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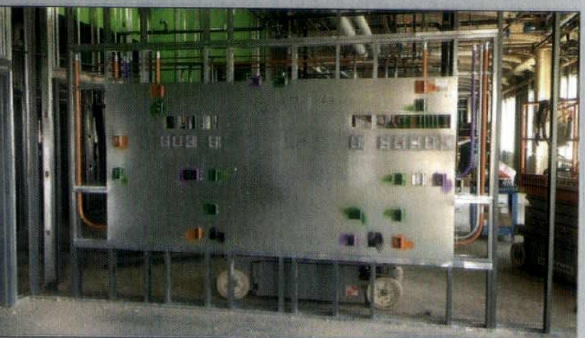
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Chicago Architect, the primary outreach tool of AIA Chicago, is published six times a year as an authoritative resource for architects, the larger design community and the public about architecture and related issues of interest to Chicago architects. The magazine communicates industry trends, the value of high-quality design and the role of AIA Chicago and its members in the world of architecture.

Publication Director

Zurich Esposito
esposito@aiachicago.org

Publisher

Tony Mancini
tmancini@sgcmail.com

Editor

Dennis Rodkin
dennis@rodkin.com

Senior Editor

Lauren Finch
finchl@aiachicago.org

Managing Editor

Todd Loesch

Consulting Editor

Rob Cassidy
Building Design+Construction
magazine

Designer

Kelsey Hiebert-Craig

Advertising Sales

Jeff Elliott
jelliott@sgcmail.com
616.846.4633

Pete Pirocanac
ppirocanac@sgcmail.com
847.954.7935

Advertising Coordinator

Renee Fonferko
rfonferko@sgcmail.com
847.391.1005

Vice President, SGC/SGC Horizon

Diane Vojcanin
dvojcanin@sgcmail.com

AIA Chicago



Contributors

Lee Bey
Cindy Coleman
Ed Keegan
Pamela Dittmer McKuen
Laurie Petersen
Raissa Rocha
Lisa Skolnik
Jeff Zagoudis

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Hello, Chicago architects.

Welcome to the 2012 Design Excellence Awards issue of *Chicago Architect*. Each year, this issue is one of our best; it is our annual celebration of the best work by Chicago architects. This year, it also gives us a chance to honor the extraordinary, ongoing lifetime achievements of Helmut Jahn, FAIA.

The 2012 award entries reflect the depth and breadth of work in the Chicago architectural community. Personally, I always find this issue to be a reminder of the relevance of Chicago architecture and the influence we have on our profession and communities across the globe. It is a time to be proud of our individual work and our collective influence on architecture.

This year, in addition to the Design Excellence Award categories of Distinguished Building, Interior Architecture, and Divine Detail, we have added a new SustainABILITY award. This category highlights an area where Chicago architecture is taking leadership on a visible and relevant professional topic. I have full confidence that sustainability within the honor awards program will continue to add to Chicago's leadership.

As you may imagine, there was a great deal of discussion in AIA Chicago surrounding this new award. This dialogue is also occurring at AIA National and in many other AIA components. It is essentially about whether to include building performance criteria within design excellence awards. This can be a very polarizing topic. I suspect that this is because it reveals fundamental issues of how architecture is practiced and the stories we create about our work. There are those who advocate for the inclusion of performance metrics into all awards, others who feel that performance has no place at all in architectural awards, and those who feel that a focus on specific issues like energy or water is far too limited.

This is a truly healthy debate. The AIA Chicago Design Excellence Awards are a collective expression of our professional values. Our Honor Awards really do have meaning and we can be proud that AIA Chicago has chosen to express this as a crucial and integral part of our profession.

So, join me in toasting this year's Design Excellence Award recipients and this year's Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Helmut Jahn.

Cheers,

Rand Ekman, AIA | President | AIA Chicago

aim report

What End Users Want
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August, 2012

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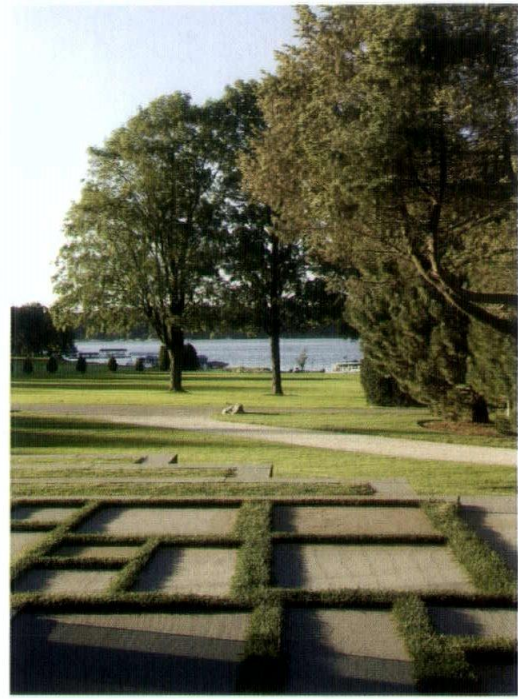
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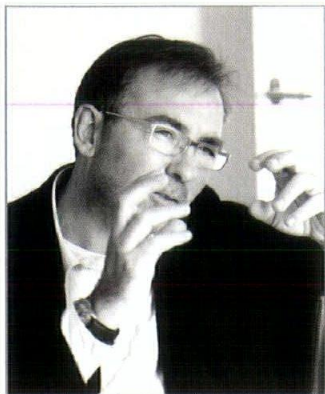
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PEOPLE + PROJECTS

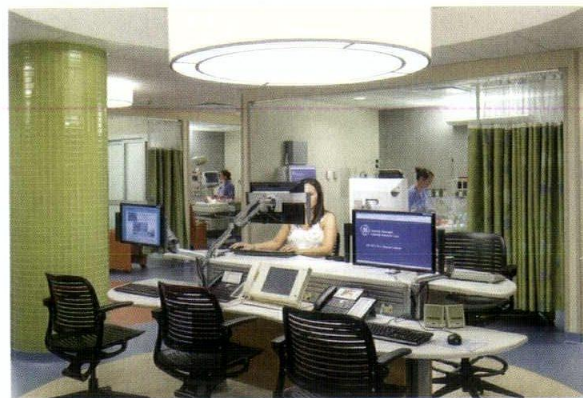


Wiel Arets

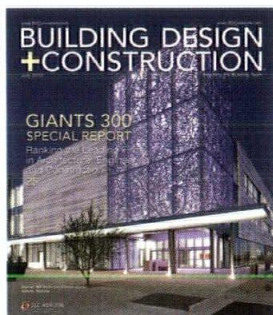
joined the Illinois Institute of Technology as the new dean of the College of Architecture. Known for his academic progressive research and hybrid design solutions, Arets was previously professor of building planning and design at the Berlin University of the Arts, and dean of the Berlage Institute in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. His practice, Wiel Arets Architects, has multiple studios throughout Europe. Arets is the subject of an interview in the next issue of *Chicago Architect*. Look for it in January!

VOA Associates Inc. has recently completed a new patient tower at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center

in Normal, Ill. The 70,000-square-foot addition houses several of the hospital's units as well as private patient rooms, special care nursery, operating rooms and private intensive care rooms. Completed in May and opened in June, the addition caps off a multi-year facility replacement project that VOA began with the hospital in 2005.



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HDR was recently ranked No. 1

in *Building Design+Construction* magazine's market sector ranking of science and technology architecture firms, in the August issue. The ranking is part of *BD+C's* annual Giants 300 report, which gathers data from top architecture, engineering and construction firms.

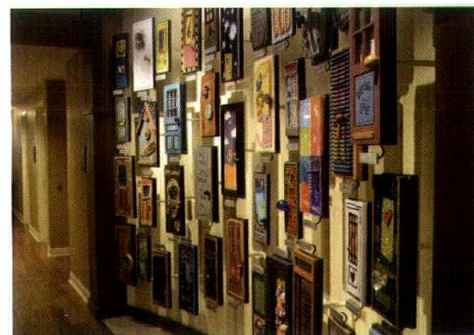
Susan Heinking,

AIA, LEED AP, has joined VOA Associates as its new sustainability leader. Heinking leads the Chicago office's sustainable initiatives and acts as a firm-wide resource.



Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana

celebrated the opening of its largest Ronald McDonald House, in Chicago's Streeterville neighborhood, over the summer. Designed by Antunovich Associates and located at 211 E. Grand Ave., the 100,000-square-foot facility includes 86 guestrooms and communal spaces such as kitchens, dining rooms, living rooms and children's areas. Hospitality design firm Gettys partnered with Ronald McDonald House Charities to provide interior design and procurement services.



Saltans Architects was one of 30 participants in an international design competition

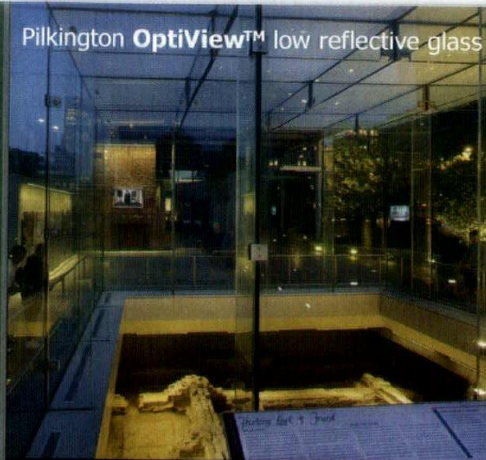
for the residential zone within the Skolkovo Innovation Center, showcased at the 2012 Venice Biennale. Part of the Russia Pavilion, the exhibit presented projects through a series of QR codes that wraps around the second level of the pavilion. Visitors were provided with mobile tablets to scan the codes and obtain information about Skolkovo and the design of specific projects, including Saltans'. The exhibit runs through Nov. 25.



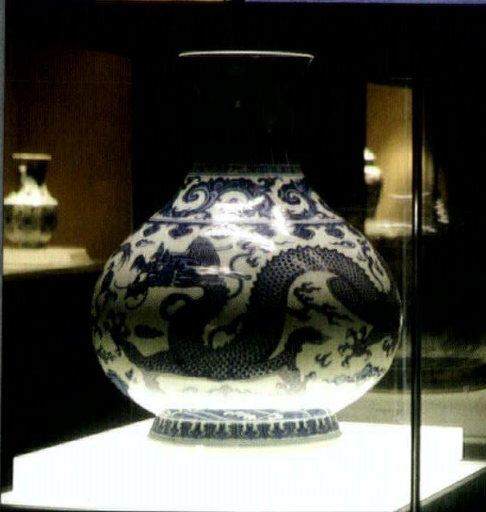
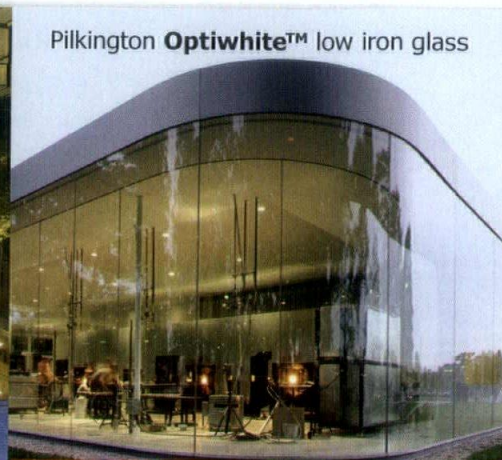
Mary Brush, AIA,

formerly of Holabird & Root and Klein and Hoffman, launched a new Chicago-based firm in September. Brush Architects will specialize in existing building modernization, envelope investigation and preservation.

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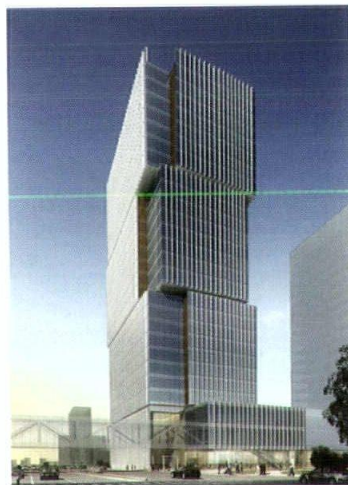


Architecture is fun, directed by Peter Exley, FAIA, and Sharon Exley,

designed the new Young At Art Museum in Davie, Fla., to inspire imagination and discovery in art. The museum opened in May.

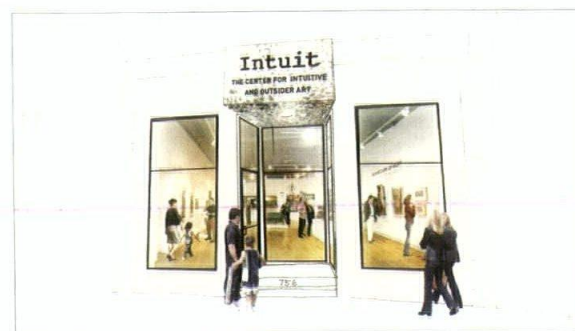
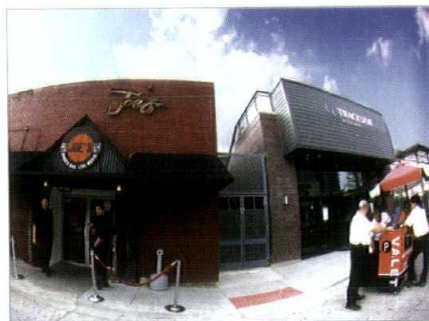
Goettsch Partners has designed the new 24-story,

87,560-square-meter commercial tower for Al Hilal Bank in the heart of Abu Dhabi's Al Maryah Island. Offering 49,110 square meters of office and retail space, as well as 1,000 parking spaces for tenants and visitors, the building is composed of three cubical masses that sit atop the podium, stacked like shifted blocks. Its façade consists of an aluminum-and-glass curtain wall system, offering ample natural daylighting for occupants. Completion of the development is slated for the last quarter of 2013. The firm has recently opened an office in Abu Dhabi.



OKW Architects has designed the new

Trackside Chicago off-track betting facility at 940 W. Weed St., the first venture for a partnership between Joe's Bar on Weed Street and Arlington Park.



Studio Gang Architects has recent projects for two Chicago non-profits:

> In July, The Conservation Center moved into its new 25,000-square-foot facility at 400 N. Wolcott. The LEED-certified building, designed by Studio Gang Architects, includes a new conservation laboratory on the fourth floor and a large-scale photography room for UV analysis, flatbed photography and large-scale documentation. "High ceilings and arched windows arrayed across the space make this a great studio for the important restoration work of The Conservation Center," said Jeanne Gang, FAIA. "Our work focused on creating functional and user-friendly individual workspaces for conservators while enhancing the architectural qualities of the interior."

> A pro bono design by Studio Gang Architects will upgrade the West Town home of Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the understanding of intuitive and outsider art. The project aims to transform the museum's Milwaukee Avenue façade and add a more prominent and accessible entrance in the hopes of drawing in more visitors.

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HDR Architecture Inc. will design the Focal Point mixed-use community campus, which will deliver a combination of retail, wellness, education, arts and recreation elements to the southwest side of Chicago. The nearly one million-square-foot, financially self-sustaining complex, located on an 11-acre lot at 31st and Kedzie, will be one of the first projects where evidence-based design is brought to the community scale and will utilize forms and materials to reinforce the project's iconography.



