



Strategic Planning
Leadership Training
High Performance Teams
Organizational Learning

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Young Designers Professional Development Institute (YDPDI) Testimonials

From Firms' Leaders

"One of the greatest benefits of YDPDI for our firm's participants is the opportunity to observe and learn from other firms. The architecture community can sometimes be somewhat closed. Interacting with their peers from other companies gives our employees great perspective on things we do well, as well as on things that we can do better. YDPDI also provides them with an outlet for ideas, frustrations and problem- solving in a neutral, supportive environment."

—**Carol Gillen, Partner, Sierra Architects**

"Our investment over many years in training our young staff in the BSA's Young Designers Professional Development Institute has contributed significantly to the firm's success. I heartily encourage any firm that is not yet investing resources in this area to do so."

—**Jim Collins, Senior Principal, Payette**

From YDPDI Participants

"When I started YDPDI I was acutely aware of the information gap in my career. I was managing projects and people without any formal management training. YDPDI bridges this gap with classes focused on relevant topics in the design industry. The format and relaxed atmosphere foster an environment where students feel comfortable asking questions and sharing experiences. As a result of YDPDI, I have become a better writer, leader and communicator. Most importantly, I have noticed the positive impact of these improved skills on my career. YDPDI is an excellent resource for young designers looking to move forward in their career."

—**Jen Taylor, Senior Designer / Manager, Stantec**

"My favorite part of YDPDI was having a forum to meet colleagues in engineering and construction. Open, friendly communication between the parties that comprise the AEC industry is key to successful building, and YDPDI sets the stage for just that. Bill thoughtfully organized our sessions, fostering meaningful dialogue between industries and mutual understanding of our various points of view. Working with the contractors and engineers, we learned how to adapt our own leadership styles to different situations. This helped us analyze how our unique skills and qualities influence teamwork and the overall communication process. In addition to learning about the interpersonal skills associated with leadership, we studied financial management, negotiation and IDP. By pushing us to work through personal and work-related challenges, YDPDI strengthened our effectiveness as leaders."

—**Jenny Ratner, Architect, Safdie Architects**