



AIA Miami

A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

55th Annual AIA Gala November 21

Architects Celebrate Architecture + Design With Lectures, Tours, Gala During November

If it's November in Miami, it's time for [Celebrate Architecture + Design](#) – an annual month-long series of [lectures](#), [tours](#), [exhibits](#), parties, receptions, competitions and related activities, coordinated by the American Institute of Architects in Miami. Most of the [events are free](#) and all are open to the public.

The 2009 celebration will include 34 events, attracting people from throughout South Florida and beyond to see and learn more about the activities and talents of Miami [architects](#) and [designers](#) and explore the region's architecture and design in general.

Celebrate Architecture + Design 2009 will be highlighted by the AIA Miami Design Awards Gala – the 55th annual gala – Saturday, November 21, at Miami Event Space, the popular new venue in the MiMo District.

AIA Miami will present its annual prestigious design and professional, trade and community awards at this event, with more than 400 professionals and architecture students attending. Gala guests will see an exhibit of the design award-winning projects and selected work by students from the University of Miami, Florida International University, Miami Dade College, Miami International University of Art & Design, and the Design and Architecture Senior High (DASH). Cricket Snow, AIA, of Zyscovich Architects, as president-elect of AIA Miami, is chair.

Other popular events include the annual Digital Drafting SandBlast competition, in which teams design and build elaborate [sand sculptures](#). SandBlast, held on Sunday, November 1, which this year launched AIA Miami's Celebrate Architecture + Design 2009 events. The 21st Annual FIU Walk on Water competition, in which architecture and engineering students design and create shoe-like structures and attempt to use these to walk across a 175-foot lake on campus, will be Monday, November 00.

This year, for the first time, AIA Miami's Celebrate Architecture & Design will include a [tour of Coral Gables homes](#) on Saturday, November 14, coordinated by the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables. A limited number of tickets will be sold to tour five architecturally significant historic homes, including the historic waterfront estate Java Head on Edgewater Drive, homes in the Pioneer, Dutch South African and French Country villages of Coral Gables, plus an outstanding example of Art Deco architecture.

An unusual offering this year is the Friday the 13th Miami City Cemetery Ghost Walk, led by historian Dr. Paul George, at twilight, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The annual Festival of the Trees holiday tree design competition will be Thursday, November 12, also at Miami Event Space.

Many other local entities, including UM, FIU, MDC, MIUAD and DASH, along with local organizations, museums and businesses, plan special related events that are part of the Celebrate Architecture + Design calendar.

This November, join AIA Miami again to Celebrate Architecture + Design. For more information, or to purchase tickets or make reservations, contact AIA Miami at 305-448-7488 or aiamiami.com.

#####

DATE: UPDATED November 4, 2009
MEDIA CONTACT: Connie Crowther, Crowther & Company
Communications, 305-445-5545 or 305-710-3773