
Chapter Profile: Oregon Chapter

October 27, 2010

DesignMatters: How do you ensure working well together as a Board?

Roberta Pennington: Open lines of communication. I'm very fortunate to work with a board who speaks their minds whether good or bad. Everyone's open and honest feedback has made us a stronger Chapter.

DM: What are you most proud of?

RP: We're a board of volunteers. No one is compensated for the time they spend with our Chapter and yet we've been able to accomplish so much with so little. These last few years have seen some pretty tight budgets, but the board has taken on the challenge and we're seeing profits. Most importantly, the Members of our Chapter are enjoying the events we've been organizing. Their positive feedback is one of the best rewards.

DM: What's the future of the Chapter?



Roberta Pennington, IIDA, is an Interior Designer with SERA Architects in Portland and President of the **Oregon Chapter.**

RP: We completed a three-year strategic plan last board year and have been using this tool as a guide for this year. We consider this a living document making revisions to further our goals. This particular year we continue to provide resources for all Members as our state continues to be ranked high in unemployment and further support our local coalition who is introducing a practice act this coming session.

DM: What is your favorite Chapter event of the year?

RP: We have so many it's hard to pick a favorite. I love the

Annual Celebration which is our annual meeting for Membership. I enjoy the time to mingle with all our Members. We also have an Annual Fundraiser where we bowl with a theme. I'm amazed by the costumes Members have created, but I suppose I shouldn't be surprised. Oregon is a distinctly different place.

DM: What three words would you use to describe the Oregon Chapter?

RP: Hard-working, unique, and wonderful.



The fall IIDA Oregon Chapter Student Event, **You Are Hungry, So It's a Working Lunch**, focused on discovering ways to discuss design. The event took place on October 23 at Boora Architects in Portland, Oregon.



The IIDA Oregon Chapter held their Annual Celebration on June 24 to thank the volunteers and Members for their dedication to the organization. The event was held at the Ziba Auditorium in Portland, Oregon.