



AIA Miami

A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

NEWS RELEASE

AIA Miami Hosts Nov. 10 Event at Miracle Theatre On Historic Preservation: Challenges and Rewards

The American Institute of Architects Miami Chapter will host a panel discussion on Historic Preservation: Challenges and Rewards Tuesday, November 10, at the Historic Miracle Theatre, 280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables. The discussion is part of AIA Miami's Celebrate Architecture + Design 2009, a series of 34 events during November.

The panel discussion will feature several groups of speakers who have successfully completed major historic preservation projects. The program format will be several case studies of landmark projects, followed by the panel discussion with questions from the audience. Professionals can receive two Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for attending the event.

The event will begin with a 6 p.m. wine and cheese reception, followed by the panel discussion from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Barbara Stein and the staff of Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre will lead a tour of the historic 1948 Art Moderne theatre prior to the panel discussion, during the reception.

Architect Jorge Hernandez, who is a trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will talk about the local projects on the National Trust's most endangered historic sites, along with current efforts to save and restore the Miami Marine Stadium.

A group of panelists will describe the Miracle Theatre public-private venture, including Coral Gables Mayor Don Slesnick, representing Coral Gables, the owner of the Miracle Theatre; Barbara Stein, executive producing director of the Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre, the theatre group the city selected to preserve the theatre; and John Fullerton, AIA, architect for the Miracle Theatre historic preservation project. They will discuss the challenges of the project, which took several years and cost \$10 million.

Richard Heisenbottle, FAIA, and Ivan Rodriguez, historic preservation specialist with R.J. Heisenbottle Architects, will discuss several of their award-winning historic preservation projects, including the Gusman/Olympic Theatre in downtown Miami, the Colony Theatre on Miami Beach, the Freedom Tower and others.

Nati Soto, president of AIA Miami, will be the moderator.

Reservations are required. Cost is \$10, free to members of AIA Miami. Those who register to receive two CEUs will be asked to pay an additional \$20 for AIA members, \$35 for non-members. For more information or to make reservations, call AIA Miami at 305-448-7488. The program is open to the public.

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DATE: November 2, 2009

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