



Maine
News

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The Maine Chapter of The American Institute of Architects



House on Casco Bay. Photo courtesy of Wayne Fugii.

Interpreting Maine Architecture

by Matthew Elliott, AIA

One of the ongoing conversations in our office is “what does it mean to design and build in Maine?” Over the years we have had the opportunity to explore many of the possible answers to this question. We have done traditional houses that use accurate historic detailing and forms, as well as ones that are much more abstract (modern) and draw their inspiration from their materials and site relationships. Then there are the “interpretation” projects, which is a catchall term that means we pick and chose what aspects of traditional Maine architecture we use in a project and tweak them so they feel more up-to-date. It is this middle ground that has always been hardest for us to work. How does one take a historic precedent and interpret it into a new building without watering it down and losing both its sense of historic connection and its sense of belonging to its current time?

Most of our clients come to us with a deep appreciation of Maine’s history, and its sense of place and interest to connect that to their project. However, they also know that they live differently than people did 100 years ago. They look for more light, an open plan and stronger connections to the outdoors. One of our recent clients gave us this description for their house—“we want

it to be thoroughly modern, but clearly grounded in Maine.” It has become clear to us that many of our clients want a tangible expression of traditional Maine architecture and yet want a “modern” house at the same time.

We like for all of our projects to have a strong concept and clarity to them, but we also like the way contrast can strengthen an idea. We love to see antique furniture in our more contemporary projects and modern furniture in our traditional ones. We feel that the contrast brings each of the pieces into finer focus and gives one a better appreciation of each of the elements.

Over time we have been exploring this tension between what is old and what is new, what relates to Maine’s historic and cultural past, and what relates to the way houses are built and inhabited today. Many of our projects have explored this issue, but recently we had a project that allowed us to really look at this issue of combining and contrasting traditional Maine architecture with more contemporary elements.

Our “House on Casco Bay” project, which was completed several years ago,

(Interpreting ME Architecture continued on page 3)

Inside:

Upcoming Events
2

The Maine QBS Program
5

Fire Marshal's Corner
6

AIA Maine Welcomes
12

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AIA Maine News

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Upcoming Events

September 19-20

AIA Maine & Haystack present
Vision and Legacy: The Haystack Campus at 50
Deer Isle, ME
www.aiamaine.org and click on Events

October 1

construction® Competition 2011
Build Day, 8AM-8PM
Biddeford, ME



President's Report


by Scott Brown, AIA

One could certainly make a case that there are some slight signs of increased activity and improvement to the tough economic times we have been dealing with over the past several years. I hope this is true with all of you, and that you are enjoying this terrific summer weather!

AIA Maine has been busy. The first half of the year, we sponsored several successful programs, events and presentations that were very informative and well attended. Also, we just finished one of the most active legislative sessions we have experienced for some time. During this first regular session of the 125th Legislature, we won a few battles and lost a few, but overall AIA Maine's visible presence and ability to work with legislators on policies, rules and procedures continues to progress. Thanks to our committee chairs, Susan Koch and Judy Harvie, Hon. AIA Maine, for all their effort and hard work and accomplishments thus far this year.

Shortly after the publication of the May issue of *AIA Maine News*, I attended the AIA National Convention in New Orleans. It was a difficult time to visit Louisiana as they were experiencing severe spring flooding of the Mississippi River, and many communities were on the verge of a disaster. Although there was a sense of heightened alert in New Orleans, water levels never rose high enough to be a significant problem to the city. It was my first AIA convention, and I thought that it was outstanding and exceeded my expectations. Besides attending a number of programs and workshops, I really enjoyed spending time with other AIA Maine members who were in attendance. Convention highlights included the keynote address "Mega Regions: The World of the Future" given by *The New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman; the presentation of the 2011 AIA Gold Medal Award to Fumihiko Maki, Hon. FAIA; and the recognition of the 2011 AIA Twenty-Five Year Award presented to Pei Cobb Freed & Partners for the design of The John Hancock Tower in Boston. Generally I was really impressed. If you have never been to an AIA Convention, I highly recommend it.

