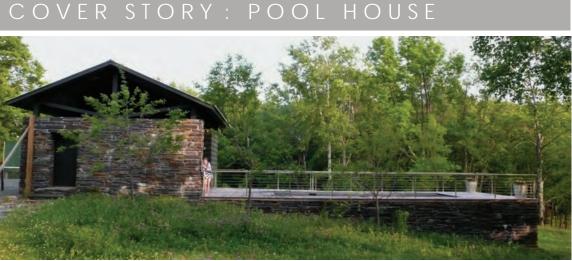
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### THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The WMAIA Newsletter is published four times a year. It is circulated to all members, advertisers and subscribers. Please direct all newsletter correspondence to Rachael Chase, at editor@wmaia.org. Articles, photos, notices of events and other information are welcome. Opinions expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the WMAIA. The Editor reserves the right to reject or revise MATERIAL AS SPACE AND SUBJECTIVE OPINION PERMIT.



Our clients needed a swimming pool to lure their children up to the country. They wanted it to be small and placed near their existing tennis court, with an extra little building to house a bathroom, storage for pool supplies, and tennis rackets. We included a porch that works simultaneously for tennis watching and pool lounging, and utilized an existing steep slope dropping away from the tennis court to avoid a code mandated pool fence. Where the slope up to the tennis court would make the differential less than the required four feet, we raised the stone walls up to a height of eight feet above the pool deck. These higher walls create the supports for the porch roof. A solid door in the stone wall completes the structure and evokes that Charleston porch experience of surprise at opening a door not into the expected front hall, but back outside.

DO YOU HAVE A COVER STORY? EMAIL EDITOR @WMAIA.ORG

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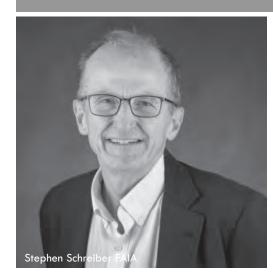
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The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) has recently announced the winners of its second annual Student Design Competition, including two graduate students from UMass Amherst: Bobby Buttrick, who took home top prize for his project Parallel Places, and Pranav Amin, who received first place in the graduate division for his project, Apparatus Bay. Both students were advised by Stephen Schreiber FAIA, professor and chair of the Department of Architecture in the College of Humanities & Fine Arts.

The association granted \$28,500 in awards to six winners and to their faculty sponsors in an online ceremony. For the top prize, Buttrick received \$5,000, while Amin earned \$4,000.

"We congratulate Bobby Buttrick and his advisor Stephen Schreiber FAIA on earning the top prize in the 2022 MBMA Student Design Competition," says MBMA General Manager Tony Bouquot. "We had 48 entries from eight schools, including one from Guatemala. It's exciting to see a variety of schools and students submitting such impressive entries, and we thank all of the faculty sponsors for their work as well."

The competition took place during the 2022 fall semester, with entries due in early January. The contest for undergraduate and graduate architecture students challenged each participant to create an innovative metal building design for a fire station and department headquarters.

Founded in 1956, MBMA serves manufacturers and suppliers as it works to promote the metal building systems industry. For over 60 years, its membership has supplied high-quality buildings for use in commercial, retail, office, industrial, institutional and other end uses. The association provides a wealth of useful information on its website, MBMA.com, for anyone who works with or is interested in metal building systems. Resources include technical materials, research reports, videos and design guides. The MBMA blog provides the most current research and new ideas to propel the industry.





Metal Building Design Competi









The Millie Foundation, a scholarship fund awarded to Lee Middle & High School graduates and future graduates pursuing a career in a design field, was recently launched in the Berkshires. WMAIA board member Kerry Bartini AIA and fellow class of 1998 Lee High graduates created the non-profit in honor of the Scannell Sisters' dedication to the advancement of educational opportunities for women. Millie Scannell Schuerer was Kerry's grandmother. The family lost Millie in 2020. A member of the Lee Middle & High School Class of 2023 will be the inaugural recipient of TMF scholarship.

