Tree House  Keyan Mizani, Founder eMZed

Keyan founded eMZed Architecture with Alexia Zerbinis in 2004. The firm provides creative and resourceful architectural services with a collaborative spirit and an emphasis on sustainability. Keyan received a master’s degree in architecture from the University of Oregon, is a registered architect in Oregon, and is also an Earth Advantage certified Sustainable Homes Professional. He and his family moved into their new net zero home and studio about a year ago and are enjoying the benefits of the green building principles they employ.

Waste Stream to New Wood Products  Valerie Carey, Manager of New Markets, City of Roses Disposal & Recycling

In 2015, Valerie watched a 25-ton pile of discarded lumber go through an industrial grinder to be sold as boiler fuel. With over 20 years in residential construction and managing two iconic reused building material stores - Urban Ore in Berkeley and the ReBuilding Center in Portland - she immediately recognized that diverse commercial markets could utilize this material at the scale it was being ground up and burned or landfilled. She shared her vision with Alando Simpson at City of Roses Disposal & Recycling. They began developing Sankofa Lumber soon after as a commercial-scale supplier of reclaimed, closed-loop lumber products.

The Social Side of Sustainable Buildings  Beth Campbell, Assistant Project Manager, Green Hammer

Beth has been in the high performance and green building fields since 2004, when she got her start building strawbale homes with earthen plasters. Beth is a PHIUS certified Passive House Builder and completed the Sustainable Homes Professional course through Earth Advantage. She is also a board member of Passive House Northwest, and an advocate for women in the building trades.

Laura Squillace, Project Architect, Green Hammer

Laura is a Project Architect at Green Hammer where she has designed several Zero Energy residential and multifamily senior housing projects as well as Oregon’s first Net Zero Energy preschool. Prior to Green Hammer, Laura worked on a variety of high-performance projects ranging from Cohousing communities to complex healthcare facilities, urban master plans and innovative office headquarters. She finds great joy in designing sustainable buildings that give back to the communities and ecosystems of which they are a part.

The Stories We Want to Tell  David Shirley, Architect

New Energy Works

David is a registered architect in Oregon though he originally comes from Tennessee. At New Energy Works he has constantly sought to build better and more environmentally conscious buildings. Along with the “build smaller” philosophy at New Energy Works, they are currently developing pre-assembled enclosure packages aimed at reducing site labor, waste and improving quality control. David is active in the NW Ecobuilding Guild and the Timber Framers Guild. When he is not working, he is outside, enjoying the PNW.

Going Street Commons  Joshua Salinger, Founder & CEO, Birdsmouth Design Build

Birdsmouth creates zero-energy buildings that are healthier, more comfortable, and more resilient than the industry standard. With climate change now a crisis that can no longer be ignored, we are proud to design and build homes, ADUs, and retrofits that are future-proofed against rising energy costs and distinguished by timeless beauty that will endure for generations.
Oregon Zoo Education Center
Heather DeGrella, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Opsis Architecture
Heather leverages a diversity of skills gained over 16 years in architectural project management, construction administration, building science research, and sustainability consulting. As the Sustainability Design Leader at Opsis, Heather is involved throughout the full project life cycle from planning and design, construction, and into operations. Heather’s tireless passion for green building is evident in her extensive community and professional service, public speaking and through practical application on a diverse number of design and research projects. Heather frequently presents on topics ranging from LEED principles to carbon neutral design. She has served as the founding member of the Portland Transparency Materials Collaborative and is chair of the Portland AIA Green Schools Committee.

Rachel Wrublik, PE, LEED AP, Mechanical Engineer, PAE
Rachel is a mechanical engineer at PAE with a passion for regenerative design, healthy ecosystems, and the human interaction with the environment. She has focused on master planning, net zero energy and living buildings, passive design, and healthy materials. She has an educational background in biology and renewable energy engineering, heads the PAE Portland Renew Team, and is a member of the Portland Material Transparency Collaborative.

Salvaging 100 Years of House into a New Passive Home
Scott Kosmecki, Founder Hinge Build Design Group, LLC
Scott is the founder and manager of Hinge Build Group, a design-build firm that specializes in bringing high-performance building projects to market. A contractor since 1986, Scott focuses on building to today's highest standards while incorporating foam-free building techniques with locally sourced materials. Scott is an Associate Architect and AIA member since 2009 and is on the regional board of Passive House Northwest as well as deeply involved in Portland’s We Dream of Zero organization and the national Passive House Alliance U.S.

The Oregon Conservation Center Remodeled Headquarters
Ryan Temple, President, Sustainable NW Wood
Ryan is responsible for creating and growing markets for sustainably produced wood products and directing Sustainable Northwest Wood. While he aspires to create a marketplace that recognizes and rewards responsible land stewardship, Ryan’s greatest aspiration is to raise his two daughters to be as inspirational to others as they are to him.

High Performance Landscapes: better for nature, better for people
Caitilin Pope Daum, Principal, RLA, ASLA and Kyla Tanaka, Senior Associate, RLA, Studio Wild Landscape Architecture
Caitilin and Kyla met in graduate school in 2001. After years working for big firms in different states, Kyla joined Caitilin in Portland in 2016. Together they are Studio Wild Landscape Architecture: Designing a world in which human beings and wild systems thrive side by side.