

Florida/Caribbean ARCHITECT

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Orlando

FEB 10-12, 2025 //



Industrial Chic



Photo: alanblakely.com

Colorful metal panels mimic signature sculpture

Parc Haven features industrial-style PAC-CLAD Highline B2 metal cladding that references the adjoining train tracks. A punch of colorful Flush panel highlights nod to Symphony Park's Pipe Dream sculpture sited directly across the street.



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Life's better with block



When consumers are starting the home buying journey, construction materials can be an afterthought in the overall planning process. Instead, buyers are more likely focusing on finding a good realtor, researching locations, and affordability — especially in today's real estate market.



However, it is vital for homebuyers to bring the construction material discussion to the forefront with their realtors, designers, and builders so they can discuss the benefits, value and beauty of a concrete block home. It is important that homebuyer and builder alike understand and evaluate the differences in concrete block construction and other materials, such as:

- How concrete block can help homeowners conserve energy due to the material's thermal mass, which is the ability to absorb and store heat energy.
- How concrete block has been proven to help prevent mold because the material has no organic properties for it to grow and block acts as an air and water-tight seal against the humid and damp elements that promote mold growth.
- Why during a fire, concrete block houses and apartment buildings are likely to remain standing and slow the spread of fire throughout a home.
- The ability of concrete block to retain its strength against winds up to 250 mph – crucial during hurricane season – making the construction material a practical choice to adhere to the codes.
- How termites and other pests, which cause extensive damage to homes not constructed with concrete block, are a nonfactor with concrete block construction.



Whether building a custom home or a production home, concrete block is one of the easiest and most versatile construction materials to use in the design. Block comes in a variety of shapes, sizes, colors, and finishes to match the latest in design and style. From the smoothest curves to the most intricate of design features nothing is “off the table” when it comes to concrete block — even the table itself.

Multifamily Professionals

Multifamily developers can also reap the benefits of concrete block without sacrificing speed as they look to make sound investment decisions for their apartment building projects. Advanced staging techniques, shell contractor processes, and local sourcing have significantly trimmed the time it takes to build with concrete block.

Another important factor that multifamily developers — and even apartment hunters — need to consider is noise reduction. Concrete walls can greatly cut down on excessive noise, both from the outside and between apartments — one of the top three tenant complaints. Block reflects noise from the outside, insulates from sound moving through walls, and isolates sound from coming out. Not only can this benefit help reduce noise complaints to the building owner or management, but it cannot be matched by other building materials. Living in an apartment not constructed with block means sharing with your neighbors. When a fire breaks out in one apartment many others are affected either by the fire itself or from smoke and water damage — some things just weren't meant to be shared.



About Block Strong and BlockStrong.com

Block Strong is a partnership between Florida Concrete & Products Association, Inc. and Florida Concrete Masonry Education Council, Inc. The awareness program's primary mission is to help consumers, construction professionals and designers understand the vital link between quality building materials and the health and safety of those people living in the homes and structures that they design and build. Block Strong also serves as an information source for aiding prospective homebuyers as they go through the various steps of the home-buying journey.

To learn more about the benefits of concrete block, homebuyers, designers, and builders can visit BlockStrong.com. This site's extensive list of information and resources includes an interactive storm tracker feature that provides real time radar imagery, which is especially beneficial during Florida's unpredictable rainy season. Plus, mortgage and mold mitigation calculators allow visitors to customize their search to their specific buying journey.



In This Issue



The Design and Honor Awards celebrates the best in design from architects based in Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The honor awards recognize members and others who have served the profession and the association. This year's program saw a record number of registrations. The jury reviewed each project submitted. This year's jurors were based in Seoul, South Korea. Their thoughtful evaluation proves that good design is universal, transcending language and cultural differences. The awards were presented on July 20 at The Breakers in Palm Beach.