Looking ahead to fall, AIA Maine's calendar is offering some exciting programs. Planning is underway for a construction® Design/Build Competition, Haystack Vision and Legacy Symposium and the Chapter's 2011 annual meeting. Please make note of these events and their dates, and plan to attend.

Finally, I have been working with Executive Director Susan Koch on a statewide membership drive, which includes a goal of increasing AIA Maine membership and strengthening the organization. We will be reaching as many registered Maine architects as we can who are not already members along with relocated architects, newly-licensed architects and new allied members. If you know of any potential members, please encourage them to contact us. We believe in the value of AIA membership and the benefits it offers. If you join after October 1, 2011, you receive the last three months of the year free as a bonus and will not pay your dues again until January 2013. Fifteen months for the price of 12! For more membership information, contact Susan Koch at susan@aiamaine.org. 

October 14-16

AIA New England Annual Conference
"Livable Communities in the American Landscape"
Northampton, MA

November 16-18

Build Boston
Seaport World Trade Center
Boston, MA
www.buildboston.com

2011-2012

National Preservation Institute
Professional Seminars in Historic Preservation
& Cultural Resources Management
www.npi.org

1st Annual AIA Maine Architects' Showcase Pavilion *Maine Home + DESIGN* Midcoast Show 2011

by John Morris II, AIA

While the weather didn't fail to be cold, breezy and overcast, 19 AIA Maine participating firms rose to the occasion and showed their stuff to attendees of *Maine Home + Design's* 4th Annual Midcoast Show, June 17 and 18, at Ducktrap. The show format, consisting of staggered 4x8 foot whitewashed panels—one for each firm—arranged in four staggered aisles, created a cozy display area where visitors could get a good glimpse of each firm's work and chat with the exhibitors.

Though all respondents to a follow-up survey agreed there were many more colleagues than visitors most of the time, nearly all thought the experiment worthwhile and indicated they would be game to do it again. That said, there was nearly universal agreement that while the staggered display system worked as planned, the aisles needed to be a bit wider and exhibitors needed a better lounge within for gabbing, so viewers need not wend their way through a maze of chatting bodies.

The idea for the Showcase Pavilion was spawned from a May meeting between *MH+D* publisher Kevin Thomas and myself, only weeks before the show. Thomas was seeking a way to encourage AIA Maine architects to participate in the Midcoast Show, and I volunteered the "critical mass of 20" concept. A multi-panel display of work by UMA architec-

ture students and their involvement added a welcome diversity and considerable interest.

In summary while few got any good bites from the viewing public, many felt the showcase provided a unique opportunity to simply get to know one another, and enjoy the company of fellow colleagues. For members who could not make this year's hastily planned show, you are urged to mark next year's event on your calendar.

Showcase Pavilion Participants 2011

Whitten Architects, Portland
John Gordon Architect, Bucksport
Peter T. Gross Architects, Camden
Richard Renner Architects, Portland
Carol A. Wilson Architects, Falmouth
44 Degrees North, LLC, Damariscotta
Knight Associates, Architects, Blue Hill
Skaala, LLC, Camden
Eric Chase Architecture, Brooksville
Stephen Blatt Architects, Portland
Elliott + Elliott Architecture, Blue Hill
Stewart Brecher Architects, Bar Harbor
Day Matero Studio, Bath
Dominic Paul Mercadante Architecture, Belfast
Van Dam Architecture and Design, Portland
Winkelman Architecture, Portland
A4 Architects, Bar Harbor
DGC Architecture, Ellsworth & Portland
John Morris Architects, Camden



AIA Maine Architects' Showcase June 2011. Photo courtesy of John Morris.


Maine Human Rights Act

New accessible building standards under the Maine Human Rights Act (MHRA) were adopted during the recent legislative session. The newly enacted Public Law Chapter 322 will make the MHRA's accessible building requirements for public entities, places of public accommodation and commercial facilities consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design adopted by the U.S. Department of Justice. The amendment to the MHRA becomes effective September 28, 2011.

