

# GULF COAST CHAPTER QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2016



## *A4LE General Information*

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As they are aware, and as part of our rebranding of the association, we changed our name after a two-year process to the Association for Learning Environments. We are being very careful to make sure this transition is smooth at the chapter and region levels by putting out communications to our members about the process of this change; we are excited about positioning the association for the future.

We are currently underway with our strategic plan and have created some new committees and task forces to help guide us through our goals for the future. Here are a few:

**Membership Committee**—Their main charge this year is engage our emerging (young) professionals and get them involved in the association. Various programs, including the Pacific Northwest's "20 under 40" program are taking place throughout the association. We crossed a membership milestone last year reaching 4,500 members worldwide and we need your help to continue that growth! The Association for Learning Environments is a local organization with global reach, but the majority of our activities happen right here at the chapter level.

**Global Organization Task Force**—This task force is organized to examine how best we can structure the association to expand our membership throughout the world. Presently we are primarily concentrated in North America, Australia, and the UK. This group will explore options that will attract our association in other parts around the globe.

**Content Steering Committee**—the primary value of our association is content —information that helps us create the highest quality learning environments possible. We have so much great content out there and we need a way to organize that and deliver it in new and innovative ways. Among many tasks, this committee will be exploring how we can make content readily available.

*There are a half dozen more committees and task forces hard at work to make this association better each year, and we appreciate the work being done by so many people to keep The Association for Learning Environments at the forefront of high quality educational facility planning.*

The International Conference LearningSCAPES will be in Philadelphia, September 29 through October 3. Stay tuned for more information coming about LearningSCAPES Philadelphia!

## — COMING UP —

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**A4LE Southern Region Conference**  
April 14-17 2016 | J W Marriott  
Houston, Texas

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**A4LE Southern Region Golf Tournament**  
April 14, 2016 | BlackHorse Golf Club

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**A4LE Southern Region Sporting  
Clay Tournament**  
April 15, 2016 | American Shooting Centers

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**Best Practices Meeting**  
May 26, 2016 | TBD

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**Educational Meeting or Facility Tour**  
June 23, 2016 | TBD

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**A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter Social Event**  
July 28, 2016 | TBD

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**Educational, Best Practices or Facility Tour**  
August 25, 2016 | TBD

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**A4LE International Conference**  
September 28-October 1, 2016 |  
Philadelphia

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**Winter Session**  
October 20, 2016 | TBD

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**A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clays**  
November 17, 2016 |  
American Shooting Centers



## *The President's Pen*

According to Punxsutawney Phil (confirmed by Staten Island Chuck, General Beau Lee, and even Shubenacadie Sam), we are headed to an early spring, which is ironic considering many of us didn't notice much of a winter.

*To me, the early spring signifies several things, namely a fresh new beginning for the world around us, a realization that time moves on much faster than many of us want it to, and of course...A4LE Southern Region Conference.*

As I noted at Micki Morris' Legislative Update in February, everyone in the Southern Region is very excited about the conference this year. For all of us in the Gulf Coast Chapter, we should be even more excited to show off the great City of Houston and our gracious hospitality. We only get to show off once every four years, so let's make sure others in the region talk about how much they learned, and how much fun they had, for the next three years to come.

As the conference approaches, first and foremost please make sure to get registered, but also make sure you have looked at your busy calendars and determined what your schedule can afford you. It is local for us, and many will not be staying at the hotel, but we should all strive to attend as many events as we can. Don't forget to check out the sponsorship and scholarship opportunities as well.

On a local note, I hope everyone that could attend [Micki's Legislative Update](#) learned more about what we can do, and cannot do, in 2016. I am truly appreciative of her time and insight on the subject. For those that could not attend, we will be posting a copy of the presentation on our website.

In the next month, many of you should be receiving more information on committee assignments, including a basic charge of each committee. For some, we have already identified chairs and co-chairs, but for others, identifying a spokesperson will be your first order of business. For everyone that volunteered, thank you in advance for your time and commitment. For those that have not (yet) volunteered, if you have the desire to help, we have a place for you.

In closing, all of us on the Gulf Coast Board truly appreciate your commitment to helping build our membership, and protect our mission. Hope to see you at the regional conference in April.

*Happy Spring!*

**Erin Joseph Machac, AIA**

*2015-2016 A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter President*

## *A4LE Southern Region Conference*

Please join us at the JW Marriott Galleria to learn and celebrate with our peers the IMPACT A4LE members make in our communities—we have worked hard to design an agenda with something for everyone.

We encourage all to make hotel reservations now for Thursday night through Sunday morning (visit [A4le.org](#) southern region for housing).

You will want to arrive Thursday if you are participating in the golf tournament or going on the school tour, while Friday includes a clay shoot and/or school tour. The day finishes off with our Architectural Exhibit Opening and Trade Show Welcome Reception.

Saturday begins with an exciting Keynote speaker to inspire us, our awards, tradeshow and many choices for educational sessions. Saturday ends with the 'Planner of the Year' and Casino Night celebration.

The conference closes Sunday morning with a Keynote Panel.

