



## PRESS RELEASE

AIA Michigan  
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**Photos available online at [AIA Michigan Press Information](#)**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### AIA MICHIGAN PRESIDENT'S AWARD ANNOUNCED

May 30, 2014- Detroit, Michigan- Daniel Pitera, FAIA will receive the President's Award from the American Institute of Architects Michigan at the annual Celebration of Architecture on June 7 at Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum in East Lansing.

The President's Award was created in 1992 by AIA Michigan to honor architects, who practice in the education or corporate field, that have made exceptional contributions to the profession and their community through academia, business or government.

Dan Pitera, FAIA describes himself as a political and social activist masquerading as an architect. He is the Executive Director of the Detroit Collaborative Design Center at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture. He views the design profession as an essential force in establishing human relationships and engagement.

The DCDC is dedicated to fostering university and community partnerships that create inspired and sustainable neighborhoods and spaces for all people. Pitera holds the position that the sustainability and regeneration of any neighborhood lies in the hands of its residents. Pitera is currently co-leading the Civic Engagement process for the Detroit Works Long Term Planning initiated by Mayor Bing in 2010.

Pitera was a 2004-2005 Loeb Fellow at Harvard University. He was a finalist for both the 2008-2009 Rafael Vinoly Architects Grants in Architecture, and the 2006-2007 James Stirling Memorial Lectures on the City. Under his direction since 2000, the DCDC won the 2011 and 2002 Dedalo Minosse International Prize and was included in the US Pavilion of the 2008 Venice Biennale in Architecture. The DCDC was recently awarded the 2011 SEED Award, and the 2009 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Design Excellence for the St. Joseph Rebuild Center in New Orleans. The DCDC was the recipient of the NCARB Prize in 2002 and 2009 and was included in the international exhibit/conference ArchiLab in 2001 and 2004 in Orleans, France.

Pitera was a resource member for the 40th and 43rd Mayor's Institute for City Design (MICD) and a facilitator for the MICD 25th anniversary in 2011. In 2011, Pitera gave the keynote address at the Planning Institute of Australia's National Congress and the Keynote address in Lisbon to Portugal's equivalent to HUD. In 1998, Pitera was the Hyde Chair of Excellence at the University of Nebraska. He has lectured and taught extensively throughout the North America, South America, and Europe. Pitera is a true credit to social engagement and education.

The American Institute of Architects Michigan, headquartered in the historic Beaubien House across from the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit, established its awards program to bring to public attention the value and importance of architectural excellence and to recognize those whose notable achievements encourage all to make excellence in architecture the standard. Visit [www.aiami.com](http://www.aiami.com) or call 313.965.4100 to learn more.

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