**The American
 Institute
 of Architects**



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AIA Florida

Florida/Caribbean ARCHITECT

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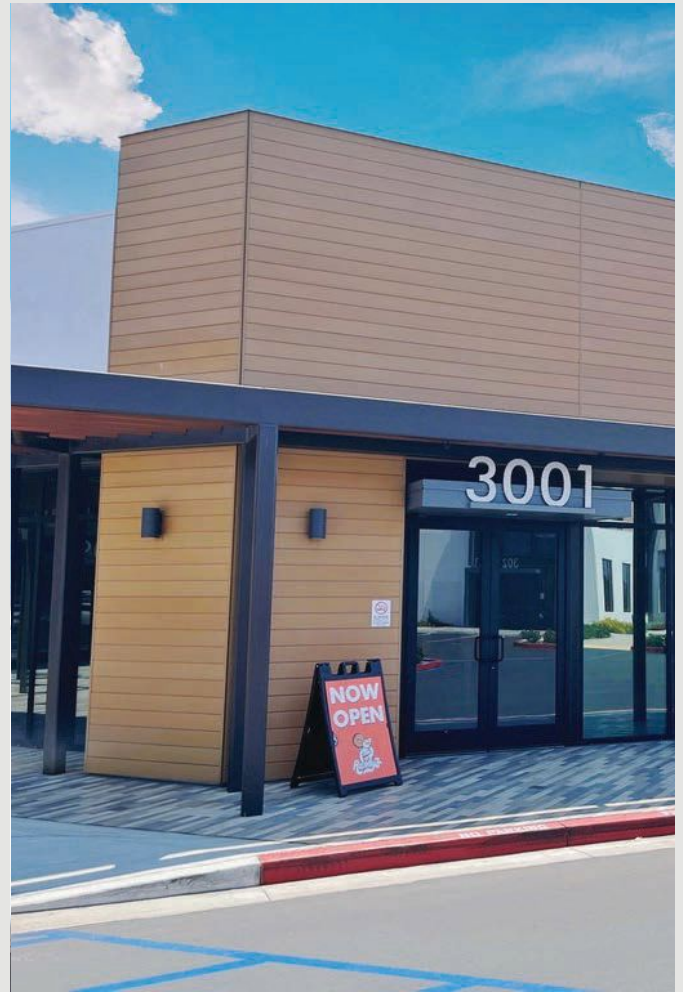
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RESYSTA In Comparison To Wood

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Photo: © Michael Robinson



"I was filled with pride again while recognizing and celebrating the work and accomplishments of our members at the Design and Honor Awards ceremony."

President's Perspective

Rhonda Hammond, AIA

Before the term of my presidency formally began this year, I started on a journey to develop a theme for convention. I thought about how I could best serve and represent our membership and what I wanted to communicate to the public while I had this opportunity. The idea took shape to share what we all know as a profession, but sometimes do not always express — why architecture matters. This idea has become my north star during my presidency, impacting themes, prioritizing issues and advocating with this as my guiding principle.

During Legislative Day in January, we used this theme to articulate to lawmakers at the Capitol in Tallahassee the importance and passion of what we do and what we can contribute to the community as problem solvers and stewards of the health and safety of the built environment. We flooded the halls and met with our representatives and senators advocating for the issues, and protection, of our profession and brought these same messages to our national representation in Washington D.C. at the AIA Leadership Summit.

In the spring, I had the privilege of accompanying immediate past president Beverly Frank, AIA, who brought together this year's jury, to Seoul, South Korea. We proudly shared the work of our members from Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands for consideration to be selected as design award recipients with an esteemed jury of experts. I was greeted by buildings, hundreds of years old, which served as testaments of the resilience of the South Korean people and their built environment. We spent two full days pouring over and marveling at the work of our fellow architects, with architecture sometimes the only fluent medium amongst us all, and the theme became resolute — architecture matters.

We had a few ambitious goals in mind during convention planning. We wanted to

provide attendees with a variety of engaging content they could take back with them and implement in their practices and lives, developed around the themes of work/life balance, advocacy, professional practice and technology as representations of live, work, play. I am happy to say that through the dedication of a stellar convention planning committee, the AIA Florida staff, advisors and volunteers, I believe we accomplished this. We filled The Breakers Palm Beach with a record-breaking number of 870 architects, associates, students, guests and members from the architecture and design community.

I was filled with pride again while recognizing and celebrating the work and accomplishments of our members at the Design and Honor Awards ceremony. As you read about the recipients and their projects in this issue, I think you will share the same sentiment that I have; the theme of why architecture matters has never been more prevalent as the legacy of great architecture continues to be exemplified in our state.

As I embark on the second half of my presidency, I am filled with humble gratitude. I have had the opportunity to represent and stand up for our community over the past few months, and I feel honored that you have chosen me as your representative. I do not take for granted this opportunity to serve you and work alongside you as the voice of Florida architecture. I still have much left on my to do list, including championing the reasons that brought us to become a part of this great association, and bringing light to education of the next generation of architects through the great Architecture in Education programs of our members. Seeing my colleagues from across the state gathered together at convention reinvigorated me, listening to Paul Goldberger share why architecture matters at the kickoff brought it full circle, and seeing those that have been elected to serve in the coming years, fills me with hope. The future is bright.

Tide Academy

Menlo Park, CA
LPA Design Studios

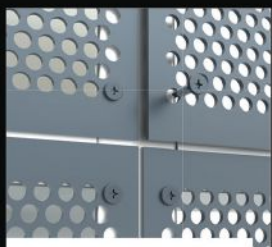


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Los Angeles Valley
College Monarch Center
Valley Glen, Calif.
2017 IDEAS² National Award
photo: Costea Photography, Inc.

