

YAF

YOUNG ARCHITECTS FORUM

A Committee of the
American Institute of Architects

2011

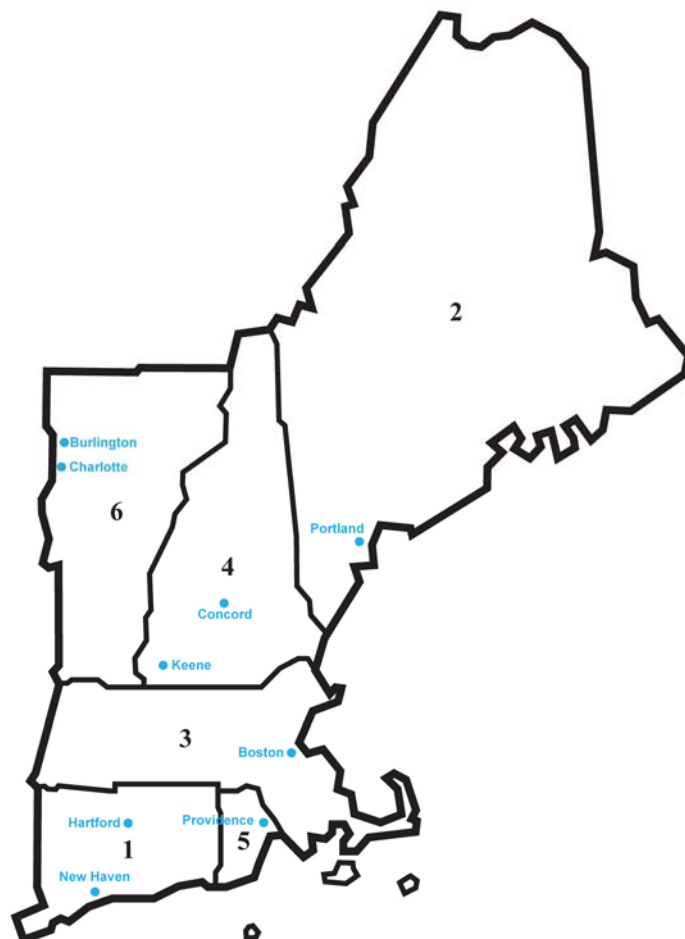
Young Architects Forum Regional Director Report

New England Region

Date: August 24, 2011

New England Region AIA Chapters

1. **Connecticut**
2. **Maine**
3. **Massachusetts**
Boston Society of Architects
Central
Western
4. **New Hampshire**
5. **Rhode Island**
6. **Vermont**



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2011 Actions + Activities

Discussions within the National Young Architects Forum

- Title change from Regional Liaisons to Regional Directors
- Analysis of the 2010 Demographic Report and its impact on the AIA short & long term
- Discussion about the word “Young” representing a licensed architect of 10 years or less
- Several AIA Regions are voting their own YAF Directors onto the Regional Board instead of AIA National
- YAF 20 year summit to take place March 6th and 7th at the 2012 Grassroots Convention in Washington DC

Reported New England Region Events for 3rd Quarter

- Boston Society of Architects, July 14th Architecture for Humanity
- New Hampshire, July 21st Draughting Club Exeter, NH & tour of Louis Kahn’s Phillips Exeter Academy Library
- New Hampshire, August 24th Draughting Club Manchester, NH

Goals for the 3rd Quarter

- Assist State Chairpersons with their activities and goals; encourage them to plan more structured events for their regions on a quarterly basis with their state AIA support
- Continue conversations with Casey Nicholson the AIA Regional Associate Director (RAD) for New England. We are trying to tag team our state representatives since they all come under the Emerging Professionals category.

June 29th

Meeting with:

1. Carolyn Issak, Executive Director AIA New Hampshire and AIA New England
2. Nathan Stolarz, Emerging Professional Chair AIA New Hampshire
3. Jim Somes FAIA
4. Patricia Sherman FAIA
5. Bruce Dicker FAIA

Following the last AIA New England Board meeting in April, Carolyn Issak and I spoke about the statistics from the 2010 Demographic Report with the facts showing approximately 40% of AIA members have been licensed 10 years or less. We began to ask ourselves what programs are targeting their professional needs and came up short. We decided to begin the analysis with the New Hampshire Chapter and invite the New Hampshire fellows to a roundtable discussion to broach the subject. This was a reasonable task knowing that there are only five fellows in the state of New Hampshire.

We meet in person to begin discussions. There was initially resistance from the fellows at the beginning of the meeting. They do not understand why Young Architects are unable to find their own mentors within their own firms. We explained to them that there are many unemployed emerging professionals that are trying to stay connected to the profession, some from the local community and others moving into the area and looking for networking opportunities. There is also another category of young architects that may be seeking guidance from outside their current firm.

It has been decided that a one-on-one or group mentoring program would not be affective at this time. The thought is to try to establish 3 or 4 meetings a year where there is a panel discussion about structured topic of interest for emerging professionals and then a social hour following for informal questions and networking.

The goal is to establish a panel discussion for the month of September. Nate Stolarz will be conducting a poll within several of the New Hampshire firms to determine what the hot topics on the minds of emerging professionals is right now, be it economy, starting your own firm, etc... The fellows are willing to volunteer their time and/or find other professionals to assist with the panel discussion. As well as find sponsors to provide light refreshments to encourage attendance.