To comply with the ADA, public entities, public accommodations and commercial facilities have the option of complying with either the old standards or the 2010 ADA Standards from September 15, 2010, through March 14, 2012. For new construction and alterations, from March 15, 2012, forward, the 2010 ADA Standards are mandatory.

The current MHRA accessible design standards applicable to public entities, public accommodations, and commercial facilities are codified at 5 M.R.S.A. §4594-F.

The amendment adds a new section, §4594-G, which will make the MHRA accessible building requirements for public entities, public accommodations and commercial buildings consistent with the ADA, including the March 15, 2012, mandatory application date for the new standards.

The Maine Human Rights Commission plans to amend its Accessibility Regulations and provide education to the public about the new accessible design standards. For updates visit the Website at www.maine.gov/mhrc. 

by Richard Eustis, PE, FCSI, CCCA
Maine QBS Facilitator

Why is it hard to understand?

Why is it so difficult to understand the basic issue of "Qualification Based Selection?" It appears to be a simple concept; compare the qualifications that are necessary for the project with the qualifications of those that want to provide the service and find the appropriate match. The match of desired qualification to available qualifications should result in the highest level of confidence in success, the best results and a most satisfied client.

In our other activities, this type of comparison is commonplace. If we need surgery, we search for someone that we believe is well qualified. If we need an attorney, we look for someone with the right qualifications to meet our needs. Even if we are just looking for someone to service our lawnmower, we match what we need with the available services. We would never go to "Jiffy Lube" to change the oil in our walk-behind power mower.

Possibly the reason it is so difficult to convey the value of QBS to public owners is that some owners do not understand they are acquiring a Professional Service and that acquiring a service is much different than purchasing a commodity or a very well defined service. Most public entities have well-defined purchasing practices that are easy to follow when buying heating oil, paper for the photocopier or road salt. These purchasing practices do not work when one is acquiring Professional Services, especially where creativity or the study of alternatives is required.

If a lack of understanding about the services that are provided by a design professional is a factor in failure of a public entity to select the QBS Process, then we have an educational issue to address. Those of us that provide design services or have years of experience acquiring design services, may not appreciate this knowledge gap. We may be so close to the forest that our view is blocked by the trees.

In my early days working with building committees in the selection of design professionals, we used to spend at least one hour prior to the interview process discussing the role and responsibilities of the project designer. At times it was very surprising how little well-educated people knew about the services that were expected to be provided by a design professional, or how the design professional was expected to interact with the committee or the larger community.

Qualification Based Selection of design professionals is a well tested method that has a long history of success. It has been almost 40 years since the Federal Government passed the Brooks Act that first established legal requirements to use QBS. Even with this long history, many still do not understand why this is important because they may not understand the services that are required to convert a "good idea" into an operating facility.

For more information about the Maine QBS Program, visit the QBS Website at www.meqbs.org or contact the Maine QBS Facilitator Dick Eustis, PE, 35 Pride Street, Old Town, ME 04468 (telephone 207.827.2238 or email eustis@infionline.net). ■

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AIA Maine Design Awards 2012

by Scott Simons, AIA, Program Chair

Planning continues as the Committee met in June and decided that the jury for the 2012 event should hail from Minneapolis and Julie Snow, FAIA, has been asked to serve as jury chair. May 10, 2012, has been selected as first choice for the Awards Banquet. This date dovetails with the 2012 AIA Convention, May 17-19, in Washington, D.C.

First choice for the venue will be to return to the Portland Museum of Art. Hopefully, we will be able to secure this date and place.

In the name of saving time and money, the Committee has decided to move to electronic submissions. Hopefully this change will be embraced by the architectural community and increase the number of participants. ■

AIA Maine's Outreach Committee

by Daelynn Elizabeth, AIA, Co-Chair

Outreach has partnered with Engine, a community arts organization based in Biddeford, Maine, for canstruction®, a charitable event, using cans of food to create amazing sculptures by teams of architects, designers, engineers and students. Canstruction® is using One can of food as a catalyst for change, One can to represent the building blocks of massive sculptures, One can to prove that every act of kindness makes a difference. Since 1992 canstruction® has contributed more than 15 million pounds of food to community food banks demonstrating that we can win the fight against hunger.


