

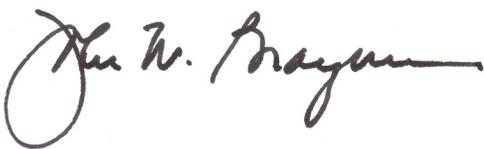
2011 VSAIA Annual Report

From the Executive Vice President & CEO

It is almost a truism that clients recognize the value of those three letters, AIA. But it is true. To the public and related professionals, those letters mean that you are an architect who ascribes to the highest levels of professional and ethical conduct. It also identifies you as someone who understands the importance of professional unity; if you will, the power of numbers.

We can never forget that a large part of the influence of the AIA is that it is an organization made up of involved, erudite individuals who, together, exact a great deal of influence in the public and political realms. Throughout the Commonwealth are architects who sit on planning, zoning, and design-review boards, city councils, and every imaginable community-related organization. Yes, there is a percentage whose time with work and family seems to overwhelm all of the volunteer activity they otherwise would want to undertake. Still, those members, too, find the commitment worthwhile to continue their membership in support of the many activities the AIA undertakes in the way of professional development, lobbying, and public education in support of the important value-adding work that architects do for their clients and the public at large.

Even in these seemingly never-to-end days of difficulty (believe me, business conditions will improve, and soon), let us continue to work together—to talk with one powerful voice—to engage and educate clients and community groups, elected officials and appointed ones, school children and university students—everyone we can—so that together we move forward aesthetically, technologically, socially, and spiritually. We must continue to work hard as a professional community to communicate what architects do and encourage the next generation with an overarching credo: We expect no less from ourselves than the best.



John W. Braymer, Ph. D., Hon. AIA
Executive Vice President/CEO

Communications & Outreach

Focus on improving electronic communication continued in 2011. The Society transitioned *VSAIA News*, the Society's member newsletter, from a bi-monthly format to monthly distribution. This change allowed for more timely dissemination of news and increased opportunities for sponsor recognition. In addition to the newsletter, the Society made judicious use of its capacity for electronic communication, sending messages to members via email and posting news to www.aiava.org throughout the year.

The Society continued to educate members of the public about the social, aesthetic and economic value of architecture and architects by providing marketing and communications support to the Virginia Center for Architecture. The Society supported the launch of four exhibitions including *Design Awards 2010*, *Vertical Gardens*, *Flights of Fancy* and *Design Awards 2011*. The Center also served as a display space for the *Sunday Prize* exhibition hosted by AIA Richmond. In addition to exhibitions, the Society assisted in the coordination and promotion of numerous lectures, gallery talks and tours, including a presentation by Jean Carroon, FAIA, a film series on Modern design, and a multi-day guided tour to Columbus, Indiana.

To complement those efforts, the Society upheld excellence in design through various awards programs. The winners of VSAIA Honors Awards, the Awards for Excellence in Architecture, the Inform Awards, the VSAIA Student Prize and the Prize for Design Research & Scholarship were commended to the media and, in turn, to the public.

Inform Magazine

The strongest ad-sales opportunity for Inform magazine in 2011 was the mid-year membership directory issue, as has historically been the case. Ad sales overall throughout the year endured the same slow pace as construction-industry magazines in general. To meet that budget challenge, expenses for the editorial side of the publication continued under close scrutiny even while high-quality content remains

C o m m u n i c a t i o n s & O u t r e a c h , c o n t .

a top priority. The 2011 Inform Awards jury evaluated 137 submissions and recognized 6 for excellence in the categories of landscape architecture, interior design, and object design.

The reader-interactive website, Readinform.com has begun coordinating even more closely with *Inform* and *VSAIA News* to draw readers to the site in response to a survey conducted at ArchEx 2011. The survey showed that only about half of the membership is currently aware of the site, and far fewer visit it frequently. The survey did indicate that 9 out of 10 members think it is a good idea to have a website that allows them to comment on the issues of the day. Therefore, more emphasis has been focused on the interactive nature of the site as a way to generate more membership engagement with posted articles.

G o v e r n m e n t A d v o c a c y

The General Assembly session ended in 2011 with no surprises for the architecture profession. The primary active issue for the Society was to stem unlicensed practice. Further tightening was accomplished through the successful introduction of House Bill 1974 by freshman legislator Roxanne Robinson (R-Richmond). The law, which went into effect July 1, requires individuals seeking a local business license as an architect to provide proof of state licensure.

