

RING OF HIRE

It's 18 degrees in the offices of JRS Architect P.C., if your thermometer measures NYIT graduates. Principal and founder John Sorrenti, FAIA (B.A. '72, M.B.A. '78), made it a point to hire as many alumni as possible from his alma mater based on his own experiences as an NYIT student.

"The biggest benefit to having so many alumni is that we know the quality of the people we are hiring," says John. "We know that they have good training, and we know how to further their education. It's a positive experience knowing that we are hiring an NYIT grad who wants to learn and do well in the profession."

publication's "Top 40 Healthcare Interior Design Firms"

NYIT grads who have come to call the firm home include: Karen McGuinness (B.F.A. '85); Samandar Nadib (B.S. '88); Joseph Pignataro, AIA (B.Arch. '89); Joseph Sassone, AIA (B.S. '90); Frederick Hyde Jr. (B.S. '91); James Lalli, AIA (B.Arch. '92); Frances Consoli, AIA (B.Arch. '94); Anthony Tascarella (B.S. '94); Roman Podoliuk (B.S. '95); Stanley Axelrod (B.S. '97); Gloria Baca (B.Arch. '00); Jason DeGiovine (B.Arch. '01); Nicholas Williamson (B.S. '03); and Michael Sciara, R.A. (B.Arch. '02, M.Arch. '03).



Architect John Sorrenti, FAIA (B.A. '72, M.B.A. '78, front row, second from left), with fellow NYIT graduates and employees.

John himself is an example of the work ethic that NYIT grads can exhibit. In 1986, he launched JRS with only six employees, all of whom had to work from home until the firm's first 1,200-square-foot office in Carle Place, N.Y., was completed. Because he personally supplied the firm with needed capital, it was three months before John drew his first paycheck.

Today, John is joined by partners Alexander Hadjiyane, AIA (B.S. '82), and Robert Morrissey, AIA (B.S. '88), and has nearly 60 employees working in a 10,500-square-foot building in Mineola, N.Y., designed by the firm. Other offices are located in Princeton, N.J., and New York City. And, while JRS' practice initially focused on the financial sector, it now includes corporate, healthcare, education, hospitality, defense, and retail. Since 2004, the firm has been ranked among the "Top 100 Giants" by *Interior Design* magazine, and since 2005, ranked in the

BUILDING BLOCKS OF SUCCESS

John recalls playing with LEGOs as a child—even at a young age, he knew he wanted to be an architect. He complemented his undergraduate and graduate degrees in architecture with an NYIT degree in business administration. Early in his career, he joined the American Institute of Architects (AIA), a national trade association that he credits with helping him build a network of peers. John served as the AIA's New York president and as national vice president. In addition, he has been appointed by the New York State Board of Regents to the New York State Board of Architecture and to the Professional Development Committee of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

Throughout his professional success, John remains focused on what he enjoys most about his career. "Time flies by when I am deep in the design process," the architect says. He's also made sure that—at JRS Architect—good help is easy to find. ■