

** News Release **

Kodet Architectural Group's Michael Schellin Receives AIA Minnesota Young Architects Award

Minneapolis -- Michael Schellin, AIA, NCARB, will be honored with a 2008 Young Architects Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Minnesota. A project architect and associate with Kodet Architectural Group in Minneapolis, Schellin will receive the award at an AIA Minnesota celebration on Dec. 5, 2008.

The Young Architects Award recognizes architects who are members of AIA Minnesota, have been licensed for less than 10 years, and have shown exceptional leadership in service to the profession, the community, design, planning, and education. An AIA member since 1995, Schellin currently serves on six AIA Minnesota committees and as the North Central Regional Liaison for the AIA National Young Architects Forum.

A graduate of North Dakota State University with bachelor's degrees in architecture and science/ environmental design, Schellin says he wanted to be an architect since the 4th grade. "I was always drawing. When I wasn't drawing, I was building something or taking something apart and trying to put it back together. There are a lot of engineers in my family, and architecture was a way to combine the two. My parents encouraged me to think about what I was actually drawing, building, or disassembling. This ignited my curiosity to play with design and details."

In 1999, Schellin joined Kodet as an intern. He earned his license in 2004, and became an associate with the firm in 2007. In less than a decade, he went from student to award-winning architect. He also is a husband and father of two. "It's nice to be recognized for the hard work," Schellin admits. "I feel that architecture is important and exciting, so it's easy for me to go above and beyond the expected for every project and client that I get to work with. It's also a lot of fun."

"We were immediately impressed with his passion and commitment to design and the profession. He excelled at his studies, his daily work, and his volunteerism," says Edward J. Kodet, Jr., FAIA, the firm's president. "It's rare that someone can become a licensed architect within 10 years. To achieve this, our profession requires seven years of academic study; three years of guided, hands-on practice through the AIA Internship Development Program, and the successful passing of nine test components. Mike's efficiency, technical proficiency, and enthusiasm energize all of us."

Schellin's career accomplishments already involve taking a lead role in nearly 20 of Kodet Architectural Group's education, religious, municipal, and historic restoration projects. Examples include the award-winning St. Croix Lutheran High School Chapel in West St. Paul, Minnehaha Academy in Minneapolis, and most recently, the Deadwood Recreation Center in Deadwood, South Dakota.

Further demonstrating his commitment to mentorship, Schellin guides and advises

Kodet's 10 on-staff student interns and recent graduates, regularly attends college career fairs, and reviews portfolios for graduate admissions. Within AIA Minnesota, he participates in the Committee on Design, the Convention Programs Committee and related subcommittees, the Public Awareness Committee, and the Emerging Professionals Committee. He also volunteers on the AIA Minneapolis Membership and Fellowship Committee, and aspires to a board leadership role in the near future.

In a nomination statement for Schellin, James O'Brien, FAIA, NCARB, of Williams/O'Brien Associates, Inc., noted, "He recognizes both the challenges and the opportunities that exist in present day practice. He is a very talented young practitioner who is positioning himself for leadership both as a firm principal and as a member of the AIA."

As Schellin's boss and day-to-day mentor, Kodet agrees, "We're honored to have Mike as a member of our staff and are extremely proud of him. This award not only recognizes the work he's done, but signifies his potential as he continues to grow and develop in his career."

An award-winning, Minnesota firm, Kodet Architectural Group provides full architectural services, as well as a complete range of services such as architectural programming, site planning, referendum assistance, feasibility studies, accessibility, remodeling, historic preservation and interior design. To learn more about Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd., please visit <http://www.kodet.com>.

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