2024 AIA Florida Design Awards Jury



**Gibson Rhie, KIRA, LEED AP,
Chair of International Relations
Committee, Korea Institute
of Registered Architects and
Executive Director of SAMOO
Architects and Engineers
Jury Chair**

Gibson is a leading figure in advancing Korean architecture to the global stage. His projects deal with sensitive social and climate issues while achieving design excellence. Notable works include: the Embassy of the state of Kuwait in Korea, D-Palace, Kenya Advanced Institute of Technology and affordable housing in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.



**Yongkyo Jeong, KIRA, LEED AP,
CEO and President,
Junglim Architecture**

Yongkyo Jeong, KIRA, is the CEO and president of Junglim Architecture, one of the largest architectural design practices in Korea that offers comprehensive design services throughout the world. His portfolio covers many regions including China and Africa, as well as Korea. Some of his notable works include the Korea Chamber of Commerce & Industry Headquarters, the STX Headquarters in Dalian, China, and the JW Marriott in Tripoli, Libya.



**Jin Baek, Professor,
Seoul National University**

Jin Baek is a renowned researcher and professor of architecture at Seoul National University. He has served as a juror in many international and domestic competitions and served as advisor to many government committees. He has published books and articles on architectural theory and history including, *Nothingness: Tadao Ando's Christian*



Sacred Space (Routledge, 2009) and *Architecture as the Ethics of Climate* (Routledge, 2016).

**Jeongim Kim, Principal,
Seoro Architects**

Jeongim Kim has worked on various scales such as master plan, architectural design and interior design. Her scope covers diversified project types from residential to corporate. She has served as a jury member in many competitions and award programs and is the recipient of awards including the Seoul Architecture Award, Jeju Island Architectural and Cultural Award (Grand prize), TSK Fellowship Award and Korean Architecture Award. Kim has also served as the general architect of the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education's "Classroom Making Project with Dreams," as a public architect of Seoul, and as a national architectural policy committee member.

**Jongdae (Jaydi) Park, Principal of
JEJEHAAP Architects**

Jaydi (Jongdae) Park is currently operating JEJEHAAP architectural studio in Seoul. Prior to this co-founded studio, he worked in Samoo Architects and Engineers for 18 years including overseas experience in southeast Asia and mainly led several design competition projects, Kia Red Dot Design Awards and SK Bioscience Campus. Recently, he won the International Idea Competition for Jamsil Bridge (Seoul) Pedestrianisation (2023) and won the third prize for the International Competition for the Seoul Metropolitan City Library (2023). He obtained his master degree in Architectural Design from Bartlett School, UCL. He believes in the value of interaction between narratives and new technologies in architecture.



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2024 Design Award Recipients

Award of Excellence New Work



Basecamp305 Primary School Honor Award

Miami Beach, Florida
Shulman + Associates – Design Architect
& Interior Designer | Ryan Alderman
Architect – Architect of Record

This new primary school campus revitalizes a historic site, restoring its educational purpose with a contemporary touch. It retains major structures and courtyards and removes the façades that were added in a 1980s renovation in favor of elements more typical of the 1920s in a contemporary configuration. A clerestory and trellis roof emphasize its street presence while updates to the 1937 garage reflect its adaptive use, celebrating the original intent in a contextual and appropriate design. The jury thought the architect put a lot of patience and perseverance into this project, noting the use of raw materials encourages creativity and the skyline and section make an interesting space children will love.



Durango Cabin Honor Award Mineral County, Colorado (Fabricated in Miami, Florida) Brillhart Architecture

The owner requested prefabricated cabins for a remote Colorado mountain location along the San Juan River. The conceptual design centered on living in the landscape and was developed through a natural material palette designed to blend into the site's surroundings. Large window openings and a front porch act as an extension to the living room that allows one to live inside and out. Leveraging transportation efficiencies while maximizing space, these cabins are designed in two parts: the roof structure and the walls and interior space and foundation, transported separately on standard trailers and assembled on site. The jury called the project a great achievement with the philosophy deeply resonating — sustainable, beautiful aloneness, small, but beautiful.





Photos by Seamus Payne



Judy Genshaft Honors College USF

Honor Award

Tampa, Florida

Morphosis – Design Architect

FleischmanGarciaMaslowski

Architecture – Executive Architect

The new six-story Honors College facility fosters interdisciplinary creativity and conversation across the arts, sciences, and humanities. Designed for collaboration, it features a transparent ground floor for communal gatherings, meeting spaces and an atrium connecting all users, creating an inspiring environment for discovery and discussion. The jury liked the use of daylight and screening and appreciated the diverse façade, sharing that although the materials used are different from one another, they all speak a similar language. "Unification was achieved in this project."



