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October 2020

Welcome to our new quarterly e-newsletter!

We've worked hard to bring you this inaugural issue. In this issue we share upcoming local events hosted by the IES, we highlight rising stars among our members, and bring you a fabulous local project. Don't miss our job posting section at the end of the newsletter!

Upcoming Local Events

Social Events

Outdoor Food Truck Social

Lonerider Brewing Company | November 2020

Holiday End-Of-Year Celebration

TBD | December 2020

Educational Events

[UVC - Germicidal Lighting \(1.0 CEU\)](#)

November 17, 2020 | Panel Discussion

Emergency Lighting Code Compliance (1.0 CEU)

January 2021 | Webinar

We want to hear from you! Do you have an idea for a future educational or social event?

Submit your ideas to iesraleighsection@gmail.com

Membership

Welcome New Members

Robert Henderson - Welcome back!

Joe Nelson Alaniz - Welcome to our new member!

Member Spotlight



Leah Robinson

Section President

Member of IES since 2007

Past Section President, Vice-President, Education Chair
Senior Lighting Designer at PIVOTAL® Lighting Design

Why are you a member of the Illuminating Engineer Society?

In short because I was asked. I was recruited to the board of managers in 2007, but I wasn't a member. I joined, and the Raleigh IES section as well as the Society at large has helped me tap into the lighting community and find my passion and my place in the industry.

What has been your motivation for re-starting the Raleigh section?

Having been a past-president when the section started to falter, I felt a sense of injury. I owed a great deal to this organization, and though I took an extended hiatus due to some burnout and a new baby, I couldn't allow the section to fail...not on my watch. To be clear, I didn't do it alone. There were a lot of people who wanted to see the section active and thriving but didn't necessarily know how to take it on. I brought a bit of experience, but that's all.

What is your strategy for the upcoming year?

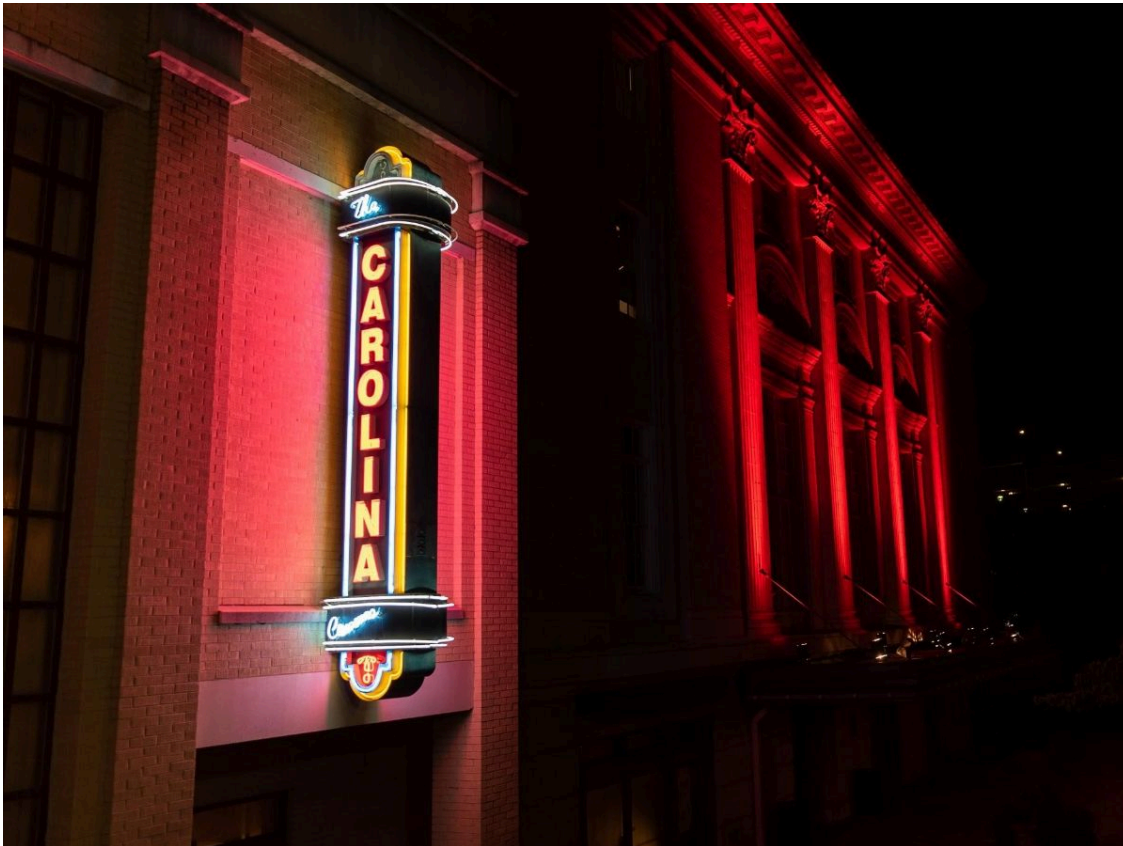
For years during my previous tenure with the board of managers, there was a call to diversify our program offerings, but there were also a lot of "if it ain't broken..." thinkers. Having a fresh start gives us the chance to write new rules. I have three. The only bad idea is the one not said, so my aim is to support all ideas and encourage the committee chairs to take ownership of their ideas and turn them into fruition. Two – recruit, recruit, recruit. We recruit new faces, new perspectives, new ideas, and hopefully a diverse representation of people and market sectors. That leads directly to number three – succession planning. Between burnout and stuck minds, a churn of people at all levels is necessary.

