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Past President,
Brook Thornton

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October 26th

5:30 - 7:30 PM

CSHQA

Free for Members
\$25 for Non-Members

Register for more
details!

SPOTLIGHTS

Kiley Gardiner

Industry Leader

Jennifer Gonzalez

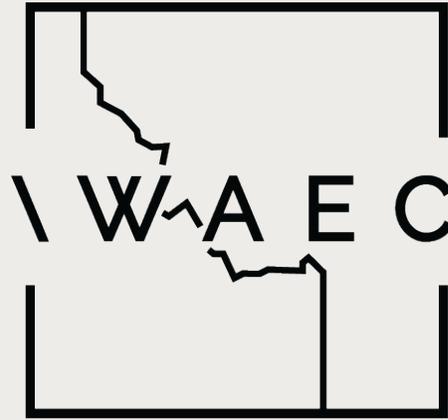
Rising Member

ACHIEVEMENTS

Ashley Thompson, SE

promoted to Associate at
KPFF. Congrats!

Email your latest
achievement or a
milestone worth
celebrating to [IWAEC](#) to
be featured here!



I D A H O W O M E N

IN

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A Message from the Board:

In writing my last message as a board member, I continue to be impressed by this great group of women. All of you have persevered through an incredibly difficult past few years and still show hope and optimism moving forward. I am grateful to have been able to be part of that.

For women in a male-dominated industry the pressure to meet both career and personal expectations is daunting. The path to leadership roles can be less clear than those of our male counterparts, yet we all know how capable we are of both performing and leading. My desire is that Idaho Women in Architecture, Engineering and Construction continues to be a place where all those seeking a network of support will feel welcome, learn, and inspire each other.

We hope that you will be able to join us for our in-person events coming up, including our speed mentoring event in October and our holiday social. Looking forward to 2023, I am excited to see the new board continue to be a guiding force within this organization and progress forward with all of you in mind.

Serving on this board has been a pleasure. Thank you everyone.

Brook Thornton

Past President

Open Board and Committee Positions

IWAEC is excited to open applications for Secretary position starting on October 28. If interested, please email idahowomeninaec@gmail.com and a survey will be sent to you. Election results will be decided on November 4 and be announced shortly after.

IWAEC is looking for a newsletter committee member for 2023. This individual will coordinate with the board and members to ensure the quarterly newsletter for the year is presenting the latest news and highlights of the industry. Email idahowomeninaec@gmail.com to volunteer or learn more.



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QUARTER 3 EVENT



Speed Mentoring

Speed Mentoring returns as one of our most popular events!

Mentors from across the AEC industry will be in attendance, coming with a wide variety of backgrounds and career paths. Mentees will split up into groups and rotate through the mentors to get as many questions answered as we can in one night!

Appetizers and drinks will be provided to all in attendance.

Thank you to CSHQA for hosting us in their training room and we are so excited for all the great conversations to come!

WHEN

October 26

WHERE

CSHQA
200 W Broad St
Boise, ID 83702

COST

Free for Members
\$25 for Non-Members

[Register](#)



INDUSTRY NEWS

ACE Mentor Program Kicks Off in Idaho

Founded in 1994, the ACE mission is to engage, excite and enlighten high school students to pursue careers in ACE industries and trades through its award-winning mentoring program. ACE works with high school students to help them uncover career opportunities in the ACE fields. Volunteer industry professionals mentor students and lead them through a hands-on simulation of designing and constructing buildings. ACE Mentor America, is pleased to announce its newly formed Idaho affiliate, joining more than 76 affiliates operating in 38 states and Canada.

The ACE Idaho Board of Directors is comprised of local professionals, many of whom have benefited from mentors along the way. Jeff Slinger, Senior Project Manager with Andersen, and ACE Idaho Board President states, "I've been very fortunate in my career to have had some great mentors to help guide me along my career path. I think everyone who is successful has had the help of amazing people. The ACE Mentor program is a chance for all of us working in the build environment to help develop and grow the next generation. It makes me proud to be able to pay it forward."

Interested in becoming a mentor? ACE Idaho is currently seeking industry professionals to serve as mentors for the Spring 2023 semester! Mentors are the backbone of the ACE program; they help guide student teams in collaborative efforts as they navigate a complex, realistic development projects. Industry professionals are invited to come meet the ACE Idaho board and learn what it means to be an ACE Mentor at the inaugural Mentor Mixer.