The Society's primary reactive success was to defeat House Bill 2097, which would have required errors-and-omission insurance for all architects regardless of whether they were already insured through their firm or employed by corporations or government and not practicing in the traditional sense.

Another action by the 2011 General Assembly (House Bill 2520) relaxed the design-build and construction management processes for localities. The Design-Build/Construction Management Review Board, among others, was eliminated in an attempt to streamline government. A locality will still need to have experienced professionals on staff or under

contract to represent it during the process, but instead of submitting information to a board or to the state, it will follow procedures outlined by the state in its design-build or construction management projects. These can be found in the Construction and Professional Services Manual published by the state's Bureau of Capital Outlay Management.

The concept for the D-B/CM Review Board was developed and promoted by the Society, the two statewide engineering societies and the Associated General Contractors of Virginia. The concept was adopted almost intact by the 1996 General Assembly. While there never was much activity with the D-B/CM Board, it became irrelevant with the advent of the Public-Private Education Act of 2002, according to Jim Lowe PE, Esq., and Paul Proto, two original appointees to the board.

Lowe, counsel to AECOM in Roanoke, drafted the board's regulations. Proto, former general services director for Henrico County, was the board's first chairman.

Many other bills were reviewed, monitored or adjusted during the assembly by the Joint Legislative Committee which comprises the Society, the American Consulting Engineers Council and the Virginia Society of Professional Engineers. Reggie Jones and Travis Hill of Williams Mullen again provided legislative counsel.

B u i l d i n g C o d e

After determining some eleventh-hour amendment petitions were unfounded, Virginia implemented the 2009 family of building codes in March, 2011. Proposals made by the Society through long-time advocate Kenney Payne, AIA, were included intact.

During the two-plus years of review, Payne had succeeded in gaining approval for several Society positions that modified the language in the 2009 model International Building Code. These included retaining an egress-width incentive for adding sprinklers and retaining a larger area threshold before sprinklers were required in education facilities.

Speaking for the Society, Payne introduced the code change to retain the 2006 egress incentive in the new

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VUSBC. In the 2006 language, owners were given credit for adding a sprinkler system by allowing them to use a 0.15 factor on non-stair egress elements and a 0.2 factor on stairs. In effect, the 2009 language would have reduced the allowable egress capacity of doors and corridors 25 percent and stairs 33 percent.

Payne's actions also retained the 20,000 s.f. threshold found in the 2006 code that triggered the sprinkler requirement in education facilities. The 2009 IBC model code language would have dropped the threshold to 12,000 s.f.

The Society supported a compromise proposal to retain the size of the fire command center at 96 s.f. unless the state fire marshal demonstrated that a building required more space up to a 200 s.f. maximum.

The VSAIA supported one of the late petitions that sought to retain the 2006 exception to the fire extinguisher requirement when using quick-response sprinkler heads. The DHCD Board reversed itself and approved the petition, affirming the Society position.

Payne has been the eyes, ears and voice of the Society in building code issues since October 2000. He is supported by several other architects, including Jim Snowa, AIA, and Megan Shope, AIA. In addition, John McGrann, AIA, serves as an instructor in the code academy through which code officials are certified and re-certified.

Citizen Architect

At least five AIA members put their names and reputations out for public scrutiny in 2011 in hopes of representing their communities in elected office. Four of them succeeded and will be serving in the positions they sought.

Running for office on the November ballots were the following:

- Sarah Barber, AIA, won election to the New Kent County School Board

- John Bush, AIA, won re-election to a full four-year term on the Blacksburg Town Council after winning two years ago to fulfill an unexpired term
- Kathleen Galvin, AIA, won election to the Charlottesville City Council
- Canova Peterson, AIA, won election to the Hanover County Board of Supervisors, and
- Valdis Ronis, AIA, came up short in his bid to earn a seat on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

They join at least two other architects in elected office in the state — Bruce Tyler, AIA, who serves on Richmond City Council and Jeff Stodghill, AIA, who serves on the Newport News School Board — and about 150 others in appointed positions in several boards and commissions. All are — or will be — presenting their professional perspectives on the issues that will direct the future of their communities.

Political Outreach

Two architects were appointed by Gov. Robert McDonnell to the Virginia Art and Architecture Review Board in 2011. Kathleen O. Frazier, AIA, was appointed to her second four-year term and Clinton K. Good, AIA, was appointed to his first term. Frazier holds the seat reserved for an architect; Good was selected as the at-large member of the five-person board.

