IIDA–Indiana Chapter is fortunate to be able to give back to the community this year. We recently paired up with Samantha’s House Foundation to help a little girl named Gabby and her family. The foundation is an organization set up to help seriously disabled people in Central Indiana improve their surroundings and make their everyday life just a little easier. Through a chain reaction of phone calls and chance connections the story of the family reached Jim Schellinger of CSO Architects and eventually Jim Keller of Keller and Keller, President of Samantha’s House Foundation. This was the third family for which the foundation has built a house.

For the previous two projects furnishings were planned into the budget or donated by local retail furniture stores; however, circumstances did not allow it this time. The family was able to bring the basics with them for the living room and kitchen, but Gabby, her sister Grace, and two brothers Josh and Andrew had been sharing rooms and sleeping in beds that were either too small for them or unsafe.

With participation from more than 35 professional interior designers and the generosity of our industry partners, we were able to design and furnish the bedrooms of the four children and their parents, Mike and Penny Hanlon. Health, safety and welfare were of the highest priority, creating environments for the family that provided a safe sanctuary for each child that reflected their individual needs and personalities and providing a relaxing retreat for the parents.

Perhaps the most rewarding part of the experience was the collaboration among those otherwise considered competitors to do something amazing for a family who has endured more than any of us can imagine. The Hanlon family reaction to all our hard work, “We didn’t expect all this…thanks for everything.”

Thank you to everyone who participated or donated to this project. (More photos inside.)
February was definitely the most active month IIDA, Indiana Chapter had seen this Quarter! So many great events, fundraisers and volunteer activities were crammed into one small month. Monte Carlo Night, IIDA Student Design Competition, and helping a local family through the Samantha’s House Foundation were just a few of these wonderful events which are all covered in this edition. The Samantha’s House Foundation project was a new volunteer opportunity that IIDA, Indiana Chapter was able to participate in this year. It proved to be a very rewarding and uplifting experience.

A special thank you to all those designers, sponsors, and individuals who donated their time and talents to make all of these events possible and successful!
The mission of the IIDA Indiana Chapter is to provide opportunity to share knowledge through community and to promote interior design as a profession that supports health, safety, and welfare to the general public. Your chapter board and its committees work hard to be sure that each activity and event lives up to this mission.

We have had several events over the past couple of months and I feel that we have been accomplishing this goal. The articles in this issue of the newsletter cover some of the events in detail.

One of the events that IIDA was recently part of was the Indiana Building Green Symposium 2008. There were seminars and a trade show that highlighted green building economics, technology, and operational strategies that all related to the health of our global economy and the earth's overall sustainability. The symposium was attended by a large number of members of the architectural design community and the occasion was deemed a huge success.

We also held our annual IIDA Student Competition. The participants from local interior design programs were given the challenge to design an office for a marketing firm that employed workers with mixed generational preferences. The students' entries were judged on a variety of categories ranging from the design concept to safety code requirements and presentation styles. The amazing projects showed that the students are learning critical design skills that are needed for their future careers.

Another activity that the chapter was able to perform was a charitable project for a local family as a part of the Samantha’s House Foundation. This organization helps seriously injured or ill people by improving their living conditions to make their daily lives easier. Samantha’s House, along with CSO Architects, recently built a house for the family of Gabby Hanlon. Five groups of designers from various firms worked together to create comfortable spaces in each of the family members’ bedrooms. In addition to being part of a good cause, this project helped to promote talents of the interior designers in our community.

