

21-23 June 2022 ~ Virtual Masonry Educator's Workshop

An invitation and request from: **Phil Samblanet**
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Subject: Masonry Educator's Workshop coming June 21-23. Can you help?

Dear Masonry Industry Friends,

I hope the new year has started well for you. Today I am emailing you to let you know that The Masonry Society with the financial sponsorship of the National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA), Western States Clay Products Association (WSCPA), International Masonry Institute (IMI), Brick Industry Association (BIA), Mason Contractors Association of American (MCAA) and with the support of the Portland Cement Association (PCA) is planning a **virtual Masonry Educator's Workshop** on June 21-23 and we hope you will participate, and potentially encourage/support educators in your area to participate. PRELIMINARY information on the MEW is starting to be added to <https://masonrysociety.org/2022mew/>.

A preliminary schedule for the workshop, showing some of the likely sessions and participants is attached (this schedule may change as we are trying to engage some nationally known architects to participate, while also considering adding in more "round table" types of discussion).

If you are not familiar with the "MEW", the Masonry Educator's Workshop (MEW) is an excellent way to support those who are teaching our future designers and construction managers so they are comfortable with masonry, understand its many benefits, and thus more at ease in using it on their projects. I can tell you personally, having taken a combined wood/masonry design course when I was in college back in the 80's, that taking that class helped me successfully complete my first assigned job with my new employer (post graduation), and it led me to become a masonry "expert" at our small firm. That exposure has personally led me to a career in the masonry industry.

I routinely hear requests from young designers on the need for more masonry education in undergraduate and graduate studies. This workshop helps the entire industry engage with the educators, assist them with their courses, and show them how vibrant our industry is.

If you are interested in learning more about the virtual Masonry Educator's Workshop, please let me know, and we hope you will participate in the planning and conducting of the workshop....

- We'd love for you to attend! It gives you an idea of what professors need and are looking for, and it is a great way to learn from them as well.
- We hope that you would encourage those you know who are teaching masonry in your area to participate in the workshop. It shows your support of them, and helps them learn new trends in masonry while engaging with other educators.
- We would also appreciate knowing if you are interested in hearing about, and potentially supporting other educators who may be starting their careers in your area. One common comment we hear from new faculty is "how do I get started, and what resources are

available to me"? As I am sure you know, many new educators study in one location, and then get their first job in another - and being new, young, and just starting out, they often don't know where to turn to for assistance. And many may be uncomfortable asking for help. So let us know if you want us to put you in touch with educators we hear from in your area that are looking for support.

- In addition to this, we will be putting together a number of resources to provide to the attendees, and your help "populating" these resources would be appreciated including:
 - Masonry Industry Contact List (listings of our Organizations with website links). TMS's list is OLD and many organizations have moved, changed names, merged, etc. So Send Susan at the address above, your current name, address, phone number, email address, and website link to be added to this list. THANKS!
 - Masonry Industry Resources (listings of publications, software, and resources we offer, again with website links). If you have some, send to me.
 - Masonry Industry Scholarships and Grants (again a listing with basic information and links to apply). Send any to me and I'll add to the the draft webpage at <https://masonrysociety.org/masonry-industry-resources/scholarships/>.
 - Sample Syllabi. If you have some you could share, send to me.

We hope you will help us "build" these resources out over the next few months.

Expect to hear more about the Workshop in the coming weeks and months.

And again, we hope you can participate both before and during the workshop!

Phil