

KIRSTEN KENT CARANGI, RA DESIGN FIRM PRINCIPAL

BEAM



A registered architect, Kirsten has developed a keen eye for lighting design. After more than 25 years in private practice, her interest, a complete integration of lighting, architecture and interior design, “came to light”; thus, this is now where she focuses her design work. At the helm of BEAM, Kirsten leads the studio to create innovative lighting design solutions for a variety of projects.

Prior to creating BEAM, Kirsten was an Associate at a well-known architectural firm in Center City and spent more than 10 years in 3 local firms honing her architectural skills. She has extensive experience on renovations, additions and adaptive reuse projects and this experience contributes to a strong understanding of lighting transforming architectural spaces.

Kirsten is an active member of the architectural and neighborhood community. In the past, she served on the Board of Directors for the Philadelphia Chapter of AIA for three years and participated on various committees. She served on the Board of Trustees for The Waldorf School of Philadelphia, as the Treasurer for 5 years. In the past, she has sat as a juror for the IALD Design with Light Competitions. She is currently involved with the AIA Women in Architecture Committee and Philadelphia’s Women In Lighting Design (WILD) IES committee, as she has changed the direction of her career from traditional architect to principal of a lighting design firm.

EDUCATION

North Dakota State University
B. Environmental Science, 1991
B. Architecture, 1992

EXPERIENCE

Principal, BEAM, July 2002–present
Associate, Cecil Baker & Associates, 2000–2002
Project Architect, Cecil Baker & Associates, 1995–2000
Staff Architect, Richard E. Brown & Associates, 1993–1995

ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION/LICENSE

Pennsylvania | New Jersey

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, IES (Illuminating Engineering Society), 2014–present
Allied Member, Philadelphia Chapter of AIA, 2010–present
Member, NCARB, 2000–present
Member, WBENC (Women’s Business Enterprise National Council), 2005–present
Member, MBEC (City of Philadelphia Minority Business Enterprise Council), 2005–present
Member, American Institute of Architects, 2000–2009
Board of Directors, Philadelphia Chapter of AIA, 2001–2003

HONORS AND ACTIVITIES

1992 Finalist for MacKenzie Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Architectural Thesis

Treasurer and Board Member, The Waldorf School of Philadelphia, 2011-2016

LIGHTING AWARDS

Preservation Alliance of Philadelphia Preservation Achievement Award, *Merrick Hall Northern Children Services*, 2015

IES Philadelphia Philament Award and
IES Philadelphia Certificate of Merit, *Christ Church*, 2010

LIGHTING PROJECTS (partial list)

30th Street Station. Philadelphia, PA
Façade and interior concourse lighting for historic landmark and iconic train station in West Philadelphia

Art Yard. Frenchtown, NJ
Interior and exterior lighting for art gallery and theater, with exterior landscape and hardscape spaces used for outdoor film exhibitions

BoltBus Transportation Center Relocation. Philadelphia, PA
Conceptual lighting design study for the lower 30th Street underpass pickup and drop-off locations for BoltBus and Megabus in West Philadelphia

Christ Church. Philadelphia, PA
Exterior lighting at historic bell tower and interior lighting for historic sanctuary at 250+ year old iconic church

Cira Green. Philadelphia, PA
Lighting for 1-acre elevated green space in University City

Harrison Commons. Harrison, NJ
Interior, façade and site lighting for multi block community, with retail, residential and mixed-use development

Rittenhouse Hotel. Philadelphia, PA
Exterior lighting for hotel entry and canopy and interior lighting for residential condominium lobby

Southside Bethlehem. Bethlehem, PA
Exterior streetscape lighting study for retail street

Vault 634. Allentown, PA
Repurposed historic Lehigh Valley Trust bank building into an event space, with interior and exterior lighting, including relamping for existing historic fixtures

Witherspoon Building. Philadelphia, PA
Exterior lighting study for streetscape and historic building façade, to enliven Juniper Street and entrance for pedestrians and tenants