Photos by Robin Hill



Jackson West Medical Center

Honor Award

Doral, Florida

Perkins&Will

The Jackson West Medical Center redefines healthcare, serving as a civic and community hub. Designed for flexibility and future expansion, the campus includes an emergency department, imaging services, lab, pharmacy and more. The campus is supported by an 875-car parking facility and includes an ambulatory care clinic and a support building with essential services. The jury thought the project was sensitively approached and maximized the potential of the site, appreciating the stretching of the massing along the water, since seeing the water is an important part of the healing process for a patient.



Nora Patterson Bay Island Park Restroom Pavilion

Honor Award

Siesta Key, Florida

Seibert Architects

Guy Peterson | OFA –

Conceptual Designer

This two-acre bayfront park offers 270-degree water views and is popular with fishermen, boaters, cyclists and picnickers. The addition of a restroom facility was needed to enhance the usability of the park. The park's location in a flood zone and accessibility requirements necessitated that the structure be elevated and that an access ramp be provided. Positioned to retain existing trees and accessible parking, the structure features durable materials like concrete and anodized aluminum, minimizing maintenance and blending seamlessly into the waterfront setting. The jury called the project "well-articulated and attractive." It was designed to be more than just a restroom, providing a place people can gather. It became a destination.



Photos by Ryan Gamma



Photos by Brooks + Scarpa

Steeplechase House

Honor Award

Hillsborough, North Carolina

Brooks + Scarpa with Tonic Design and Construction

This architectural project embodies a long-standing collaboration between a renowned film director and their trusted architect, reuniting to create a tranquil retreat near Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. Nestled on a wooded 65-acre site, the house blends seamlessly into the natural surroundings, featuring double gable roofs and expansive glass walls that invite the forest inside. Organized around two open gabled volumes, the design fosters a sense of connection and spaciousness. Customized elements and thoughtful details enhance the residents' unique lifestyle. This home not only offers a serene haven but also serves as a place for living, working and embracing the beauty of nature. The jury said it was sophisticated and articulate, showing a mastery of design harmony with nature: between the built and the unbuilt.





Photos by Seamus Payne

USF Research Park 3814 Spectrum

Honor Award
Tampa, Florida
Gensler

The University of South Florida's new facility aims to elevate its research program. The building, located at a prime intersection near USF's main entrance, features a precast façade and distinct user experiences on each side. Adaptable lab and office spaces, abundant natural light and a rooftop deck embody USF's spirit of innovation and community engagement. The jury thought the project had a good sense of balance and liked that the lower level communicates with the pedestrians on a human scale, while the upper level was exaggerated to be seen from street view.

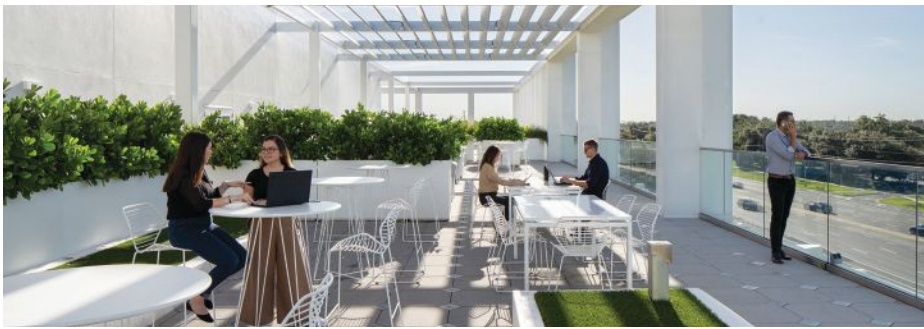


Photo by Ron Blunt Architectural Photography

360 Rosemary

Merit Award
West Palm Beach, Florida
LEO A DALY – Architect of Record
Elkus Manfredi Architects –
Design Architect

Located in West Palm Beach, this is a 20-story LEED Gold-certified mixed-use tower. The building's exterior activates the street level. Custom terra-cotta columns and spandrels recall the terra-cotta tile roofs of the Mission Revival architecture for which the area is known. Outdoor amenity spaces, wellness measures and proximity to the Brightline station enhance the area's evolving streetscape. The jury said the project thoughtfully addressed the walkability of the city to make the building more pedestrian friendly. Adding, "there is a distinguished gesture" in the way they managed the volumes of the building.



