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For Immediate Release

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Images available upon request

Shaping Tomorrow at the 73rd Annual AIA Minnesota Convention

Minneapolis, Minnesota – The 73 annual AIA Minnesota Convention will take place Tuesday, November 13 – Friday, November 16, 2007, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Over two thousand people are projected to attend – 1,600 attending programs and the exhibitions, while another 500 will just visit the exhibit hall, which hosts over 250 companies as well as a variety of exhibits. The programs, centered around the theme **Tomorrow is Today**, encourage a discussion along this common thread.

“Today, architecture is on the precipice of starting tomorrow’s revolution – a revolution in how we think about living. Driven by changes in climate, finite resources, global economics and evolving technology, architecture will influence the way industry, business, and residents fit into their environments,” says AIA Minnesota Convention Committee Chair, Katherine Leonidas, AIA. As AIA Minnesota embarks on its 73rd Annual Convention, we are challenged by our programs and exhibitors to think about how our decisions and the tools and materials that we use today affects how buildings will be constructed and shape the way we will live tomorrow.

This year’s Convention offers more continuing education seminars than any other year. Forty-nine programs and five keynote addresses will cover issues from ethics and standard of care, to unique practice models and starting your own firm; from healing gardens and the design of global health, to renewable energy, global warming, and LEED neighborhoods; from BIM and integrative practice to preserving modernism and demystifying classicism; from materials and systems such as masonry, permeable pavement, and safe building facades to looking at the future of the practice and its impact on education.

The mix of convention programs allows something for everyone. Architects, required by law to maintain their license through continuing education credits, attend programs to learn about more technical aspects of architecture as well as programs of interest to them. Design professionals, the media and general public attend the keynote presentations that have more universal appeal and additional seminars based on discussion topics that engage them. Registration is available for a convention package, a series of programs or one event. Media passes and more program information/ speaker contacts are available by contacting Jennifer Gilhoi at 612-338-6763 gilhoi@aia-mn.org.

Keynote Presentations

Keynote presenters are selected on the basis of the popularity of their particular cause/issue, theme relevance, and their credibility and presentation style. With a state program that rivals the best AIA component conventions around the country, these presentations by speakers of a national convention presentation caliber draw up to 400 people. Of the five keynotes this year, Marshall Purnell, FAIA, the 2007 First Vice President/President-Elect of the American Institute of Architects, and Jim Paluch, J.P. Horizons, Inc., touch on the profession and practice areas; while the following

three keynotes are more design-related and of interest for the media and public as well as architects and related design professionals:

Where in the World is Architecture

November 13

Architecture functions as a local and a world-wide discipline in the 21st century. In this presentation, Robert Ivy, the editor in chief of Architectural Record, analyzes and outlines major forces affecting the design and construction of major architectural projects and the communities that they serve.

Teaching Strategies Influenced by the Evolution of Practice

November 14

Office dA is a Boston-based architecture firm whose investigation of the potentials of materials and construction techniques, forms the foundation of their designs. Nader Tehrani, principal at Office dA, will discuss the evolution of the building industry, the introduction of digital fabrication and the advent of strategic integration of structural, sustainable, and mechanical strategies.

Jurors Show and Tell

November 15

This keynote address features three architects, David Dixon, FAIA, Goody Clancy, Josh Shelton, AIA, el dorado architects and Victor Trahan, III, FAIA, Trahan Architects, APAC, serving as this year's AIA Minnesota Honor and Divine Detail Award jurors, who will talk about their practice and projects through a presentation of their work.

The Exhibit Hall

The exhibit hall features displays of awards and themed projects from AIA Minnesota, its chapters and its 22 committees. It's a lively center of activity that hosts well over 200 product lines and a variety of professional services during the exhibit hall hours, Tuesday, November 13, 4:30 - 7:00p.m., Wednesday, November 14, 11:15a.m. – 2:30p.m. and 3:45 – 6:00p.m., and Thursday, November 15, 11:30a.m. – 2:00p.m. In the hall you can find representatives, including craftspeople such as stone carvers, tile makers, and large-scale decorative painters; as well as a *Chair-i-Table Lounge* by the Minnesota Architectural Foundation and more. Here are some of the highlights:

- ▶ View the work of Elness Swenson Graham Architects, Inc., recipient of the 2007 AIA Minnesota Firm Award
- ▶ Play mini golf on architect-designed holes resurrected from February's Skyway Open
- ▶ See exhibits including The AIA150 Capitol Exhibit of AIA Minnesota's work demonstrating the 10 principles of livable communities, The 2006 AIA Minnesota Honor Awards and Divine Detail Awards, The 2007 Ralph Rapson Travel & Study Fellowship Competition Exhibit, The 25-Year Award and The AIA Minnesota Louis Lundgren Award recipients, recognizing volunteerism in the profession
- ▶ Visit the AIA150 Legacy Lounge to view legacy projects from AIA Minnesota Chapters
- ▶ Enjoy AIA's America's Favorite Architecture slide show

For more information, to see the full program descriptions and to register, go to www.aia-mn.org/convention

The American Institute of Architects Minnesota, founded in 1892, is dedicated to strengthening our communities, improving our built environment and providing exceptional design. For more information on the organization and Minnesota architectural firms, reference our Web site at www.aia-mn.org and pick up a copy of Architecture Minnesota, the award-winning architectural magazine of the Midwest.