In addition, Good was appointed to the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects. He succeeds J. Everette "Ebo" Fauber, AIA, who completed his second four-year term.

The Political Action Committee provided \$7,250 in financial support to campaigns for state office in 2011. When combined with \$4,500 contributed in 2010, the VSAIA contributed \$11,750 to 19 candidates in the 2010-2011 election cycle. This was divided approximately 36 percent to Democratic candidates and 64 percent to Republican candidates. Because the Society contributes without regard to party, the percentages over time run approximately 50-50. To view contributions, go to the Virginia Public Access Project (<http://www.vpap.org/>).

Professional Excellence

The 24th Architecture Exchange East was held in Richmond on Nov. 2–4, 2011. Participants came from 33 different AIA Components. Of the Society-member attendees, 11% were from the Blue Ridge Chapter, 8% from the Central Virginia Chapter, 25% from the Hampton Roads Chapter, 35% from the Richmond Chapter, and 19% from the Northern Virginia Chapter. 2% were unassigned Allied members.

The keynote address, *Simplicity: Reinventing Our Practice*, was delivered by Michelle Kaufmann, LEED AP, of Michelle Kaufmann Studio in Marin County California. She delivered an inspiring look at her firm and work, sat in on the Emerging Leaders in Architecture project presentation, and signed books during CONNECTIONS in the exhibit hall.

Two full-day workshops, two half-day workshops, 4 tours, 3 one-hour, and 60 hour-and-a-half seminars comprised the rest of the three-day program, offering a total of 111 AIA/CES learning units.

As many as 18 AIA/CES HSW learning units could be earned, all of which could be in the Sustainable Design requirement area if desired. Six tracks were offered: Design, Business, Historic, Tech, Green, and General Issues.

New for 2011 was partnership with the national AIA Practice Management Knowledge Community (PMKC). PMKC held their annual event as part of ArchEx, contributing 8 seminars, one workshop, and a town hall meeting to the program.

We also implemented In FOCUS: Emerging Professionals. Thursday's schedule was intentionally loaded with sessions of interest to emerging professionals and students.

In collaboration with Virginia Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture: A Knowledge Community of the VSAIA, a series of two sessions entitled Spirituality and Sustainability was offered as the annual Virginia IFRAA program at ArchEx.

Virginia Women in Design offered a track for the second year, sponsoring four sessions.

The Mid-Atlantic Design Showcase, now in its ninth year, displayed 44 design boards from 21 firms in the exhibit hall.

Exhibit floor traffic was enhanced by improved lunch service, and various prize giveaways and drawings, including an iPad2. The return of CONNECTIONS, featuring live music and a salute to newly-licensed architects, was very popular. Once again, the bookstore collaboration with the Virginia Center for Architecture was highly trafficked, with a broad range of books and other items.

In spite of the continuing sluggish economy, ArchEx 2011 was very successful, and registrants and exhibitors were very pleased with the convention.

The third class of Emerging Leaders in Architecture, an Honors Academy of the VSAIA, participated in the intensive leadership development program, meeting monthly from January until November in various locations across Virginia. The class of 16 of the best and brightest emerging professionals participated in classes and activities designed to expose them to cutting-edge knowledge and skills to “jump-start” their advancement in the profession. A key element of the program is the class project, which for 2011 was based in the Manchester neighborhood of Richmond. The class designed and built a kiosk entitled “What Do You See?” intended to gather input from residents about their vision for the neighborhood. The kiosk was displayed at three different locations in Manchester during the fall, and also at Architecture Exchange East.

The fourth VSAIA Prize for Design Research & Scholarship attracted entrants from the worlds of academia and practice, who submitted their scholarly work to be evaluated by the jury chaired by Thomas Leslie of Iowa State University. The winning work was *The Architectural Detail*, by Edward Ford, AIA, of the University of Virginia.

