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Women in the Design World: Work in Progress

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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9-7-2014

Susi Marzuola, AIA, LEED AP BD+C / Bachelor of  
Art, Architecture, 1982

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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**YOUNTVILLE TOWN CENTER  
PROJECT PRINCIPAL  
2009**

In 1998 the rural town of Yountville embarked on an extensive planning process for a new town center. The completed project, designed to achieve LEED Platinum, integrates new and existing buildings and shapes outdoor spaces—including a new town square—that accommodate large gatherings and simple neighborly exchanges. Located on 2.5-acres in the middle of town, the project references its rural surroundings and local vernacular architecture with simple massing, generous porches and familiar materials.

The challenge was to provide flexible spaces that accommodate an array of activities—meetings, events, afterschool programs, exercise classes. The new and renovated community buildings house program and meeting rooms, large and small, a branch library and teen center in spaces that are light, airy and directly connect to the outdoors, reflecting Yountville’s casual elegance.

Site paths connect the surrounding neighborhoods to main street. The new center has become the hub of community activity and a great source of civic pride.

Photography: David Wakely



Alumnae Biography

**BIOGRAPHY**

Since graduating from Washington University in 1982, Susi Marzuola has enjoyed collaborating with numerous educational, community-serving, mission-based organizations and consultant teams designing places that matter and that strive for excellence in sustainable design. Throughout her career from Washington University to University

of California, Berkeley, from the offices of Donlyn Lyndon and William Turnbull to Principal at Siegel & Strain Architects in the San Francisco Bay Area, Susi has honed the skills first encountered at Givens Hall, skills which are now considered the hallmark of 21st century education: critical thinking and problem-solving; communication and collaboration; creativity and innovation.

**YOUNTVILLE TOWN CENTER AWARDS**

- Savings by Design Energy Efficiency Integration Award of Honor
- AIA San Francisco Energy & Sustainability Citation Award
- AIA East Bay Architecture Citation Award
- California Woodworks Green Building Wood Design Award

**PUBLICATIONS**

*Celebrating Excellence in Wood Structures*, 2010-2011 North American Wood Design Award Winners, Green Building, “Yountville Town Center,” Canadian Wood Council, October 2011