Bob Berkebile FAIA

Any list of accomplished, influential architects and environmentalists includes Bob Berkebile. Highly regarded by fellow professionals and the recipient of numerous awards, Bob focuses on improving the quality of life in our society with the integrity and spirit of his work.

He is a founding principal of BNIM, which received the 2011 AIA Firm Award, and he brings more than four decades of experience to the architectural profession. He is the founding chairman of the American Institute of Architects’ National Committee on the Environment (AIA / COTE) and was also instrumental in the formation of the US Green Building Council and its LEED rating system.

Bob has received numerous awards for his contributions to the design and construction industries, including national leadership awards from the AIA and USGBC, alumni award from University of Kansas, honorary degrees from University of Missouri and Chatham University, as well as the Heinz Award and Hanley Award for environmental leadership.

Since retiring from BNIM, Bob has formed a development company that focuses on urban acupuncture — an intervention on a dormant community asset to create a catalyst for community vitality and resilience. His company’s efforts have yielded the transformation of Kansas City’s shuttered Westport Schools into Plexpod Westport Commons, an award winning co-working facility, community forum, and housing; and the conversion of Commerce Tower (a 30-story former bank headquarters/office building) into a vertical neighborhood of schools, services, and 350 apartments. His company’s current work includes the redevelopment of the Blue River watershed and surrounding neighborhoods to transform a collection of abandoned industrial, military, and other sites into a regenerative economy for the community and a national model for Opportunity Zone funding.