



## FROM THE REGIONAL PRESIDENT



I must start our newsletter by expressing my (our) sadness and grief for the victims and families of the Newtown Sandy Hook School tragedy. Whether there is anyone in our membership or not who knows the victims, we all share the sense of loss and outrage over this senseless act. Schools are supposed to be a place of refuge, a place where children learn, grow, socialize and prepare for a life ahead of them. We know that for true learning to go on, children first need to feel safe. We need to work with our larger society to ensure that schools are truly safe havens for our children.

Currently, much of the discussion of school safety revolves around gun violence and metal heath, as it should, but in coming months, we should not be surprised when the discussion turns towards the design of schools. School safety is not new to any of us. We address it every day in what we do. We will need to work together to influence the discussion of moving forward intelligently, keeping all aspects of children's well being in mind. Environments that promote communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking are essential for success. No one has all of the answers right now, but you know that we as educators, facilities directors, educational planners and architects will be at the heart of the discussion of how we make our schools safer and still provide for that warm nurturing environment.

I am pleased to welcome members of CEFPI's Northeast Region in the New Year. I look forward to an active year in which we can all prosper and can plan and create environments that will help children learn and grow in a healthy and safe manner.

There is a lot going on in our region:

- Our conference planning is in full swing lead by our VP and conference chair Rob Pillar. Read on to find out details on the conference.
- International has finally rolled out the exam for the new designation of CEFPI, Certified Educational Facility Planner. Your first opportunity to take the exam will be at our NE Conference in Pittsburgh, April 18th - 20th. You need to register ahead of time, outside of the conference registration, so to learn more and register, go to the CEFPI website.
- The Planner of the Year Award was recently changed by International to the Lifetime Achievement Award. Our region's Nominating Committee, lead by Past President Jeanne Perantoni, [jeanneperantoni@ssparchitects.com](mailto:jeanneperantoni@ssparchitects.com) is working on bringing forward a nominee. If you

would like to nominate someone, please contact Jeanne.

- The NE is also establishing our own regional Planner of the Year Award. We currently establishing criteria for this award but see it as a recognition for a member who is currently at the forefront of Educational Facility Planning, one who is pushing the envelope of environments for 21st Century teaching and learning.
- State Chapters? The Northeast is the only Region that does not have city or state chapters. We are looking for opportunities for our membership to organize on a more local basis. We see this needing to be organized from a bottom up process. If you are interested in exploring the possibility of starting a Chapter, please contact a Board member to further the discussion.

Board members are always accessible. If you have thoughts, suggestions, questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of us. My email is [ppoinelli@smma.com](mailto:ppoinelli@smma.com) or 617.520.9219. Other board members contact info is listed on our website.

See you in Pittsburgh

Prosperity Through Education  
Philip J. Poinelli, FAIA, CEFP

## **POST CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: FALLINGWATER**

**Fallingwater** or **Kaufmann Residence** is a house designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright in 1935 in rural southwestern Pennsylvania. The home was built partly over a waterfall on Bear Run in the Mill Run section of Stewart Township.

Hailed by *Time* shortly after its completion as Wright's "most beautiful job," it is listed among *Smithsonian's* Life List of 28 places "to visit before you die." It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966. In 1991, members of the AIA named the house the "best all-time work of American architecture" and in 2007, it was ranked twenty-ninth on the list of America's Favorite Architecture according to the AIA.



*Fallingwater*

Fallingwater stands as one of Wright's greatest masterpieces both for its dynamism and for its integration with the striking natural surroundings. Wright's passion for Japanese architecture was strongly reflected in the design of Fallingwater, particularly in the importance of interpenetrating exterior and interior spaces and the strong emphasis placed on harmony between man and nature.

The extent of Wright's genius in integrating every detail of his design can only be hinted at in photographs. This organically designed private residence was intended to be a nature retreat for its owners. The house is well known for its connection to the site; it is built on top of an active waterfall which flows beneath the house.

The fireplace hearth in the living room integrates boulders found on the site and upon which the house was built – ledge rock which protrudes up to a foot through the living room floor was left in place to demonstrably link the outside with the inside. Wright had initially intended that the ledge be cut flush with the floor, but this had been one of the Kaufmann family's favorite sunning spots, so Mr. Kaufmann suggested that it be left as it was. The stone floors are waxed, while the hearth is left plain, giving the impression of dry rocks protruding from a stream.