Please go to www.themilliefoundation.org for more information.

HAVE YOU HEARD? NCARB is retiring the rolling clock! The five year expiration date on passed divisions of the ARE is no more, though check with your jurisdiction to be sure that jurisdiction doesn't have its' own rolling clock.

WHY THE MAJOR SHIFT? "NCARB is committed to removing unnecessary impediments on the path to licensure." Exam divisions will now expire based on versions of the exam. A candidate that received a passing score in 4.0 that expired due to the rolling clock will see their exams reinstated on May 1, 2023. Moving forward, candidates can transfer passing divisions from the prior exam (currently 4.0) towards the current exam (5.0). NCARB offers a transition calculator to help. NCARB will notify candidates at least 18 months in advance of an exam retiring. There currently are no plans to retire 5.0 in the next 18 months. This is a great opportunity for candidates to move one step closer to licensure.

Visit nearb.org for more information, and as always, please feel free to reach out to WMAIA's EP Committee and Architect Licensing Advisors Garrison Piers-Gamble Assoc. AIA and Kerry Bartini AIA.



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At Springfield's High School of Science and Technology, teens are getting a glimpse into what life could be like as an architect-thanks to the Future Architects Club, a six-session architecture workshop run by Erika Zekos Assoc. AIA, senior lecturer and undergraduate program director in the UMass Amherst Department of Architecture, and My-Ron Hatchett AIA, senior project manager for the Department of Capital Asset Construction for the City of Springfield and a WMAIA board member.

The workshop is held after school and open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors enrolled in Springfield public schools. It introduces students to the field of architecture and the construction industry. Created with a spatial justice lens, it also invites students to analyze and discuss equitable distribution of space and resources in their city in a program that combines theory with advocacy and action.

UMass Architecture is also partnering with Digital Ready, a "Our goal with this is tied into two things: a longstanding interest Boston-based non-profit that builds pathways between high by the Department of Architecture and its faculty to do outreach schools and Boston's job market for underrepresentedstudents. to the next generation of college students, and the intention of A dozen high school students are enrolled in a yearlong making this field—and our degree—accessible to everyone," architecture studio, taught by two UMass Amherst alumni. explains Zekos.

"This works. In incremental steps, it does work," Hatchett says. "Black architects only make up two percent of the industry. That "When I came up in high school, I hadn't met any Black architects. was part of my efforts to get into high schools and let students It wasn't until after I had graduated from college that I did... see an architect that maybe looks like them, and see that it's We want to make sure we open the field of architecture and possible to enter this field," says Hatchett. "They're not all going the construction industry as a whole. Hopefully it will make a to become architects, but at least they'll become aware of the difference to these students to know that this career is possible paths available to them—engineering, construction, designing for them." furniture—and see that the design industry is massive."

For this spring, there are six students who attend the weekly workshop, coming from five different Springfield high schools. All are juniors and seniors. Zekos has developed a curriculum for the program that begins by introducing students to architectural concepts. Students will be asked to create an asset mapping project where they discuss their city, the history of racial and class oppression, and consider how that's shaped the built environment of Springfield, she explains. From there, the class will shift gears into action. Students will be tasked with coming up with a design for what they'd like to see exist in their city.

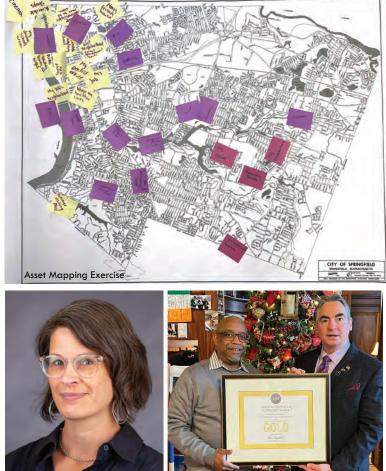
"In our brainstorming session last week, the students identified a number of different project ideas that they were interested in pursuing, including a waste recycling/re-use center, a daycare, a small business incubator for People of Color, a Buddhist temple, a community center, and a park/urban garden. What they identify as important is what we'll focus on in the second half of the workshop," Zekos says. "They are demonstrating how thoughtful and engaged they are! My goal, honestly, is to learn from the students here. If we could co-create some knowledge between what I know about architecture education, what My-Ron knows as someone who has had a prolific career in the field, and what the students know about their own lives and city, and really generate a case for action, that would be the dream."

