FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT
Mary Larkin, Communications Director
larkin@aia-mn.org

AIA Minnesota Recognizes Craig Rafferty, FAIA, as the 2012 Gold Medal Recipient

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA - Craig Rafferty, FAIA, is AIA Minnesota’s 2012 Gold Medal recipient. The Gold Medal is AIA Minnesota’s highest award bestowed on an individual member. It serves as recognition for a lifetime of distinguished achievement and significant contributions to architecture.

Rafferty began his professional career in Boston working with Hugh Stubbins and Associates after completing his graduate studies at MIT. In 1974 he received the Rotch Traveling Fellowship, one of a string of several University of Minnesota Architectural graduates to be named for this prize. In addition to working for Ralph Rapson and Associates during his undergraduate studies at the U, he worked for Brown Daltas Architects in Rome after the Rotch Fellowship. He then joined George Rafferty, FAIA, and Dick Rafferty, FAIA, at Rafferty Rafferty Tolleson Lindeke Architects in 1975 where he has been an integral part of the firm, steadily enhancing, with current partners Lee Tolleson, FAIA, and Chip Lindeke, AIA, the spirit and design conscience of the firm, now celebrating its 50th year.

Rafferty’s design work is simple and sensitive, and yet challenging. He works with diverse clients and building types, all with varying budgets. Some of his projects include: St Francis Desales Church in Morgantown, West Virginia; the St Paul Area Board of Realtors; a sterling silver commemorative spoon for Georg Jensen Silversmith of Copenhagen; the Dakota State University Science Hall renovation; Wayzata Community Church; and the 1983 restoration of Union Depot Place in St Paul. The firm and Craig have received more than 50 awards for their work including his selection in 1992 to the AIA College of Fellows in the design category at age 45, one of the youngest to have been elevated from this region.

Throughout his career Rafferty has consistently contributed in varied capacities to the profession and to his community. He served as assistant professor for 14 years at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture - sharing his knowledge and leading the way for the next generation of architects. In Saint Paul, he has served on many boards, including Public Arts Saint Paul, the Governor’s Residence Council, Saint Paul Riverfront Planning, the Saint Paul Skyway Advisory Committee, he chaired the Capital River District Council, served for many years on the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, and more recently as Chair of the Gem Lake City Planning Commission.

Rafferty has been equally willing and engaged within the professional throughout his career, including serving as President of AIA Saint Paul Chapter and for five terms as a member of the Minnesota Architectural Foundation Board. He has just completed a multiple year commitment as the AIA’s North Central States Regional Fellows Representative. In that role, along with a co-representative, he worked diligently to educate members on the requirements for attaining...
Fellowship. Encompassing a four-state region, Rafferty worked with candidates near and far to guide them towards a successful submittal for fellowship. Following on the heels of his success as a Regional Fellows Representative, he was invited to serve a three-year term on the AIA Fellows Jury. The breadth of his understanding of the submittal process and his ability to interpret submittals has made him an invaluable contributor to this seven-person national jury.

Another area of emphasis for Craig has been his national leadership for the AIA’s Interfaith Forum on Religion Art and Architecture (IFRAA). He is a member of the five-person advisory committee for the AIA and was the 2012 Chair. In 2010, Craig brought the IFRAA Knowledge Community to the AIA Minnesota Convention.

The AIA Minnesota Gold Medal jury was comprised of Jon Buggy, AIA, AECOM; Ann Voda, AIA, Bentz/Thompson/Rietow, Inc.; Nancy Blankfard, AIA, Hammel, Green & Abrahamson, Inc.; Charles Liddy, FAIA, Miller Dunwiddie Architecture; Ed Kodet, FAIA, Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd.; and Duane Kell, FAIA, Consulting Architect. The jury considered many criteria for the award including each candidate’s significant contributions and distinguishing achievements, professional practice, design, education, mentorship, AIA involvement, public presence, and legacy.

Craig Rafferty, FAIA, will receive his award at the annual AIA Minnesota Awards Dinner on November 30, 2012, at International Market Square in Minneapolis. Find more information at http://www.aia-mn.org/int_committees/awards.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 website at www.aia-mn.org and pick up a copy of Architecture Minnesota, the award-winning architectural magazine of the Midwest.*