How has the section responded to Covid-19?

I'm extremely proud of our managers who quickly turned an in-person program into a virtual one last March. Finishing out last year, we had little choice but to take all programming virtual, but as the pandemic drags on, we are rethinking what that looks like. Virtual education is commodity product these days, so we are focusing on connections and all things local. We kicked off the 2020-21 program year with a virtual happy hour, and we'll continue to enhance our ability to engage our membership from a safe distance. We also will work within the confines of the law and common sense to gather responsibly for events such as an outdoor Talk N Walk scheduled for early 2021. The lemonade is sweet!

Project Feature

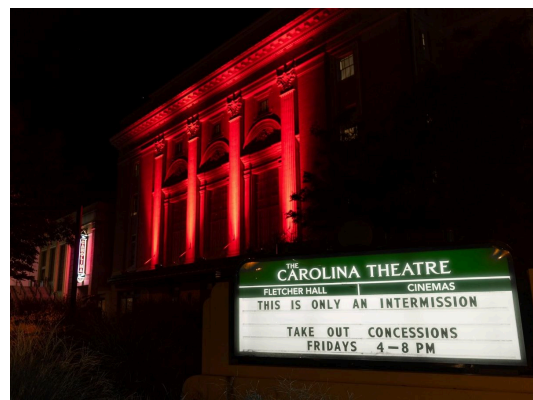
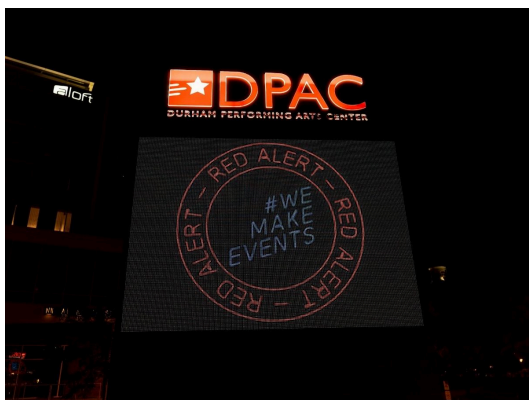
Entertainment Lighting in the Pandemic



It may come as no surprise that the Events industry, along with several others, has taken a huge hit this year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The United Arts Council stated in their newsletter on October 1st that "From April to June, the Raleigh metropolitan area lost an estimated 13,616 jobs and \$590 million of sales in creative industries such as art, film, fashion, and design, according to a report by the Brookings Institute. That is nearly a third of all jobs in the local industries and about 7% of sales."

Pretty shocking numbers, but, how does this relate to our local IES community? The architectural and entertainment lighting industries are more connected than we think! We are not building as many performing arts centers, theatres, sports arenas, or other venues at this time. Architectural Lighting Designers that specialize in exhibit design, museums, or anything with more of an “Archi-tainment” component are also seeing a downshift in design opportunities.

On September 1st, landmark local event venues, in conjunction with **#WeMakeEvents**, took to lighting their buildings red to raise awareness for this and highlight the **RedAlertRESTART** campaign, which was to urge lawmakers to extend the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. We had a number of local facilities participate which was led by local emerging professionals, Jeremy Diamond, recent graduate from UNC Greensboro, Darby Madewell who is a recent graduate from North Carolina State University, and Kaitlin Gill Rider our IES Membership Manager. “This pandemic has been particularly tragic for emerging artists, even as the industry starts to return, jobs are going to industry veterans before emerging professionals. This dynamic prompted me to return to NCSU as a graduate student in Computer Engineering to find interdisciplinary ways to continue working,” Darby stated. Jeremy had secured a job as a lighting technician with a major cruise line back in April, but due to the pandemic and CDC orders, he has been put on waitlist status and may not begin working until at least December.



IES is a community for lighting professionals not limited to those in the architectural services, so we appreciate the support and awareness in sharing our message. We can only ask for support as we get through this time and hope that you will encourage your friends and family to support local lighting artists/designers during and after this pandemic to ensure that we can get through this together.

Project Submitted by Kaitlin Rider, Whoco Lighting

We want to hear from you!

Do you have an exciting project you would like featured in our next newsletter?

Submit your projects to iesraleighsection@gmail.com

Job Postings

Electrical Engineer/Designers | Peak Systems Engineering - Cary | [Peak Systems Eng](#)

Senior Project Electrical Engineer | Affiliated Engineers Inc. - Chapel Hill | [AEI-NC Careers](#)

Project Electrical Engineer | Affiliated Engineers Inc. - Chapel Hill | [AEI-NC Careers](#)

Electrical Engineer II | Affiliated Engineers Inc. - Chapel Hill | [AEI-NC Careers](#)

Electrical Engineer I | Affiliated Engineers Inc. - Chapel Hill | [AEI-NC Careers](#)

Electrical Engineering Intern (2021) | Affiliated Engineers Inc. - Chapel Hill | [AEI-NC Careers](#)

Program Manager, Government Contracts / Pre-Release Products | Cree Inc. - Durham | [CREE](#)

Research Development Engineer | Cree Inc. - Durham | [CREE](#)

Production Associate / Machine Operator | Cree Inc. - Durham | [CREE](#)

Does your company have an open position in North Carolina, South Carolina or Virginia that you would like to include in our upcoming newsletter?

Email us at iesraleighsection@gmail.com. Include position / title, company name, and a company contact or link to the company job listing. That's it!

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Chapel Hill, NC 27517

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IES Raleigh Section · 120 Wall St Fl 17 · New York, NY 10005-4026 · USA

