



February 12, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT
Mary Larkin
larkin@aia-mn.org

AIA Minnesota Announces Recipients for 2014 Architect of Distinction Award & 2014 Emerging Talent Award

MINNEAPOLIS, MN -- AIA Minnesota is pleased to announce recipients for two annual AIA Minnesota residential architect awards:



2014 Architect of Distinction - Katherine Hillbrand, AIA, SALA Architects, Inc.

Hillbrand, AIA, has been a principal at SALA Architects since 1995. She is known for design solutions that beautifully and sensitively incorporate natural surroundings and reveal the beauty of everyday building materials. Her designs reflect a philosophy of environmental stewardship and a respect for the way architecture shapes and influences the lives of her clients

The jury found her work to be remarkable for the simplistic natural beauty it evoked. They noted that even when working with a large budget the overall design reflects understated elegance without frivolous detail.

"Her projects display a remarkable co-existence with their surroundings," the jury remarked. "The buildings have a beautiful tie to the site and yet are still so forward-looking." Jurors were impressed by the range of projects in Katherine's portfolio and by the consistency of respect for site, scale and beautiful detail throughout.



2014 Emerging Talent of the Year Award - Chris Strom, AIA, TEA2 Architects, Inc.

Strom is an architect and Senior Project Manager with TEA2 Architects, Inc. He graduated with a Masters Degree in Architecture from the University of California-Berkley and taught briefly before joining a practice in Minneapolis. Strom's residential designs reflect a sensitivity to the needs and wants of his clients and have received RAVE (Residential Architects Vision and Excellence) awards and have been featured as AIA Minnesota/Star Tribune "Home of the Month" homes.

The jury described Strom's work as "sophisticated and consistently lovely. A high level of work overall." In particular, the jury felt Strom demonstrated highly innovative solutions to bringing natural light deep within interior spaces.

The jury for both awards included Ben Awes, AIA, CityDeskStudio, Inc.; Rosemary McMonigal, AIA, McMonigal Architects LLC; Jim Lutz, AIA, University of Minnesota School of Architecture; and Chris Lee, editor with *Midwest Home*.

Hillbrand and Strom will be recognized in the upcoming issue of *Midwest Homes* magazine and at an April *Midwest Homes* "Mingler" event - date and location to be announced.

For more information, visit http://www.aia-mn.org/int_committees/residential.cfm.

*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.*