MENTOR MIXER

WHEN

October 13
4-6pm

WHERE

Payette Brewing
733 S Pioneer St
Boise, ID 83702

State of the Industry Panel with SMPS Idaho

SMPS Idaho is hosting a panel discussion with local leaders of the architecture, engineering, and construction industry.

Topics will include recent legislation and funding that will impact the industry, anticipated areas for growth or decline in the next 12 months, ongoing pandemic impacts, and challenges for design and construction projects in 2023 and beyond. Lunch is provided with registration.

Panelists include:

- **Anita Keil** - Director of Preconstruction at ESI
- **Margaret Carmel** - Senior Reporter at BoiseDev
- **Martin Hahle, AIA** - President of CSHQA
- **John Barker, PE** - VP at Jacobs and President of ACEC of Idaho

PANEL DETAILS

WHEN

October 18
11:45am-1:15pm

WHERE

CSHQA
200 W Broad St
Boise, ID 83702

[RSVP](#)



SPOTLIGHT

JENNIFER GONZALEZ

STORE PLANNER
ALBERTSONS COMPANIES



IWAEC: Tell me about yourself and your current role.

I am a Store Planner for Albertsons Companies. Since starting in October 2021, I've assisted with remodeling retail supermarkets such as Safeway, Albertsons, Shaw's, Acme, Jewel Osco, Star, Tom Thumb, and Vons. I am looking forward to eventually working on the remainder of their brands, and new stores soon!

IWAEC: How long have you worked in the industry? What drew you to the AEC industry?

Like many of us, I grew up in a family who was involved with construction. My dad was a Commercial Electrician Lineman for Pacific Bell, which later became a part of AT&T. I always loved helping him with remodeling projects around the house and was captivated early on by the possibilities. I have been working professionally in the industry since I graduated with my degree in Interior Design in 2009. My first construction job out of school was with a General Contractor who owned a kitchen and bath remodeling showroom and had a field crew to implement the Design-Build projects. I would work with clients from the genesis of their design goals through the final installation and punch-walks. Since my first residential remodeling job, I've also had experience in hospitality design, contract design, and retail design.

I love how vast and expansive our industry is. With so many avenues to take, and with new products and techniques to implement, there is never a shortage of wonder and excitement for our collective crafts.

IWAEC: Tell me about someone that influenced your career path.

My career path changed dramatically while I was in school. I was studying Developmental Psychology, on track to be a Social Worker when I took an extracurricular Interior Design course and fell in love. My teacher inspired me while teaching about Indoor Air Quality, Color Theory, Space Planning, FF&E, and Art History. I decided to transfer to The Art Institute of California in San Francisco to earn my Bachelor of Science in Interior Design. To me, remodeling is a 3D puzzle. My background in psychology made me fascinated with how the build environment can so prominently affect one's mood, performance, health, and overall well-being. I am so grateful that I've been able to turn what was once a passion, into a career.

IWAEC: What is your current obsession or source of inspiration? Why?

I am currently obsessed with residential remodeling again! I finally purchased my own little home here in Garden City, near Esther Simplot Park. I am loving all of the brainstorming for projects I'd like to do with my new place. It even has a cute little patch of grass in the backyard for my puppy Archer!



SPOTLIGHT



IWAEC: Tell me about your favorite project that you've been a part of.

One of my most memorable projects was designing a new Starbucks store on Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco. The majority of the development was environmentally conscious, incorporating shipping containers for all of the storefront facades, and utilizing natural materials throughout the interior construction. We implemented raised and intricately woven wooden slats and planks for the finished interior walls and suspended ceiling. I remember how many details I had to draw, working in tandem with our MEP team to coordinate the suspended ceiling structure with our lighting design and mechanical systems. The ceiling was shorter than we had hoped for, but we worked together to make it all happen! The Grand Opening was definitely inspiring, and I'm happy to say that it does look unique, like no other Starbucks I've seen before it!

IWAEC: What mark or legacy would you like to leave on this industry?

I would love to leave a mark of inclusivity to anyone pursuing design or construction. It can be extremely intimidating, especially for women. If I had a nickel for every time I was dismissed or talked over in conversation on a construction site because someone was expecting me to be a man...

I am so grateful that I've stuck with it throughout my career. It makes me so proud to see so many more women in our industry today. I am also so excited to be a part of an encouraging and supportive organization like IWAEC. I think it is vital to give women a sense of representation and belonging, especially in a still male-dominated industry. We can all contribute and support each other. There shouldn't ever be a feeling of competition. We work in large teams, on large projects, with large goals, and the before and afters just keep getting better and better!