Workshops like this are familiar to Hatchett, who previously collaborated with the UMass Amherst Department of Architecture to create similar programs, both for high school and college students.



"I tell students you get to use your creativity. You don't need to be a math major and you don't have to be an artist to be a great architect—you just have to be willing to work hard. That's the key," Hatchett explains. "The rest of that stuff comes. You learn it, you get trained. Architecture is a vast field with different paths that, when done properly, has a better effect on society, on people."

Together with Department of Architecture Chair Stephen Schreiber FAIA and Kevin Chrobak AIA, Hatchett also created an architecture workshop for graduate students, which was held at Dunbar CommunityCenter and ran for several years. It even resulted in one of their Central High School students, Opalia Meade, ultimately enrolling at UMass Amherst, studying architecture, and developing her own social justice-centered architecture business called Designing in Color.





## 2023 NEW ENGLAND ARCHITECTURE AWARDS



### Call for Submissions March 13th - May 17th

There is a long tradition of recognizing individuals and organizations for their outstanding achievements in support of the profession of architecture.

The Annual New England Architecture Awards, a collaboration of the AIA components in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, celebrate architecture by New England architects anywhere in the world and architecture by other architects within the New England region.

The 2023 New England Architecture Awards, hosted by AIA Connecticut, will celebrate small to large firms and projects of all sizes, types, and budgets. Entries will be judged on their own merit, judged individually, not in competition with each other.

We will also be recognizing one project from each state based on the entries received.

Submittable link: https://aianewengland.submittable.com/submit



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Jack Frazier, a longtime member of WMAIA, a former chapter president, and partner in the eponymous Juster Pope Frazier passed away on February 17, 2023.

Here we offer a personal remembrance.

One of the things you discover as you age is you find yourself losing those who have brought something special to your life. Jackie (Jack) Lafayette Frazier, long time valley architect, partner at Juster Pope Frazier, mentor, and friend, was one of those people.

Jack grew up in Granite Falls, a small mill town in the western hills of North Carolina. The son of a telegraph operator, he left home to join the Navy shortly after receiving his draft notice during the Korean War. Always the practical man, Jack wisely chose a life at sea rather than slogging through the mud in the infantry. This eventually led to a posting as a naval attaché in the code room of the US embassy Paris in the mid 1950's. While living the life of an American in Paris, he met his wife and lifelong partner Nancy.



DO YOU HAVE NEWS

# IN MEMORIAM: 1931-2023

After completing his career in the Navy, Jack and Nancy settled in New York where he attended Pratt Institute and begin his architectural career.

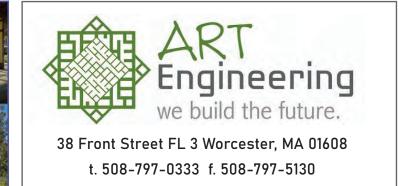
Moving to the Pioneer Valley in the early 1960's, he and many other well-known local architects passed through Jim Britton's office in Greenfield, then to Drummey Rosane Anderson's Amherst office, before moving into private practice. Eventually he joined the Shelburne Falls office of Earl Pope and Norton Juster in what was to soon become Juster Pope Frazier.

I joined Norton, Earl, and Jack in the mid 1980's. I needed a job and they needed someone who could put lines to paper. Being a fellow southerner, I immediately found myself gravitating to Jack as we shared both a familiar manner of speaking and a love for hush puppies and Carolina style barbeque. Always kind, wise, and generous with his knowledge, Jack was the perfect mentor. I was of that younger generation that was quickly exchanging our triangles, parallel bars, and HB pencils for computer screens, but Jack was never phased as technology was changing our profession. As he was quick to point out, it's not so much about how you do something, but what you do, and whatever Jack did, he did with an extra helping of integrity, grace, professionalism, and most importantly, élan.