Lighthouse Point Fire Rescue and EOC Headquarters

Merit Award

Lighthouse Point, Florida

Currie Sowards Aguila Architects

This two-story fire station and emergency operations center was completed in 2022. The first-floor houses administrative offices, crew's quarters, dining and dayroom areas, meeting spaces and a three-bay apparatus. The second floor includes multi-purpose meeting spaces to be used as the city's emergency operations center. The jury called the architecture "strong, bold and American," saying the project celebrated the existence of the fire station as a part of the community by making it easy to understand and approach.

Photo by TCR Photography



Mary Street

Merit Award

Coconut Grove, Florida

Touzet Studio – Design Architect

RSP Architects – Architect of Record

This project revitalizes an aging parking structure in Coconut Grove by adding a Class A office building with views of Biscayne Bay. By reusing most of the existing structure, the carbon footprint was minimized. A terra-cotta brise-soleil re-skins the building, enhancing its appearance. The jury admired the architect's design to upcycle this site by transforming a parking structure into a thriving mixed-use building that draws people in, saying, "This project shows the real power of architecture."

Photo by Robin Hill



Parkway Residence

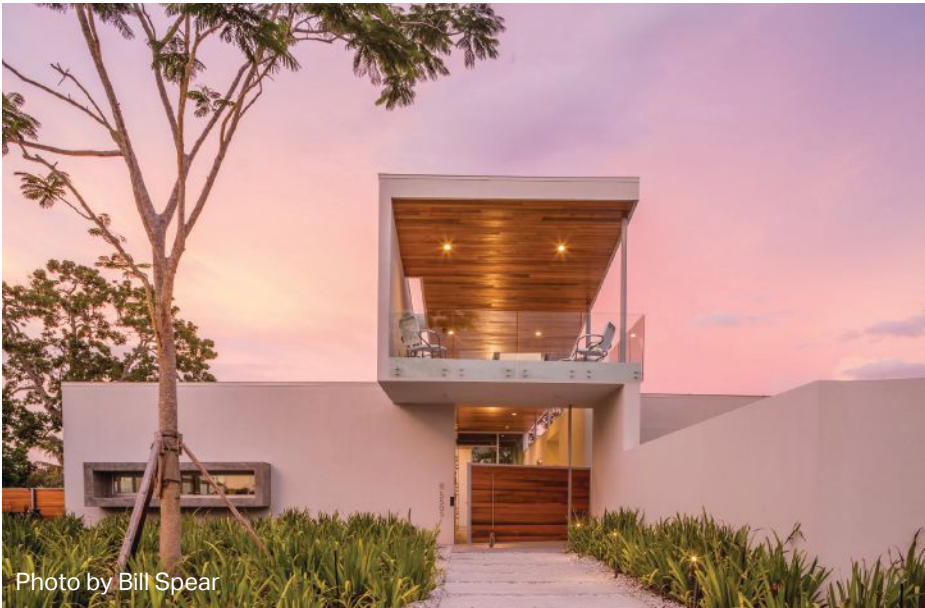
Merit Award

Golden Beach, Florida

KoDA

The home's design responds to its site, context and program, reuniting with the sub-tropical courtyard archetype. It offers a balance between indoor and outdoor living through a sequence of spaces and gardens. The three ground-floor pavilions frame a central courtyard, enhancing natural ventilation. Volumes create dynamic façades and integrate light and reflections. The jury thought the water feature and joining of the outside and inside space was impressive and they admired the special manipulation of turning the rectangles on an axis, resulting in the formation of dynamic spaces.

Photo by Kris Tamburello



Phillippi Creek Residence

Merit Award

Sarasota, Florida

Halfplants + Pichette

Located along Sarasota's Phillippi Creek, this residence maximizes its triangular lot by paralleling the water's edge. This design takes full advantage of the Florida landscape, creating a centralized exterior living space. The residence enhances the natural beauty of its surroundings. The jury liked the design and approach to the project, sharing this house communicates with the surroundings, village and its neighbors.

Photo by Bill Spear



Rockerman Road Residence

Merit Award

Coconut Grove, Florida

SOW Design Studio

Situated between a charming cul-de-sac and a serene canal to Biscayne Bay, the Rockerman Residence is an enchanting retreat. The design includes a covered terrace garden connecting to the dock. A curved wall and inviting courtyard enhance natural light and privacy. The residence balances contemporary aesthetics with traditional materials in a modern style. The jury said the architect creatively solved site planning issues and showed respect to the neighborhood.

Photo by PHL Photography



San Antonio Federal Courthouse

Merit Award

San Antonio, Texas

The Slam Collaborative

Lake Flato Architects

This design for the new federal courthouse merges regional history, landscape and federal law symbolism. Two three-story wings define an atrium referencing the historic Camino Real, linking all of the public areas. The courthouse blends cultural connectivity, native landscaping and stormwater filtration. It is secure yet welcoming, featuring iconic architectural elements. The jury appreciated how the courthouse was made approachable. The building appeals to the new values of being friendly to the people.