April Hughes



Adam Lund

Farr Associates has promoted

April Hughes, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, and Adam Lund, AIA, LEED AP, to senior associates. Both have been with the firm for seven years.



Lyn Herne Eisenhauer



Rick Schroeder



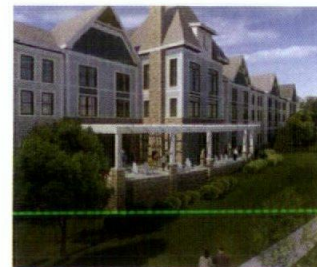
Oz Wagner

Ghafari Associates welcomes three new members to its team:

- > Lyn Herne Eisenhauer, AIA, joins the firm as senior project architect.
- > Rick Schroeder, LEED AP, also joins as a senior project architect.
- > Oz Wagner, AIA, returns to Ghafari after serving as an associate principal at AECOM's Phoenix office.

Designed by Harley Ellis Devereaux,

the new Lakefront Residences in Grayslake is Mercy Housing Lakefront's latest facility for independent senior living. It will provide 70 units designed to help



facilitate and support independent seniors with a variety of services, and enable residents to easily access exterior and interior amenities. Mercy Housing expects to move residents into the facility in December. Sustainability is key to the design. The development team benchmarked the building's level of "greenness" by utilizing the National Green Building Standard Certification system to pursue the Bronze level.

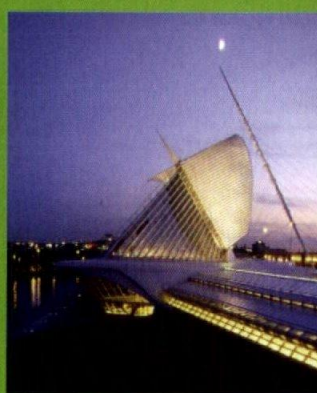
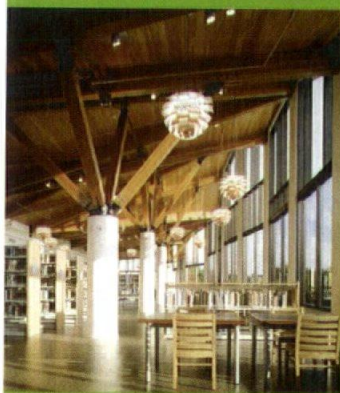
Christopher Frye, AIA, has recently established (r)evolution architecture,

a new practice seeking to embody its namesake: evolution and revolution. Building upon Frye's portfolio of work as design director of Dewberry Architects, the practice will focus on exploring solutions that blend ideas with instinct, data and client needs.



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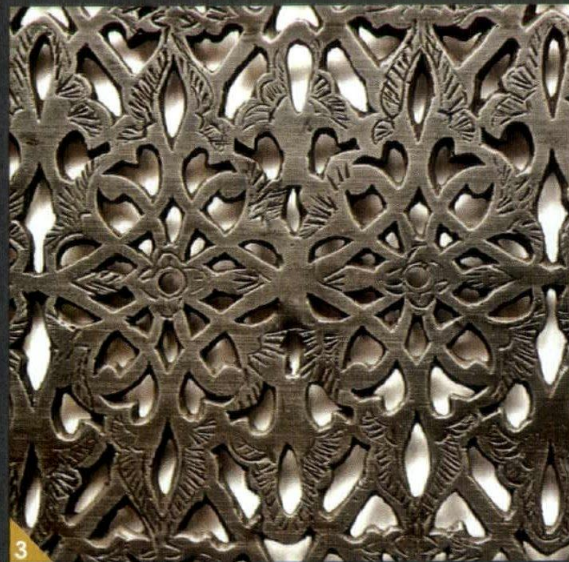
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(1) Patinated stainless steel vanity with etched glass sink – design by Dirk Denison Architects, Chicago.

(2) Design by HBRA Architects, Chicago – design by M.K.P., Chicago.

(3) Cast silicon bronze frieze panel with intricate engraving – design by Eric J. Smith Architects, New York.

FOREVER

INNOVATOR HELMUT JAHN HAS BEEN BREAKING NEW
GROUND SINCE ARRIVING IN CHICAGO MORE THAN
40 YEARS AGO **By Franz Schulze**

Jahn's design for the Suvarnabhumi
Airport outside Bangkok, Thailand,
instills a rhythmic grace into the
public spaces. The project was
completed in 2006.

All photography by Rainer Viertlboeck unless credited otherwise

JAHN

AMONG THE FACTORS THAT MOTIVATED HELMUT JAHN, FAIA, TO STUDY ARCHITECTURE WAS THE DEGREE OF DESTRUCTION VISITED UPON HIS HOMETOWN OF ALLERSBERG, A SUBURB OF NUREMBERG, DURING WORLD WAR II. Born in 1940, Jahn was old enough to witness the ruination and, no less important, to grow up amid the often low-budget architecture that was erected in Nuremberg following the end of hostilities. Germany did not recover from the war as readily or creatively as it did following World War I. If there was anything that might have pointed toward a successful career as a designer, it would have to rise from within Jahn himself rather than from his environment.

That is, unless we broaden the concept of his environment to hark back to the 18th century, when German architecture could claim more than a few men of talent and accomplishment. Jahn was 20 when, as a member of a student tour, he saw for the first time the superb pilgrimage church of *Vierzehnheiligen* near Bad Staffelstein, arguably the masterpiece of architect Balthasar Neumann. The impact of the experience prompted him to seek admission to the *Technische Hochschule* in Munich. Following his acceptance, he spent four years of study leading to a professional license. During that time he spent summers as an assistant to Nuremberg architect and planner Wilhelm Schlegtehdal, who suggested that Jahn, reasonably competent in English, apply for a Rotary fellowship that would enable him to study in the United States.

1966. Destiny now took a hand. While awaiting the assessment of his application, Jahn worked in Munich for architect Peter von Seidlein, who many years earlier had been employed by the renowned Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

Nearly 30 years after Mies' departure from Germany and his 1938 appointment to head the College of Architecture of the Armour Institute of Technology (AIT) in Chicago, Jahn found his way into Mies's orbit, if not his office. Having won the Rotary fellowship in 1967, he was assigned a place as a student at the Illinois Institute of Technology (previously AIT). Even before enrolling, he applied for a position in Mies' office (Mies had retired from IIT in 1958). Though



Photo by Andrew Zuckerman

turned down, Jahn made up for it later, less—as he claimed—by what he learned in his curricular classes than by carrying on strictly informal conversations with three of the school's best known professors: Myron Goldsmith, Fazlur Khan and David Sharpe.

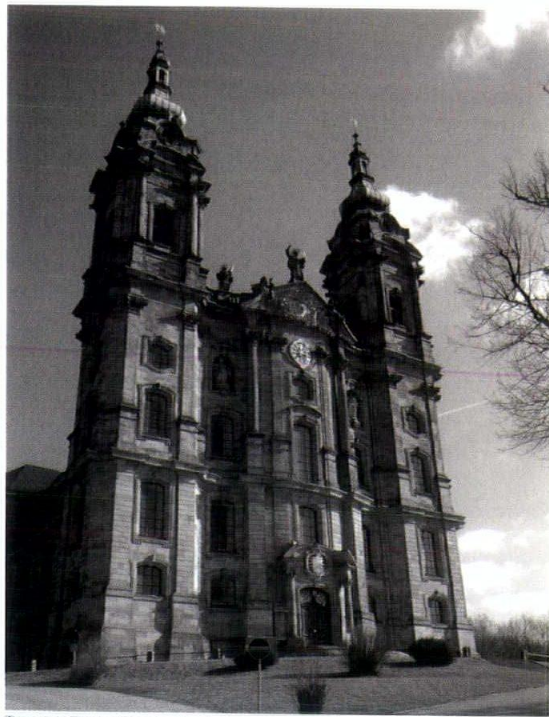
Further good fortune followed when Jahn heard that architect Gene Summers, FAIA, had just opened his own office in Chicago. Not only had Summers studied with Mies, but he had served as the old man's chief assistant. Jahn sought employment with Summers and was hired, whereupon he concluded his tenure as a student at IIT.

Luck was not finished with either Jahn or Summers. Enter Mayor Richard Daley as *deus ex machina*. Recognizing that Chicago needed a convention hall to replace the one totally destroyed by fire in 1967, Daley called C. F. Murphy & Associates, a major Chicago architectural firm, seeking advice. Murphy recommended Summers for the assignment.

The anticipated convention center would occupy the same site as the old one and bear its name, McCormick Place. At one point in his efforts, Summers proposed a highly innovative project: a building with a roof hanging on cables, in the manner of a suspension bridge. It never materialized. Chicago industrialist Henry Crown wanted McCormick Place to include a theater, to be funded by him and named for his mother, Arie Crown. Summers conceived the theater underground, a move that Crown rejected. Though Mayor Daley endorsed the idea, Crown stood his ground.

Frustrated, Summers sat down with his new assistant, Helmut Jahn, and the two spent a weekend seeking a new solution. Jahn came up with a scheme that was eventually built. It is identified in the literature as the work of Gene Summers. Jahn, accordingly, has insisted both privately and publicly that credit should go to Summers, who was responsible for the technical and theoretical foundation of the design. In short, Summers was the teacher, Jahn the student.

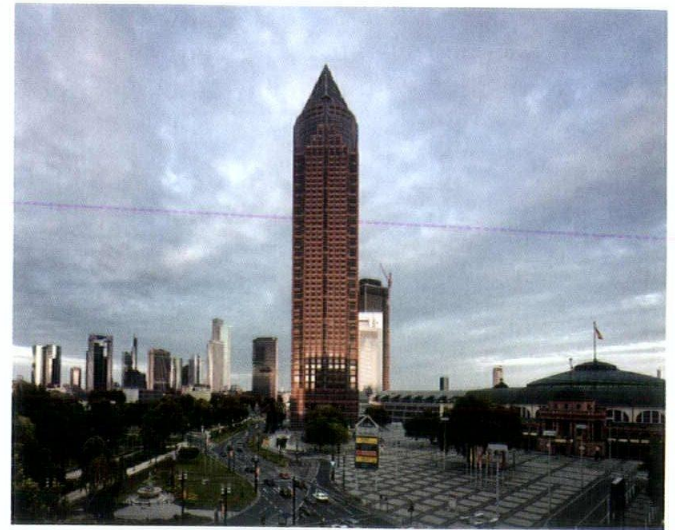
In the course of working on the McCormick Place design, Jahn met Deborah Lampe, an interior designer who had studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh. Lampe's skill as a draftsman brought her and Jahn into



Tatyana Boyko/Shutterstock.com

(left) Built between 1743 and 1772, the *Vierzehnheiligen* (or Basilica of the Fourteen Holy Helpers) near Bad Staffelstein, arguably the masterpiece of architect Balthasar Neumann, inspired the young Jahn to explore architecture.

(right) Jahn re-entered Europe with this 1990 project, the 63-story *MesseTurm*, or Trade Fair Tower, in Frankfurt, Germany.



close contact that led to their marriage in 1970 and a seven-week honeymoon, which began with a skiing trip to Davos and proceeded to Italy, Turkey and Greece.

In 1973, Gene Summers resigned from C. F. Murphy to join Phyllis Lambert (another former student of Mies) and develop real estate in California. Jahn remained in Chicago, where he was named as the director of planning and design at C. F. Murphy. Meanwhile, the commission for the R. Crosby Kemper Memorial Arena in Kansas City, Miss., had been won by Summers, who turned the assignment over to Jahn.

Jahn began work on the project in 1972 and finished it in 1974 as his first independent work. Once again Mies van der Rohe played a role in this narrative—the use of overhead trusses in the Kemper Arena follows the example of the plate girders in Mies's masterly Crown Hall (1956), on the IIT campus. Yet to a degree Jahn was his own man: The arena's exterior is white and the corners are rounded, devices foreign to Mies's vocabulary.

In the early '80s, C. F. Murphy, FAIA, owned the firm outright. But Jahn was clearly the central designing figure, and he called for a new relationship. In fact, he demanded 100 percent. Since Murphy was an administrator and not an architect, he acceded, aware that Jahn was too valuable to be countermanded. In turn, Jahn himself recognized the importance of Murphy's name. The firm became known as Murphy/Jahn in 1983 and has remained so ever since.

By the time the State of Illinois Center opened in 1985, Jahn had divested his work almost completely of Miesian stylistic components. The principal exterior elevation is curved. It moves diagonally upward from the base. The ground floor columns are colored salmon and blue. Color—a rich scarlet—is especially striking in the 17-story atrium, which also features diagonals. The plan likewise runs counter to the rectilinear pattern of the Loop streets. In the eyes of some traditional observers, the building is a blasphemy, while others have called it a vanguard triumph, a brilliant signal of the power Jahn brought to the post-modern aesthetic.

Those factors paled once the center began operation. A major failure in the heating and ventilation system left interior temperatures sometimes skyrocketing to 90 degrees in the summer, or plunging to near freezing in the winter. Needless to say, the media were fascinated, more by those conditions than by Jahn's stylistic gestures. Eventually it developed that the cause of the problem lay more with flaws in engineering rather than architectural design. The chief defender and champion of the building was former Illinois governor James R. Thompson, for whom it was named in 1993.

A persuasive case can be made that Jahn's most impressive American design is the United Airlines terminal at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, completed in 1988. It consists of two parallel concourses, each home to a structure of steel and glass, with a roof in the form of a depressed arch supported by perforated beams 30 feet apart. A major asset is the huge amount of natural light that Jahn has provided, through fritted glass that admits light but not the heat associated with it.

At a level beneath the two buildings is a perceptibly innovative bonus—a 744-foot-long tunnel with walkways serving the travelers who walk from one concourse to the other. Overhead is a group of neon tubes of white, yellow, orange, red, green, blue and purple, moving constantly. Music provides an accompaniment—recorded passages from George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." Color is visible elsewhere as well, through curved plastic membranes on the walls of the tunnel.

Europe re-entered Jahn's career in the 1990s. The *MesseTurm*, a 843-foot skyscraper that went up in Frankfurt in 1990, was followed in 1994 by the Munich Airport Center, featuring the elegant Kempinski Hotel. Jahn then shifted his attentions to Berlin, which, after the collapse of the wall in 1989, had regained its rank as the capital of Germany. On the city's most famous thoroughfare, *Kurfuerstendamm*, an office building (*K-damm 70*) was completed in 1994. Jahn's most memorable effort in Berlin, and surely the most complex, is the Sony Center, completed in 2000. A combination of office buildings,

continued on page 50...

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DISTINGUISHED BUILDING AWARDS



ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will

CLIENT:

Universidade Agostinho Neto

GENERAL CONTRACTORS:

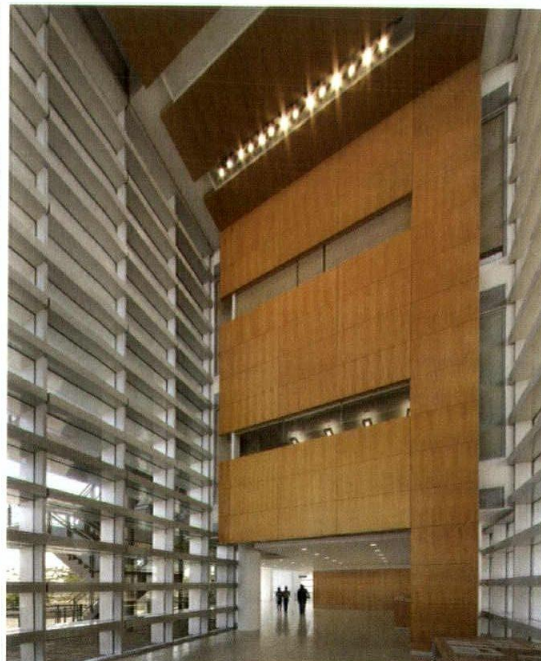
Soares da Costa, Somague Engenharia, S.A, China Jiangsu International Economic Technical Cooperation Corporation

CONSULTANTS:

Dar Al-Handasan (Shair and Partners), Battle McCarthy, Schuler Shook, Paulien & Associates Inc.