Integration with the setting extends even to small details. For example, where glass meets stone walls there is no metal frame; rather, the glass and its horizontal dividers were run into a caulked recess in the stonework so that the stone walls appear uninterrupted by glazing. From the cantilevered living room, a stairway leads directly down to the stream below, and in a connecting space which connects the main house with the guest and servant level, a natural spring drips water inside, which is then channeled back out. Bedrooms are small, some with low ceilings to encourage people outward toward the open social areas, decks, and outdoors.

Bear Run and the sound of its water permeate the house, especially during the spring when the snow is melting, and locally quarried stone walls and cantilevered terraces resembling the nearby rock formations are meant to be in harmony. The design incorporates broad expanses of windows and balconies which reach out into their surroundings. The staircase leading down from the living room to the stream is accessed via movable horizontal glass panes. In conformance with Wright's views, the main entry door is away from the falls.

On the hillside above the main house stands a four-bay carport, servants' quarters, and a guest house. These attached outbuildings were built two years later using the same quality of materials and attention to detail as the main house. The guest quarters feature a spring-fed swimming pool which overflows and drains to the river below.

After Fallingwater was deeded to the public, three carport bays were enclosed at the direction of Kaufmann, Jr., to be used by museum visitors to view a presentation at the end of their guided tours on the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (to which the home was entrusted). Kaufmann, Jr. designed its interior himself, to specifications found in other Fallingwater interiors by Wright.

By attending the Northeast Region Conference and participating in the Saturday Post-Conference Workshop, you will have the opportunity to visit this historic and architectural masterpiece. Tour bus transportation to and from our hotel will be provided. Part of our visit will include an in-depth 2-hour guided tour of Fallingwater where photography for personal use will be permitted. We've scheduled a box lunch in "The Barn at Fallingwater" where we'll also be presenting a Post-Conference Workshop, the details of which will be announced at a later date. AIA credit will, of course, be available. Our maximum number has been capped by Fallingwater staff at 50 participants. Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. We expect that this event will sell out quickly, so please don't delay your registration if you want to participate. Remember, space is limited.

More information regarding Fallingwater may be found at <http://fallingwater.org>.

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## Membership Development

Vacant

## NE Region Board of Directors



**3/1/13** CEFPI Annual Conference  
and Exposition Call for  
Speakers Submission  
Deadline

**3/15/13** James D. MacConnell  
Award Entry Deadline

**3/25/13** Facilities Matter: Planning  
for the Innovation  
Generation

**4/1/13** Prevention through Design  
for Construction, Harvard  
School of Public Health

**4/15/13** School Building Week

**4/18/13** Northeast Regional  
Conference

**5/6/13** Guidelines for Laboratory  
Design: Health and Safety  
Considerations, Harvard  
School of Public Health

**9/20/13** CEFPI Annual Conference  
and Exposition

### [Event Calendar](#)

## **INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT**

*By David Schrader*

Hello fellow Northeast Region Members. It has been my pleasure to represent the Northeast Region at the International level for the last year. I look forward to continuing to carry the Region's message back to the International Board as time goes on.

The International Board continues to meet regularly via conference call and is forging a strong future for the

## **2013 Northeast Regional Conference: Renaissance**

*by Rob Pillar*

Planning for the 2013 CEFPI NE Regional Conference scheduled for April 18-20 in Pittsburgh, PA is well underway, and it is an event that you will not want to miss! Many of the details are still being finalized, but we wanted to share some of the exciting events that have been confirmed to date:



1. Keynote Speaker will be former Pittsburgh mayor Tom Murphy who will begin the Opening Plenary Session discussing the vision of Pittsburgh's renaissance.
2. School tours will include last year's Edward Kirkbride award winning school, The Neighborhood Academy, as well as several other facilities that exhibit the idea of educational renaissance.
3. The post conference workshop will be held at Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural masterpiece Fallingwater. Space is limited for this opportunity so please register early to ensure your spot!
4. Since the venue this year is very near to the Midwest Great Lakes Region (MWGL) we have extended an invitation to members of MWGL to participate in the Pittsburgh conference. Both regions will be able to collaborate and share content.