Photo by Alan Karchmer



Photo by Brooks + Scarpa

The Margaret White Pavilion at Centennial Park

Merit Award

Pompano Beach, Florida

Brooks + Scarpa

This park features a 100-year-old pioneer home, now a museum and event space, amid a three-acre site with trees and open fields. A new open-air pavilion, blending with the historic home, provides space for up to 180 people. The pavilion offers shade, passive cooling and durable materials. The jury admired this project because it centered the architecture around showcasing the activities of the local people, saying the new structure is "humble and gentle" to the 100-year-old historic building. The jury called it "proper optimized architecture."

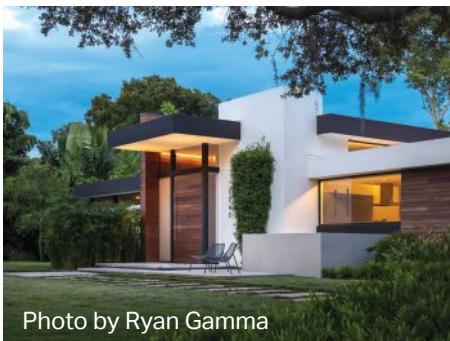


Photo by Ryan Gamma

Catamaran House

Citation Award

St. Petersburg, Florida

Lear Studio Architects

This remodel modernized a 1970s home, embracing minimalism and eco-conscious design inspired by the client's lifestyle. It features a 10.5-foot-tall pivot door, high ceilings, large transoms for natural light and a courtyard that functions as an outside extension of the living room and hot yoga retreat. Sustainable elements include overhangs to prevent direct sunlight and substantial insulation to minimize AC use. Interior highlights include wood accents and a kitchen island cut from a single slab of Brazilian hardwood. The jury liked that the architect created spatial experiences with free flowing inside/outside relationship.



Photo by Bill Spear

Zahrada I

Citation Award

Sarasota, Florida

Halfplants + Pichette

Zahrada I features six luxury townhouses over retail, each with four bedrooms, three and a half baths, a private pool, courtyard, detached guesthouse and two-car garage. The split-level living space includes a 13-foot-high area opening to the courtyard. The jury thought splitting the site into six townhouses with floating spaces and pool landscapes was clever and appreciated the way the architect played with the section concept, reminding them of new urbanism.



Photo by Ryan Gamma

The Bay Park – The Nest

Citation Award

Sarasota, Florida

Sweet Sparkman Architecture & Interiors

Set on 53 acres of Sarasota's "Cultural Coast," this master plan transforms city-owned land into an inclusive waterfront destination. It features a pier, great lawn, shade structures and a food pavilion. The project honors cultural heritage, promotes sustainability and enhances public access. The jury noted this well-designed project required a holistic design approach, which is well shown here. They noted the final work celebrates Florida's civic pride, which is a great feat in the master plan.



Photo by Ed Chappell

Rebecca's and The Maddox
Citation Award
Naples, Florida
David Corban Architects

This upscale wine bar, private club and retail wine store sits on a 1.5-acre site in a blighted neighborhood. Inspired by Japanese temples, an all-glass tasting room is placed at the courtyard center surrounded by a wine bar, retail store and private rooms. To address sustainability needs, deep overhangs, native landscaping, permeable pavers and reflective roofing were utilized. The jury thought the application of interior courtyards creatively used space, noting the genuine aesthetic approach to this commercial space makes it successful by weaving indoor and outdoor spaces.



Photo by Venjahim Reyes

Resilient Retreat
Citation Award
Sarasota, Florida
Schimberg Group

This non-profit therapeutic retreat focuses on creating a safe, secure place for its participants, all of whom have experienced trauma, while providing flexibility in use of the space using a Scandinavian inspired aesthetic. Set on an 85-acre conservation site, three buildings with covered porches provide therapy and contemplation spaces. The central building houses a kitchen and offices. The jury appreciated the effective use of the porch as communal space and mindful lighting strategies to provide a sense of comfort, saying they felt the design of the building created a comfortable environment for healing.



Photo by Brooks + Scarpa

Youth Sports Complex Field House
Citation Award
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Brooks + Scarpa

The City of Pompano Beach sports complex transforms a 10-acre site into a park with soccer, football and lacrosse fields, plus a 4,100 square foot field house with concessions, offices and restrooms. Designed for large events, the field house features a metal lattice sign, board-formed concrete façade and wrap-around porch. The jury thought it was a smart approach to the building, calling it fun and enjoyable and cost effective, saying it also provides fun in middle of the fields to help relieve the stress of competition.



