

FIRM PROFILE

Founded by Principals Sheila Kennedy, AIA and Frano Violich, FAIA, Kennedy & Violich Architecture Ltd. (KVA) is an interdisciplinary design practice that works at the intersection of architecture, sustainable technology, ecological infrastructure and the emerging needs of the public realm. Central to the work of KVA is the idea that architecture and urban infrastructure can be transformed by design to enhance the experiences and activities of daily life. KVA offers clients professional services in urban design and architecture, construction documentation and administration, as well as creative strategic planning and programming. KVA's headquarters in the former Blue Bird Bottling Plant in Boston (1900) supports the firm's unique approach to design, winning the Top 40 Worldwide Creative Workplaces award from I.D Magazine in 2008. KVA's in house capabilities include a fully networked architecture studio, a digital and analog workshop for rapid-prototype fabrication, and a lab space for material and technology integration.

Recent projects at KVA include the winning proposal for the International Bauaustellung IBA-Hamburg SOFT HOUSE low carbon row housing project in Germany and the Ocean InSight Project in Yesu City, Korea which transforms an industrial silo structure to an ocean education center and municipal marine water remediation facility. In collaboration with Tom Leader Studio, KVA designed the public recreational Rail Trail, Master Plan and performance pavilion for the Alabama Symphony Orchestra in the Birmingham Rail Road Park, a 20 acre brownfield remediation project which opened in 2010. KVA is consulting for the Peabody Museum of Anthropology, and has completed the new Motion Capture Research Laboratories at the University of Pennsylvania which opened in 2009.

KVA projects under construction include the new Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, a 50,000 SF building with innovative natural day lighting and green roof terraces to absorb and clean storm water. KVA's Public Ferry Terminal Building at East 34th Street in Manhattan, also under construction, is the first of a comprehensive urban system of sustainable water transportation facilities designed by KVA and the Ken Smith Group for the NYC East River front. The project received a Progressive Architecture Award and a Design Excellence Award from Mayor Bloomberg and the NYC Municipal Arts Council. The work of KVA has received National Design Excellence Awards from the American Institute of Architecture, Progressive Architecture Awards, the Chicago Athenaeum's Good Design Award, the Green Council's National Building Innovation Award and the Public Work Award of the National Endowment for the Arts.

KVA's material research division MATx works collaboratively with industry leaders, cultural and educational institutions and public agencies to realize designs that advance the use of sustainable digital technologies in architecture and building materials. MATx has developed designs for Dupont, Siemens, Osram, Herman Miller, Proctor & Gamble, The North Face and the United States Department of Energy. The MATx Portable Light Project, a non-profit global initiative has been recognized with a 2009 US Congressional Award, a 2009 Energy Globe Award and a 2008 Tech Museum Award for technology that benefits humanity.

The work of KVA MATx has been exhibited at the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, the International Rotterdam Biennial, the Vitra Design Museum in Germany, the TED conference in California and was featured in the Museum of Modern Art's exhibition "Design & the Elastic Mind" on breakthrough designs for new technologies. A monograph of KVA projects entitled Material Misuse is published by the Architectural Association of London and the firm's work has appeared in Open House: Designs for Intelligent Living, (Vitra Design Museum, 2006), Design for the Other 90% (Smithsonian, 2007) Re-Inventing Construction (Holcim Foundation for Sustainable Construction, 2010) and Material Design (Birkhauser 2010). The work of KVA MATx has been published in journals of architecture and design culture and has been featured on National Public Radio, BBC World News, CBS News, The Discovery Channel's *Future of Energy*, CNN Principal Voices, *Wired*, *Science News*, *Elle Magazine* *The Economist*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Business Week* and *The New York Times*.