The sculptures will be built inside vacant storefronts in downtown Biddeford calling attention to the economic opportunities in the downtown area and helping to feed patrons of the 30-year-old Friends of Community Action pantry.

Participating teams need to complete the application located at www.aiamaine.org and click on Event and Call for Entries. Send the completed form to director@feedtheengine.org. Deadline for signing

up is September 12, 2011, at 5PM. Build date is October 1st and the awards party will be October 7th during National Architecture week. Don't miss this fun competition that will benefit so many.

The Outreach Committee has also reached the public with a couple of other initiatives including a children's program at the Portland Public Library in July and participation at the Maine Home + Design Mid-coast Show.

It is the continued goal of AIA Maine's Outreach Committee to support the mission of AIA Maine and its members by offering programs and educational opportunities to the public, strengthening connections with architectural students and emerging professionals and promoting fellowship of our members and service to the community.

Outreach meets monthly, and welcomes your participation. You can contact me at daelynnelizabeth@maine.rr.com or Co-Chair John Charette, AIA, at john@portcityarch.com. 



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Architect John Charette works with budding architects at Portland Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Photo courtesy of Jerri Blatt.



Fire Marshal's Corner

by Richard McCarthy, Senior Plans Examiner

Here is a positive update on our adoption process. In late July our latest rulemaking was approved and signed by the Secretary of State. That makes the NFPA Life Safety Code 2009 version effective immediately. Any construction permit that has been submitted can be reviewed under the 2006 version. All new projects will be reviewed under the 2009 version. With regard to accessibility, the Maine Human Rights Commission has updated the Title 5 laws, which has given our office the right to review plans for accessibility issues. As we all know, the federal government has approved the latest version of the ADAAG, and now the State of Maine has followed suit and made the 2010 ADA standards for accessible design the new standard for construction. Our office will be reviewing projects under the accessibility regulations as well as Life Safety requirements. 

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In the News...

Dean Bingham, AIA, has won the 2011 People's Choice Restaurant Design Awards, in the annual Los Angeles AIA competition. The award is for Bingham's design of Grace restaurant, a former 1860s church-turned-restaurant, on Chestnut Street in Portland, Maine. During the design and subsequent renovation work, Bingham and his clients Anne and Pete Verrill preserved much of the historic building material, which includes vaulted ceiling and 27 original stained-glass windows, while also giving it a contemporary feel.

John Gordon, AIA, won two awards from AIA's 2011 Photography Competition produced by AIA St. Louis. His dramatic, angular photo entitled "Fenway Wedge" won the Al Fuller award, and a photo capturing the new Bucksport Bridge, "Bridge Deck" received an honorable mention. The annual competition is open to all architects registered in the United States.

WBRC Architects • Engineers has received an Award for Design Excellence from the Maine Chapter of Construction Specifications Institute recognizing the firm's design of a high tech research fa-

cility with the capabilities necessary to meet the users known needs to support current research, and the adaptability to meet future needs for ongoing research at the newly-completed University of Maine Offshore Wind Laboratory. The firm was also in the news for presenting a Steinway piano to the new Brewer Community School's Performing Arts Center. 

Grace interior. Photo courtesy of Erich Thalheimer.



AIA Member Benefits

As a member of the AIA, you not only support the profession and our collective efforts to improve the built and natural environment, but support each individual member statewide.

Benefits include:

AIA Credential

AIA Members may use the AIA credential with their name. AIA members also have the ability to use the AIA logo to illustrate their membership affiliation (some restrictions apply on logo usage).

AIA Career Center

AIA members can find professional internship opportunities throughout the nation to advance your career or your practice. Firms and other employers can post jobs, search resumes and choose from thousands of highly qualified candidates.