By the early 2000's, Norton Juster had long since retired and it was clear that Jack and Earl Pope would soon follow; it was time for me to move on. Some years later I was helping someone in my current office sort through a series of technical design issues. She suddenly looked at me and said, "How do you know all this stuff?" Somewhat taken aback by her question, my response was simple, someone had taken the time to teach me and pass on their knowledge. That someone, more often than not, was Jack Frazier. In that moment, I realized how lucky I have been. Jack was a friend, a kind gentleman, and a true professional, with a wealth of knowledge and a wiliness to pass it along to the next generation. In short, traits I hope we all aspire to.

Of course, his willingness to share his wonderful homemade barbeque didn't hurt either. I miss him.

- Liv Wyatt Assoc. AIA





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# 9

# MASS MoCA

### EJ HILL: BRAKE RUN HELIX

For his first solo museum show and largest exhibition to date, EJ Hill has created a massive installation that incorporates freestanding sculptures, paintings, a stage for performances, and a rideable sculptural installation inspired by the form and function of roller coasters. Hill's practice focuses on everyday experiences that intermingle public struggle, endurance, trauma, and joy, whether within athletics, religion, the American education system, or amusement parks. Hill has often incorporated his physical presence by performing as part of these projects. He explains that "my body holds the echo or remnant of something," and works towards a future that elevates those who are frequently not seen and heard. In the United States, amusement parks were contested sites throughout Jim Crow-era desegregation efforts for equitable access to pleasure, leisure, and recreation. For Hill, roller coasters are public monuments to the possibility of attaining joy-which, as he notes, is "a critical component of social equity."

# THE Clark

### MARCH 18-JUNE 11, 2023

Paul Goesch (1885–1940) produced one of the most inventive, peculiar, and poignant bodies of work to emerge from Weimar Germany. An artist and architect, he made both fanciful figurative drawings and visionary architectural designs. The latter, which drip with eclectic ornament and resemble little made then or since, are the subject of this exhibition, the first dedicated to Goesch's work in North America.

A century ago, amid the ruins of the First World War and the ferment that birthed Germany's first democracy, a generation of architects sketched their visions for utopia. Goesch stands out among them for his formal invention, his kaleidoscopic color sense, and his playful and pluralistic embrace of history. He also stands out for his long struggles with schizophrenia, a condition for which he was institutionalized, and ultimately murdered by the Nazis.

This exhibition highlights the decorative portals and passageways that predominate in Goesch's architectural work. These represent the artist's metaphysical passages, as a spiritualist steeped in diverse religious and esoteric beliefs, as well as his altered psychological states. They also suggest Goesch's liminal status between art and architecture, "sanity" and "madness," the trained insider and the institutionalized "outsider," category confusions that have helped erase him from history.

Goesch is presented in this exhibition alongside his contemporaries, with works on view by artists such as Wassily Kandinsky and Käthe Kollwitz and architects Hermann Finsterlin and Bruno Taut.

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### JOHN W. OLVER HON.AIA IN MEMORIAM: 1936-2023

### TRIBUTES TO JOHN W. OLVER FROM THE DEPARTMENT LEADERS IN THE JOHN W. OLVER DESIGN BUILDING AT UMASS AMHERST

I first met Congressman John Olver in the middle of Independence Avenue in Washington DC. Chris Farley AIA and I were on our way to meet him, during AIA National's Lobby Day. But Congressman Olver was scurrying in the opposite direction. "You have one minute", he said, when we explained who we were. "I'm on my way to a vote". In that 60 second conversation, he made it clear that the AIA's agenda aligned with his own priorities.

