

# AIA Mississippi

## For Immediate Release

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## Mississippi Citizens Given Gift *Mississippi Celebrates Architecture Exhibit* March 7 – April 11, 2009

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. The state of Mississippi and its citizens have been given a gift. The Mississippi Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, together with architecture firms and architects from around the state, have created an exhibit to share with the citizens of Mississippi about the wonderful world of architecture. *Mississippi Celebrates Architecture, The Art, The Passion, The Vision* is a multi-faceted exhibit displaying Mississippi's favorite architecture, artwork by the state's architectural community, and a photographic exhibition of Mississippi architecture and award-winning buildings over the last 10 years.

"We are so proud to present this exhibit to our communities," said Joe Blake, executive director of AIA Mississippi. "Architecture has a large impact on our lives that many of us don't realize."

The **free** exhibit featuring four unique displays, will be held at The Mississippi Center for the Arts **opening March 7, 2009, and concluding April 11, 2009.**

*America's Favorite Architecture* is a national traveling exhibit featuring buildings chosen by U.S. citizens as America's favorite architecture. *Mississippi's Favorite Architecture* is an exhibit featuring buildings voted by Mississippi citizens as the state's favorite architecture. *Art by Architects* is a collection of artwork in various media by AIA Mississippi members. *A Sense of Place* is an open photographic exhibition highlighting architecture.

"Our goal is to shed some light on what architects do and how the buildings we design impact and shape the environments in which we live and work," says Michael Grey Jones, Tupelo architect and president of AIA Mississippi. "We hope that those who attend the exhibit will leave

with a better understanding of architecture and the built environment."

*Mississippi Celebrates Architecture* also includes a Thursday Evening lecture series featuring notable architects designed to provide laymen with a better understanding of the role architects play in our society. The lectures are free and open to the public and will occur as follows:

March 5	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Mississippi War Memorial Building Auditorium
March 12	5:45 PM - 6:45 PM	Russell C. Davis Planetarium
March 26	5:45 PM - 6:45 PM	Russell C. Davis Planetarium
April 2	5:45 PM - 6:45 PM	Russell C. Davis Planetarium
April 9	5:45 PM - 6:45 PM	Russell C. Davis Planetarium

All school groups K-12 are encouraged to attend the exhibit. Students would enjoy a culture rich field trip by visiting *Mississippi Celebrates Architecture* and then the Mississippi Museum of Art's *Raoul Dufy* exhibit right across the street.

#### ABOUT THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Since 1857, the American Institute of Architects has represented the professional interests of America's architects. As AIA members, over 80,000 licensed architects, emerging professionals and allied partners express their commitment to excellence in design and livability in our nation's buildings and communities. Members adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct that assures the client, the public, and colleagues of an AIA-member architect's dedication to the highest standards in professional practice.

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