There are many more opportunities being planned for the upcoming months. It is my hope that you will be a part of these and benefit from the experience.
Monte Carlo Night was a successful event again this year. On February 15th, IIDA along with DJ Rick Eberle were rocking the night away at the Murat Theater Corinthian Hall. The evening was filled with food, drinks, laughter, and of course gaming to win tickets for the raffle prizes. This year there were eight fantastic prizes ranging from an iPod Touch and a Wii Bundle, to Belterra gift cards and a movie basket. The Grand Prize was a trip to Las Vegas, which Russ Northrop with Wolf Gordon won. Professional photographer Brenda Staples was there to take free photos of guests, which will be hand delivered by our awesome MDC Wallcovering reps Natalie Wehr and Brenda Gerst. The Monte Carlo committee did a fantastic job making this event possible and IIDA would like to thank them for their hard work: Donna Miller/The Schneider Corporation, Natalie Wehr/MDC Wallcovering, Kathleen Lemaster/Boheme Design, Susan Harris/Continental Office Environments, Cindi Scheib/Planes Commercial Services, Ken Aull/RJE, Glen Vandemark/Lees, and Jennifer Patterson/Lamson & Condon. IIDA would also like to thank our sponsors, for without them we couldn’t have such great events!

Throughout the evening, people were having fun socializing and winning raffle tickets for the prizes drawn at the end of the evening.
Recently some local students and companies participated in the 6th Annual IIDA Student Mentoring Week. Between February 4th and 8th, students were able to spend a day with a firm to see what a day-in-the-life of a working design professional looks like. One or more students may visit with an office and that office will provide those students with a glimpse of what interior design looks like in the real world — you know, the one with budgets, deadlines, clients, and contractors...

Myron Cromer, IIDA of Pedcor Design Group hosted a couple of students from Indiana State during this latest Mentoring Week. He showed his students a mixed bag of what a typical day of a designer looks like. He started their day with a tour of the office. Then he took them to some recently completed jobs to see the variety of work that is done. It is also good to include the students in a construction progress meeting to let them see a work in progress and have them meet one of his clients. They finished off their day getting to look over the shoulders of some of the architects and designers. When asked what he got out of the experience he said, “I get to see how the students are being trained and what technology they are working on and it helps me to understand what to expect from the new graduates and what they expect of us.”

Caitlin Teeters, a student at Indiana State and a Mentoring Day guest at Pedcor, had a good experience on her day out. She was able to see a project as it was being designed. “They explained to us the different stages they had gone through and where they currently were on a project. We were able to see the revisions that the architects had made and actually look over their shoulder while they were working on it. The team showed us several different options they were preparing for the client and explained the process to obtain those samples.” She was able to ask questions about some of her current student work and to get advice about it during lunch. “They gave me more direction. The day we spent with Myron helped us to see what it would be like to work in a firm and gave us an idea of what to expect during an internship. I think it was a great experience! Everyone we met was nice and helpful. I would recommend that everyone goes on at least on mentoring day while they are at school.”

The Mentoring Program doesn't have any rules about what exactly must be accomplished. It was designed to give students an opportunity to visit a working office without the pressures of an interview, which is how many of us first visited a professional office. Some firms will arrange a very structured program with guest speakers and mini-seminars. Others, like Pedcor, are more relaxed and flexible for the students needs. Either way, the mentorship students are given an opportunity to visit a professional office and to see what interior design is all about.
This year’s IIDA – Indiana Chapter Student Competition was another big success. With Ball State and Purdue University giving their full support to the competition the number of entries was substantial and appreciated. In total 32 energetic and creative student designers participated in this event. All of the entries were professional and showed first-class efforts.

This year’s competition was based on a practical exercise in design and space planning with special emphasis on the varied generational preferences of the users. The project gave the students the opportunity to learn and understand their future role in the industry. The competition requirements were based on a fictitious advertising agency that was expanding. The client was moving into a new office space and they want to reach into the future with their new design and space planning needs while also providing for their current faithful older employees. A quote from the official project requirements was “The goal of the project is to create a cohesive work environment incorporating the transitional concepts of the baby boomers to the technological ways of the Millenial’s while addressing the needs of a successful marketing firm.”

