

John M. Syvertsen, FAIA Architect

Education

Loeb Fellow in Advanced Environmental Studies, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, 1985-86

M. Arch., School of Architecture, Princeton University, 1976

B. Arts in Philosophy, Georgetown University, 1973

Professional

2020-2021, Chicago Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, Interim Executive Vice President

2015-Present, John M. Syvertsen, FAIA, Architect

2009-2015, Cannon Design, Senior Principal, Executive Leadership Team, Board of Directors

1992-2009, OWP/P Architects, Principal; President, 1999-2009

1987-1992, John M. Syvertsen, Architect

1977-1987, Hammond, Beeby, and Babka, Architects; Principal, 1982-1987

1976-1977, Hinds, Schroeder, and Whitaker, Architects

License

Illinois, 1982

Teaching

2019-Present, Adjunct Instructor, School of Architecture and Design, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

2017-2019, Adjunct Professor, College of Architecture, Illinois Institute of Technology

2002, Herbert H. Greenwald Visiting Critic, College of Architecture and the Arts, The University of Illinois at Chicago

1990-91, Adjunct Professor, College of Architecture and the Arts, The University of Illinois at Chicago

1988-89, Cass Gilbert Visiting Professor, School of Architecture, The University of Minnesota

1980-85, Assistant Professor, College of Architecture and the Arts, The University of Illinois at Chicago

1985-86, Loeb Fellow in Advanced Environmental Studies, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

1983-84, Visiting Studio Design Critic, School of Architecture, The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

1978-80, Adjunct Assistant Professor, College of Architecture and the Arts, The University of Illinois at Chicago

1975-76, Teaching Assistant (Preceptor) to Dean Robert Geddes and Michael Graves, School of Architecture, Princeton University

Organizational Leadership

American Architectural Foundation, Board of Regents, 2010- 2018; Chair, 2015 to 2018

AIA Illinois, Board of Directors, 2017 to 2019

Archeworks, Board of Directors, 2010- 2019; Chair, 2014- 2019

City of Chicago, Central Area Action Plan, Chair, Urban Design Task Force, 2012

Chicago Architectural Foundation, Board of Trustees, 2001-2016; Chair, 2006-2008; Emeritus, 2017 to present

Graham Foundation for Advanced Study in the Fine Arts, Board of Directors, 2004 to present; President, 2008-2011

Chicago Chapter, American Institute of Architects, Board of Directors, 1985-1997; President, 1996

Chicago Architectural Club, Director, 1982- 1994; President, 1993

American Institute of Architects, National Committee on Design, Steering Committee, 1988-1993; Chair, 1991

Member, Architectural Commission, University of Washington

Member, Chancellor's Design Review Committee, University of Illinois Chicago

Other board memberships have included: Public Architecture, Illinois Institute of Technology College of Architecture Board of Overseers, Chicago Civic Consulting Alliance, ACE Mentor Program of America National Board

Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award, The American Institute of Architects, Chicago Chapter, 2019

Gold Medal, AIA Illinois (inaugural recipient), 2006

Fellowship, The American Institute of Architects, 1999

AIA Illinois Distinguished Firm Award, OWP&P, 1995

AIA Chicago, Unbuilt Design Award, Stream House, 1993

Young Architect Award, Chicago Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, 1987

"40 Under 40", Architectural League, New York, 1986

AIA Chicago, Distinguished Building Award, Wisconsin Vacation House, 1985

Chicago Architectural Club, Burnham Prize, first runner-up, 1984

AIA Chicago, Distinguished Building Award, North Shore Congregation Israel, 1983

AIA Chicago, Honor Award, Tri-State Center, 1980

Publications

"Perspectives- Cannon Design's Open Hand Studio." New York Law School digital commons, Spring, 2015.

"Architect John Syvertsen on Improving Lives Through Design." Chicago Sun Times, April 12, 2014.

"Scaling Up." Architect Magazine, Dec. 6, 2012.

"Open Hand Studio and Social Sustainability in American A/E Practice." Design Intelligence, July 3, 2012, author.

The Third Teacher, Abrams, 2010, co-author

"Childhood Gift Fit Him to a Tee." Chicago Tribune, Sept. 15, 2008.

"Sailboats and Skyboxes and Bears." Chicago Tribune, Dec. 10, 1995.

"Chicago Architecture and Design: Reconfiguration of an American Metropolis." Zukowsky, John, pp. 323, 472, The Art Institute of Chicago, 1993.

"Suburban Rumors." pp. 50-55, Inland Architect, Jan./Feb., 1992.

"Two Housing Exhibits: Fiddling While Rome Burns." p. 22, Progressive Architecture, Jan., 1992.

"NeoCon Notebook." Section 15, p. 13, Chicago Tribune, June 14, 1992.

"Rumors About the American House." Pacific Sakata Development, Inc., 1991.

"Falling Water's 8 Unique Homes." Chicago Sun Times, June 7, 1991.