The first phase of a campus for the largest university in The Republic of Angola consists of a central library with both above- and below-ground components, and several classroom buildings arrayed around it. High sustainability goals dictated that only the library would be air-conditioned. The classroom structures get maximum cross-ventilation with their short east-west façades and long north-south façades that face the prevailing winds off the Atlantic Ocean. They also have rooftop louvers calibrated to create airflow via manipulated pressure differentiation. Roof overhangs create shaded gathering spaces in the courtyards. "It doesn't shy away from strong architectural expression," a juror said. "The message is really good, but so is the aesthetic. It's hopeful and bold. It's forward-looking."

HONOR AWARD
UNIVERSIDADE AGOSTINHO NETO
LUANDA, ANGOLA



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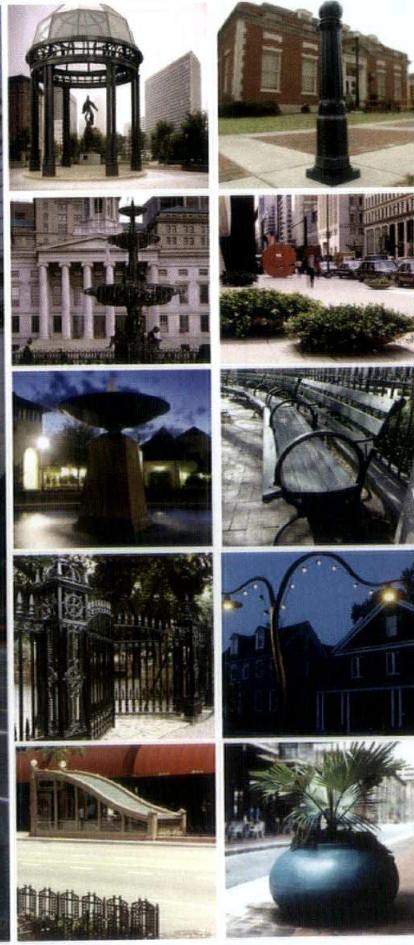


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ARCHITECT: John Ronan Architects

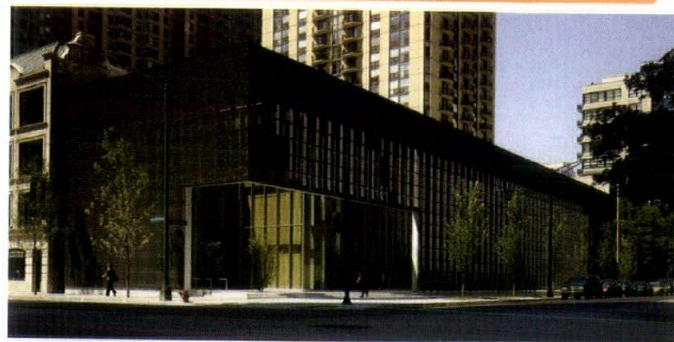
CLIENT: Poetry Foundation

CONTRACTOR: Norcon, Inc.

CONSULTANTS: U.S. Equities Realty, dbHMS, Arup, Terra Engineering, Reed Hilderbrand Associates, Charter Sills, Threshold Acoustics LLC

Conceived as a haven for the makers and consumers of a precious literary art form, the building proceeds much like a reader's growing comprehension of a poem. It begins with a finely crafted, inviting exterior and draws visitors in through a beautifully rendered garden, and beyond into an interior filled with light. Jurors applauded the environmentally sustainable building as a complete composition. The transparency of the exterior screen of oxidized zinc "is not for its own sake, but a veil that really reveals the purpose of the building with the books seen inside," a juror noted. From that first moment of viewing, visitors "sense the restraint that is in place here," a juror said. "The articulation of an idea with blurred spaces and a material palette is splendid," another said. Another said simply, "It's transcendent."

**HONOR AWARD
POETRY FOUNDATION
CHICAGO**



Photography by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing

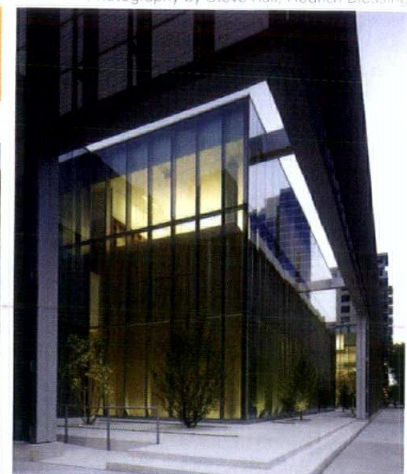


Photo by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing



**CITATION OF MERIT
NINE SQUARE
CHICAGO**

ARCHITECT:

Wheeler Kearns Architects

CLIENT: Private

CONTRACTOR: Goldberg General Contracting

CONSULTANTS: Sherry Koppel Design, Schmechtig Landscapes Inc., Enspect Engineering

A widowed grandmother who entertains family often and also collects art wanted a "cheap and cheerful" home that would welcome both. The plan is divided into nine 24-foot bays, with one left open to the sky. A passerby would read the home as visually quiet, opaque volume, low-slung and clad in fiber-cement panels. They wouldn't see that behind one pivoting door lies a courtyard, and that the home within is crisply organized, its details handled meticulously. "It's not a very expensive house, but it's so very well executed," a juror said. "They know they have sharp materials, and they use them well." The material palette is largely limited to grey cement panels, white gypsum board, American walnut and a few others; the intent, according to the architects, being to form a background for the art, grandchildren and landscape that are the cherished foreground elements here.



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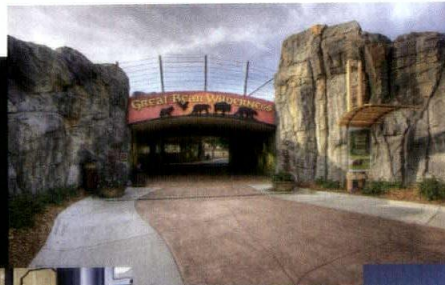
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CITATION OF MERIT

1999 K STREET
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARCHITECT: Murphy/Jahn

CLIENT: 1925 K Associates LLC/Vornado (original owner), Deka USA K Street LP (current owner)

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT: WDG Architecture

CONTRACTOR: Davis Construction

CONSULTANTS: Werner Sobek, Tadjer Cohen Edelson, GHT Limited, Yann Kersale, Randy Burkett Lighting Design, A. Morton Thomas and Associates

On a corner site in the nation's capital, famously a place of strict rules that in less capable hands inhibit architectural excellence, this LEED Gold office project both fits squarely within the limits and enlarges them. The edges of the building blur: screen walls at the top suggest there is no top, a tall glazed screen wall blends street life into the luminous lobby, and an emphasis on lightness and transparency everywhere reduces the distinction between outdoors and in. "Particularly in Washington, this is an exceptional project," a juror said. "It boils down to the essence of a corner building in that city."

CITATION OF MERIT
FACEBOOK PRINEVILLE
DATA CENTER
PRINEVILLE, OREGON

ARCHITECT:

Sheehan Partners

CLIENT: Facebook

CONTRACTOR:

DPR/Fortis Construction

CONSULTANTS: AlfaTech, Facebook, Peoples Associates Structural Engineers, WH Pacific, Brightworks



Photo by Jonnu Singleton Photography

This Facebook center's simple and handsome distribution of 300,000 square feet in Oregon's high desert impressed jurors with its combination of spaces that house offices, a bewilderingly large conglomeration of custom servers, and a specially designed cooling system that makes the data center one of the most energy efficient

facilities in the world. The architects wrapped the package in a warm-colored concrete that resembles homes in the region. The perimeter wall erodes at the entry and at service courtyards, and layered glass exposes conference and meeting rooms without compromising privacy. "It's a simple but elegant strategy," a juror said.



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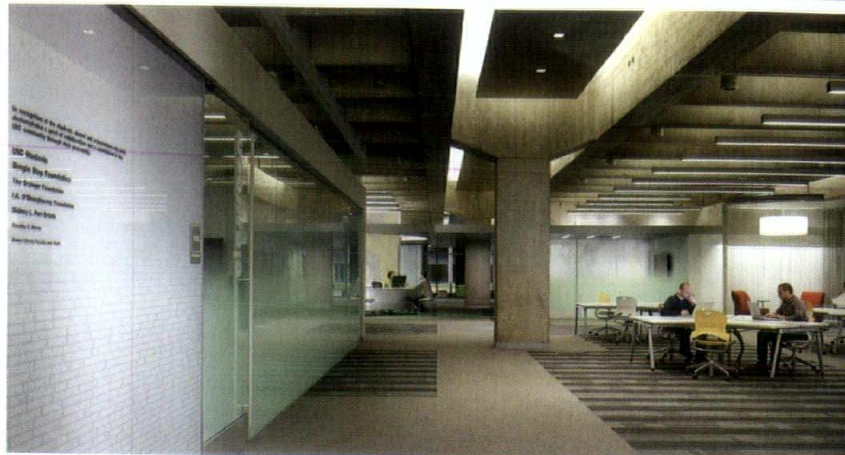
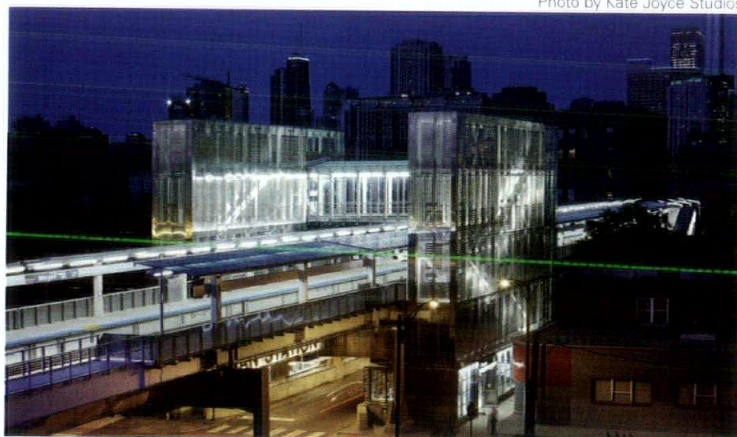


Photo by Christopher Barrett Photography

Photo by Kate Joyce Studios



CITATION OF MERIT

CTA MORGAN STATION
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: Ross Barney Architects

CLIENT: Chicago Department of Transportation

CONTRACTOR: F. H. Paschen

CONSULTANTS: TranSystems, LTK Engineering Services, OSA Engineers

For this new elevated CTA stop in the Fulton Market district, the architects devised a look that puts a new spin on the familiar term "light industrial." Its tallest components resemble vertical slabs, their steel framework entirely visible inside a semi-transparent wrapper, so that the neighborhood's industrial heritage gets a nod, but its brighter contemporary iteration does, too. "It raises the functional program of an EI station to an admirable level of civic quality," one juror said. The steel, glass, concrete, polycarbonate and granite components are "artfully deployed," one said, and the interplay of light and solid surfaces "is well developed." The overall translucency of the composition, they said, "gives it a vibrancy both day and night."

ARCHITECT: David Woodhouse Architects

CLIENT: Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois

CONTRACTOR: Joseph Construction

CONSULTANTS: dbHMS Design Build Engineering, C E Anderson & Associates, Schuler Shook, Construction Cost Systems

The new commons area inserted into Walter Netsch's 1965 library at UIC updates the way an academic library welcomes and serves students, as well as of the Brutalist look of the space itself. Filled with "smart" classrooms, casual study areas, a café—room types that now typify college life—it's also a connector between the library and the rest of campus. The IDEA Commons "extends the materials and formal palette of the original to create a design-rich contemporary environment," a juror said. The use of graphics and other visual components "brings a more appropriate scale to the project than the original had." The jurors also lauded the new interventions because they clearly respect the original while "distinguishing themselves from it. There's no confusion."

Photo by Steinkamp Photography



CITATION OF MERIT
 BLUE VALLEY SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL
 OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

ARCHITECT:

Perkins+Will

CLIENT:

Blue Valley Unified School District

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT:

HTK Architects, PA;
 NSP Architecture

CONTRACTOR:

Crossland Construction

CONSULTANTS:

Larson Binkley, Structural Engineering Associates, Shafer, Kline & Warren, Richard Clayton Barrett Landscape Architecture, Audio Visual

A 300,000-square-foot high school on a 112-acre site could overwhelm its students. The architects on the project cut it down to size by creating separate pavilions for individual programs, each with its own distinct roof profile. The library pavilion has a butterfly roof, the cafeteria a gentle gable, and the theater a single pitch. "It fits with the Great Plains landscape, where you're constantly looking out toward shapes in the distant landscape," a juror observed. Another noted that it's all pulled together with a consistent datum, which itself could stand for the Plains. "There's a close relationship between the buildings and the site," a juror said.

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DESIGNING A LIGHT-FILLED URBAN RETREAT

Expanding an existing single-family home, the clients wanted a light-filled urban retreat to display their art collection. The architects responded by bathing nearly every surface of the interior and exterior with a crisp white finish, that maximizes light everywhere. Thoughtfully placed natural wood and floors stained ebony keep the white from becoming a single blanket gesture, as does the placement of art. Glass stair rails, skylights and even some transparent furniture serve to keep daylight as a key element throughout the house, rather than blocking it. "There's very skilled detailing going on here," a juror said. Another felt that the "consistent use of materials is nicely executed."

CITATION OF MERIT
BUCKTOWN THREE
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT

Studio Dwell Architects

CLIENT Private

CONTRACTOR

Stedl Construction & Development

CONSULTANTS

Louis Shell Structures,
Chicago Specialty Gardens

Photograph by Marty Peters



Photography by Nic Lehoux



CITATION OF MERIT
RITA ATKINSON RESIDENCES,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
SAN DIEGO

ARCHITECT Valerio Dewalt Train Associates

CLIENT University of California San Diego

CONTRACTOR Webcor Builders

CONSULTANTS Searl Lamaster Howe, Hope Engineering, Sprig Electric, Acco Engineered Systems, McParlane Associates, RBF Consulting, KTU+A

DESIGNING A HANDSOME PROJECT

Sited on the university's growing medical campus, the Rita Atkinson Residences completes the axis of what will become an academic mall. The building's deconstructed symmetry gives the 226-unit housing development a distinctive profile that reflects the informality of the coastal southern California lifestyle, rather than creating a starchily formal southern terminus for the planned mall. The sense that parts of the building drop off from a rectilinear profile echoes the promontory on which it sits. A sizable structure, it breaks down nicely, the jurors felt. "They introduce smaller, more livable areas," one said. "There's a sense of scale control." That's true both in the architecture and in the landscape. The jury noted that particularly impressive was the fact that the architects delivered such a handsome project nearly a year early, and on budget.