Media Relations

Visit the AIA Media Relations Support Center at www.aia.org/press. It is intended to be a robust tool to aid you in implementing effective media relations efforts in your local and regional markets. This link will also lead you to resources for managing your firm, educating clients about green architecture and more.

AIA KnowledgeNet

The AIA social networking platform emphasizes member to member communications such as blogs, discussion forums and professional resources authored by members.

AIA Knowledge Communities

At www.aia.org/practicing/groups you have an opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals to learn, collaborate and share ideas in areas of professional interest. Eighteen Knowledge Communities help to increase your understanding of a specific area of the profession from sustainable design to technology in practice.

Educational Programs

Through a robust continuing education program, AIA members stay current and competitive—whether it is at the AIA National Convention or a workshop offered by one of almost 3,000 AIA certified education providers. The CES records plat-

form will display your transcript, help you find the best courses and generally make your professional education journey a little easier.

Legislative Agenda

The AIA and its members have developed a legislative agenda that calls on Congress and the Administration to pursue policies that will stimulate work for architects. Recently when Congress proposed a tax increase on individuals and small businesses that form S Corporations, thousands of AIA members, speaking in a collective voice, succeeded in tabling the proposal in the U.S. Senate.

AIA Contract Documents

Members receive a discount of up to 40 percent when purchasing AIA contract document software. Visit www.aia.org/contractdocs. AIA Contract Documents are recognized as the industry standard.

Member Publications

Keep up-to-date with professional trends and issues with *AIArchitect* at <http://info.aia.org/aiarchitect/> the biweekly electronic newsletter. Membership also includes an annual print or digital subscription to *ARCHITECT*, the magazine of the AIA, and access to digital issues for *EcoHome*, *Eco-structure* and *Residential Architect*. AIA Maine members also receive a free subscription of *Maine Home* + *DESIGN* magazine through the Chapter's partnership with the publication.

AIA Economic Reports

Research on architectural billings, compensation and economic indicators.

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The AIA Trust serves members in areas essential to your livelihood as a professional. Legal services are just some of the programs the Trust offers.

AIA Maine Chapter

Through interaction with AIA Maine, you receive numerous opportunities to build

your professional network of peers and influence issues that affect your business locally and at the state level.

AIA Maine Architect and Associate AIA member benefits include:

AIA Maine News—A subscription to the Chapter's quarterly newsletter.

AIA Maine Website—Includes a list of AIA participating firms searchable by name, county or specialty.

Continuing Education—Several programs are offered throughout the year which provide affordable opportunities for continuing education. Members receive a discount when registration fees are required.

Legislative Affairs—AIA Maine makes your voice heard in the Legislature on a variety of issues and bills related to the practice of architecture in the State of Maine. The Chapter has successfully promoted funding for affordable housing, implementation of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code and tracks hundreds of bills each legislative session in order to support the best interest of our profession.

Design Awards—A biennial awards program to honor Maine architects for design excellence. Members receive a discount on entry fees.

Committee on the Environment (COTE)—Meetings provide a forum for education and sharing of ideas and resources for sustainable design.

Outreach Committee—Provides opportunities for members to educate the public about architecture and sustainable design, support architectural students at UMA, introduce elementary school students to architecture, and provide community service.

Visit www.aiamaine.org to learn more about AIA Maine networking activities, educational seminars and events. ■



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The focus for the 2011 AIA New England Conference, hosted by Western Massachusetts AIA, will be "Livable Communities in the American Landscape." It will look at the intersection of architecture and landscape, and how to foster livable, sustainable communities. Green buildings, sustainable agriculture, smart growth development, the arts and education will be featured throughout the conference. There will also be the AIA NE Awards and keynote dinner featuring speaker James Russell, FAIA, former editor of *Architectural Record* and current architecture critic for *Bloomberg News*.

Conference speakers will include John Abrams, the author of *Companies We Keep: Employee Ownership and the Business of Community and Place*, and Bill Reed of the Integrative Design Collaborative and Regensis, Inc., an acclaimed advocate practitioner of sustainability.