"Visions in Suburbia." Chicago Tribune, Aug. 31, 1991.

"For a Home, A Choice of Eight Architects." New York Times, Oct. 17, 1991.

"Chicago Eight Design Model Houses." p. 25, Architecture, Dec., 1991.

"New Directions in Design Education." Proceedings of the National Committee on Design meeting, Charlottesville, Va., 1991.

"Architecture and Landscape: Northwest Regionalism." Greer, Nora Richter. Proceedings of the National Committee on Design meeting, Vancouver, B.C., 1991.

"Monuments and Memorials." Cassidy, Victor M., curator. State of Illinois Art Gallery, 1990.

"Georgetown University Chapel: a Communion of Style and Grace." Journal of the Architectural Woodwork Institute, pp. 34-38, Summer 1990.

"Chicago Style." Chicago Tribune, Mar. 4, 1990.

"88 in '88." Chicago Tribune, Jan. 6, 1988.

"The New Generation." Pp. 58-59, Chicago Times Magazine, Sept./Oct., 1988.

"The Chicago Boom." P. B6, San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 29, 1988.

"Up by the Lake." House and Garden, pp.176-181, May, 1986.

G.A. Houses, Vol.19. May, 1986.

"40 Under 40." Interiors Magazine, p.153, 190, Sept., 1986.

"An 'A' List for the Baby Boomers." p.95, Time Magazine, Nov. 10, 1986.

"The Chicago Architectural Journal", Vol.2. Rizzoli International Publications, pp. 146-147, 1982.

"The Chicago Architectural Journal." Vol.1, Rizzoli International Publications, p. 91, 1981.

"New Chicago Architecture: Beyond the International Style." Casari, Maurizio and Pavan, Vincent, ed., Rizzoli International Publications, Inc, pp.180-183, 1981.

“Firm Profile: Hammond Beeby and Babka.” Progressive Architecture, pp. 80-94, June, 1980.

Lectures

2015, American Architectural Foundation National Summit on School Design, Chicago

2015, Greenbuild, “Equitable and Sustainable Community Development in Ethnically and Economically Diverse Communities”

2013, MoHURD 2013 Conference on Urban Development and Planning, Zhuhai, China

2012, Design Futures Conference, Boston

2011, Mayors Institute on City Design, Santa Fe

2011, Structures for Inclusion 10+1, Chicago

1996, Illinois Institute of Technology

1996, Daley Plaza Rededication

1996, Art Institute of Chicago

1996, Chicago Architectural Club

1996, National Trust for Historic Preservation

1992, AIA National Convention, Washington, D.C.

1992, Washington University, St. Louis

1991, AIA Nebraska

1991, University of Illinois at Champagne-Urbana, School of Architecture

1990, University of Minnesota, School of Architecture

1989, Kansas State University, School of Architecture

1989, AIA Wichita

1988, AIA Kansas City and AIA Kansas

1987, AIA St. Louis

1986, Chicago Architecture Foundation

1986, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design

1985, Architectural League, New York

1983, University of Norte Dame, School of Architecture

Exhibitions

"Chicago Architecture and Design: 1923-1993", The Art Institute of Chicago, 1993

"Built", I-Space, Chicago, 1993

"Speculations", Corporate Art Source, Chicago, 1993

"Take Issue", Corporate Art Source, Chicago, 1993

"Found Futures", International Design Center, New York, 1992

"Rumors About the American House", Glenda Jay Gallery, Chicago, 1991

"Monuments and Memorials", State of Illinois Art Gallery, Chicago, 1991

"40 Under 40", International Design Center, New York, 1986

"100 Years of Chicago Architecture", Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, 1986

"Chicago Architectural Club", Graham Foundation, The Art Institute of Chicago, Van Straaten Gallery, 1980-1990, Chicago

"Window, Room, Furniture", Cooper Union, New York, 1980

"New Chicago Architecture", Museo D'Castelvecchio, Verona, Italy, 1980

"Princeton's Beaux Arts and its New Academicism", Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, New York, 1978

Juries

University:

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Illinois Chicago, Princeton University, Norte Dame University, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Harvard University, University of Minnesota, Illinois Institute of Technology, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Professional:

Detroit Chapter AIA

Wisconsin Chapter AIA

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA

St. Louis Chapter AIA

Kansas Chapter AIA

Nebraska Chapter AIA

CRSI Design Awards XI

Modern Health Care, AIA National Design Awards

Cedar Shake and Shingle National Architectural Awards

AIA National Institute Honors

AIA National Firm Award

AIA National Religious Art and Architecture Awards

IIT Crown Scholarship

Richard Driehaus Foundation / Landmarks Preservation of Illinois Preservation Awards

Accreditation visits

University of Illinois Chicago School of Architecture (3 visits for three directors as Observer for the school)

Andrews University School of Architecture (2 visits)

University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture