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AIA Chicago established the Interior Architecture Award in 1984 to promote interior architecture as a unique profession by recognizing outstanding interior design projects. When considering projects for this award, we define interior architecture as the space within a building envelope, including lighting design, furnishings and finishes. Projects are eligible if they were completed between May 1, 2007 and May 1, 2012. Projects must be designed by Chicago-area architects or be located in the Chicago area. The winners and all submissions can be viewed at aiachicago.org.

INTERIOR AWARDS

Photo by Christopher Barrett Photography



ARCHITECT: Goettsch Partners
CLIENT: Baker & McKenzie
CONTRACTOR: Clune Construction Co.
CONSULTANTS: Building Engineering Systems, Shiner & Associates, One Lux Studio, Robert Pacifico Associates, Engineering Plus, Rolf Jensen & Associates, Re:Vision Architecture, The Carter Group, Fountain Technologies, Jones Lang LaSalle



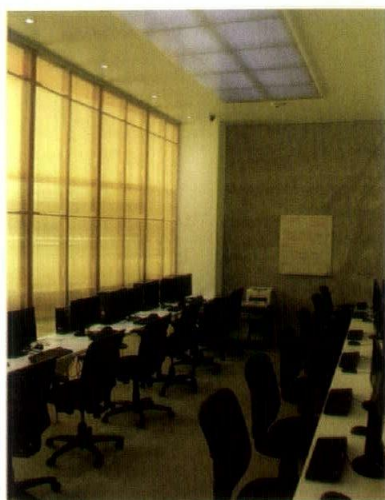
Photo by Christopher Barrett Photography

HONOR AWARD
BAKER & MCKENZIE
CHICAGO



Photography by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing

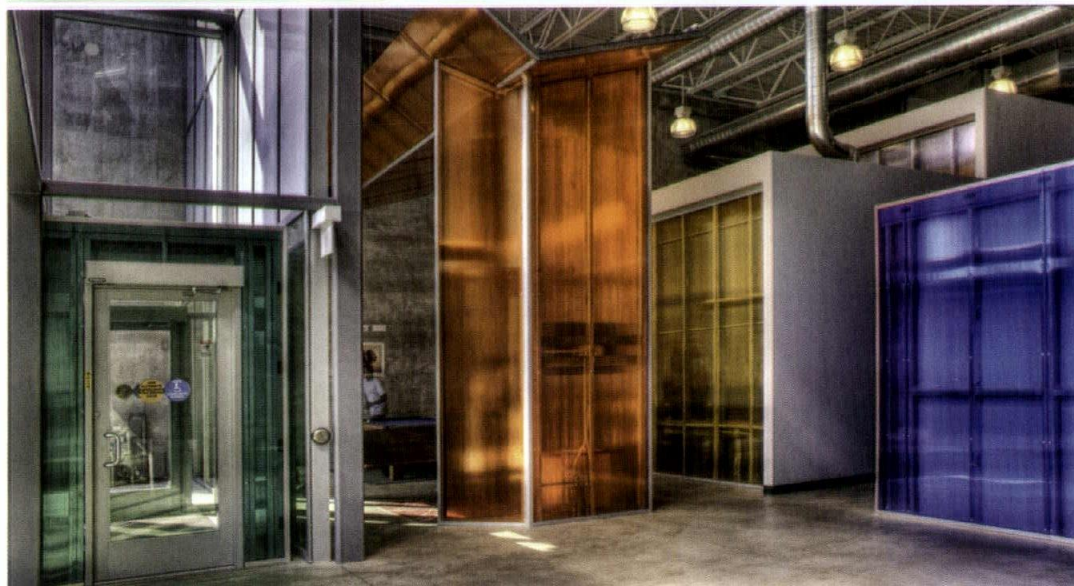
Jurors called this project a "well-studied homage to modernism" whose "level of originality is refreshing." When relocating, an international professional services firm seized the opportunity to create space that embodied and enabled its new integrated-service model. The designers took that as their cue to use materials that reference the classical elements of an integrated world: water, air, earth and fire. A water mirror, airy views, gardens that represent the earth and a fireplace work together to create a harmonious attitude. Enhancing that is the ample use of glass, including clear office façades, tinted workroom walls that are writable surfaces, and, for conference rooms, double-glass frosted walls that also provide acoustical protection. The result is a place with, in the jurors' words, "airiness, loftiness, an expansiveness and lifting-up."



HONOR AWARD
PEACE CORNER YOUTH CENTER
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: Lothan Van Hook
DeStefano Architecture
CLIENT: Peace Corner Youth Center
CONTRACTOR:
Executive Construction Inc.
CONSULTANTS: Structures Unlimited,
Building Engineering Systems

Highly transparent and colorful, this center for at-risk youth beckons kids in from the rough neighborhood in which it stands. Inside, it offers classes, computer instruction and internship opportunities as alternatives to street life and gangs. The one-story, 8,000-square-foot building went up on a vacant lot next to the organization's previous location; the project was conceived as an inexpensive and fast-to-build construction effort to fill an urgent need. At the same time, it needed to exude a sense of stability and comfort, which jurors felt come from the use of color in the polycarbonate and the openness of the abundant glass. "It's very urban, but with a splash of color that brings in some optimism," a juror said. The judges applauded the team's creative use of materials on a low budget.



Photography courtesy of Lothan Van Hook DeStefano Architecture

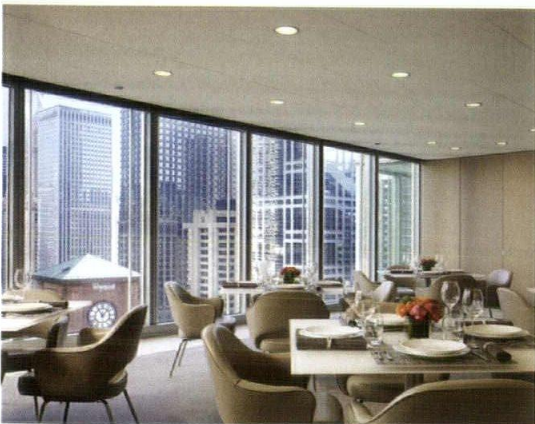
Photo by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing

ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will
CLIENT: Rush University Medical Center
CONTRACTOR: Power Jacobs Joint Venture
CONSULTANTS: Thornton Tomasetti, Hitchcock Design Group,
Terra Engineering, Walsh Consulting, IBC Engineering Services,
Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects, Environmental Systems Design

Many gestures in the interior architecture of this sizable new hospital caught the fancy of jurors. The lobby, four stories high and graced with daylight as well as a gigantic glass-enclosed indoor planter, they pronounced "exquisite." The tapering nurses' stations—their shape defined by the building's butterfly shape and their siting chosen to reduce the number of steps a nurse takes during a typical shift—are "wonderful." And the overall approach to promoting wellness and patient and family comfort they found "setting a tone that will make anyone's experience of the building a little better."



CITATION OF MERIT
RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
CHICAGO



HONOR AWARD
PRITZKER REALTY GROUP
CHICAGO



Photography by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing

ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will

CLIENT: Pritzker Realty Group

CONTRACTOR: Executive Construction

CONSULTANTS: Schuler Shook,
Environmental Systems Design Inc.

The client wanted a sophisticated and subtle environment that would encourage collaborative work, make room for state-of-the art technology and provide an appropriate backdrop for displaying her extensive art collection. The designers organized the space to maximize views across the interior, to showcase stunning city views and to exude a feeling of gracious hospitality. "It's museum meets office, with a subtle use of colors," a juror said. "The design is very nuanced." The strategic positioning of executive offices, meeting spaces and support functions opens the path to collaborative work, something that jurors saw as a model for other similar office spaces. Large glass sliding doors, glass office fronts and the attentive incorporation of art pieces together make "an elegant composition," one said.

ARCHITECT:
Cannon Design

CLIENT:
University HealthSystems Consortium

CONTRACTOR:
Executive Construction

CITATION OF MERIT
UHC HEADQUARTERS
CHICAGO

The client is an association that networks academic medical centers; the project's design references human body systems that are relevant to the functions of a space. Near a café-style break room where staffers might go to take a breather, for example, a screen, mosaic and light fixtures artfully interpret the body's respiratory system. Jurors deemed the project "a fun environment. The design makes connections that would feel smart" to users of the space. "It could come off as excessively cerebral, but it's more playful." Jurors noted that "it's not a project about lavishness, but uses imagination to create an iconography."



Photo by Christopher Barrett Photography

ARCHITECT:
Robbins Architecture

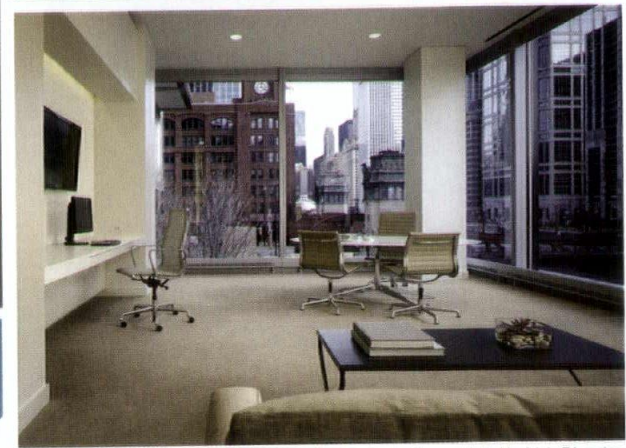
CLIENT:
River Branch
Holdings, LLC

CONTRACTOR:
Skender Construction

CONSULTANTS:
Berta Shapiro
Interior Design, Anne
Kustner Lighting
Design LLC



HONOR AWARD
RIVER BRANCH HOLDINGS
CHICAGO



Photography by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing

An exercise in restraint, this project appealed to jurors with what one called “zen-like clarity.” A two-story projection from the riverside façade of 300 North LaSalle intrigued the head of an investment banking company that would be a tenant in the new building. He felt its 4,000 square feet of space lined with 100 feet of glass offered a chance to relate directly with the river, and charged the designers with capturing that experience. Setting a conference room at the

edge of the projection and opening it to a seating area to be shared by everyone at the firm, they created a clear, accessible overlook that welcomes the river into the office. For even further openness, they eliminated several solid doors, an idea they credit to the client. The finished space is “supremely edited, an oasis,” jurors said. “It’s spacious, but with meaningful gestures. You’re not left out there swimming in excess spaciousness.”



Photo by Christopher Barrett Photography

CITATION OF MERIT

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
RICHARD J. DALEY LIBRARY IDEA COMMONS, CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: David Woodhouse Architects

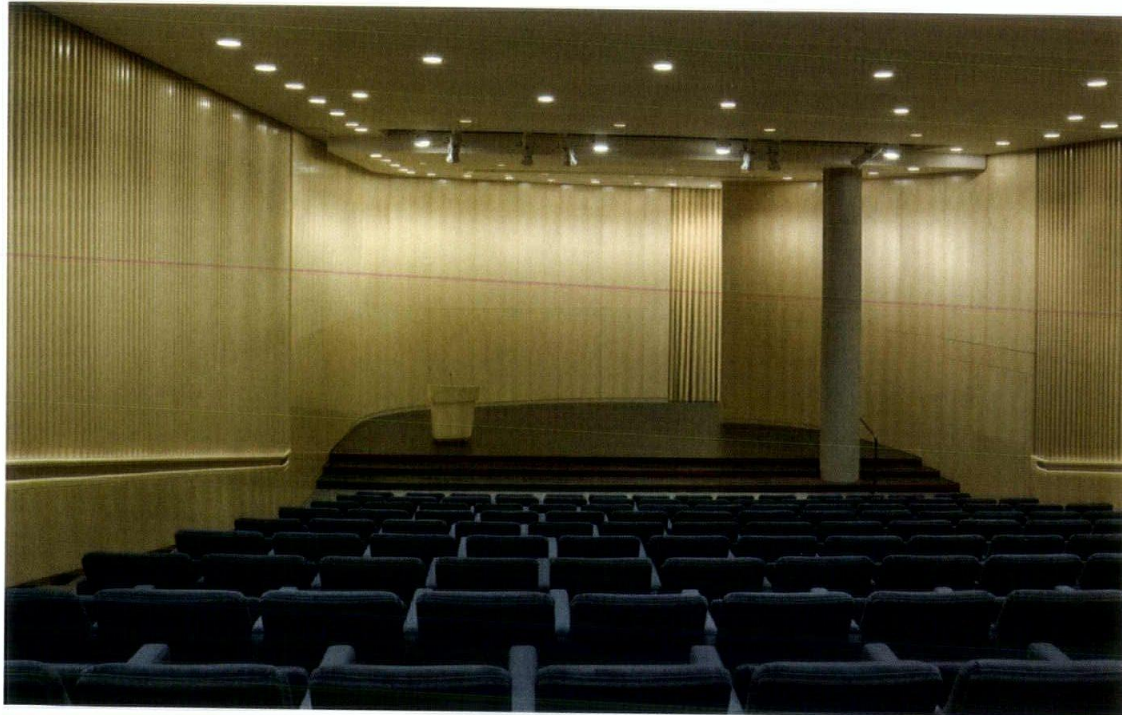
CLIENT: Board of Trustees of University of Illinois

CONTRACTOR: Joseph Construction

CONSULTANTS: dbHMS Design Build Engineering, C E Anderson & Associates, Schuler Shook, Construction Cost Systems

Simultaneously high-tech and high-touch, the new commons area tucked within Walter Netsch’s 1965 library for this urban campus is bright, contemporary and invigorating. The 15,000-square-foot space contains an array of furniture types, from single-user tables to booths with banquettes, in lounges, classrooms, performance spaces and other modules. The materials, lighting and multiple configurations “soften and balance the really strong, harsh architecture,” a juror said. “It tames the concrete.” The stainless steel screen and the “lovely, respectful layer of light added to the concrete beams” suggest techniques for “complementing other Brutalist works around the country.”

Photography by William Zbaren



ARCHITECT:

Krueck + Sexton Architects

CLIENT: Shure Incorporated

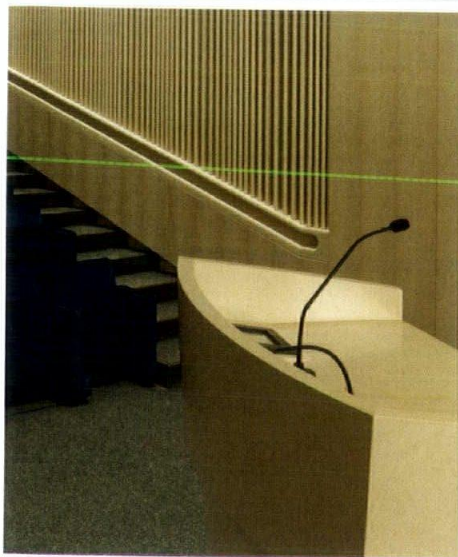
CONTRACTOR:

Clune Construction

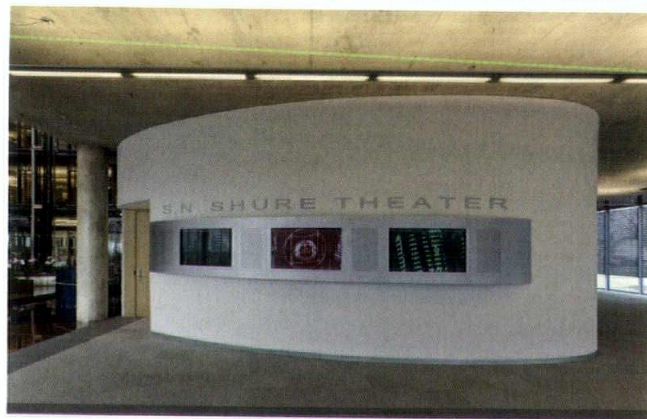
CONSULTANTS:

Threshold Acoustics, TGRWA, CCJM Engineers, Schuler Shook

A 142-seat theater commissioned by the venerable maker of microphones and other audio equipment to honor the man who founded the company 87 years ago, this space is "all about the sound," observed one juror, "so they keep the visual simple and soothing to let you focus on what you're hearing." The engineering elements, including super-sophisticated acoustical and audio technology, are all seamlessly tucked into a warm, embracing space. "A lot of what's successful about it is unseen, or at least not something you'd notice," a juror said, highlighting the attractive English sycamore fins and panels that look fixed but are in fact operable, manipulated as tuning forks for the entire space. A stretched fabric ceiling contains recessed lighting and conceals what the designers called "visual discontinuity" between the requisite absorptive and reflective materials above it. Jurors applauded the designers' star-quality performance.



HONOR AWARD
S. N. SHURE THEATER
NILES, IL



ARCHITECT: SmithGroupJJR

CLIENT: Astellas US

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT:

Goettsch Partners

CONTRACTOR: Power Construction

CITATION OF MERIT

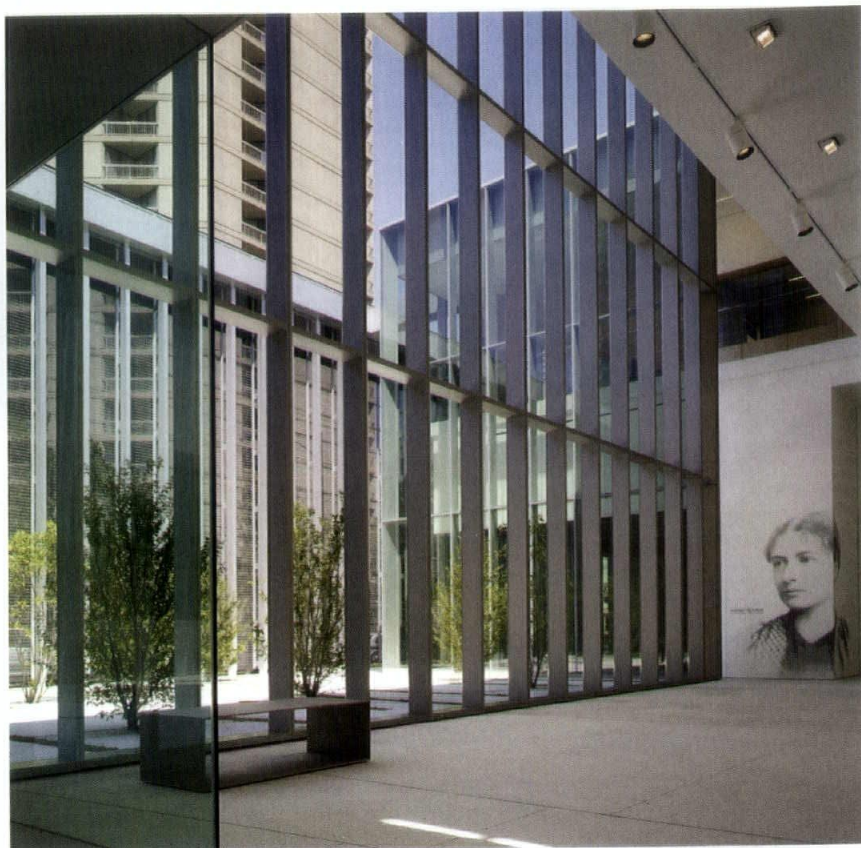
ASTELLAS US
NORTH AMERICAN
HEADQUARTERS
GLENVIEW, IL

"I don't know if I'm in a hotel or an office building," a juror said appreciatively of this corporate project, the headquarters of a pharmaceutical company. Adjacent to the lobby is a 20,000-square-foot, two-story conference center. The brightness and luxury of these public spaces "blur the boundaries of where you are," and once in the workspaces, "there's a cohesiveness of attitude. It's part spa, part office." Jurors also complimented the way the interior design follows through with the bold concept of the paired buildings' architecture.



Photo by Christopher Barrett Photography

Photography by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing



HONOR AWARD
THE POETRY FOUNDATION
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: John Ronan Architects

CLIENT: The Poetry Foundation

CONTRACTOR: Norcon

CONSULTANTS: U.S. Equities Realty, Arup, dbHMS, Charter Sills, Threshold Acoustics LLC

"It's timeless, tranquil and serene," jurors said of this literary group's acclaimed new home. They were taken by its "amazing use of natural light" and "simple palette of materials." While the designers listed zinc, glass and wood, the jurors felt that the adroit placement of shelving suggests that books—and the texture they provide—belonged on that list as well. "It glorifies the beauty of the books," one said. The spatial and material layering creates a cohesion that one juror compared to a carefully crafted piece of poetry. Walking through the sequential spaces from outdoors through an enclosed garden to indoors captures the experience of piercing and apprehending a writer's creation, they said. And like a respected piece of verse, they said, it says a lot with a few gestures. One juror said that the project "has an elegance that's undeniable."



Photo by JGMA

CITATION OF MERIT
INSTITUTO HEALTH SCIENCES
CAREER ACADEMY
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: JGMA

CLIENT: Instituto del Progreso Latino

CONTRACTOR: McShane Construction

"I wish every high school in the country did as much with paint and epoxy as these guys do," a juror said of the dynamic interior of a formerly abandoned building that found new life as a school for students headed into careers as doctors, nurses and bio-technicians. Each of the building's four levels has a distinct theme in its color, furniture and graphics. It's most pronounced in the corridors, not only for wayfinding but to promote fun and energy in students' informal interactions. The transformation from vacancy to what they called "a fresh and logical space" dazzled the jury.

Photo by Michael Robinson



CITATION OF MERIT
 YMCA OF THE USA
 CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT:

Gary Lee Partners

ARCHITECT OF RECORD:

Vincent Lynn & Lee

CLIENT: YMCA of the USA

CONTRACTOR:

Clune Construction

CONSULTANTS:

ESD, U.S. Equities Realty

A move to a new headquarters space, contemporaneous with a fresh, energetic identity program, spawned a vibrant design for this venerable institution. The space had to accommodate frequent use by visitor groups of various sizes and support both fundraising and education activities. The designers' confident use of color, graphics natural light signaled to the jurors that "this is a team that knew how to bring out exceptional freshness and beauty within a budget." The space has a "pan-generational, all demographics appeal to it, and anyone would be comfortable working here." There's a "crisp, contemporary feel that refreshes the image of this brand."

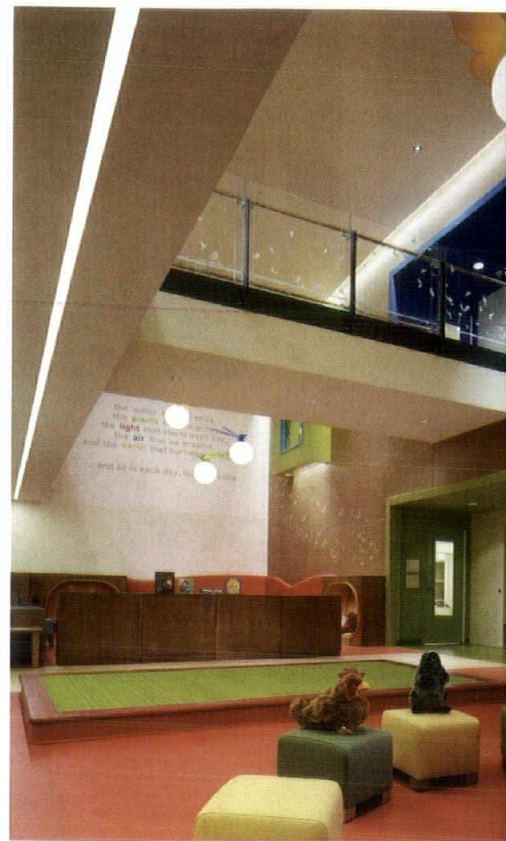


Photo by Mariusz Mizera Photography

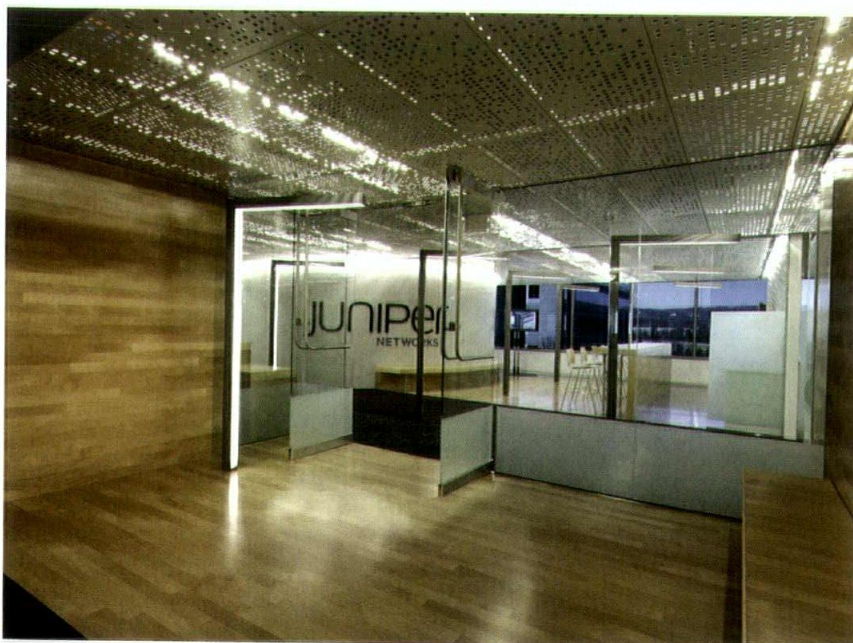


Photo by Matt Wargo

CITATION OF MERIT
 OPEN LAB: JUNOS CENTER FOR INNOVATION
 BRIDGEWATER, NJ

ARCHITECT: Valerio Dewalt Train Associates

CLIENT: Juniper Networks

CONTRACTOR: SJP Properties

CONSULTANTS: WB Engineers Consultants, Thornton Tomasetti

For a look at just how open and collaborative offices can feel today, drop by this 15,000-square-foot installation. Strong wood volumes delineate zones for welcome and leisure, glass walls create spatial buffers, and graphic films produce various levels of transparency within the office environment. "It's something truly different, a genuinely 21st-century space," a juror declared. "There is some brilliant originality here." The use of patterns and a constrained color palette to convey the client's brand identity was deft, jurors said. One described the space as "very cool cyber-modern."

CITATION OF MERIT
BERNICE A. LAVIN
CHILDREN'S CARE
CENTER AND PARKING
GARAGE
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT:

Eckenhoff Saunders Architects

CLIENT:

Northwestern Memorial Hospital

CONTRACTOR:

W. E. O'Neil Construction

CONSULTANTS: V3 Companies,Hitchcock Design Group,
Environmental Systems Design,
Cardosi Kiper Design Group, Walker
Parking, Shiner & Associates,
Schuler Shook

Accommodating 320 kids in one childcare center posed the challenge of working on a large scale while accommodating pint-sized users. The designers used four elements—wind, water, earth and sky—to break the facility down into smaller areas that distinguish grade levels and help kids and parents find their "neighborhood." Jurors were fond of "the lighting and the use of color to activate the spaces," they said. The graphic design package that references nature and the outdoor feeling that imbues the two-story atrium make it all "a place that kids are going to enjoy coming to," they said.

Photo by Eric Laignel



SPECIAL RECOGNITION
WHOLE FOODS REGIONAL OFFICES
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: Gensler**CLIENT:** Whole Foods**GENERAL****CONTRACTOR:**

Skender Construction

STRUCTURAL**ENGINEER:**

C.E. Anderson & Assoc.

MEP ENGINEER:

McGuire Engineer

WOODWORK:

Wm Huber

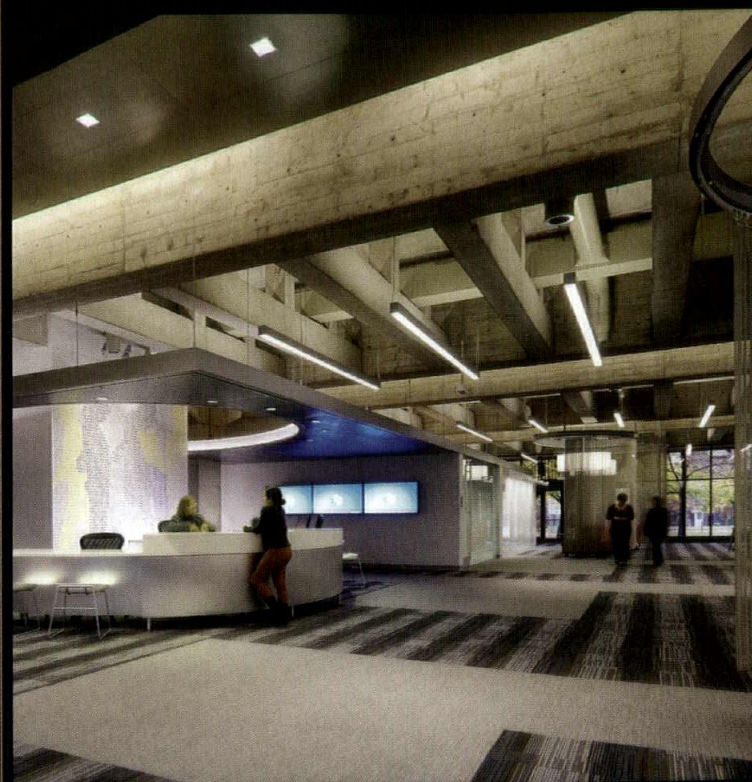
Cabinet Works

ACOUSTICAL:

Shen Milsom Wilke

The mission of Whole Foods is visible throughout its stores, via the healthful product line. For new regional offices here, the designers aimed to make the mission just as conspicuous. Jurors appreciated "the clarity with which the idea was executed." The unforced use of recycled wood, the color palette and such features as community lunch table "speak very strongly to their branding. It brings you out of an office tower and into the company's culture pretty quickly," a juror said. They felt that employees working here would not feel remote from the stores but experience an integral connection. The jury awarded special recognition for branding.