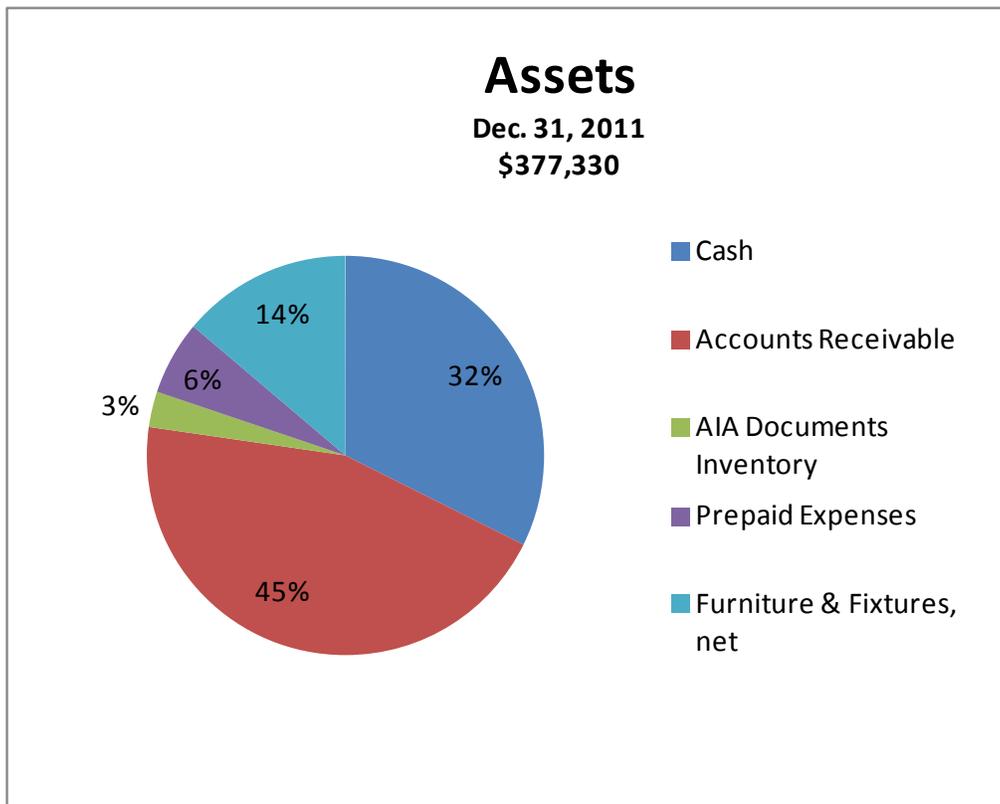
The Virginia Society AIA Prize, the annual design charrette for architecture students from Virginia's four architectural schools, was awarded to Siim Tiisvelt of Virginia Tech WAAC. Best of School from Hampton

Professional Excellence, cont.

