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Wisconsin Recognizes Importance, Impact of Architecture

Gov. Tony Evers declares October is Architecture Awareness Month

Madison -- The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) honored the Wisconsin chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Tuesday.

DSPS Secretary Dan Hereth presented AIA Wisconsin with a proclamation from Governor Tony Evers, declaring October as Architecture Awareness Month in Wisconsin, and recognizing architecture as fundamental to the well-being and success of society and the design industry as an economic driver in Wisconsin.

"People live, work and play in built spaces, most of which are designed by architects to keep the public healthy and safe. But the average person typically doesn't interact with an architect or even think about the impact that architects have on their daily lives," said AIA Wisconsin Executive Director Lisa Kennedy, FAIA. "Our goal during Archtoberfest is to raise awareness of architects and their work in Wisconsin, and how good design can positively impact our communities and our lives."

During Architecture Awareness Month, branded Archtoberfest by the AIA Wisconsin, the chapter is providing Wisconsin residents with opportunities to explore, appreciate, and engage with the built environment around them. There is a full list of Archtoberfest events open to the public throughout the month on the AIA Wisconsin website.

"We're proud to present this proclamation to AIA Wisconsin on behalf of Governor Tony Evers," said DSPS Secretary Dan Hereth. "The Governor realizes that architecture makes an economic, environmental, and cultural impact in communities across Wisconsin. I encourage everyone in the state to learn more about the impact of architecture and the design community at the events scheduled throughout October."

The proclamation notes, "The success of the developed world is contingent upon the built environment's ability to be resilient and on the decisions that architects, designers, engineers, public and private stakeholders, and the construction industry make daily."

The full proclamation can be found <u>here</u>. For more information, please contact the AIA Wisconsin office at aiaw@aiaw.org or (608) 257-8477.

About DSPS: DSPS issues more than 240 unique licenses, administers dozens of boards and councils that regulate professions, enforces state building codes, and maintains the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which is a key tool in the multi-faceted public health campaign to stem excessive opioid prescribing. A fee-based agency, DSPS is self-sustaining and receives no general fund tax dollars for its day-to-day operations. With 250 employees throughout Wisconsin, DSPS collaborates with constituents and stakeholders across a wide range of industries to promote safety and advance the economy.

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