Join New England architects October 14-16 in the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts for workshops, tours and speakers.

Visit www.wmaia.org/aiane2011.html for additional information. 

ACE Mentoring 2011

by Jill Simpson, AIA

In June ACE Mentor of Maine ended the 2010-2011 school year with student design presentations in Portland and Bangor. To help get students from Bangor High, Hamden Academy and Portland High excited about the professions of architecture, construction and engineering, a restaurant program was selected for the design project as a place to which every student could relate.

Students toured local restaurants near their schools including the award-winning Grace located across the street from Portland High School. A new restaurant was also toured while under construction and again just before the grand opening. The tours allowed students to see the process involved in designing restaurant facilities and opportunities to ask questions about their own designs.

Final presentations for the students' restaurants included guest judges from Opechee Construction design/build team and UMA Architecture Professor Eric Stark. Scholarships were presented to the top students for their designs and participation through-



Portland High School students tour a local restaurant during construction. Photo courtesy of Jill Simpson, AIA.

out the school year. Award recipients included Hamden 2011 graduate and first place recipient for the third year Coplin Ficket; first and second place Bangor students respectively Adriana Beauchamp and Eli Beauchamp; Portland High School students first place sophomore Alison Savage, second place junior Kyle LeBorgne and third place junior Bobby Parent.

The ACE program hopes to continue another year of mentoring success in Maine. Additional volunteer mentors are always welcome. For more information you can contact a mentor at www.acementor.org. ■



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Museum Store Offers Architecture & Design Books

The Museum Store at the Portland Museum of Art (www.portland-museum.org/store) has announced an extensive selection of architecture and design books. The store carries a range of titles from the newly released *Symbol* by Angus Hyland and Steven Bateman, a book featuring more than 1300 symbols, to *Design Like You Give a Damn: Architectural Response to Humanitarian Crises I*, a collection of innovative projects from around the world that demonstrate the power of design to improve lives. The Museum Store is open Tuesday through Sunday: 10AM to 5PM, Friday: 10AM to 9PM, Memorial Day-Columbus Day: Open Mondays 10AM to 5PM. No admission is required to visit the Museum Store. ■

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2011 Maine Legislature: MUBEC Attacked

by Judith Harvie, Hon. AIA Maine
Coordinator, AIA Maine Legislative Committee &
Architects/Engineers Legislative Task Force


In the recent legislative session, newly-elected legislators and the administration aimed to achieve small government with less regulation. The Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC), enacted in 2008, was in their sights. MUBEC is a compilation of codes including the IBC family of codes and their residential components for one and two-family residences. Members of AIA Maine's Legislative Affairs Committee were aware of the threat and began contacting legislators after the November 2010 election. However, even with a concerted effort by AIA Maine's Legislative Committee, and the creation of a broad-based coalition coordinated by the Natural Resources Council of Maine, the MUBEC law was modified during the last few days of the session (although a close vote) due in part to aggressive lobbying by a few conservative legislators. Reasons MUBEC opponents used to amend the law included the complexity of code review and inspection; the cost of third-party inspections if the municipality selected to opt out of code enforcements; possible delays caused by lack of approved inspectors; and government regulation. The revised MUBEC will take effect September 2011 as follows:

- MUBEC will not apply in a municipality that has 4,000 or fewer (formerly 2,000) residents except to the extent the municipality has adopted the code;
- Local adoption in cities and towns under 4,000 will need affirmative municipal action;
- Municipalities with over 4,000 residents which never had a code before still have until July 2012 to begin enforcement; and
- Any municipality under 4,000 may choose to adopt only the building or the energy portion of MUBEC (or vice versa).

AIA Maine Legislative Committee co-chair Steve Rich, AIA, noted that "as architects, we should always design to high standards, and it would behoove us to design to the MUBEC." Along with Steve, the Chapter extends its appreciation to other Legislative Committee members for their exceptional effort on all the legislative issues that AIA Maine supported and opposed this year—co-chair Jim Pelsor, AIA, Scott Brown, AIA, Steve Blatt, AIA, Judy Johnson, AIA, Lyndon Keck, AIA, Alan Kuniholm, AIA, and John Morris, AIA.

