

BLAKE D. KURASEK

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EXPERIENCE

Junior Architect, EPSTEIN, Chicago, IL & Javits II Architecture New York, NY — June 2008 to Nov. 2009 (1yr. 6 mo.)
Enrolled in the NCARB Intern Development Program: **4782+** hours earned to date.

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center - New York, NY — September 2008 to November 2009 (under construction)
Schematic Design, Design Development, Construction Documents and Construction Administration. Primary focus to address the design of the convention hall expansion (Autodesk Revit), concrete restoration and detailing of a 12 acre sedum “green roof”.

Midway International Airport - Chicago, IL — June 2008 to September 2008 (unrealized)
Schematic Design proposal to improve existing airport security, profitability and capacity by means of space reprogramming and 3D visualizations (Autodesk Revit).

150 East Ontario - Chicago, IL — June 2008 to September 2008 (unrealized)
Collaboration of design and 3D visualizations (Autodesk Revit) for a 36-story, 300 key boutique hotel.

Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois School of Architecture, Urbana, IL — January 2007 to May 2008 (1yr. 5 mo.)
Assisted in the sophomore and senior level “Construction of Buildings” courses. Responsible for instructing lab sessions pertaining to construction documentation and building technologies paired with AutoDesk Revit.

Intern Architect, Henneman Engineering, Inc., Champaign, IL — May 2005 to May 2008 (3 years part-time)
Collaborated with construction documents, code studies, schematic design, design development, and project renderings for multifamily apartments and condominiums.

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Fine and Applied Arts
Master of Architecture - May 2008 –GPA: 3.89/4.00, Graduated 1st in the class.
Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies - May 2006 –GPA: 3.54/4.00

Student Senator, Illinois Student Senate, UIUC, Champaign, IL — April 2004 to May 2008
Elected as the Fine & Applied Arts and Graduate School student voice for 4 consecutive terms. Debated changes on various campus committees: Student Life, Budget, Cultural and Minority Affairs, UC Admissions, UC Academic Freedom and Tenure, UC Campus Operations.

HONORS

Association of Licensed Architects (ALA) Student Merit Award — 2008 Recipient
Biographical feature in the Summer 2008 magazine issue.

Gargoyle Honor Society — Illinois Chapter 2008

Donald E. and Margaret P. Ferry Awards for Excellence in Architecture — 2007 Scholarship Recipient
Awarded for thesis proposal “The Living Skyscraper, Farming the Urban Skyline”

Chicago Prize — Nominee Spring 2007

Green Rescheme Design Awards Showcase — Nominee Spring 2007

UIUC Undergraduate Academic Deans List
Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006

Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America
April 2002 “one who has fulfilled requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills”.

SOFTWARE

AutoCAD
Adobe InDesign

Autodesk Revit
Adobe Illustrator

Autodesk VIZ
Microsoft Office

Adobe Photoshop
Google SketchUp

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Master Engineer: Skyscrapers, Silver Dolphin Books, San Diego, CA — 2009

Beck, John. “Vertical Farming”. p. 29. Image contributions.

Nelson Literacy Grade 9; Book A, Nelson Education, Toronto, ON — 2009

“Vertical Farming”. Image contributions.

Science Year 2010, World Book Publishing, Chicago, IL — 2009

“Vertical Farming”. Image contributions.

Technology; Shaping Our World, Goodheart-Willcox, Tinley Park, IL — 2009

Gradwell, John and Welch, Malcolm. “Environmental Technology”. Chapter feature, image contributions.

Magazines:

METROPOLIS, New York, NY — January 2010

“Vertical Farming”. Image contributions.

MANHATTAN MAGAZINE, Modern Luxury Media, New York, NY — November 2008

Volner, Ian. “The Old College Try” p. 62. Image contribution.

GEO, Kosmos. Germany — July 2008

“Operation Knie; Vision” p. 20, Article feature and image contributions.

URBAN LAND, The Urban Land Institute, Washington, DC — July 2008

Despommier, Dickson. “Skyfarming, New Sustainable Heights; The Vertical Farm”, image contribution.

SPACE, South Korea — July 2008

Kurasek, Blake. “Living Skyscraper” p. 112-113.

Exhibitions:

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL — September 2008 to Present

Despommier, Dickson. “Fast Forward... Inventing the Future” image contributions.

Autostadt, Wolfsburg, Germany — March 2010

HOSOYA SCHAEFER Architects. “Vertical Farming” image contributions.

POST OIL CITIES, Manchester, UK — May 13th to 23rd 2009

Kurasek, Blake. “FUTURESONIC Urban Festival of Art, Music and Ideas”.

Television:

The Business of Innovation; Reshaping Cities, CNBC News, New York, NY — 2009

Bartiromo, Maria. Image contributions.

The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Los Angeles, CA — June 12, 2009

Tickell, Josh. “Fuel documentary promotion” image contributions.

Earth 2100, ABC News. New York, NY — June 2, 2009

Bicks, Michael. Image contributions.

CBC TV, Montreal, Canada — February, 2009

“Le Semiane Verte” Documentary feature, image contributions.

Fuel, — 2008

Tickell, Josh. Documentary feature, image contributions.

The Colbert Report, New York, NY — June 12, 2008

Despommier, Dickson. “Vertical Farming” image contributions.