# IMPACT

GREAT SCHOOLS | SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS | STRONG COMMUNITIES  
A4LE SOUTHERN REGION CONFERENCE 2016



## THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016

10:30 am–4:00 pm	<a href="#">Golf Tournament</a>   11:00 am Box Lunch   11:30 am Shotgun Start	Blackhorse Golf Club
1:00 pm–3:30 pm	<a href="#">School Tour One</a>	Bus Transportation from JW Marriott
4:00 pm	<b>Registration Opens</b>	
Evening	<b>Private Dinners</b>	Schedule on your own

## FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016

8:00 am–12:00 pm	<a href="#">Sporting Clay Tournament</a>   Awards On-site	American Shooting Centers
9:30 am–12:00 pm	<a href="#">School Tour Two</a>	Bus Transportation from JW Marriott
1:00–4:00 pm	<b>ALEP Exam</b>	JW Marriott Meeting Room
4:00 pm	<b>Architectural Exhibit Opens</b>	JW Marriott Meeting Annex
4:00–5:15 pm	<b>Educational Session One: IMPACT2020</b>	Back of Tradeshow Floor
5:30–7:30 pm	<b>Tradeshow Opening and Welcome Reception</b>	JW Marriott Meeting Annex
Evening	<b>Private Dinners</b>	Schedule on your own

# IMPACT

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## SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016

8:00–9:00 am	<b>Breakfast and Opening Session</b>	JW Marriott
8:30–9:00 am	<b>Southern Region Awards</b>	
9:15–10:15 am	<b>Keynote Speaker</b>	
10:00 am–1:00 pm	<b>Tradeshow Open</b>	
10:30–11:45 am	<b>Educational Session Two</b>	
11:45 am–1:00 pm	<b>Tradeshow Luncheon</b>	
1:15–2:30 pm	<b>Educational Session Three</b>	
2:30–3:00 pm	<b>Break</b>	
3:00–4:15 pm	<b>Educational Session Four</b>	
6:00–7:00 pm	<b>Planner of the Year Reception</b>	
7:00–11:00 pm	<b>Planner of the Year Dinner and Casino Night</b>	

## SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2016

8:00–9:30 am	<b>Breakfast Buffet and Closing Session   International &amp; Foundation Update</b>	
8:30–9:30 am	<b>Closing Keynote Panel</b>	
10:00 am–11:30 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b>	



## *Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clay*

The A4LE 5th Annual Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clay Outing was held on November 19, 2015, at American Shooting Centers. Thanks to very generous sponsors, and a fantastic attendance, a great time was had by all. A hat tip goes out to our great sponsors. Upchurch Kimbrough Company, was the Top Gun Sponsor. Durotech, Pflueger Architects and Rice & Gardner Consultants sponsored the food and trophies. Climatec was the Pigeon Grade Sponsor. We also had several station sponsors. The sponsors allow this event to provide scholarship opportunities through the Southern Region Foundation.

***The Highest Overall individual winner of the event was Ron Honefenger, who shot a perfect 110.***

***The Highest Overall female winner was Ann Frankovich.***

The team winners were as follows:

**Class A 1st Place–** Freddie Brooks, Jim Maxey, Larry Feland, Ron Honefenger, Derrell Skillern

**Class A 2nd Place–** David Pruitt, Brian Jenkins, Easy Foster, Jeff Windsor, Eric Smith

**Class B 1st Place–** Heather Kenney, Brian O'Neal, Chris Royster, Bo Bartlett, Will Bartlett

**Class B 2nd Place–** Gary Hutton, Jim Ross, Art Campbell, Tim Kunz, Todd Lien

**Class C 1st Place–** Mike Cortner, David Sinz, Brian Bennick, Joel Seybert, Mike Golding

**Class C 2nd Place–** George Stanton, Tyler Herring, Benji, Rhiannon Bulentine, Megan Chapa

Thank you to everyone for making this a great event,

***The GCC Sporting Clays Committee:***

***Daniel Brewster, Dillon Brady, Easy Foster, David Pruitt, John Robertson, Eric Smith & Joseph LaBauve***





## *A4LE New Chapter Committees*

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*The A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter is pleased to announce the formation of three new chapter committees, and the Gulf Coast Board of Directors is inviting all interested members to respond/volunteer with specific interest. Members must be in good standing, willing to meet periodically and advise Gulf Coast Board and general membership of progress/events at monthly meetings.*

First new committee will be **Educational Outreach**, and will be asked to cooperate their efforts with existing Schools Next program. Committee will be responsible for finding interested Colleges of Education and Colleges of Architecture in the Gulf Coast area, determine if there are opportunities to complete classroom or lab-based projects together with A4LE.

Second committee will be **Chapter Expansion**, working with local chapter President and Texas A4LE Governor to identify potential mid-markets in the area that could benefit from our organization's resources and services. Goal will be to identify partners in other sub-regions along the Texas Gulf Coast, support them with direct and web-based access to our programs and events.

