



THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

ARCHITECT ACTIVITIES TO FOCUS ON ARTS

*By Tom Bailey Jr.
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The many activities of Architecture Month, encompassing everything from good food to walking tours, start at 5:30 p.m. today with a free kickoff reception, “Art+Architecture and Appetizers.”

“We’ve never done it before,” Heather Baugus Koury said of the opening reception at Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects, 1500 Union. She’s executive director of American Institute of Architects Memphis.

The free event with live music is an “opportunity to come out and and learn about what’s going on in September,” she said.

AIA Memphis resumes the events at 10 a.m. Sept. 12 with a free “Overton Park Architecture Tour.”

The tour starts at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art and proceeds to the Levitt Shell and Memphis College of Art. Architect Lee Askew will guide.

A free Dixon Gallery and Gardens Architecture Tour will start at the East Memphis museum at 2 p.m. Sept. 13.

A co-author of the new book, “Retrofitting Suburbia,” will speak at 6:15 p.m. Sept. 17 at The Memphis

6:15 p.m. Sept. 17 at The Memphis Brooks Museum of Art. The talk by Ellen Dunham-Jones, an associate professor of architecture at Georgia Tech, is free for museum members and requires an admission ticket for nonmembers.

The free Shelby County Courthouse Architecture Tour will start at 1 p.m. Sept. 19 on the southeast corner steps, at Adams and Third. Jimmy Ogle will guide it.

“Books+Chocolate: A literary Indulgence” will be at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 23 at Howard Hall, 2282 Madison. It’s chocolate, wine and a silent auction to benefit the Architecture and Design Library at the University of Memphis. Cost is \$30 for singles, or \$50 for couples. Get tickets in advance by calling 525-3818.

The AIA Memphis golf tournament will be Sept. 25 at 11:30 a.m. at the Links at Pine Hill.

The annual Chalk Art Competition will be Sept. 26 at Brooks Museum, with registration at 11 a.m. and competition starting at noon.

The event is free, but reserve space by calling AIA Memphis at 525-3818.

And the final event is Dining By Design, which holds a dinner in buildings recognized for their

architecture.

This year’s dinner will be at Ballet Memphis, 7950 Trinity Road, at 7 p.m. on Sept. 26.

Cost is \$100, and \$75 for AIA members and students. Get advance tickets by calling AIA at 525-3818.

“This year, we’re definitely featuring a lot of arts and cultural projects,” Koury said. “AIA Memphis definitely supports arts and culture in the city.”