

Katie Wilson of Ward + Blake Receives AIA WMR Pettigrew Scholarship

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Jackson resident first Wyoming professional to receive regional leadership award



Jackson, Wyoming – October 18, 2013—Katie Wilson, Associate AIA at Ward + Blake Architects, has been selected by the American Institute of Architects Western Mountain Region (AIA WMR) as the recipient for the Jason Pettigrew, Associate AIA Memorial Leadership Scholarship, announced Ward + Blake Principal Mitch Blake. Wilson is the first Wyoming professional to receive the scholarship, which is given to a regional Associate AIA member who has demonstrated leadership within the AIA. The AIA WMR will sponsor Wilson to attend both the annual AIA Grassroots Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C and the 2014 WMR Conference in Santa Fe, N.M.

Katie Wilson has been a member of the Ward + Blake team since 2005, when she joined the award-winning architectural firm after completing her Masters in Architecture at the University of Idaho. Wilson is a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Accredited Professional with a Building Design and Construction specialization. She currently serves as the State Associate Director for the AIA Wyoming Board of Directors and has been involved in planning state and regional AIA conferences since 2008.

“Katie has significantly contributed to the growth and success of Ward + Blake Architects with her endless enthusiasm and passion for expanding our architectural boundaries,” says Blake. “She is always positive and striving for the best in our work and our client relations. We are very proud to see the AIA recognize her not only for her professional accomplishments, but also for her contributions to the AIA.”

Wilson also is actively involved in the Jackson community, where she has volunteered for organizations from Snow King Ski Patrol to the Kiwanis Club to the Wyoming Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. “Believing that one of the best ways to connect is through involvement, she encourages young professionals to volunteer,” says Colleen Nelson, AIA Wyoming President about Wilson.

According to Stuart Coppedge, AIA WMR Senior Director, the jury decision was unanimous; and Wilson’s application stood out because of her commitment to bring leadership skills gained at the conferences back to the Jackson community, the State of Wyoming and the Western Mountain Region.

“Connection” is a key professional theme for Wilson, who says that “living and working in Wyoming where geographical factors and demographics are an issue, architecture and design have helped me connect with people and places in my community. Joining the AIA has greatly enabled me to connect with others in my profession throughout the Western Mountain Region and beyond,” she adds.

The memorial scholarship was founded in 2004 in honor of Jason Pettigrew, Assoc. AIA, who at 29 was killed in a fall while climbing in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in southern Colorado. Through this award, Pettigrew is remembered for “his energy and infectious spirit, his get-things-done attitude, and his enjoyment and encouragement of others.”

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Ward + Blake Architects was built on a distinctive vision: to be provocative in thought, flexible in nature and disciplined in execution. Since 1996, the firm has earned recognition for architecture that is sensitive to its environment and successfully integrated with its surroundings. Ward + Blake creates buildings that are tactile, modern, bio-climatically responsible, honestly expressed, technologically sound and artfully crafted. For additional information, visit Ward + Blake online at www.wardblakearchitects.com or call 307.733.6867.