

EXPERIENCE

Currently enrolled in the NCARB Intern Development Program: **4782+** professional credit hours earned to date.

Junior Architect, Highland Associates, New York, NY — April 2010 to Present***Lord and Taylor, Fifth Avenue - New York, NY — April 2010 to October 2010***

- Produced construction documentation for Polo Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein's specialty shops.
- Surveyed and documented existing conditions of active retail space and coordinated a fast-tracked schedule of documentation and deliverables for Lord and Taylor and vendor build-outs.
- Developed schematic studies to improve way finding and increase customer vertical circulation to upper merchandise floors for increased revenue and improved customer experience.

Junior Architect, EPSTEIN, Chicago, IL & Javits II Architecture New York, NY — June 2008 to Nov. 2009 (1yr. 6 mo.)***Jacob K. Javits Convention Center - New York, NY — Sept. 2008 to Nov. 2009*** (\$500 million construction budget)

- Utilized Building Information Modeling software (BIM-Autodesk Revit) to prepare and convey building expansion Schematic Designs to the Empire State Development Corporation.
- Produced construction documentation for a 12-acre sedum "green roof" and high-efficiency air handling system replacement to cut energy consumption and to contribute to the overall projects goal of meeting LEED NC 2.2.
- Surveyed and documented existing precast and cast-in-place concrete for extensive structural and aesthetic restoration.

Midway International Airport - Chicago, IL — June 2008 to September 2008 (\$6 billion project budget)

- Identified current facility issues and proposed design solutions to best inform our client for a competitive bid process.
- Effectively designed solutions to more than double the number of airport security lanes to reduce security processing through schematic plans and 3D visualizations.
- Developed plans to greatly increase the potential gross income with added retail and food service areas.
- Redesigned the public transit facility by improving way-finding and increasing capacities for arrivals and departures.

150 East Ontario - Chicago, IL — June 2008 to September 2008 (\$86 million construction budget)

- Collaborated as design lead for a 36-story, 300 key boutique hotel core and shell design scheme within budget.
- Developed schematic hotel room layouts that met or exceeded industry luxury standards.

Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois School of Architecture, Urbana, IL — January 2007 to May 2008 (1yr. 5 mo.)

- Led sophomore and senior level "Building Science & Technology" lab sections of 25 students per semester.
- Taught students construction methods and documentation by means of hand-drafting, model building and computer software utilization (Autodesk Revit & CAD).

Intern Architect, Henneman Engineering, Inc., Champaign, IL — May 2005 to May 2008 (3yr. part-time)

- Studied comprehensive Construction Documentation for wood-framed residential buildings.
- Assisted in production of Construction Documentation for (3) 200+ bedroom, apartment communities. (\$3-5 million)
- Developed Schematic Design and Programming presentations for potential client projects. (\$50,000 - \$5 million)

EDUCATION**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Fine and Applied Arts**

Master of Architecture - May 2008 –GPA: 3.89/4.00, Graduated 1st in the class.

Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies - May 2006 –GPA: 3.54/4.00

HONORS

Student Senator, Illinois Student Senate, UIUC, Champaign, IL — April 2004 to May 2008

- Elected as the Fine & Applied Arts and Graduate School student voice for 4 consecutive terms.
- Debated changes on various campus committees: Student Life, Budget, Cultural and Minority Affairs, UC Admissions, UC Academic Freedom and Tenure and UC Campus Operations.

Association of Licensed Architects (ALA) Student Merit Award - 2008 Recipient

Gargoyle Honor Society - Illinois Chapter 2008

Donald E. and Margaret P. Ferry Awards for Excellence in Architecture - 2007 Scholarship Recipient

Chicago Prize - Nominee Spring 2007

Green Rescheme Design Awards Showcase - Nominee Spring 2007

UIUC Undergraduate Academic Deans List: Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006

Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America - April 2002

SOFTWARE

Autodesk Revit/ AutoCAD

Adobe Photoshop/ InDesign/ Illustrator

Microsoft Office

Google SketchUp

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Master Engineer: Skyscrapers, Silver Dolphin Books, San Diego, CA — 2009

Beck, John. "Vertical Farming". p. 29. Image contributions.

Nelson Literacy Grade 9; Book A, Nelson Education, Toronto, ON — 2009

"Vertical Farming". Image contributions.

Science Year 2010, World Book Publishing, Chicago, IL — 2009

"Vertical Farming". Image contributions.

Technology; Shaping Our World, Goodheart-Willcox, Tinley Park, IL — 2009

Gradwell, John and Welch, Malcolm. "Environmental Technology". Chapter feature, image contributions.

Magazines:

METROPOLIS, New York, NY — January 2010

"Vertical Farming". Image contributions.

MANHATTAN MAGAZINE, Modern Luxury Media, New York, NY — November 2008

Volner, Ian. "The Old College Try" p. 62. Image contribution.

GEO, Kosmos. Germany — July 2008

"Operation Knie; Vision" p. 20, Article feature and image contributions.

URBAN LAND, The Urban Land Institute, Washington, DC — July 2008

Despommier, Dickson. "Skyfarming, New Sustainable Heights; The Vertical Farm", image contribution.

SPACE, South Korea — July 2008

Kurasek, Blake. "Living Skyscraper" p. 112-113.

Exhibitions:

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL — September 2008 to Present

Despommier, Dickson. "Fast Forward... Inventing the Future" image contributions.

Autostadt, Wolfsburg, Germany — March 2010

HOSOYA SCHAEFER Architects. "Vertical Farming" image contributions.

POST OIL CITIES, Manchester, UK — May 13th to 23rd 2009

Kurasek, Blake. "FUTURESONIC Urban Festival of Art, Music and Ideas".

Television:

The Business of Innovation; Reshaping Cities, CNBC News, New York, NY — 2009

Bartirromo, Maria. Image contributions.

The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Los Angeles, CA — February 16, 2009

Tickell, Josh. "Fuel documentary promotion" image contributions.

Earth 2100, ABC News. New York, NY — June 2, 2009

Bicks, Michael. Image contributions.

CBC TV, Montreal, Canada — February, 2009

"Le Semiane Verte" Documentary feature, image contributions.

Fuel, — 2008

Tickell, Josh. Documentary feature, image contributions.

The Colbert Report, New York, NY — June 12, 2008

Despommier, Dickson. "Vertical Farming" image contributions.

LECTURES

Old MacDonald Had it Right Part 2, FXFOWLE Architects, Corporate Offices. New York, NY — 13 October 2009

Kurasek, Blake. An in-depth look at "The Living Skyscraper: Farming the Urban Skyline" and "Rethinking the Vertical Farm".

Old MacDonald Had it Right, FXFOWLE Architects, Sustainability Group. New York, NY — 24 July 2009

Kurasek, Blake. An in-depth look at "The Living Skyscraper: Farming the Urban Skyline"