I got to know him much better after he returned to Amherst full-time, after retiring from Congress. He got involved in town politics, local non-profits and UMass activities, including the effort to make the proposed Design Building into a demonstration mass timber building. (That building now bears his name)

John read the Western Massachusetts AIA newsletter from cover to cover. I know this, because he would frequently stop by my office, meet me for breakfast, or call me to comment on something that he had read in the newsletter-a featured architect, a highlighted artisan, the award winners, legislative priorities. He would end each encounter by saying, "You know that I am an honorary member of Western Mass AIA? I think you had something to do with that" [editor's note: it wasn't me].

He was a towering figure in so many ways, completely dedicated to improving the built environment. It's entirely appropriate that two AIA regional and national award winning buildings in Western Massachusetts-the transit center in Greenfield and the design building at UMass-bear the name "John W. Olver". Thank you for everything, Congressman.

### Stephen Schreiber, FAIA, Professor and Chair **Department of Architecture**

Massachusetts Congressman John W. Olver was a champion for the environment. We in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning were blessed by his commitment to make the world a better place. An avid outdoorsman, he helped promote the greenway and hiking trails across the Commonwealth. With his efforts, the New England Scenic Trail came into being along with other beautiful preserved areas nationally. His interest in sustainability led him to help the John W. Olver Design Building come to fruition. He was a frequent visitor to the building in his retirement as he continued to be active and engaged in creating a more sustainable future for all. We in LARP will truly miss him and his compassionate, humble approach to politics and governance. As a former UMASS faculty member, he was truly one of our own.

Robert L. Ryan, Professor and Chair Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning

The John W. Olver Design Building is not just another campus building. The beauty and warmth of the timber structure, and its environmental footprint that treads lightly, represents a visionary approach to contemporary building design in that it integrally respects the responsibility we have towards the earth we live on. None of this would have been possible without the support and environmental consciousness of Congressman John Olver, who was the prime reason that the Olver Design Building was built with Mass Timber, the only naturally renewable building material.

John attended Peggi Clouston's presentation about Mass Timber which led to several more meetings and ultimately a meeting of the minds where our technical background combined with John's long term efforts to support forest health, sustainable construction, and rural economies. Our conversations ultimately led to the idea of creating a timber demonstration structure which would support the UMass Amherst climate action plan and showcase new timber technologies. We also discussed the potential of this new university building to reinvigorate local forestry industries. Despite being in retirement, John went immediately to work and pulled many levers to secure funding and to switch from the initial default of a steel frame design to a timber frame design. At a time when only about 30 mass timber structures existed in the US, UMass became home to the most technologically advanced mass timber academic building in the country. The Olver Design Building is today an 18 time awardwinning, world-renowned building that has since become an inspiration for many others like it, fulfilling another wish of John's that it not become a "one-anddone".

We are truly grateful to have met John, both professionally and personally. Through many breakfast meetings and forest hikes, we came to know him well as a compassionate man who cared deeply about his state and the people in it. We will miss his kindness, his distinguished presence, and his resounding laugh. Rest in peace John.

Peggi Clouston, Professor, Building and Construction Technology Program with Alex Schreyer, Senior Lecturer and Director Building and Construction Technology Program.



The JOHN W. OLVER TRANSIT CENTER in Greenfield MA Building: Charles Rose Architects Photography: John Linden



The JOHN W. OLVER DESIGN BUILDING at UMass Amherst Building: Leers Weinzapfel Associates Photography: John Solem



### JOHN W. OLVER HON.AIA IN MEMORIAM: 1936-2023

John W. Olver HON. AIA



**AIA** Western Massachusetts newsletter

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### SPRING PROGRAMS

Wednesday May 17 | 4:00-5:30PM | Zoom | 1.5HSW request

**Geothermal for Architects** 

Thursday May 18 | 4:00 - 6:00 PM | In person | 1 LU requested WMAIA Women in Architecture presents **Tour: Maier Camerlenghi House** 

> Tuesday June 6 | 4:00 PM | In person | LUs tbd **Tour: Pittsfield YMCA**

Watch the enews for details and registration information!

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