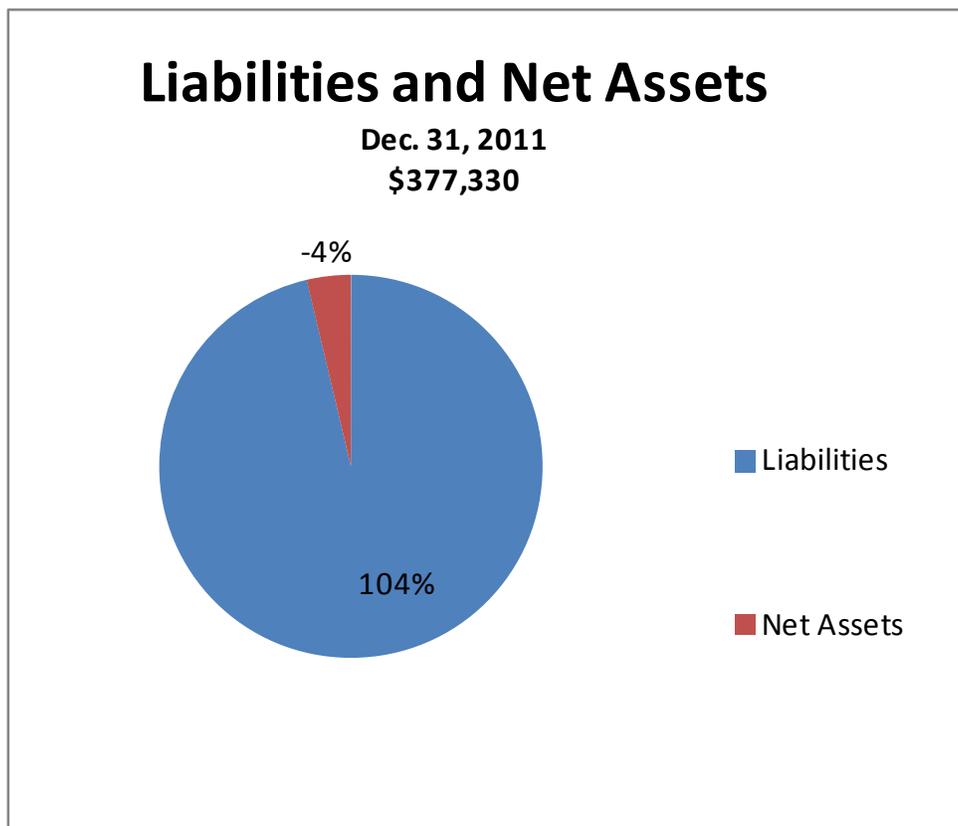
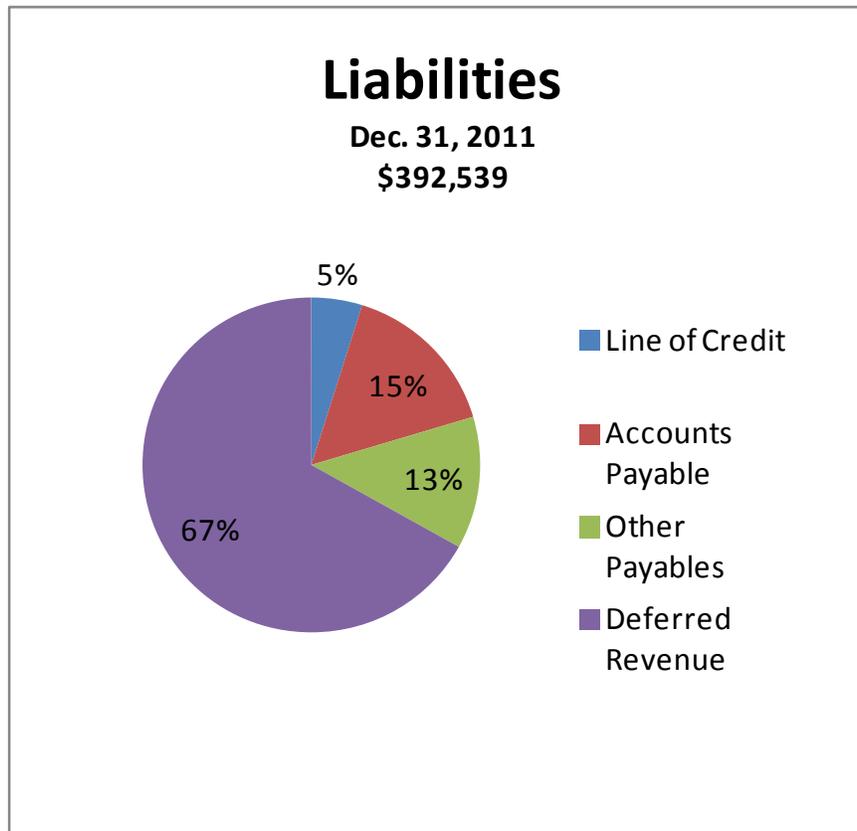
University was Biyengo Lwandiko, Best of School from Virginia Tech Blacksburg was Garrett Reynolds. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Gui Talarico of Virginia Tech WAAC and Michael Smyles of Virginia Tech Blacksburg. Recognition for Artistic Merit was given to Natalie Mutchler of Virginia Tech Blacksburg. The program's challenge was designed by faculty at Virginia Tech to design a new train station in the town of Clifton Forge Virginia. The Prize jury convened in March, and was comprised of Timm Jamieson, FAIA, Michel Ashe, FAIA, Joe Atkins, AIA, and Steven McCurdy of Norfolk Southern Corporation.

Seminars on building codes and other topics were held in locations across Virginia, attended by well over 250 members and non-members. Collaboration with Chesterfield County resulted in code update training for 80 members.