IWAEC: What fulfills you outside of work?

Traveling, being in nature (hiking/camping), crafting, live music, art, and history have always been a great source of inspiration and renewal for me on my downtime.

IWAEC: What advice do you have for future leaders in our industry?

Mentoring, and mentoring with empathy. There is always so much to learn, and we can always learn something new from others with different experiences.

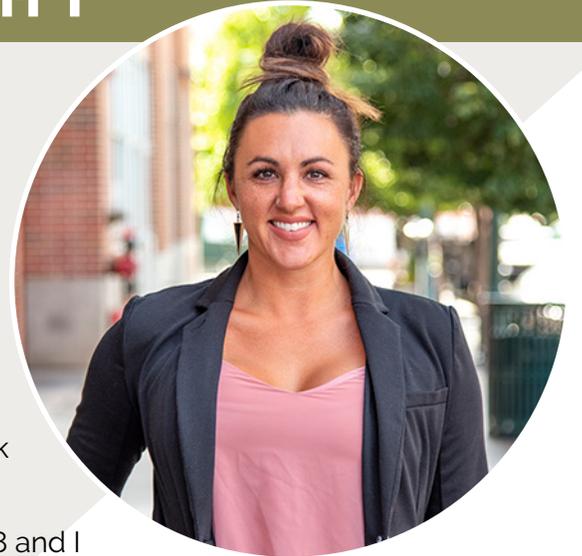




SPOTLIGHT

KILEY GARDINER

PARTNER & LANDSCAPE DESIGNER
STACK ROCK GROUP



IWAEC: Tell me about yourself and your current role.

I am currently the Residential Director at Stack Rock Group Landscape Architecture, plus I dabble in our larger master planning projects throughout Boise. As a whole, our firm does just about anything we can get our hands on, allowing us to work all across the country!

I have been working as a designer since leaving college in 2008 and I love every bit of it! Stack Rock Group is an amazing group of goofy artists that like to do cool stuff, which makes our designs bigger and better all the time.

IWAEC: How long have you worked in the industry? What drew you to the AEC industry?

I have been working in the industry since 2009. I have been working my way into a larger market since I graduated college in 2008, from design-build firms, to where I am today!

IWAEC: Tell me about someone that influenced your career path.

My parents have honestly influenced me whether they meant to or not. My mom is so creative with the spaces that she made for us kids to grow up in, which just fed my creative brain to want to make every project we work on feel magical. My dad built the house I grew up in, and really inspired me with the design and function that can be created during the building process. They are both so positive and really show our family what hard work can accomplish.



IWAEC: What is your current obsession or source of inspiration? Why?

My coworkers and teammates inspire me all the time. We push each other to think beyond our little bubble, and together we make some great things happen. I have also really loved listening to presentations for projects that are up and coming to the area to get others perspectives on space, and what can be accomplished as Boise continues to grow.



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SPOTLIGHT



IWAEC: Tell me about your favorite project that you have been a part of.

Honestly, the projects that I work on are all so different! This is why I love working on residential so much. The clients are all different, with different properties and different challenges to find solutions for! Then I get to turn around and work on large commercial projects in Florida. This is why I love our company so much. SRG allows us to grow and go in whatever direction that we want!

IWAEC: What mark or legacy would you like to leave on this industry?

I just want to be able to work with all of the amazing talent that Boise has to offer from all sides of the construction industry. Learning and growing from such talented professionals has opened so many doors for our company and continues to let us join teams that are making large impacts on the City of Boise and beyond!

IWAEC: What fulfills you outside of work?

Being just as busy as possible all of the time. My family loves hunting, hiking, traveling, playing sports, and constantly being on an adventure. We always get the comment that we are always so busy, but we wouldn't have it any other way!

IWAEC: What advice do you have for future leaders in our industry?

Suck every bit of information out of seasoned professionals that you can. I have learned so much from just watching and listening to others in the industry, and feel like I have grown so much from it. Also, never be afraid to be you, speak your opinion, and make your mark!



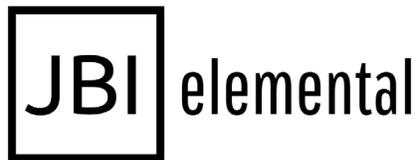


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GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE

