



**BOSTON  
ARCHITECTURAL  
COLLEGE**

**Boston Architectural College News Release**  
For Immediate Release

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**The Boston Architectural College Celebrates 120<sup>th</sup> Commencement and Honors  
Respected Members of the Design Community**

On Saturday, May 30th, 2009 the Boston Architectural College celebrated its 120th Commencement at the Old South Church. The Class of 2009 includes one hundred graduates: sixty-nine graduates from the School of Architecture, twenty-three from the School of Interior Design and eight from the School of Design Studies. This year's class also includes the first graduates of the BAC's groundbreaking Distance Master of Architecture program.

President Ted Landsmark addressed the graduates as "professional colleagues" who must maintain a sense of ethical fairness in the face of professional and economic challenges. Dr. Landsmark reminded the graduates that "Each of us carries out daily, a kind of post-occupancy analysis on each of our actions within the communities within which we live and work."

Honorary degrees were conferred on four esteemed members of the design community including Commencement Speaker **Marshall Purnell** FAIA, Doctor of Architecture; **William Hodgins** ASID, Doctor of Design Education; **Carol Johnson** FASLA, Doctor of Design Education, and **Frederick "Tad" Stahl** FAIA, Doctor of Collaborative Practice.

**Marshall E. Purnell** has served as the AIA national President, as a member of the NOMA Counsel, as the NOMA national President, and is a design principal at Devroux & Purnell Architects Planners PC, in Washington, D.C. Marshall is considered an expert on a broad range of issues affecting the profession from energy and sustainability, to design, integrated project delivery, and diversity. The BAC celebrated Marshall as "an ethical leader and quintessential community builder, whose lifelong dedication to the value of inclusivity has fundamentally changed the professional culture for the next generation of designers."

**William Hodgins** is known for his sophistication, cultured taste, and his deep knowledge of design principles. Mr. Hodgins grew up in London, Ontario, attended the Parsons School of Design in New York City, and worked for the venerable New York firm of Parish-Hadley before making Boston his home. His celebrated work graces homes from New England to Palm Beach and overseas, and is the result of more than four decades of client-sensitive design.

**Carol Johnson** has been an ardent supporter and key strategic planner for the BAC's landscape architecture program, providing guidance and energy, while working with the best thinkers in her profession to bring the program to life. Carol's later work includes the waterfront linear park between South Boston; the Kennedy Library, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Park, which unites the Charles River Reservation with nearby Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Marshall Park in Washington, D.C. Her extensive work on campus landscapes includes master plans at colleges and universities from Maine to Florida.

**Frederick "Tad" Stahl** currently serves as Senior Architect of Burt Hill. Tad's four decades of professional design include numerous significant civic, institutional and commercial accomplishments. Tad Stahl's work shows that modernism and preservation, generally considered to be incompatible, are two critical and complementary elements in urban development. His achievements include the design of the State Street Bank building, the Dodge Wing of the Peabody Essex Museum, the planning and historic rehabilitation of the Faneuil Hall Markets, the Landmark Center (St. Paul, MN), and the historic rehabilitation of the Old South Meeting House. More than 25 community libraries in Massachusetts have been designed under his direction.

The Boston Architectural College is a dynamic institution on the leading edge of design education. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Back Bay, the BAC is the largest independent, accredited college of spatial design, founded in 1883. With over 1100 students, the BAC offers accredited undergraduate and graduate programs in Architecture and Interior Design, undergraduate programs in Landscape Architecture and Design Studies, and Continuing Education and Certificate programs. The BAC stresses excellence in practice-based professional education, and accessibility to the design professions. The BAC is recognized by *DesignIntelligence* as providing World-class Programs with High Distinction.

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