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## AIA Minnesota Announces Five 2013 Young Architect Award Recipients



**MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA** The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Minnesota's Committee on Design selected the following recipients for the 2013 Young Architects Award (photos above L to R): **Eric Amel, AIA**, (*Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd.*); **Meghan Kell Cornell, AIA** (*Kell Architects*); **Meredith Hayes Gordon, AIA**, (*Perkins+Will*); **Ryan Kronzer, AIA**, (*Metropolitan Council – Southwest Light Rail Transit Project*); and **David O'Brien Wagner, AIA** (*SALA Architects*). These recipients will be recognized at the annual AIA Minnesota Awards Celebration on Friday, December 6, 2013, at McNamara Alumni Center.

This award is given to architects who are AIA Minnesota members, have been licensed for less than 10 years, and have shown exceptional leadership in service to the profession, the community, design, planning, and education. A submission for the Young Architect Award includes letters of recommendation from AIA Minnesota member architects and the candidate's clients, as well as project summaries highlighting the architect's particular contributions, photos and drawings, and documentation of other achievements.

More information regarding the AIA Minnesota Young Architect Award Program may be found at [http://www.aia-mn.org/int\\_committees/awards.cfm](http://www.aia-mn.org/int_committees/awards.cfm)

### **2013 AIA Minnesota Young Architect Award Recipients Biographies in Alpha Order:**

**Eric Amel, AIA**, is an architect with Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd. and is an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture. He holds a Master of Architecture from the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences and Mathematics from Saint John's University. In 2005, he received the prestigious Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship.

**Meghan Kell Cornell, AIA**, is an architect and founding principal of Kell Architect(s), LLC, formerly with SALA Architects, Inc., specializing in residential architecture. She holds a Bachelors of Architecture with Honors from University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She was 2012 President of the AIA Saint Paul chapter, is a graduate of the AIA Minnesota Leadership Forum, was the 2011 AIA Minnesota Emerging Talent of the Year recipient, and has won the AIA Minnesota Home of the Month Award in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2013.



**Meredith Hayes Gordon, AIA**, is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and has been with Perkins+Will since 2007 focusing on healthcare architectural and planning projects. She has taken on key roles in projects such as the LEED Silver Century Project at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction, Colorado and lead the interior architecture and planning of the winning submittal in the international Kaiser Permanente Small Hospital Big Idea competition. She participates on AIA Minnesota's Committee on Design and Government Affairs Committee, and was an Associate Director on the AIA Minnesota Board.

**Ryan Kronzer, AIA**, helps lead the Southwest Light Rail project for the Metropolitan Council as Manager of Design. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and a Masters of Architecture from the University of Minnesota and is a LEED Accredited Professional. His experience as Co-Chair of AIA Minneapolis Chapter's Urban Design Community led him to be appointed to the Minneapolis City Planning Commission in 2011. He is on the Board of Directors for The Soap Factory that helps to promote emerging artists.

**David O'Brien Wagner, AIA**, prior to joining SALA Architects in 2000, he worked for several Seattle-area firms including Cutler Anderson Architects, Olson/Kundig Architects, and the Henry Klein Partnership. He received both a Bachelor of Science Architecture undergraduate degree and a Bachelor of Architecture professional degree from Washington State University in 1993. He is a registered architect in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Washington. His work has been featured in *The Distinctive Home*, *The New York Times*, *Cottage Living Magazine*, *Trends*, *The Star Tribune*, *Architecture MN*, and *Mpls/StPaul Magazine*.

In addition to the AIA Minnesota Young Architect Award, recipients of this award are encouraged to submit for the AIA National Young Architect Award. To date, eighteen AIA Minnesota architects have received an AIA National Young Architect Award, including: Vicki L. Hooper, AIA, and Joan M. Soranno, AIA, both 1993; William A. Blanski, AIA, 1995; Michael Fischer, AIA, and Robert Rothman, AIA, both 1996; Jeffry Kagermeier, AIA, 2001; Mohammed Lawal, AIA, 2002; Paul Neuhaus, AIA, 2003; Janis LaDouceur, AIA, 2004; James Dayton, AIA, 2005; Philip Koski, AIA, 2007; Michael Meehan, 2008; Matthew Kreilich, AIA, and Michael Schellin, AIA, both 2009; Steven Dwyer, AIA, 2011; Timothy Bicknell, AIA, 2012; and John Dwyer, AIA, and Alissa D. Luepke Pier, AIA, both 2013.

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*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](http://www.aia-mn.org) and pick up a copy of Architecture Minnesota, the award-winning architectural magazine of the Midwest.*