



February 2, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT
Jennifer Gilhoj, Communications Director
gilhoj@aia-mn.org

The American Institute of Architects Announces Matthew Kreilich, AIA and Michael Schellin, AIA, as Recipients of 2009 AIA Young Architects Award



MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA The American Institute of Architects (AIA) has selected Matthew Kreilich, AIA, Julie Snow Architects, Minneapolis, MN, and Michael Schellin, AIA, Kodet Architectural Group, Minneapolis, MN, along with only six others nationally, as outstanding architects to receive the 2009 Young Architects Award for leadership in design and service to the profession of architecture.

*An excerpt from the AIA National press release
(January 29, 2009):*

Matthew Kreilich, AIA

From his studio days at the University of Minnesota, Matthew Kreilich has been recognized as an outstanding, holistic designer. He is also noted for his pro bono work for the Tony Award-winning Theatre de la Jeune Lune, renovating its lobby beautifully on a shoestring budget. "To work with an artist both terrifically talented and fiscally responsible: a truly great experience for the client," writes Director Steve Richardson. "His design voice has been demonstrated, his knowledge of construction and how architecture operates in the world and how his contributions will inspire the next generation of architect," writes Julie Snow, FAIA, principal of Julie Snow Architects, the firm in which Kreilich currently works.

Michael W. Schellin, AIA

Michael Schellin "is a very talented young practitioner who is positioning himself for leadership both as a firm principal and member of AIA," writes James W. O'Brien, FAIA, in his nomination. "Mike's commitment to the profession, as well as his involvement in AIA at the local and national levels make him a person to watch in the future," writes Greenway Group Chair James P. Cramer, Hon. AIA. In addition to his committee work with AIA Minnesota, Schellin is his region's liaison with the national Young Architects Forum.

Upon learning of their national award, both recipients shared their thoughts about the recognition. Schellin said, "Receiving the AIA National Young Architect Award is a tremendous honor for me personally. I am completely energized by the idea that this award not only recognizes my passion for architecture through the contributions that I have already made early in my career, but rather, that it signifies an astonishing amount of trust, confidence and expectations in my continued growth and future potential as an architect. It also serves as



extremely strong encouragement to work even harder.” Kreilich commented, “It is humbling to be recognized with this award and to represent Minnesota’s architectural community on a national level. Being distinguished by one’s peers both locally and nationally is an honor. This award is shared with the firms and talented architects I have had the opportunity to work alongside in my career thus far.”

Kreilich served as lead project designer for the United States Land Port of Entry, in Warroad, MN, a GSA Design Excellence Project. Construction on the border station began in 2008, and it’s currently on track to receive a LEED silver rating. Kreilich’s work also includes the Benedicta Arts Center, College of St. Benedict’s, St. Johns, MN, completed in 2007. Schellin’s portfolio includes the St Croix Lutheran Chapel, West St. Paul, MN, a 2006 AIA Minnesota Honor Award winner, and the masterplan, addition, remodeling and renovation for Minnehaha Academy, Minneapolis, MN.

AIA Minnesota’s Committee on Design Chair, Nathan Knutson, AIA, VJAA, commented, “Mike has been an active participant in the AIA on both a local and national level, in addition to playing a significant leadership and management role in the office. Matt has demonstrated a commitment to the art of architecture in his design efforts on public and private sector projects, while volunteering time for local arts organizations. They are both truly deserving of this award in their own right.”

Since the program’s inception in 1993, fourteen AIA Minnesota architects have received an AIA National Young Architects Award including: Joan M. Soranno, AIA, 1993, Vicki L. Hooper, AIA, 1993, William A. Blanski, AIA, 1995, Michael Fischer, AIA, 1996, Robert Rothman, AIA, 1996, Jeffry Kagermeier, AIA, 2001, Mohammed Lawal, AIA, 2002, Paul Neuhaus, AIA, 2003, Janis LaDouceur, AIA, 2004, James Dayton, AIA, 2006, Phillip Koski, AIA, 2007, Michael Meehan, 2008, Matthew Kreilich, AIA, 2009 and Michael Schellin, AIA, 2009.

The Young Architects Award is conferred, regardless of age, to those in an early stage of their architectural careers. It honors architects who have been practicing ten years or fewer and show exceptional leadership in design, education, and/or service to the profession. The Young Architects Award will be presented to the recipients at the AIA 2009 National Convention and Design Exposition in San Francisco, April 30- May 2.

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.