BRUTAL MADE BEAUTIFUL



University of Illinois at Chicago - Richard J. Daley Library

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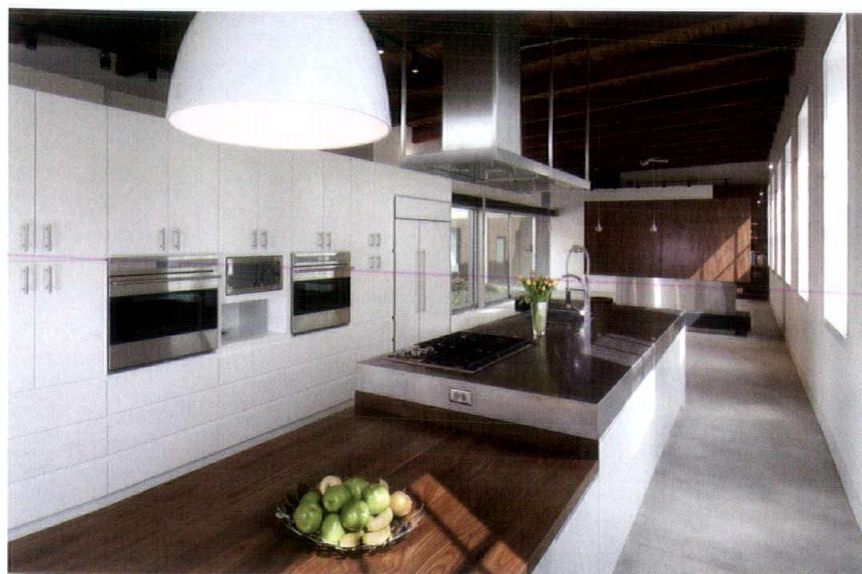


Photo by Tricia Koning

SPECIAL RECOGNITION
CORNELIA RESIDENCE
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: Wilkinson Design Corporation
CLIENT: Tom and Holly Carr
CONTRACTOR: Benchdog Construction

Adapting a derelict single-story industrial building into a home for a family of four, the architects carved out a central courtyard, providing privacy on a site that is otherwise seen by thousands daily as they pass by on two train lines. "The courtyard house is the oldest idea in the world," a juror said, "but for this use, it feels new, like it came directly out of the client's needs." While it creates privacy and safety, another said, "you can imagine it's also a fun place for the family." Jurors gave the project special recognition for adaptive reuse.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION
LOUIS ANCEL HOUSE RESTORATION
GLENCOE, IL

ARCHITECT: Becker Architects
CLIENT: Ellen and David Muslin
CONTRACTOR:
Eriksen Armstrong
CONSULTANTS: J.A. Martin
Services, Lighting By Design,
Benjamin Historic Certifications,
Barron & Stoll Interior Design



Photo by Darris Lee Harris

A 1961 design by architect Edward Dart for a blufftop site in Glencoe, the Louis and Harriet Ancel house sat empty and awaiting demolition in 2007, with maintenance long deferred and longtime water infiltration from a design flaw in the living room's clerestory. New owners commissioned an extensive and meticulous restoration of the home, with a new kitchen addition occupying the footprint of an earlier sunporch addition. "They kept the new kitchen within the original context," said a juror. "It really works." The jury awarded the project special recognition for rehabilitation. "It's exciting to see things like this being saved," said a juror.

**INTERIOR
ARCHITECTURE
AWARD JURY**

Diana M.H. Brenner,
FAIA, IIDA, LEED AP
Brenner Design

Andre Kikoski, AIA,
LEED AP
Andre Kikoski Architect
New York

Farid Tamjidi
Garcia Tamjidi
Architecture Design
San Francisco

SPECIAL RECOGNITION
ANTRON 2011 NEOCON
RESOURCE CENTER
CHICAGO

ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will
CLIENT: Invista
CONSULTANTS: Float4 Interactive, N'Dio

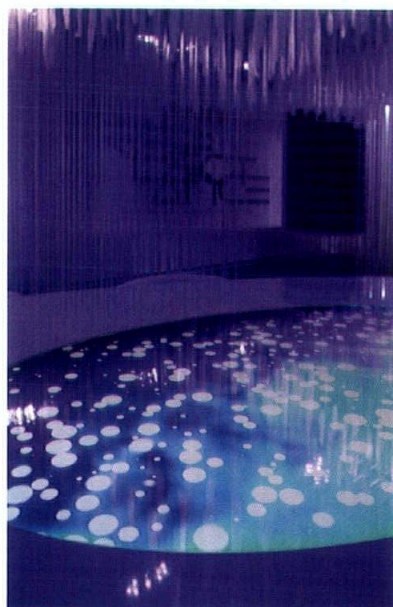
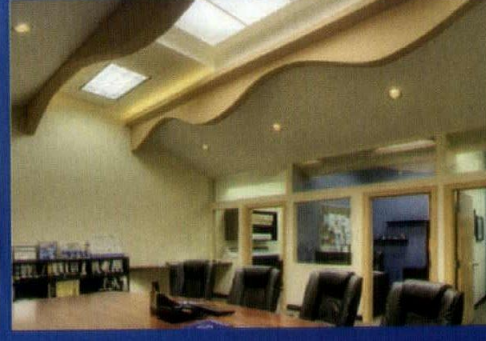
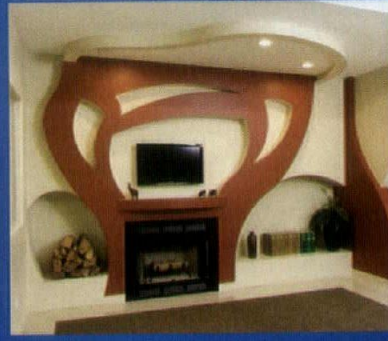
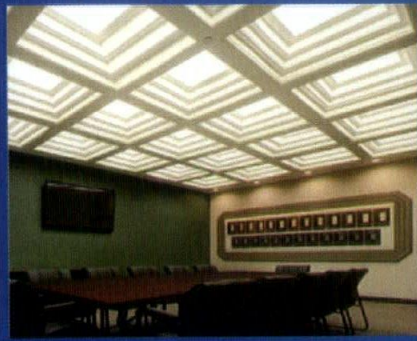


Photo by Colby Kidd, The Right Exposure

An adaptable, modular framework lets Antron transform its space each year at NeoCon time. For 2011, the concept was "In the Fiber," the goal being to make the fibers in Antron's products into a tangible, relatable component of the experience in the resource center. To encourage visitors' interaction with the fiber—without making them get down on the floor—the exhibit space had more than 900 miles of it on the walls, sculpting and enveloping the space. A changing lightscape enhanced the interactivity by making an already surprising look evolve. Jurors awarded the project special recognition for its creative concept.

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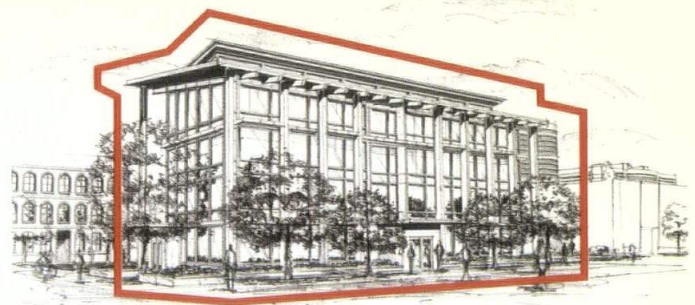
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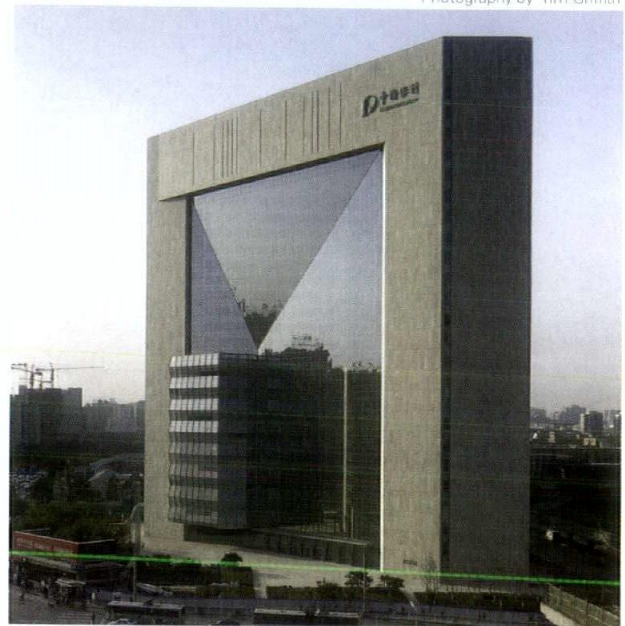
*While a customer can complete the document electronically, there is limited editing capability, and the document is meant to be shared in hard copy.

AIA Chicago established the Divine Detail Award in 1991 to recognize an instance in which the expression of architectural theory becomes an artistic medium, defining the relationship between architecture and craft. The detail should illustrate or illuminate the governing design concept of the building in which the detail is found, through material, design components or technology.

Projects are eligible if they were completed between May 1, 2007 and May 1, 2012. Projects must be designed by Chicago-area architects or be located in Chicago. The winners and all submissions can be viewed at aiachicago.org.

DIVINE DETAIL AWARDS

Photography by Tim Griffith



HONOR AWARD
THE ROCKER, POLY CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS
BEIJING, CHINA

ARCHITECT + STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS:

Skidmore, Owings and Merrill LLP

CLIENT: Beijing New Poly Plaza Real Estate Company

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: China State Construction Engineering Corporation

CONSULTANTS: Flack + Kurtz, SWA Group, Shen, Milsom & Wilke Inc., Edgett Williams Consulting Group Inc., CS Caulkins Co., CMS Collaborative

The jurors praised The Rocker—a boldly engineered device that resolved the complex structural forces of a dramatically suspended eight-story, lantern-like museum and the world's largest cable-net curtain wall. "This really is just a marvelous idea," said one juror, while another stated that "as a detail, it's pretty amazing." On the northeast façade of a 22-story office building, two large diagonal cables run along the faceted façade's fold lines to support the 295-foot-high by 223-foot-wide glass wall, while the suspended museum acts as a counterweight. The Rocker acts as a "reverse pulley," withstanding movement from wind and earthquakes without significantly increasing the forces in the cables. The space houses a museum, and the unobstructed openings created by The Rocker enhance daylighting and wonderful views while creating a defining building detail. "It's a great detail and it actually has a reason," commented another juror.

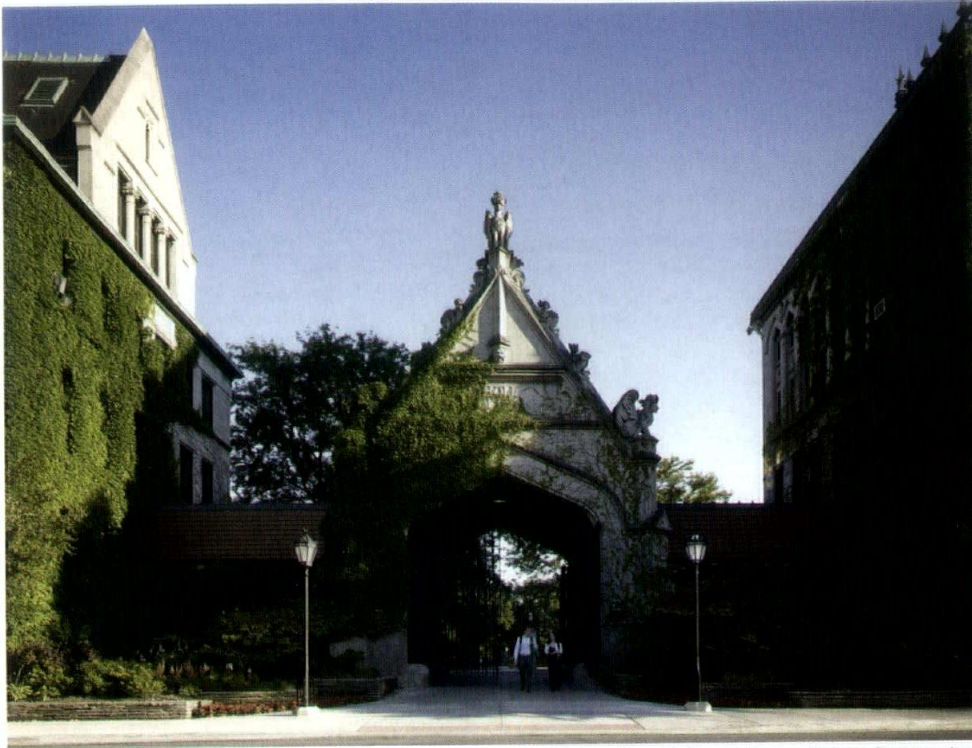


Photo by Scott McDonald, Hedrich Blessing Photographers

CITATION OF MERIT
COBB GATE RENOVATION
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT: LCM Architects

CLIENT: University of Chicago

CONTRACTOR: Berglund Construction

CONSULTANTS: Rise Group, HOH Engineers Inc.

Built in 1900, Cobb Gate was a gift to the University of Chicago from architect Henry Ives Cobb, FAIA, and is considered by many to be the university's main entrance. The jury had high regard for the restoration, with one juror saying, "Somebody really rolled up [their] sleeves and figured out how to make something this important work." A renovation was required because the walking slope through the gate exceeded permissible accessible slopes. Revising the path required lowering of the roof and floor of an underground tunnel, and detailed analysis of both north-south slopes and east-west slopes to meet requirements and existing walks. The restoration of the gate was completed with a redesign of the stone entry steps and iron handrails, restoration of the original iron gates, new limestone panels to cover rubble foundation and the detailing of new stonework. Another juror noted that "someone may pass through and not even notice" the restoration and that the firm was "elegant in their subtlety."



Photo by Kate Joyce, Hedrich Blessing Photographers

CITATION OF MERIT
CHICAGO RIVERWALK CANOPY
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Ross Barney Architects

CLIENT: Chicago Department of Transportation

CONTRACTOR: Walsh Construction

CONSULTANTS: Rausch Construction, Colins Engineering

The underbridge canopies of the Chicago Main Branch Riverwalk "essentially make you want to linger there a little more," a juror said. "You usually don't want to hang out under a bridge." The canopies protect pedestrians on the path from overhead debris, funneling it to a catchment area accessible through blind panels in the cladding. Following the shape of the bascule bridges, the canopies catch the light from the river and offer a stunning reflection of the water and passing boats. The canopies are created from stainless steel tiles on a lightweight aluminum core substrate. Tiles are sanded with a multidirectional finish for protection from vandals and for easy repair on the lower portion of the canopy. Polished tiles that give the reflection of the river are placed at a higher level. "Something that is this simple and can do that much for you is ingenious," said one of the jurors.

Photo by Barbara Karant, Karant + Associates, Inc.