Photo by Edward Caruso Photography

Sarasota Memorial Hospital – Venice
Citation Award
Venice, Florida
Flad Architects

This new hospital, designed to extend top-tier emergency and medical services to a growing community, features 110 private rooms, a surgical center and a connected medical office. It offers a welcoming atmosphere with natural light. The jury noted the placement of the corridor on the outside as unique, sharing "the architecture provides a message of trust from hospital to patient, creating an atmosphere which is good for healing."

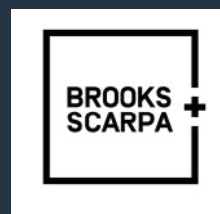




Shiff Construction & Development, Inc. is honored to serve as the General Contractor for the award-winning Fieldhouse at the Youth Sports Complex.



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Award of Excellence Renovations and Additions



Sparkman Wharf
Honor Award
Tampa, Florida
ASD|SKY

Sparkman Wharf, a transformative repurposing project, converted an existing retail and movie complex into a food and beverage event space and a class A office area. The design takes advantage of the existing steel frame structure and exposed it where possible, creating a new refreshing modern industrial aesthetic. The original Mediterranean revival structure, constructed in the late 1980s, was enhanced with large windows for natural daylight. The jury thought the project was a great example of downtown revitalization and there is openness for all types of people, calling it successful evidence of creating a place for people.



Governor's Inn
Merit Award
Tallahassee, Florida
Architects Lewis + Whitlock

The Governor's Inn in Tallahassee honors Florida's rich history and its role as the state capital. Renovated extensively, the 16,500-square-foot project enhanced guest rooms, meeting spaces and public areas, showcasing the community's dedication to preserving its historical landmarks. The jury called the renovation "successful" because it keeps the collective memories, meaning and history the community has of the building.

Photo by Adam Cohen Photography



Photo by Zach Correa

IDEA Victory Vinik Campus

Merit Award

Tampa, Florida

Rowe Architects

Located at I-275 and Fowler Avenue, this tuition-free K-12 Charter “School of Hope” transformed a blighted former strip mall into a neighborhood point of pride. It was redesigned with a competition soccer field and playground. The jury commended the use of skylights to provide daylight in the renovated box-type structure, calling it a simple but smart solution. Another juror called the use of the skylights and creation of spaces within this structure a triumph in wayfinding.

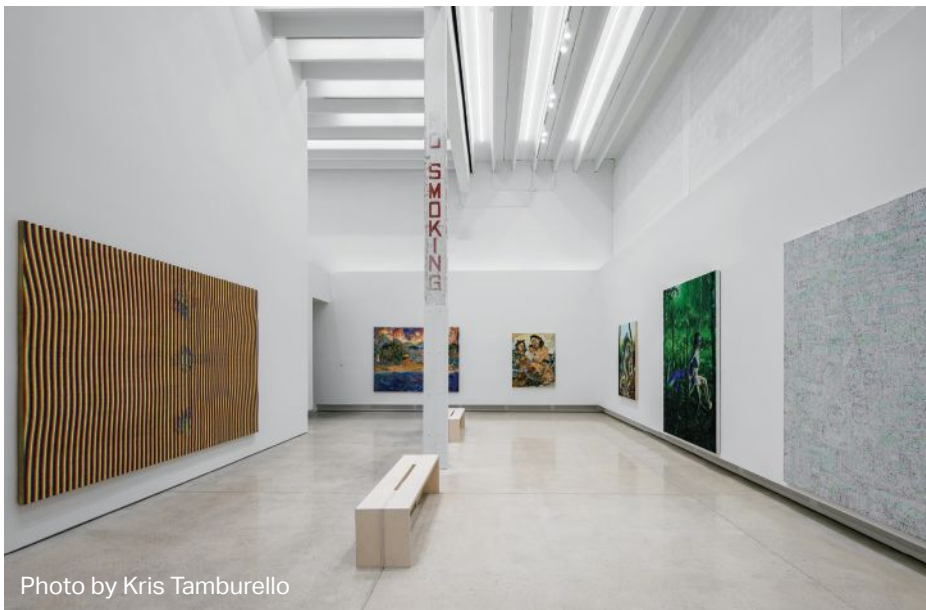


Photo by Kris Tamburello

MAP | Marquez Art Projects

Merit Award

Allapattah, Florida

KoDA and K/R

In Miami’s Allapattah art district, John Marquez transformed a utilitarian warehouse into the Marquez Art Projects, a minimalist 8,000-square-foot gallery. Soaring 25-foot ceilings, polished concrete floors and thickened walls conceal infrastructure, emphasizing the art and bridging the gap between art and audience. The jury called the building a great example of adaptive reuse, with one juror commenting, “Even the elevation and exterior create a dialogue between the building and the pedestrian walking on the sidewalk.”



