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Words from the President Nicole Kurtz



It has been an amazing start to the chapter year and time has already started to fly by. My term as chapter president is half way through and I can't even believe it is almost over! The board has been working very hard over the last few months to create and continue to develop a chapter that our members and non-members alike can be very proud of.

In 2013, we had our first '1920's World's Fair' summer event. Thank you all for attending and making this new event a huge success! Thank you also to all of our vendors for graciously sponsoring everything from the food to the hot air balloon. We are so proud to be the first chapter in the nation to create an event of this type.

We are very excited to welcome Dawn Terry to the IIDA Indiana Chapter Board as the Fort Wayne City Center Director. With her wonderful leadership in Fort Wayne, we are working together to bridge the gap between the two city centers and create a shared calendar of events in 2014.

We are also pleased to announce that all of our 2014 monthly chapter programs are completely free to members and at a reduced rate to non-member attendees.

The Avante Garb Fashion Show is quickly upon us and the committee and board are looking forward to an evening filled with fun, excitement and creativity. Please join us on February 28th for this spectacular event.

Moving toward future goals, we will be revamping our sponsorship campaign for 2015. Vendors and Sponsors, please stay tuned for more details!

Our chapter, in conjunction with ASID and IDCI is working together to gear up for another potential legislative battle. We are asking for everyone to please join us at the Indiana State House for the Legislator Appreciation Event on February 26th.

Your IIDA Indiana Chapter Board is here to help with any questions or concerns that you may have as an Interior Designer in the design community. We welcome you to please reach out to any board member if you have feedback or thoughts on how we might improve our chapter.

I would like to thank all of our board members for their hard work and time that they commit to our chapter. Anyone interested in becoming a future board member, please reach out to [me](#).

- **Laura Conlon, Associate IIDA**
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Associate Member Director
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Industry Member Director
- **Lee Boyland, IIDA**
VP of Professional
Development
- **McKenzie Swihart, Assoc. IIDA**
Program Director
- **Kim Strawbridge, IIDA**
CEU Director



Avant Garb Fashion Show 2.28.14

Tracy Holt

The teams are gearing up for the Indiana Chapter's 2nd Avant GARB fashion show! Where Indiana Interior Designers flaunt their creativity and technical skills by producing couture fashion constructed out of interior finish materials. The exciting theme for this year is 'Design Through the Ages.' The designers, along with their manufacturer representatives, have chosen a fashion era to base their garment on. Themes range from the Victorian Era to 1990s Pop Princess and the designs are sure to wow the crowd yet again!

The fashion show will be held at the Crane Bay Event center, located blocks from Lucas Oil Stadium in downtown Indianapolis. This year's pre-show will feature Elizabeth Roney, founder and designer for fair trade fashion label Liz Alig. Elizabeth's vintage inspired fashion line works with more than ten fair trade groups in the developing world to provide job skills training for women while producing fashion forward, ethically produced clothing. This passion for repurposed design is also seen in her work with Indianapolis nonprofit, People for Urban Progress.

Avant GARB is also teaming up with Indianapolis based Pattern Magazine. Pattern is an independent print and digital fashion publication showcasing talent found in the Heartland, along with fashion and culture from all over the world. Pattern will be featuring one lucky design team in their weekly blog, which has over a thousand followers.

The February 28th Avant GARB fashion show is sure to be an unforgettable evening filled with music, design, fashion, and fun.

[BUY FASHION SHOW EVENT TICKETS](#)

2014 Chapter Partners

Platinum



NCIDQ Qprep Workshop

Lindsay Morales

During a snowy January weekend, RJE Business Interiors graciously hosted a 3-day webinar workshop for six NCIDQ exam candidates. This exciting weekend was spent learning, drawing, and networking.

The Candidates learned tips and tricks from QPrep on how to pass ALL THREE sections of the exam and even completed an entire mock-test of the Practicum. In addition to the mock-test, the candidates will receive a personal critique of their work by the QPrep Instructor. The critique will advise them on their strengths and weaknesses, so they know what areas to focus on before exam day, allowing them to pass with flying colors!

Gold

RJE Interiors / Knoll
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Melissa Meeks

Upcoming Events

[View all events here](#)

Avant Garb Fashion Show

February 28, 2014
The Crane Bay Event Center
Cocktail Hour: 6:30 - 7:30
Show Begins: 7:30

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)

Updates to Legislation

Legislator Appreciation Event

Indiana State House
Wednesday, February 26, 2014
Time: 8:30 - 10:00 am

[Click here for more information](#)



Andrea Cole, Jessica Reuther, Diana Bryant, Rita Movelle, and Erin Jennings. (Not pictured, Constance Foster.)



IIDA & ASID Holiday Soirée **McKenzie Swihart**

Well, it's official, the hustle and bustle of the holidays has finally come to an end and 2014 has officially been thrust upon us. But before we move on to this year's list of amazing events and exciting developments, we have so many wonderful gatherings to look back on from 2013, the most recent being the annual IIDA Holiday Party.

This year's party proved to be a little different than parties of the past, as IIDA paired up with ASID to organize a community-wide celebration. The festive evening was complete with delicious hors d'oeuvres, specialty wine selections, and a fabulous jazz band, all nestled in the highly artistic and devilishly glamorous Alexander Hotel, a backdrop only too fitting for a group of designers and the like.



www.milesdesign.com

Contributors

Nicole Kurtz

McKenzie Swihart

Tracy Holt

Kala Wahl

Lindsi Morales

Andrea Cole

Kaitlyn Hart

Melissa Laviolette

Editors

Tracey Kessens

communications@iidaindiana.org

Kaitlyn Hart

newsletter@iidaindiana.org

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Despite the cold and wintry conditions outside, the Ballroom at the Alexander was full of warmth and laughter, as various members of the design community came together to catch up, drink, and be merry. There was even a creative hat contest, which proved to be the topic of conversation amongst the design community for days to follow.

