

Ward + Blake Architects Announces Katie Wilson as Licensed Architect

September 30, 2014

Wilson adds “licensed architect” to accomplishments



Katie Wilson, a newly licensed architect with Ward + Blake in Jackson Hole has worked on numerous projects with the firm, including the recently completed Teton County School District Central Administration Office.

Jackson, Wyoming – September 30, 2014 – Katie Wilson has received her architectural license, announced Ward + Blake Architects, adding another architect to the staff of the award-winning Jackson Hole-based firm. Wilson joined the firm in 2005 after completing her Masters in Architecture at the University of Idaho. Among her many credentials, Wilson is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional with a focus in Building Design and Construction (LEED AP BD+C).

“Katie is a hardworking, energetic individual who is a great benefit to the success of Ward + Blake Architects,” says Ward + Blake principal Mitch Blake. “She has helped us win numerous projects and is completely dedicated to our clients. In addition, she gives countless hours of volunteer service to the Wyoming Chapter of the AIA as well as other organizations she is involved with.”

Wilson's recent projects with Ward + Blake include work on multiple commercial and residential projects including the Fort Washakie school campus in Fort Washakie, Wyo., currently in the planning stages, and a significant role with the recently constructed Teton County School District Central Administration Building in Jackson.

Architectural licensing involves a long and complex process that includes five to seven years of education, an internship and a costly, multipart licensing exam that takes years to complete.

"I view an architectural licensure as validation of training, ability, experience, and knowledge to provide the various services required in the practice of architecture. A license demonstrates understanding of the responsibility to protect the health, welfare and safety of the public. Design can have a huge impact on people's lives – and it is up to us as architects to make sure it's a positive one," says Wilson.

Wilson, who currently serves as Wyoming's State Associate Director for the American Institute of Architects (AIA), has been involved in planning state and regional AIA conferences since 2008. She also was selected by the American Institute of Architects Western Mountain Region as the recipient for the 2014 Jason Pettigrew Associate AIA Memorial Leadership Scholarship. Wilson is the first Wyoming professional to receive the scholarship, which is given to a regional Associate AIA member who has demonstrated leadership within the AIA.

Wilson spearheaded AIA Wyoming's involvement in 2014 National Architecture Week by organizing public building tours in communities across the state and requesting a proclamation by the Governor. She also plays an active role in the Jackson community, where she has volunteered for organizations from Snow King Ski Patrol to the Kiwanis Club to the U.S. Green Building Council of Wyoming.

In addition to her LEED Professional status, Wilson is active in the green architecture world and was recently recognized by the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance as a Local Roots Honoree. She partnered with the U.S. Green Building Council via Green Drinks JH, which she coordinates. Wilson was also appointed to a three-year term on the Building Appeals Board in September 2014 by the Teton County Commissioners.

Ward + Blake Architects was built on a distinctive vision: to be provocative in thought, flexible in nature and disciplined in execution. Since 1996, the firm has earned recognition for architecture that is sensitive to its environment and successfully integrated with its surroundings, including being named 2013 Firm of the Year by the six-state AIA Western Mountain Region. Ward + Blake creates buildings that are tactile, modern, bio-climatically responsible, honestly expressed, technologically sound and artfully crafted. A recent monograph, *In the Shadows of the Tetons: Selected Works of Ward + Blake Architects*, provides an overview of the firm's award-winning work. For additional information, visit Ward + Blake online at www.wardblakearchitects.com or call 307.733.6867.

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