



PRESS RELEASE

AIA Michigan
The Beaubien House
553 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, MI 48226

Contact:

Christine Zylla Lovstrom
313-965-4100/ FAX: 313-965-1501
mailto: christine@aiami.com

Photos available online at: [AIA Michigan Press Information](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AIA MICHIGAN ANNOUNCES TWO YOUNG ARCHITECT AWARD WINNERS

June 12, 2013- Detroit, Michigan- The American Institute of Architects Michigan will present its Young Architect of the Year Award to Jeffrey D. Johnson, AIA and Matthew M. Taylor, AIA, at the annual Celebration of Architecture on June 14th at the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA). The Young Architect Award is given to architects, who are under 40 years of age, in recognition of proficiency and exceptional accomplishment and who have made significant contributions to the profession in an early stage of their careers.

Jeffrey D. Johnson, AIA is a Partner and Senior Associate at Integrated Design Solutions (iDS). Jeff has been selected for several significant and complex projects including: MSU's Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum in conjunction with Zaha Hadid Architects; MSU Bio Engineering Facility; MSU Complex Material Measurement Facility; and MSU's Holden, Hubbard and McDonel Halls. Johnson's close ties with his alma mater, University of Detroit Mercy, gives him considerable opportunities to mentor student co-ops, helping them forge the gap between theory and practice. He is an active participant in the AIA Michigan Mentoring Network, a regular juror for Avondale High School architectural program, and a regular judge for the Oakland County Architecture Design Competition. He also is a member of the Society of College & University Planners. Johnson is also an active volunteer in the community as a Little League Coach, Board Member and Player Agent Liaison.

Matthew Taylor, AIA also attended the University of Detroit Mercy and credits the school with allowing him to expand his horizons and look at the world differently. After graduation, Taylor worked under Ken Neumann, FAIA and Gino Rossetti, FAIA and says that working with these great leaders reinforced his enthusiasm for great design and that they pushed him to voice his opinion and defend his ideas. They also made Taylor aware of the value of giving back in meaningful ways to the community. Taylor works at Rossetti and has contributed to projects such as the Detroit School of Arts and Youthville. He volunteers regularly with efforts such as leading multiple storefront competitions in the City of Detroit, a riverfront competition for Hart Plaza and many other volunteer efforts for the AIA Detroit, such as the house tours and the mentoring network. Taylor also affirms that, "the mentoring network has been one of the most enriching experiences that I have had as an AIA member. In an age where we often forget that the architectural practice is still an apprenticeship, my involvement with students at UDM, and steering our own mentorship program for interns at Rossetti, allows me to pass on the invaluable lessons I've learned from voices long since silenced."

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.

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