The competition awards were presented on Tuesday, February 19th at RJE/Knoll Business Interiors. The event was well attended with approximately 65 people present. The first place prize went to Ornsiri Amatayakiul of Purdue University who received $300. The second place prize went to Weng Chu, Purdue University, who was awarded $200. Tania Siriapismai of Purdue University won the third prize of $100. The judging for the competition was done by the leadership of the IIDA – Indiana Chapter. The judges were Myron Cromer of Pedcor Design Group, Briana Dunkin of Schott Design, Julie Burroughs of Schott Design and Melissa Brewer of Schott Design. The judges evaluated the entries based on the Programming and space planning: Code requirements; Electrical, lighting, and furniture execution; Presentation; and Creativity. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all of the students and IIDA volunteers for taking the time and effort in making this a great student competition.
S.A.F.E. Coalition Update
By Connie Jung
S.A.F.E. President

We have made a lot of progress with the legislative effort. As most of you know, last year we made it through the Senate and the House of Representatives, to be vetoed on the Governor’s desk.

Since the veto – we have made several strides to gain communication with the Governor, and have been successful in meeting with his Chief of Staff and actually having a conversation with the Governor himself.

We had a wonderfully successful Student Day last month at the State House, which was when the Governor actually stopped by to talk to the students. We had 30+ students from several different Universities, and they definitely made themselves known! It was great!

Through these efforts, we are now aware the Governor is becoming more educated on what our bill really stands for and certainly how it impacts our students attending state universities. This issue has piqued the Governor’s interest.

Though we were unsuccessful this year in getting his veto overturned, we made great strides in opening the door to the Governor’s office and making him aware of our issue and the fact that we are not going away!

We will be back next year – stronger than ever. Now is the time to gear up for next year and to get involved. If you haven’t joined SAFE (you can get an application off the website), the membership drive is about to begin. Your annual membership dues are only $35.00 – a small price to pay for furthering our profession!

Please check out our website: www.safeinteriordesign.org for updates and to see a copy of the bill. Also, go to www.in.gov to get the legislative emails and phone numbers for our senators. Take a moment to send emails to those Senators that voted yes for us this year – it will go a long way toward next year.

Thank you for your support!

BUILDING GREEN VALUES: 350 ATTENDEES MARK SECOND SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The second annual Indiana Building Green Symposium was held at University Place Conference Center in Indianapolis on January 31st to February 1st.

The theme for this year was "building green values," a double-meaning representing the business financial case for building green coupled with the moral imperative to pursue sustainable building design for the benefit of the environment and future generations.

The event opened on Thursday afternoon with a networking reception held amidst 30 exhibit booths of vendors offering products and services for green building projects. Later that evening, an opening dinner was held to officially kick off the symposium and included a program and speakers highlighting broad scale perspectives and local and national advocacy initiatives.

Friday’s full-day program included morning plenary presentations by David Pogue of CB Richard Ellis, Alex Wilson who spoke about new products, Carlie Bullock-Jones of Eco-Works Studio (Atlanta) regarding health and productivity benefits of green buildings, and Kevin Kuske of Steelcase Corp., who gave a great overview of the transformation that his company has made in building a LEED certified factory and changing their line of wood furniture products toward the Cradle-to-Cradle™ protocol.

In the afternoon we heard from Tom Kubala, AIA, of Cedarburg, WI presenting on the design process and glorious result of the 61-credit LEED Platinum-certified Aldo Leopold Legacy Center in Baraboo, WI. The group then watched an award-winning documentary film about the Banner Bank building in Boise, ID where developer Gary Christensen built LEED Platinum "at no extra cost." The last session of the day consisted of breakout sessions with Water Furnace International and The Ashkin Group.

The Chapter would like to thank all of our Symposium volunteers, sponsors, exhibitors, and speakers for their contributions and support Post-Symposium information and some copies of presentations are available on the conference website.
IN Identiﬁes newsletter content related to the Indiana Chapter in whole.

FW Identifies newsletter content related specifically to the Fort Wayne Center.

SB Identifies newsletter content related specifically to the South Bend Center.

IN 19 March Forum Indianapolis

IN 08 Spring NCIDQ Exam Indianapolis

IN 15 April Program Details forthcoming

IN 20 Board Meeting Details forthcoming

IN 20 May Forum Details forthcoming

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!!!!

Let us know how IIDA Indiana Chapter is doing. Send your comments to:
amanda@idoincorporated.com

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue is May 14, 2008.

Thank you to all our Sponsors this quarter!

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