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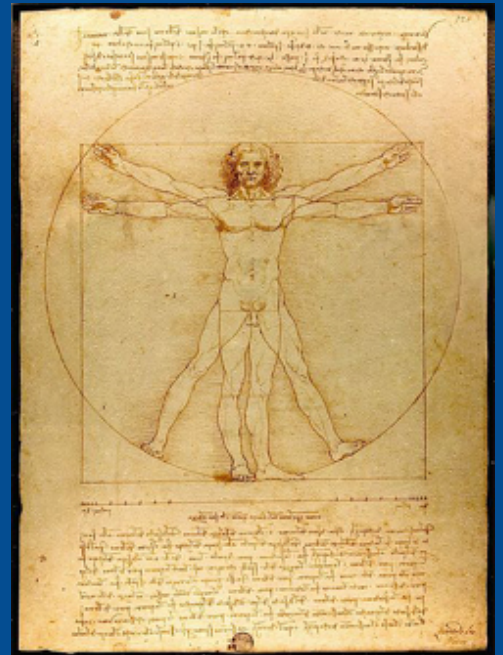
[Gregory Smolley](#)

organization. Various International Committees continue to meet representing multiple aspects of the organization. The Northeast Region has recently added several of its members to the International Committees and looks forward to their participation on behalf of our region.

Some of the most active recent committee activity has been on the membership front. You will begin to see the effects of some of those initiatives shortly. Membership growth developed from the grassroots level (Chapters and Regions) will become a major focus for 2013 and 2014 and so the initiatives being developed will become critical to the future growth of the organization.

If you weren't aware of it, International Strategic Planning for the organization will be occurring at our very own Northeast Region Conference this year in Pittsburgh. The International Board Members will be attending our conference to participate in this Strategic Planning Session. One of the major focuses of that planning session will be membership development at the Chapter and Region Level. This will parallel and incorporate the work of the International Membership Committee. The International Board and staff recognize that the growth of other Regions in CEFPI has actually occurred through the growth of Chapters. Once the membership initiatives at the Chapter level have been discussed and developed at the Strategic Planning Session look for a

5. There will be an opportunity to take the exam to become a Certified Educational Facility Planner (CEFP). For more information about the program and to register for the exam please click here.
6. The CEFPI International Board meeting will be held during our event. This provides a great opportunity for our members to interact with our Organization's leadership.
7. Student finalists from across the country will present their designs for the School of the Future finals competition to be held in conjunction with our conference. Participants in the conference will be able to watch these amazing students in action.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers on the conference committee who have been working so hard to make this event successful. The conference website will be updated as

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It is here. It is here.  
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Conference...  
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full roll out of initiatives!

As we've discussed at the Regional Leadership level for some time now, our region would benefit from initiating Chapters. If members have an interest in beginning a geographically based Chapter within the Northeast Region, please approach myself of Regional Leadership for help. We are eager to assist people in starting Chapters to provoke the growth of our region.

Due to funding limitations, the CEFPI School of the Future competition process was modified this year. Rather than holding it in Washington DC as it has been in the past, it will be held at our conference. Your Regional Leadership was instrumental in persuading the School of the Future Committee to hold the competition at our conference! Thank you Phil and others for your hard work! Many of you have seen the result of the competition at our regional conferences. This year you have the opportunity to observe the actual process. I would highly encourage you to attend at least one of the student presentations. It is the one event that I attend every year that "refills my gas tank" with hope for the future. These kids will amaze you!

As a member of the International Board I am always amazed by the great people in the organization. Your International Board Members are excellent examples of the high quality of people represented throughout. Since the International Board Strategic Planning Session will be at our Regional Conference you will all have access to these great Board

information is finalized. Please keep in mind that there is limited availability at some of the events, so please make sure to register early!

**Regional Director/Assistant**

As an effort to serve Regions more effectively, CEFPI staff members have been fully dedicated to providing support to the leaders and individual members of each region. Please contact [Janell Weihs](#), Regional Director, for article submissions and regional events and activities. [Edi Francesconi](#) provides administrative support.



Members. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to approach them personally with thoughts that you might have to continue to improve our great organization!

The International Board continues to work towards a fantastic annual International Conference this year. I would encourage you to attend if you are able!

We all look forward to seeing everyone at the Regional Conference this year! Come ready to be inspired! See you soon!

*CEFPI Northeast Region Newsletter*

*Visit us online at [www.cefpi.org](http://www.cefpi.org)*