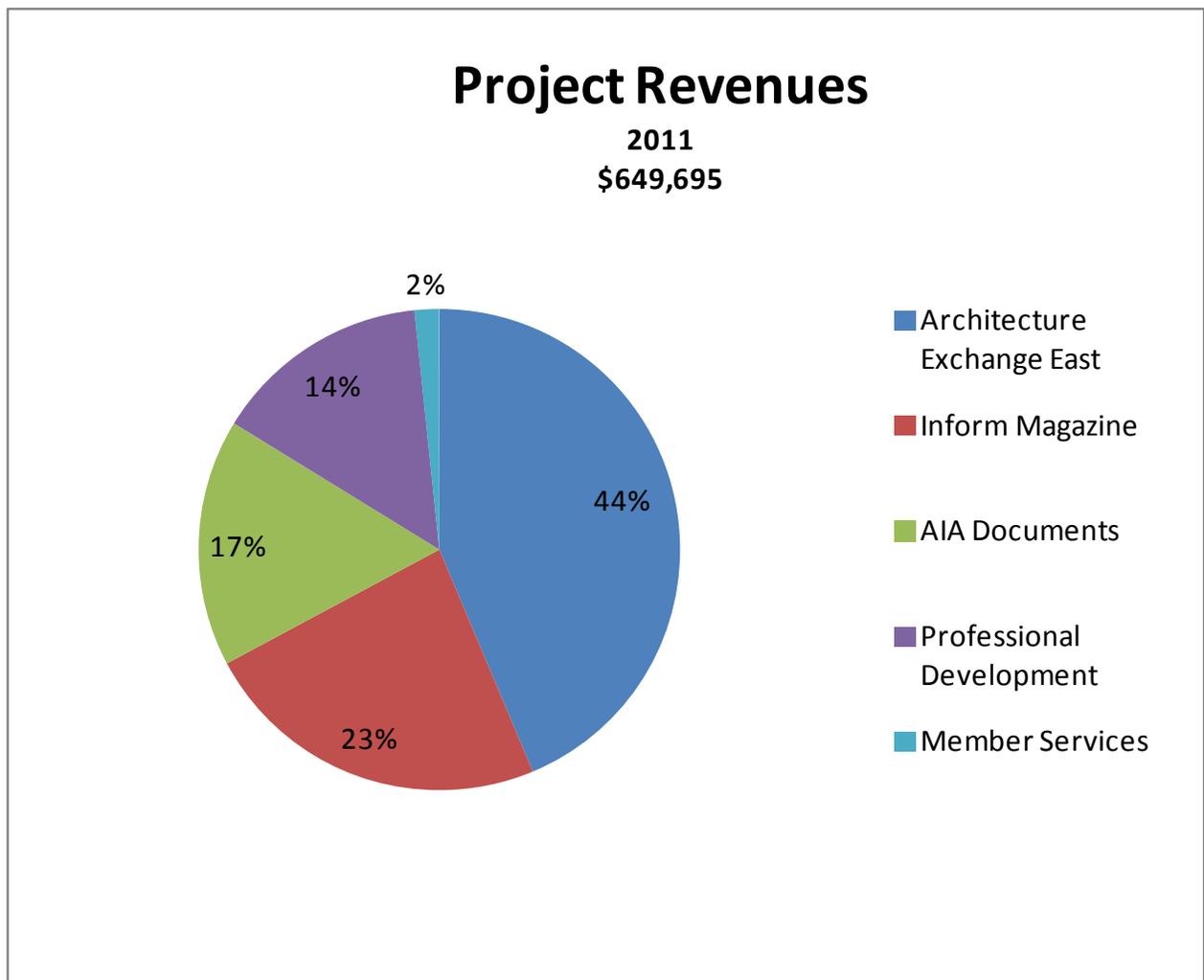
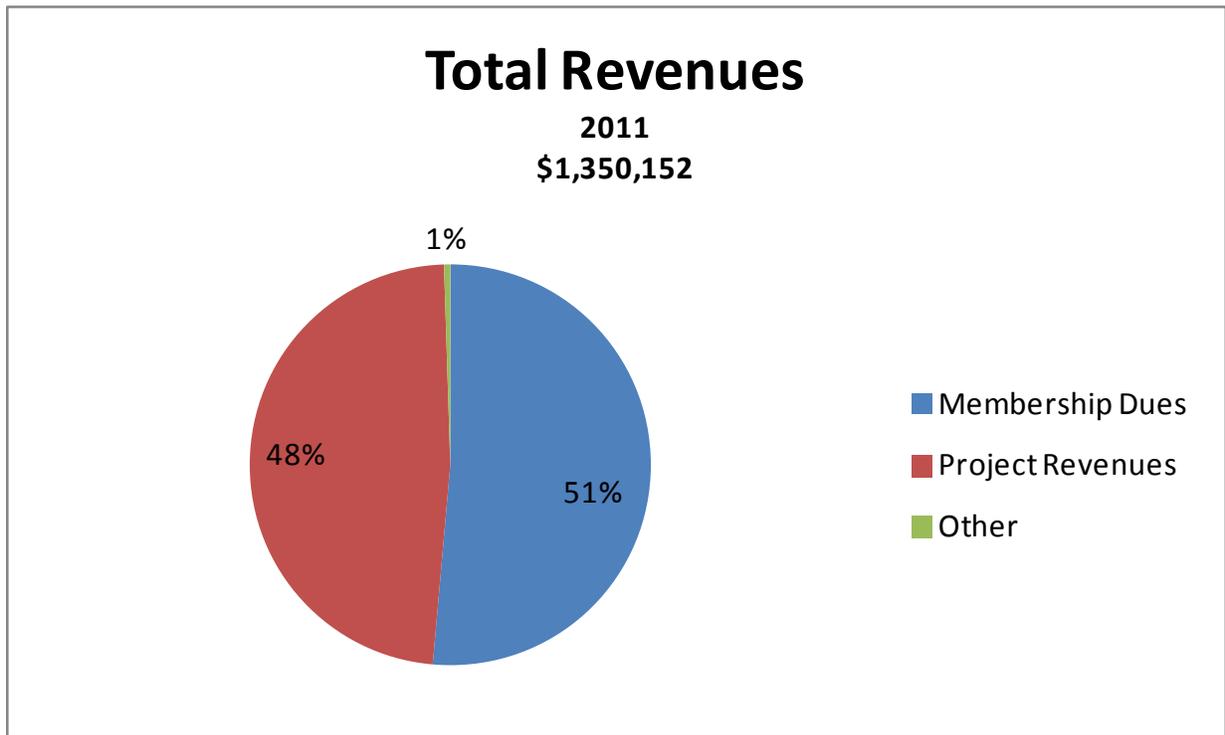
Financial Statements (reviewed)