All in all, this was a wonderfully successful event and a great way to end 2013. We would like to send many thanks to all that could attend and hopes to see even more of you next year! With that being said, the IIDA Indiana Chapter wishes you a very happy and successful New Year!



Leadership by Design / Pedro Ayala

Kala Wahl

I have had the pleasure of knowing Pedro Ayala for 2 years now. I first met Pedro while I was an intern for Kimball Office at their Chicago Showroom in 2011 during NeoCon preparation. I have learned there is always something to gain by being in his presence. No doubt did Pedro bring 'good stuff' to the IIDA meeting on Thursday, specifically the elements of Leadership.

The Leadership by Design course distinguished multiple components in which a 'Leader' can be described. Many words like 'charismatic', 'mentor', and 'driving force' were used to support the idea of a leader. A

concept that left a great impact on me was that "Leaders are always evolving" significantly because I was born into the millennial generation. I am part of the driving force that is constantly changing technology, therefore, design. To be a leader, one needs to have a vision, have the right people to follow, align the people effectively, be persistent, and execute the vision. Because our world is always shifting culturally, and economically it is important for a leader of today to engage and connect with the world around them evolve.



Green Apple Day of Service

Andrea Cole

Green Apple Day of Service came to my attention through an e-mail from Interface inviting IIDA to join in their efforts in servicing our community. This was a nationwide partnership and event that was sponsored by the Center for Green Schools at the USGBC and supported by Interface. I immediately knew I wanted to join Interface in servicing a local elementary school and I already had the perfect candidate in mind; Raymond Brandes Elementary School (Indianapolis Public School #65).

I had the opportunity to visit IPS #65 right before classes were in session and I was able to put myself in the shoes of an extremely hardworking and dedicated teacher. I helped Miss Alyssa Britton, a first grade teacher, set up her room for the first day of class. This experience helped me realize what teachers really do for the kids and I also was exposed to how much help the teachers and the school could use. When Green Apple Day of Service came to my attention, I had to jump at the opportunity. I immediately contacted Jae Park the Interface Account Executive for Central Indiana. He was more than eager to join me for this event!



Green Apple Day of Service at Raymond Brandes Elementary School in Indianapolis, Indiana was soon under construction. Green Apple Day of Service simply was an event to provide children with a better learning environment through the use of Interface carpet accompanied by a service project based on sustainability. To educate the kids we decided we would make a small children's books called 10 Ways to Love Our Earth. Jae and I quickly decided that we would provide Miss Britton with an Interface rug at the chalkboard so she would not get as fatigued standing on their VCT flooring. We also decided to provide her loose tiles so the students could easily create zones in the classroom that would change daily for various specialized activities. As the brainstorming continued we wanted to do more! We then contacted the school and quickly discovered that Ms. Denice Corbin, the Pre-Kindergarten teacher, was in great need of a rug in her classroom as well.

Jae and I visited the school to meet the principal Mrs. Lauren Johnson, Ms. Denice Corbin, and Miss Alyssa Britton and to determine what size rug, colors, how many students they each had and more. As Jae diligently took on the rug business, I was also busy creating the children's book. December 16th came quickly and that date marked our Green Apple Day of Service! With the help from Larry Boyle, also a Central Indiana Account Executive for Interface, the three of us were able to talk with each classroom about sustainability, how Interface carpet was made, handed out their goodies (a green apple, the book, and a green apple Interface carpet coaster), and we even had the children help lay down their classroom's brand new carpet rugs! The kids were very excited and the teachers were beyond grateful! We had a very successful Green Apple Day of Service and we look forward to joining, Interface, IIDA, and USGBC to help make this event even bigger and better next year! Thank you to IIDA Indiana Chapter for being very gracious and donating the printing of the Children's books so we can help educate tomorrow's children!



Legislator Appreciation Event

Melissa Laviolette

Please remember to join the Indiana IIDA Chapter on Wednesday, February 26th from 8:00am to 10:00am in the first floor of the North Atrium of the Indiana State House to show Indiana legislators appreciation for their continued support and recognition of our profession. This event, in conjunction with the Interior Design Coalition of Indiana (IDCI) and the Indiana American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) chapter, provides an opportunity to network with other design professionals, students, and legislators as well as call attention to the impact of Indiana's Interior Design Registry.

[Click here for additional event information](#) or contact the IIDA Indiana Chapter Vice President of Government and Regulatory Affairs (GRA@iidaindiana.org).



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Editor Comments

Kaitlyn Hart

As the cold weather blisters on, somehow the design community continues to flourish. The New Year has been celebrated in a number of ways for many firms. An exciting year is ahead for our design community as the economy is picking back up. As we all may be suffering a little cabin fever I encourage you all to go out and embrace our city. I encourage you all to explore parts of Indianapolis you are unfamiliar with.



Whether it be Ann showing off her dance moves on Mass Ave. or seeing how people have adapted to the new Fashion Mall at Keystone- embrace it. Embrace the changes that come with a new year, even the unforeseen ones. Embrace the creative minds not only in our community, but the ones around us such as our fashion community. Many of our designers have had a chance to explore the fashion industry in preparation for the Fashion Through the Ages Show. They will show off their talents on February 28th at the Crane Bay in downtown Indianapolis. I encourage you all to come join the many talents of our design community at this event! Good luck to all of you in this upcoming year and congratulations to your success in 2013. I leave you with a thought by Sheryl Sandberg to keep in mind throughout the year: "What would you do if you were not afraid?"

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IIDA Indiana Chapter | Indiana Design Center IIDA Box #7 | 200 South Rangeline Road | Carmel | IN | 46032