CITATION OF MERIT
LECTURE HALL F
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT:

Lothan Van Hook DeStefano Architecture LLC

CLIENT: University of Illinois at Chicago

CONTRACTOR:

Joseph Construction Company

CONSULTANTS:

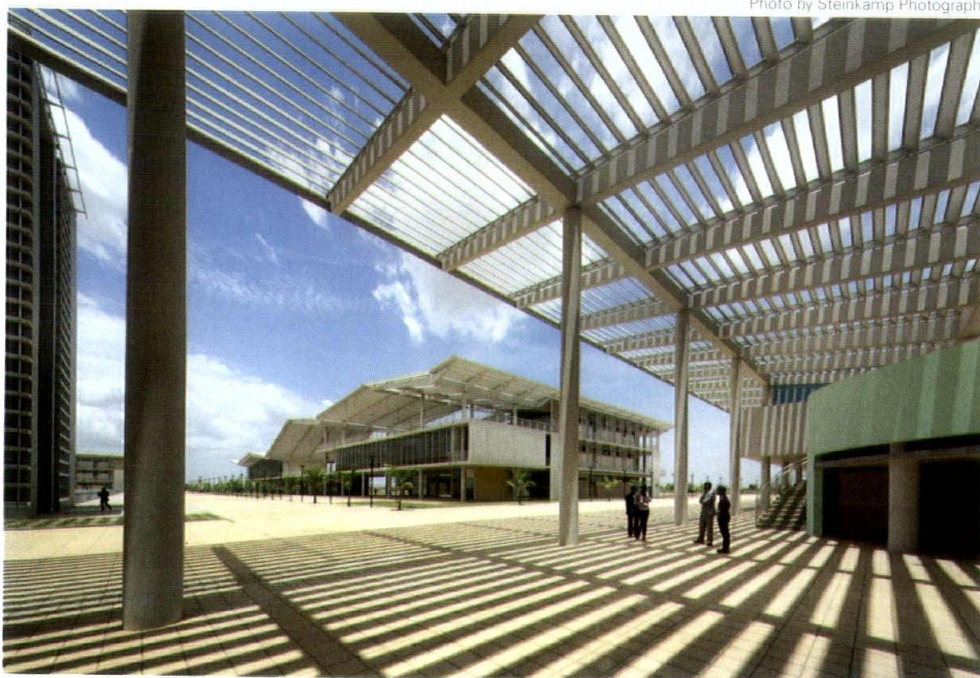
Matrix Engineering, CCJM Engineers Ltd.



The original design of this 50-year-old lecture hall by Walter Netsch, FAIA, was updated to meet contemporary performance standards. The original concrete floors and ceilings, exposed concrete structure and brick walls made it difficult to understand speech and amplified audio-visual presentations. To improve the acoustics, a series of baffles were installed. This addition also added a colorful sculptural element to the rooms. A juror

liked the way the baffles successfully added functional art to the space. And another juror commented that "they really respected the structure." The baffles were computer modeled in 3D to provide both performance analytics and a fabrication model for installation. The components were then designed to be fabricated out of acoustic foam on a computer-driven milling machine from the 3D model.

Photo by Steinkamp Photography



CITATION OF MERIT
UNIVERSIDADE AGOSTINHO NETO ROOF TRELLIS
LUANDA, ANGOLA

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will

CLIENT: Universidade Agostinho Neto

CONTRACTOR: China Jiangsu International Economic Technical Cooperation Corporation

CONSULTANTS: Dar Al-Handasah (Shair and Partners), Battle McCarthy

Using high-tech analysis to produce a low-tech, low-energy building system, this roof trellis shades courtyards and buildings from the sun and promotes cross-ventilation. A computer fluid dynamic analysis was used to calibrate the shapes of the trellis to optimize pressure differentiation and promote natural ventilation. One juror commented that with this design, Perkins+Will is "taking technology and making it elegant and useful." The trellis is made of paint-finished galvanized cold-formed steel components. Z-shaped blades form the shading elements, which sit within C-shaped channels bolted on-site to simplify transportation and erection. Courtyard screen shades incorporate bow-trusses that span 15.5 meters. The trusses are made up of turnbuckles, connections and struts acting in compression and tension.

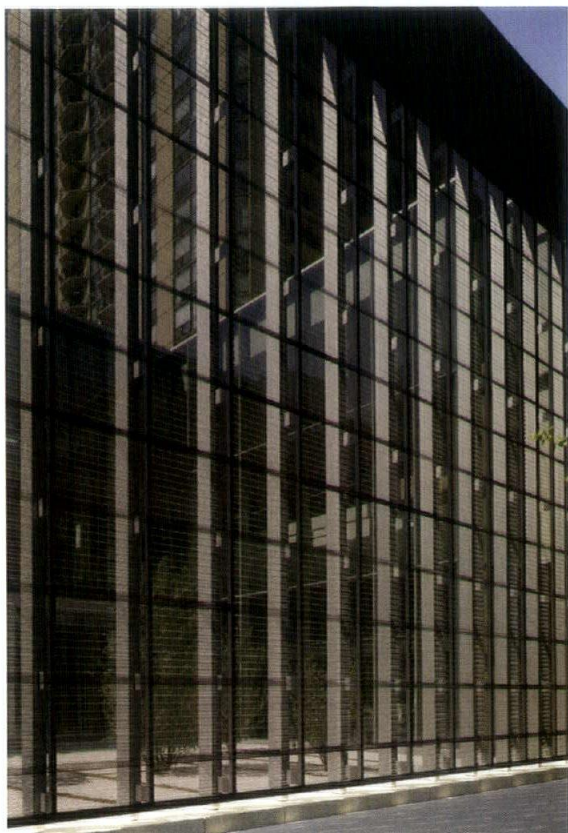


Photo by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing

CITATION OF MERIT
POETRY FOUNDATION
SCREEN WALL
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT:

John Ronan Architects

CLIENT: Poetry Foundation

CONTRACTOR: Norcon Inc.

CONSULTANTS:

U.S. Equities Realty, Arup

The Poetry Foundation's home is conceived as a series of material layers—zinc, glass and wood—that visitors move through to experience the building. "It's very elegant," said a juror. When viewed obliquely, the oxidized zinc screen wall appears opaque and the building monolithic; when viewed frontally, the screen wall becomes more transparent. The screen wall is perforated where it borders the interior garden, inviting passers-by inside. At night, the wall dissolves and the garden becomes visually dominant. Another juror commented that "this screen is integral to the concept of the building."

SPECIAL RECOGNITION
RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
NEW HOSPITAL TOWER TERRARIUM
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will

CLIENT: Rush University Medical Center

CONTRACTOR: Power Jacobs Joint Venture

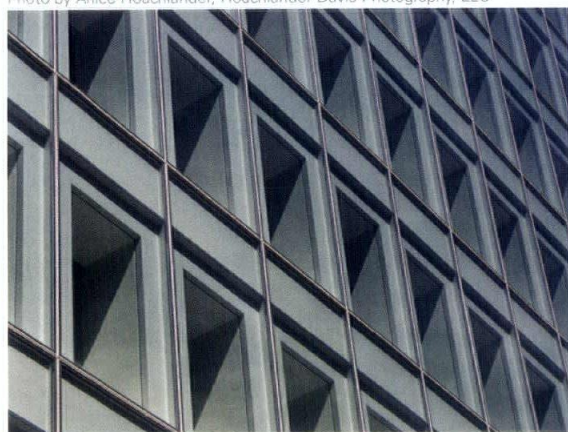
CONSULTANTS: Environmental Systems Design, Thronton Tomasetti, Terra Engineering, Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects

The focal point of the new Rush University Medical Center's entry pavilion is an open-air terrarium. Laminated low-iron glass is curved to fit a freestanding steel pipe frame that spans 50 feet through an aperture in the roof to create a sculptural element inside and on the hospital's Level 4 roof garden. The terrarium also brings significant daylight into the interior of the pavilion. "I found it appealing because I've been in so many of these spaces that are filled with artificial light," said a juror. Though it brings light into the space, studies showed that it would not be sufficient for most plants. Inside the terrarium, the team developed a plant palette based on deep forest environments that changes with the seasons.



Photo by Steinkamp Photography

Photo by Anice Hoachlander, Hoachlander Davis Photography, LLC



SPECIAL RECOGNITION
1730 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

This customized window unit was developed to address a range of issues in an aging 12-story building completed in 1972 that is located just steps away from the White House. The failing façade exposed the structure to severe water damage and put pedestrians below at risk. The special design allowed the building to be occupied during renovation. When it was completed, the new façade increased daylight in the building by several times the old capacity. The façade performance was improved by decreasing air and water infiltration and reducing overall area and exterior joints considerably. A juror commented that with this new window unit, the firm was "able to recycle a major piece of architecture with a simple detail." And another juror said that the added façade was a "new way of thinking."

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Krueck + Sexton Architects

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT: KGD

CLIENT: Tishman Speyer

CONTRACTOR: HITT Contracting

CONSULTANTS: Tadjer Cohen Edelson Associates Inc., Syska Hennessy

**DIVINE DETAIL
AWARD JURY**

Lonn Frye, FAIA
Frye Gillan Molinaro Architects
Chicago

Anne McGuire, AIA, LEED AP
McGuire Iglesias & Associates
Evanston

Enrique Suarez, AIA,
LEED AP BD+C
Harley Ellis Devereaux
Chicago

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2012

SustainABILITY AWARDS

A new Design Excellence Award category in 2012, AIA Chicago established the SustainABILITY Award to promote built and unbuilt work that demonstrates how community building and deep reductions in energy use are essential to good design in the 21st century. The designs should take a holistic approach, creating healthy, aesthetically pleasing environments for users; addressing issues of architectural and natural context; and fostering resource efficiency in both energy and non-energy related areas. Projects or designs are eligible if they were completed between May 1, 2007 and May 1, 2012. Projects must be designed by Chicago-area architects or be located in Chicago. The winners and all submissions can be viewed at aiachicago.org.

Photography by Jonnu Singleton Photography

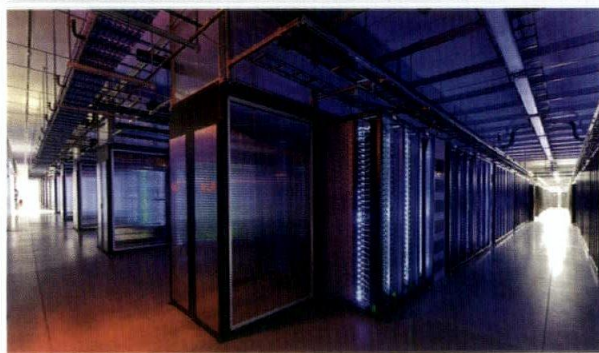


DESIGN ARCHITECT:
Sheehan Partners Ltd.

CLIENT:
Facebook

CONTRACTOR:
DPR/Fortis

CONSULTANTS:
Facebook, AlfaTech, Peoples Associates Structural Engineers, WH Pacific, Brightworks



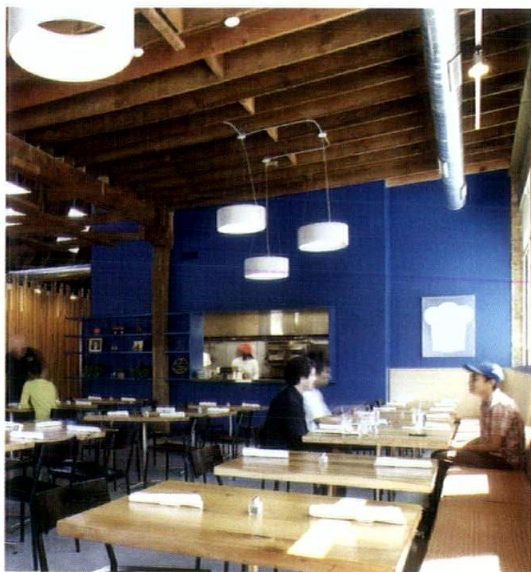
HONOR AWARD
FACEBOOK PRINEVILLE DATA CENTER
PRINEVILLE, OR



"It's pure, it's simple, it's not overwrought and it's beautifully designed," one juror said about the Facebook Prineville Data Center. Designed to be one of the most energy-efficient facilities in the world, the data center houses 100,000 custom servers, expends no energy for mechanical cooling, and is 38 percent more efficient and 24 percent less expensive to build and run than other state-of-the-art data centers. The data center's high efficiency is due to the design of the building's computer equipment room and mechanical penthouse that functions as an occupied air handler,

using the warm exhaust air to heat the office areas. "Using waste heat to provide energy for another part of the building [is] what I find really interesting," another juror said. Energy savings also come from having electricity for servers go through fewer transformations. In an industry where designs are generally kept secret, Facebook has made every aspect of its data center public through OpenCompute.org. Understanding the importance of this, one juror remarked, "They're sharing what they did in order to advance it."

Photography by Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing



HONOR AWARD
INSPIRATION KITCHEN, EAST GARFIELD PARK
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT:

Wheeler Kearns Architects

CLIENT: Inspiration Corporation

CONTRACTOR:

The Heartland Construction Group Inc.

CONSULTANTS: dbHMS, IFF, Thornton Tomasetti, Threshold Acoustics, Wolff Landscape Architecture

An adaptive reuse of an uninhabited 1906 masonry building and the improvement of three vacant lots along an under-developed stretch of Lake Street created Inspiration Kitchen in Chicago's East Garfield Park neighborhood. Energy efficiency was improved by using spray foam insulation to make the existing masonry walls and roof air-tight; and thermally superior acoustic windows and skylights replaced the existing non-insulated units. Solar thermal panels were placed on both of the south-facing slopes of the roof and supply 7 percent of the building's energy needs. The building now houses an 80-seat restaurant that serves more than 3,000 subsidized meals per year to poor working families and market-rate meals to the general public. The catering and training kitchen works as a classroom for 16 students who participate in the 13-week food service training program, and gives administrative space to support the organization's community outreach programs. "It's a really great project," a juror commented. "I like the community aspect."

CITATION OF MERIT
RICHARD J. KLARCHEK INFORMATION
COMMONS, LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Solomon Cordwell Buenz

CLIENT: Loyola University Chicago and President Father Michael Garanzini

CONTRACTOR: Pepper Construction

CONSULTANTS: Halvorson & Partners, Elara Engineering, Transsolar KlimaEngineering, SmithgroupJJR, Chartersills

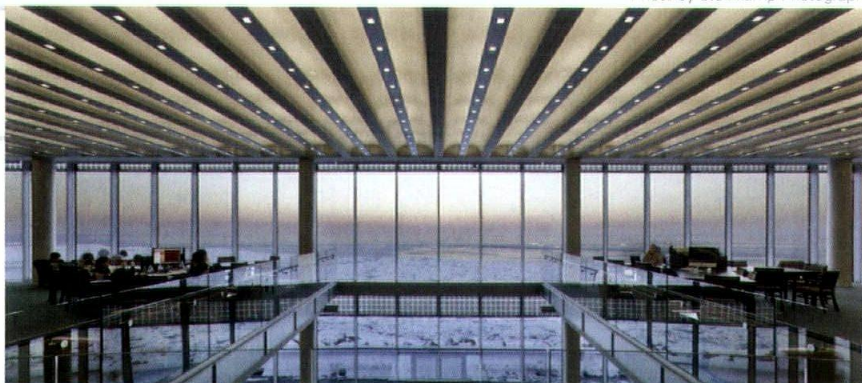


Photo by Steinkamp Photography

The views and the comfort Loyola University's commons offers students make it a popular destination. While enjoying the space, they're probably not thinking about the Building Automation System (BAS) that operates this LEED Silver building at 52 percent below the ASHRAE minimum requirements. One juror commented that the building's design was "clear and simple" and that the plans were "executed nicely." The BAS operates the building's mechanical systems and glazed east and west façades by using a roof-top weather station

that signals automated windows to open to ventilate and cool the interior. A double-skinned west façade draws warm air up and out from the wind, and horizontal blinds—which track the sun's movement—are the west façade's primary shading device. A juror commented that the building is "sited very effectively." When weather is unsuitable, the BAS closes windows and the double-skin cavity. Active radiant concrete ceilings, combined with mechanical under-floor-air ventilate and condition the space.