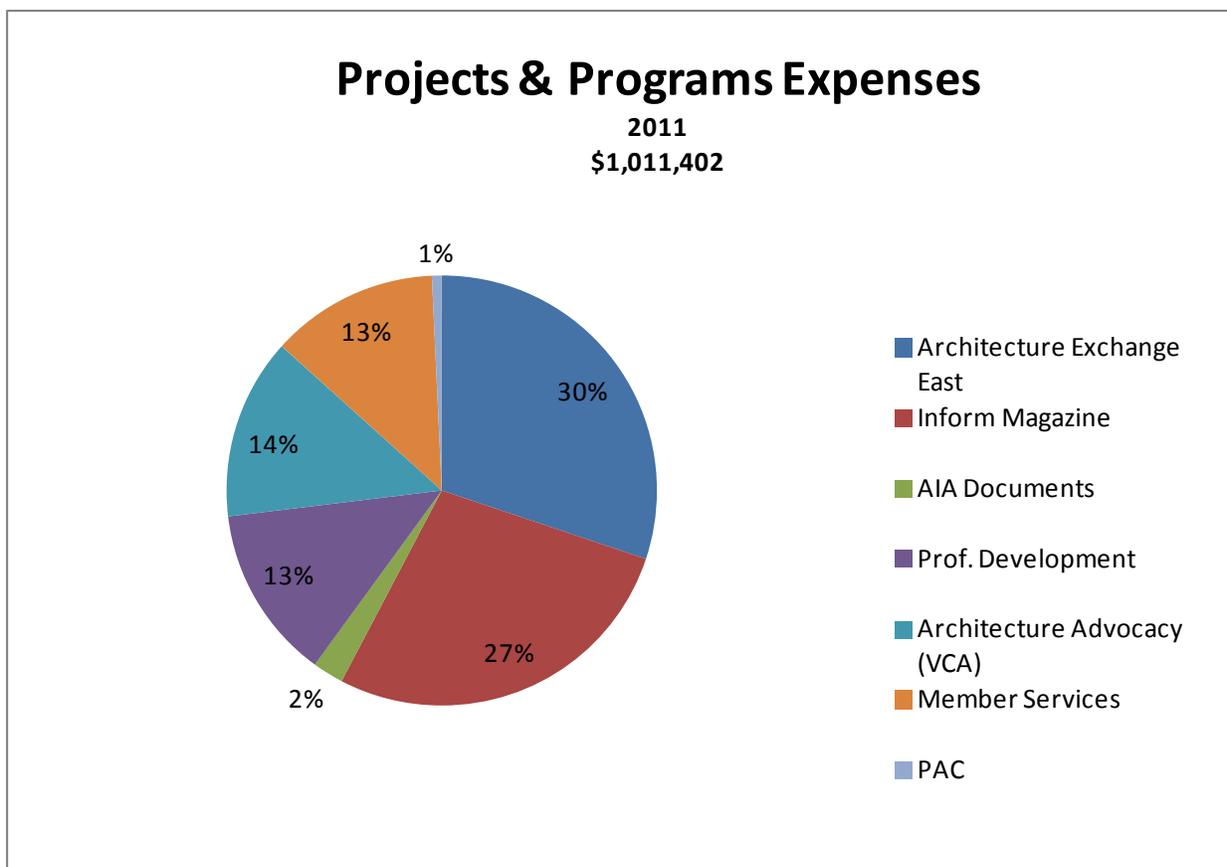
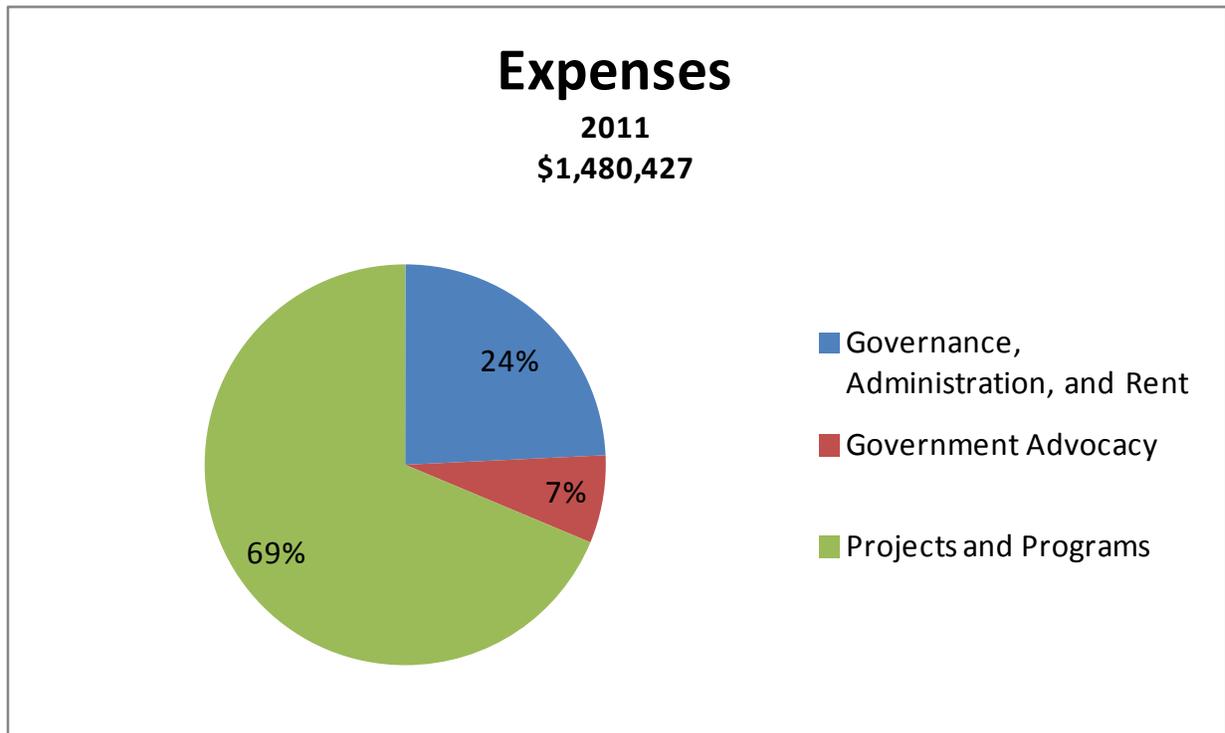
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The American Institute of Architects is a professional society with component organizations at the national, state and local levels. The Virginia Society is a state component of the AIA, focused on delivering value to architects with statewide impact. Since 1914, the Virginia AIA has represented the professional interests of architects and allied professionals in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Society works in collaboration with five local chapters — Blue Ridge, Central Virginia, Hampton Roads, Northern Virginia and Richmond. These six components join with West Virginia in forming the Region of the Virginias to elect a representative director to the national AIA board. Together with the national component and components across the country, we form one AIA.

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