

EarthWeek 2021 Presenter Bios

APRIL 19 | 12PM

Hitesh Mehta

President, HM Design

Hitesh is an eco-Landscape Architect, Environmental Planner, eco-Architect, and has over 33 years' experience, having worked and consulted in 65 countries on six continents. He is probably the only design professional in the world to be inducted as a FELLOW in three different continents - Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), England; American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), and Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK), Kenya - and in two different professions - Landscape Architecture and Architecture. Hitesh's firm HM Design, is currently working on environmentally and socially friendly projects in Nepal, Galapagos, Timor Leste, Sierra Leone, Mexico, Guyana and Dominica.

For the past twenty years, Hitesh has worked on climate-action projects in over 20 countries and in 2015, he was the recipient of United Nations (UNEP/GFHS) "Outstanding Achievement Award" for his work with alleviating poverty and protecting sensitive ecosystems. In July 2006, National Geographic Adventure magazine identified Hitesh as one of five Sustainable Tourism Pioneers in the world mainly because of his Master Planning work to protect endangered habitat and alleviate human poverty.

APRIL 20 | 12PM

Angela Spangler

Director of Market Development, IWBI

Angela brings expertise in human factors along with unique insight as a professional ergonomist. As a member of the Commercial Team she supports the global growth and adoption of the WELL Building Standard, an evidence-based system for measuring, certifying and monitoring the performance of building features that impact occupant health and well-being. Angela is the sector lead for the Education sector spanning both K-12 and Higher Education, as well as the Government sector.

Angela received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Idaho in Psychology with a minor in Architecture. She then went on to earn her Master's degree in Human Environment Relations from the Design and Environmental Analysis program at Cornell University. Angela is a WELL Faculty™ and has her Associate Ergonomics Professional accreditation.

APRIL 21 | 12PM

Timothy McDonnell

Adjunct Associate Professor of Geosciences, Monroe Community College

Timothy McDonnell is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Geosciences at Monroe Community College. He is also the Coordinator of the New York Geographic Alliance, a statewide organization that promotes the teaching of geography in our schools. Before accepting the position at MCC, Tim taught for 33 years in the Victor Central School system. Today, he also leads courses at Osher at RIT. In April he will introduce a class on the Geology of National Parks, based on Plate Tectonic Theory.

APRIL 22 | 1PM

Katie Ackerly

Principal, David Baker Architects

Katie Ackerly, AIA, CPHC, is a Principal at David Baker Architects, a top urban housing firm based in San Francisco. Katie is DBA's sustainable design lead, an industry thought-leader, and an advocate for building decarbonization and housing resilience. Katie draws on a background in building science and energy-efficiency, including graduate studies with the Center for the Built Environment at UC Berkeley. Within DBA and beyond, she works to expand knowledge, tools, and best practices regarding multi-family building performance, guided by the belief that providing durable sanctuary in dense urban housing is essential to a sustainable future.