Other 2011 Legislative Issues:

- LD43 To REPEAL the Maine Uniform Building & Energy Code. Opposed. **DEAD.**
- LD148 Uniform Standards for School Construction. Opposed. **DEAD.**
- LD260 To Extend the Historic Preservation Tax Credit. Supported. **DEAD.**
- LD530 To Allow Alternate Delivery Methods for Locally Funded School Construction Projects. Testified Neither for Nor Against, but voiced concern. **Enacted** as original law.
- LD742 To Eliminate the Sunset Date of the Maine Historic Preservation Tax Credit. Supported. **Enacted.**
- LD984 Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require a 2/3 Vote to Approve the Issuance of a Bond or Security by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. Opposed. **DEAD.**
- LD1153 Regulate Bonded Indebtedness of the State. Opposed. **Enacted** as An Act Related to Authorization of GARVEE Bonds.
- LD1416 To Provide Options to Municipalities Concerning the MUBEC. Opposed. **Enacted.**

All in all, we won some, we lost some, and MUBEC lives another day albeit modified! To view this session's finalized Architects/Engineers Legislative Status Chart, visit www.aiamaine.org and click on the Resources tab and scroll down to Legislative Affairs. 

AIA Maine Welcomes...

Richard Borrelli, AIA
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University of Maine at Augusta AIA Student Chapter

by Tyler Brown, UMA AIAS Outgoing President

With the beginning of another school term, the AIAS at UMA is ready with new leadership and excited to get started at its new home in downtown Augusta. This fall will see the finishing stages of the Gannett Building. It will be set to operate on four active, student-filled floors. Along with the architecture program, the building will be home to the painting and printmaking concentration of the UMA art program, which will be located on Gannett's third floor. The street level gallery plans to host another series of lectures throughout the year as well as exhibits of both professional and student work. The gallery and first floor conference rooms will be available for public use for meetings and seminars. Call 207.621.3581 for information and reservations.

Last spring the AIAS celebrated the presentation of the 2011 AIA Maine Scholarship to two architecture students—Michelle Rhodes and Jesse Partkus. Michelle is entering her 3rd year in the BA of Architecture at UMA and was elected Vice President of AIAS Chapter. Jesse, also entering 3rd year, was also the recipient of the Jay Hoffman Portfolio Prize and will be serving as AIAS liaison to AIA Maine's Outreach Committee. Congratulations to Marc Patrick, recipient of the 2011 Roger Richmond Founders Award for best thesis project, and to Professor Eric Stark for receiving UMA tenure as well as being named the Architecture Program Coordinator for the 2011-2012 school year.



UMA AIAS Chapter members celebrate Earth Day in downtown Augusta. Photo courtesy of Tyler Brown.

AIAS Chapter members exercised their green thumbs and contributed to the restoration of Augusta's downtown. The annual Earth Day outing, usually held at the main UMA campus, was relocated this spring to downtown Augusta. Students assisted in completing the recently installed underground natural gas tanks that will fuel the Gannett Building. With the cooperation of the City of Augusta, students were able to grass seed and mulch the area disturbed during the installation process. The AIAS hopes that this project with the revival of Augusta's historic downtown will be the first of many. **M**



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ARE & IDP Updates

The success team for Architect Registration Examination (ARE) had a launch party late spring at WBRC Architects • Engineers in Portland. With about 12 interns, the group was able to gather, discuss study guides, study the process and options to assist, and encourage the taking of the ARE. Another launch party will be scheduled for this fall with the hope of including interns throughout the state as well as students at UMA.

Watch for upcoming Intern Development Program (IDP) events. There is a lot of good information for interns going through IDP or currently unemployed. IDP can help! Contact Kimberly Tuttle at Kimberly.r.Tuttle@gmail.com for more information on Supplementary Education and IDP Programs available to interns. **M**