CITATION OF MERIT

UNIVERSIDADE AGOSTINHO NETO
LUANDA, ANGOLA

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Perkins+Will

CLIENT: Universidade Agostinho Neto

CONTRACTOR:

China Jiangsu International Economic
Technical Cooperation Corporation

CONSULTANTS:

Dar Al-Handasah (Shair and Partners),
Battle McCarthy, Schuler Shook,
Paulien & Associates Inc



Photo by Steinkamp Photography

Perkins+Will created a low-energy, low-maintenance university campus on the outskirts of Luanda, Angola. After reviewing the site's plans, one juror noted "it's a big effort." Classroom buildings are naturally ventilated by using bars in a grid 19 degrees east of the north/south axis. The siting strikes a balance between the ideal solar orientation and the need to maximize natural ventilation by standing perpendicular to prevailing southwest breezes. An undulating louvered roof over the buildings was calibrated through computer fluid dynamics. The roof minimizes solar gain and enhances cross-ventilation by maximizing pressure differentiation—similar to how wings work on an airplane. Due to the site's location at the Equator, the buildings have a layer of sun screening on the north and south elevations. "Clearly there was a lot of technical analysis that was done to generate these forms," said another juror. "And it looks like it must be a pretty nice spot to be in."

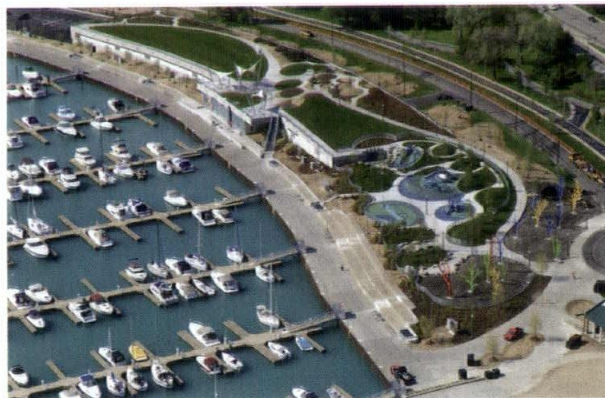


Photo by Scott Stevenson, Executive Vice President,
Westrec Marinas - Chicago Harbors

CITATION OF MERIT
31ST STREET HARBOR
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT: AECOM

CLIENT: Public Building Commission of Chicago and
Chicago Park District

CONTRACTOR: McHugh Construction, F.H.,
Paschen Construction Company

CONSULTANTS: Primera Engineers Ltd., Desman
Associates, Edgewater Resources, Site Design Group
Ltd., Schuler Shook, K2N Crest, Concord Group, Brook
Architecture, Fountain Technologies, Ltd., Ardmore
Associates, Regina Webster & Associates Inc.,
Quercus Consulting

AECOM transformed an underused three-acre portion of the Lake Michigan lakefront into a new public amenity. The project includes three-quarters of an acre of green space on land created by the breakwater and a 63,300-square-foot accessible green roof on a structure that houses a community room. "The idea of occupying that roof was a really nice design move," commented a juror. Another said, "It would be nice to see more buildings that try to integrate like this." Designed to achieve LEED Silver, the harbor services building is heated by a geothermal system that uses 33 percent less energy than ASHRAE standards. The environmental design benefits were enhanced through refrigerant management, low-flow plumbing fixtures—with a 63 percent water savings overall and 40.4 percent savings in building water—and sensed lighting and daylighting in 100 percent of occupied spaces.

Photo by Magda Biernat Photography

CITATION OF MERIT

LINCOLN BUILDING
SYRACUSE, NY

DESIGN ARCHITECT: Brininstool + Lynch

CLIENT:

New West Side Initiative/Syracuse University

CONTRACTOR: Rich & Gardner Construction

CONSULTANTS: Palucci Engineering,
C&S Companies



Brininstool + Lynch's renovation of the Lincoln Building is a prototype for Syracuse University's revitalization goal for its surrounding neighborhood through the Near West Side Initiative. In collaboration with Syracuse University's School of Architecture, the Syracuse Center of Excellence, UPSTATE, consultants and community stakeholders, Brininstool + Lynch redesigned the Lincoln Building to have two floors of commercial space and two floors of live/work space to help promote the neighborhood's

urban vitality. "Clearly the university is taking some stance on advancing these ideas, which is good," commented a juror. To bring the building up-to-date, the renovation included a geothermal heat pump system, green roof, on-site rain gardens and an exterior "green screen" that wraps the existing façade, providing shade for the interior in growing months. "[This] gets a major university to rethink their existing building stock," another juror said.

Image courtesy of Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture

EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The Chicago Loop Decarbonization Plan is a vision for the city to reach the Chicago Climate Action Plan's carbon reduction goals. "The aspirations are enormous," said a juror. "It's such a holistic project and, from a leadership standpoint, it's really strong." For more than three years, Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture has developed strategies by creating synergistic relationships that yield greater carbon saving and lifestyle enhancements than if the plan was implemented separately. Today, the firm continues to move forward with the project. Another juror said of the plan, "Taking the lead on something like this is a daunting task, and here, it is done well."

CITATION OF MERIT
CHICAGO LOOP
DECARBONIZATION PLAN
CHICAGO

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill
Architecture
CLIENT: City of Chicago
CONSULTANTS: Bryan
Cave LLP, Environmental
Systems Design,
Commonwealth Edison



SPECIAL RECOGNITION
IRON STREET FARM
MASTER PLAN
CHICAGO

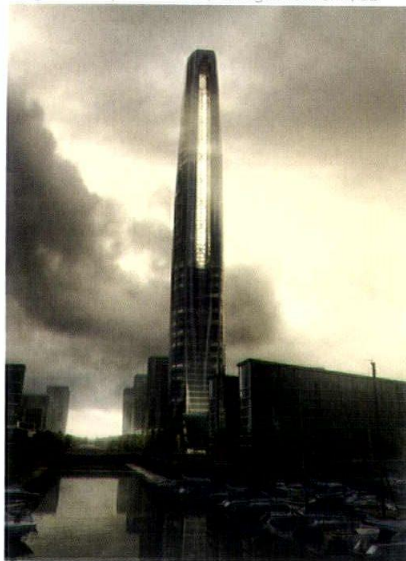
ARCHITECT:
Ross Barney Architects
CLIENT: Growing Power
ARCHITECT:
Ross Barney Architects
CONSULTANTS:
Goodfriend Magruder



Image courtesy of Ross Barney Architects

"It's redefining how we're living in urban areas," a juror said about this facility, which is planned for a seven-acre site bordered by the Chicago River in the Bridgeport neighborhood. Iron Street is designed to be a waste processing, carbon-neutral facility that will produce food year-round, including fresh produce, tilapia and yellow perch, chickens, ducks and other small animals. It will also be a facility for the training and employment of residents and youth. The facility's anaerobic digester is designed to convert organic waste into 29,200 gallons of water, 7.3 million pounds of biogas and 197,100 pounds of compost annually. The digester will produce methane gas that will produce enough electricity and heat for the operation, with surplus energy being sold commercially. The jury recognized the importance of projects like this one. As one juror put it, "[As] world population increases and food production becomes more of an issue, we're almost going to need to revert to more local food production."

Image courtesy of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, LLP



SPECIAL RECOGNITION
SUZHOU CENTER
WUJIANG, CHINA

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP
CLIENT: Greenland Group
CONSULTANTS:
Klimaat Consulting & Innovation

Set for completion in 2016, the 76-story Suzhou Center's top 30 floors will contain apartments and hotel rooms. To increase natural ventilation, the residential floors are organized around an innovative central atrium that acts as the building's "lung." Jurors were pleased that the building's design was based on its performance. Convex primary façades combined with concave short façades are shaped to increase the flow of natural ventilation through the windows on the tower's east and west elevation. A high-performance system of digital controls will meter and direct the flow of air into the atrium by opening and closing windows throughout the building to allow the 1,170-foot-tall tower to "breathe." This system will help the tower achieve a 30 percent reduction from the ASHRAE baseline. Another juror said that the tower was an example of "moving away from building for fashion and moving towards building for purpose."

**SustainABILITY
AWARD JURY**

Cheryl Noel, AIA, LEED AP
Wrap Architecture
Chicago

William Sturm, AIA, LEED AP
Serena Sturm Architects
Chicago

Scott Wolf, FAIA, LEED BD+C
The Miller Hull Partnership
Seattle

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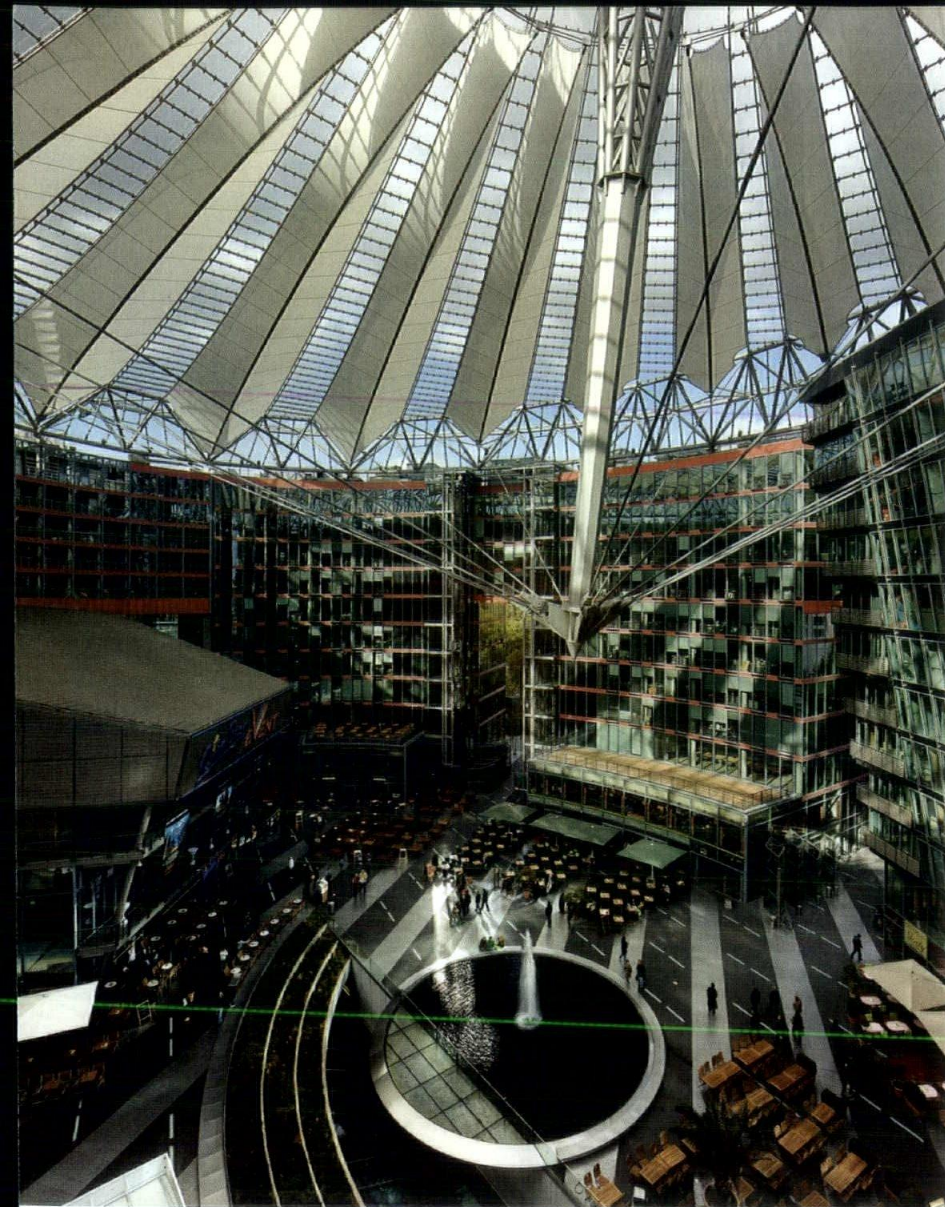
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- + Combining Offsite & Site Construction
- + Does the Offsite Construction Process Equal Green?



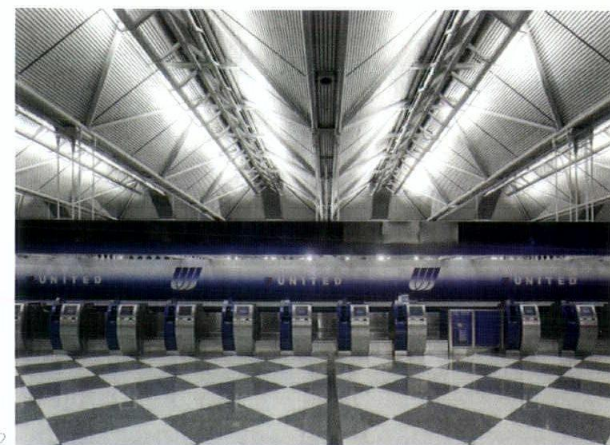
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1



2



3

Jahn's bold use of form, pattern and color are evident in, among many others, these three projects: (1) Sony Center in Berlin, completed in 2000; (2) the United Airlines terminal at O'Hare Airport, completed in 1988; and (3) the Munich Airport Center, completed in 2003.

... Lifetime Achievement Award continued from page 18

condominiums, cafes and restaurants, film theaters and Sony's European headquarters, the center occupies a triangular site in the Potsdamer Platz. It is dominated by a single structure: the Forum, an immense, column-free oval space larger than an American football field. The roof consists of panels that resemble the spokes of a bicycle wheel, held up by cables extending to the edges of the walls. Pertinent to the makeup of the center is the influence of German architect and engineer Werner Sobek, with whom Jahn developed a profitable relationship in 1994. Sobek's specialty, lightweight structures, is apparent in the low weight of the glass in the center.

Back in Chicago, the State Street Village, a group of IIT dormitories built in 2003, was material evidence of Jahn's return to his alma mater after 37 years. The building is composed of three separate structures built adjacently and sharing the same façade. Most prominent from the street is the five-story-high curved façade. At first glance that element would seem distinctly un-Miesian, but an examination of the remainder of the building calls attention to the dominance of vertical and horizontal lines, as well as the generous use of glass. The prodigal son had come home.

In the 21st century, Jahn has designed, exteriorly for the east and China. Among his most successful works is the

Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok, Thailand. An accomplishment loaded with superlatives, the airport measures 6.06 million square feet and boasts the world's tallest free-standing control tower, at 434 feet. The main structure's roof is supported by eight pairs of clustered columns, each holding up a primary truss. Secondary trusses provide protection from the tropical sunlight. In cross-section the building is oval in profile, with scallop-shaped forms creating a translucent membrane.

With a career spanning almost four decades and still moving forward, Helmut Jahn has earned the respect of the international architectural community. **CA**

Franz Schulze is the Betty Jane Hollender Professor of Art, Emeritus, at Lake Forest College. A prolific writer, he has published books on Mies van der Rohe, Philip Johnson and others. His critical biography of Helmut Jahn, Helmut Jahn: Life and Work, is scheduled to be published in Germany in November, and his Mies van der Rohe: A Critical Biography, Expanded Edition (University of Chicago Press), co-authored with Edward Wiedemann, came out this year.



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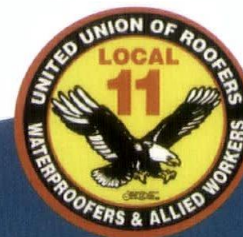
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