Third new committee will be **Scholarships**, helping to start and award grants on behalf of the Gulf Coast chapter, to teachers in the area. This will be similar to Impact Awards currently being offered yearly by other Texas chapters and will be chaired by A4LE Gulf Coast Past President, who is our chapter representative on the Southern Region Foundation Advisory Council.

In addition to new committees above, existing committees will remain, with some current board members acting as co-chairs, including:

### **Special Events**

- Coordinate planning of Winter and Summer Social Events, as well as liaison with Conference Planning committee,
- Additional sub-committees will include Golf and Sporting Clay (both in the fall),
- Report to Programs Coordinator (currently Cory Junemann),
- Provide updates to Board of Directors at monthly meeting and to membership at chapter meetings.

### **Schools Next**

- Liaison between Southern Region and Gulf Coast Chapter, report to local board and membership on initiatives to increase participation and potentially expand program to High Schools and Colleges.

### **Emerging Professionals**

- Liaison between Southern Region and Gulf Coast Chapter, report to local board and membership on events, overall benefits of joining the program.

### **Programs**

- Help recommend chapter tours and other educational seminars, from outside sources, as well as from Call for Presentations on chapter website,
- Report to Communications and Programs Coordinators (Danny Brewster and Cory Junemann).

### **Sponsorships**

- Assist with finding program and general sponsors for local chapter,
- Report to Past President (Gary Hutton).

Members are invited to contact **Erin Machac, Danny Brewster, or any member of the Gulf Coast Board if interested**, and on behalf of the entire 2015-2016 Gulf Coast Board, **THANK YOU** in advance for your time and commitment.

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## *Message Regarding Higher Education*

The need for 21st Century Learning Environments stretches well beyond the traditional K-12 classroom. As today's learners move into Colleges, Universities, and the Work Force, they need the spaces and tools to accommodate their needs now more than ever.

To help owners, architects, engineers, and vendors prepare learning spaces for the next generations, A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter is enlisting all of you to help grow our membership to pick up the "next level" of learners.

Over the coming months, the newly formed Community College Outreach Committee will be reaching out to local college facility groups in hopes of first informing them of the benefits of membership, and second signing them up as full members. Their charge will be to contact them directly, as well as send "e-mail blasts" outlining the benefits of A4LE membership.

*Even if you are not on the new committee, you are the VOICE and FACE of the Gulf Coast Chapter, and as you come across College and University staff that you feel could benefit from our organization, please make sure to answer their questions and point them towards membership.*

Also, as you encounter individuals involved in Work Force and/or Corporate training, please let them know who we are and what we do. We ARE a dynamic organization dedicated to providing appropriate learning environments to students of ALL ages.

Sincerely,

**A4LE Gulf Coast Board of Directors**



7th Annual

# Designed to Succeed

judged competition

Saturday, April 9, 2016

8:30am – 2:30pm

Hattie Mae White HISD building

4400 W 18<sup>th</sup> St

Houston, TX 77092

## Event Schedule:

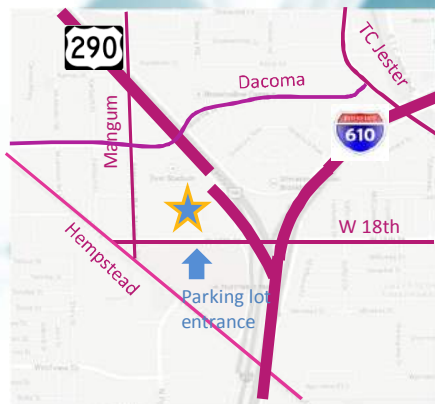
**8:30 am** Students Arrive and set up Display Boards

**9:00 – 11:00** Student Presentations to Judges  
(Parents / friends will not be allowed to observe judged presentations)

**11:00– 12:00** Team Displays on Exhibit  
(Lunch Served)

**12:00– 2:30** Top 6 Team Presentations Awards and Scholarship Announcements  
(Open to all)

## MAP & DIRECTIONS:



## NOTES:

There will be a [HISD When I Grow Up Career Expo](#) going on at the same time as the event, so bring the whole family and check out the career expo.

Please enter the building on the east side for the ACE Mentor event. However, the parking entrance is on the south from 18<sup>th</sup>.



**ACE MENTOR PROGRAM**  
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

The ACE Mentor Program – Houston is about to wrap up it's 9th successful year of industry professionals mentoring Houston area high school students with an interest in pursuing a career in architecture, construction and engineering.

This even marks the culmination of the students hard work all year where the students present their final projects to a panel of industry judges: experienced architects, engineers, and construction professionals. The students will be judged on the technical components of their presentation as well as their presentation skills. All these skills they have worked on this year will be valuable as they begin to prepare to enter their chosen field.

The scholarship winners will be presented and all students will be awarded a certificate for their hard work over the program.

We encourage you to participate by supporting these students as parents, friends, teachers and mentors. We hope to see you at the event. Please note: the judging portion of the event will be closed to spectators.

You Are Invited!





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**VISITOR  
PARKING**

**BUILDING  
ENTRANCE**

**HISD EXPO IN  
PARKING LOT**

**PARKING  
ENTRANCE  
FROM W 18th**