



PRESS RELEASE

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The Architecture of (Social) Responsibility Exhibition **April 16-May 29, 2009 | Reception May 28, 2009** **AIA San Francisco | Center for Architecture + Design Gallery**



L-R: Day Labor Station, Public Architecture | Bushwaffle, Rebar

San Francisco, CA (March 24, 2009) - The American Institute of Architects, San Francisco chapter (AIA San Francisco) and Center for Architecture + Design Gallery are pleased to present *The Architecture of (Social) Responsibility* Exhibition, on view April 16 - May 29, 2009.

The Architecture of (Social) Responsibility explores the contribution of six architecture nonprofit organizations based in San Francisco. These visionaries have shaped the urban landscape by designing affordable housing for the poorest San Franciscans (Asian Neighborhood Design); rebuilt Sri Lankan villages devastated by tsunamis (Architecture for Humanity); challenged our assumptions about the use of urban parking spaces (Rebar); plowed up urban sidewalks and created wildflower gardens (PlantSF); educated kids about careers in architecture (Architectural Foundation of San Francisco) and have reshaped the possibilities of pro bono service in the architecture profession (Public Architecture).

The groups range from emerging collectives to established community organizations—all united by the passionate belief that architecture matters and can shape people's lives. Nurtured by a community which encourages volunteerism and social activism, these groups have changed the landscape of San Francisco and are now reshaping the role of architects and architecture around the world. The groups embrace the true definition of "San Francisco values" with a passion for community building and dialogue, nourished by a generous and politically progressive citizenry.

The exhibition is one of the cornerstone events taking place during the 2009 AIA National Convention and is curated by Margie O'Driscoll, Julie Blankenship and Loida Sorensen.

The Architecture of (Social) Responsibility is on view April 16 - May 29, 2009 in the AIA San Francisco/Center for Architecture + Design Gallery, located within the historic Hallidie Building at 130 Sutter Street, Suite 600, San Francisco. A closing reception will take place May 28, 2009 at 6:00 pm. The Gallery is free and open to the public Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For more information, visit www.aia.org/Programs/Gallery.htm.

About AIA San Francisco

AIA San Francisco is one of the largest chapter of the AIA in the United States. Founded in 1881, AIA San Francisco represents over 2,300 members locally. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in the Bay Area by promoting architecture and design. We further this goal through community involvement, education, advocacy, public outreach, member service, and professional excellence.

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