Photo by Seamus Payne

Addition to Historic St. Petersburg High School Campus

Merit Award

St. Petersburg, Florida

Rowe Architects

This project restored a 1926 Mediterranean Revival building by William B. Ittner and M. Leo Elliot. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it involved restoring features, modernizing systems and updating finishes. The work included repairing glazed terra-cotta, recreating storefront windows and restoring original ceiling heights by updating HVAC systems. The jury noted the high ceiling brings natural light and ventilation inside, which is good for children’s surroundings and creativity. One juror commented, “Students can be reminded of the history of the school.”



Photo by Nicholas Ferris Photography

Phillippi Creek Residence

Citation Award

Sarasota, Florida

Lear Studio Architects

The Phillippi Creek Residence renovation transformed a Florida ranch home into a modern landmark. Expanding the great room, the design emphasized strong angles and lines. A dark metal roof wraps the façade, evoking origami. Low transoms and floor-to-ceiling windows ensure light and privacy. The jury called the transformation amazing, noting the porch now operates to bring people together while protecting from the climate. The jury concluded it's not just transformation to be more convenient, but it is a transformation of character.



Photo by Ryan Gamma

Gulf Gardens Residence

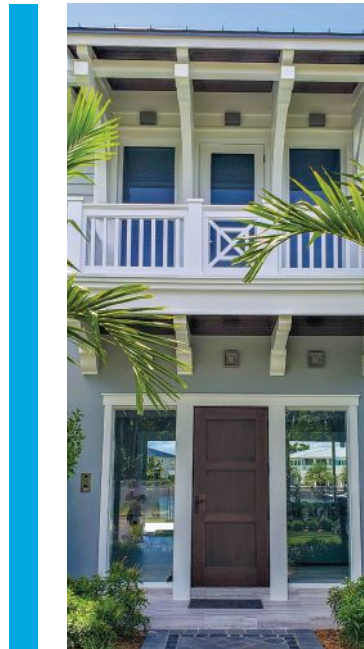
Citation Award

Longboat Key, Florida

Sweet Sparkman Architecture & Interiors

Located on Longboat Key, Florida, this property sits directly on the Gulf of Mexico. Regulatory challenges led to a design that combines a remodeled existing structure with an elevated new addition. This innovative approach maintains beach proximity and integrates a green roof and passive design strategies. The jury thought the use of the flat roof as a new viewing area was smart and noted the success of the renovation is that the transition is seamless.

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Award of Excellence Interiors



Photos by Garrett Rowland Photography



Arcadis Miami Studio

Honor Award

Coral Gables, Florida

Arcadis

Addressing post-pandemic shifts, this Miami Studio pioneers purposeful design for the future of workplaces. With a 60 percent footprint reduction, it balances collaboration and concentration spaces. In-person interaction spaces remain vital, while virtual collaboration is optimized. The design embraces sustainability and redefines office aesthetics. Key elements include custom millwork, acoustic luminaires and strategic daylight optimization. The tech hub fosters collaboration, referencing neuroscience research for well-being. Biophilic patterns amplify feelings of safety and wellness. The jury appreciated the relentless pursuit of the detail from finishes to fixtures to furniture. "There are a lot of conversations in post-pandemic era for how we can achieve collaboration going forward and this project accomplishes that."



Photos by Paola Quevedo

LaLa

Honor Award

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Architectural Studio

Situated at the primary entrance of a luxury shopping mall, this innovative restaurant repurposed a pre-existing 8,892 square foot space left vacant after Hurricane María. The layout remained intact, but extensive infrastructure renovations took place. The restaurant features indoor and private dining rooms, a VIP section, wine cellar, raw bar and outdoor terrace. The restaurant exudes the Puerto Rican qualities of warmth and hospitality, incorporating natural materials like white oakwood and white marble. A sinuous wooden sculpture greets guests at the entrance, while a hanging installation of wooden rods defines the main dining hall. A pergola-like canopy of white aluminum rods sways with the breeze, seamlessly integrating with nature. The jury called it immaculately designed and particularly liked the hanging rods that speak the same language inside and outside.





Photo by Seamus Payne

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital – Vertical Expansion and Renovation

Merit Award

Hollywood, Florida
HKS

This 175,000-square-foot vertical expansion and interior renovation consolidates pediatric services into a central building. The design draws inspiration from young patients' journeys. On the exterior, a carefully considered weaving frame stitches the two building forms together with colorful stair towers and interlocking boxes highlight special moments. The jury said sometimes children can be scared of a hospital, but this design helps to reduce a child's fear, which is the right way to use design.

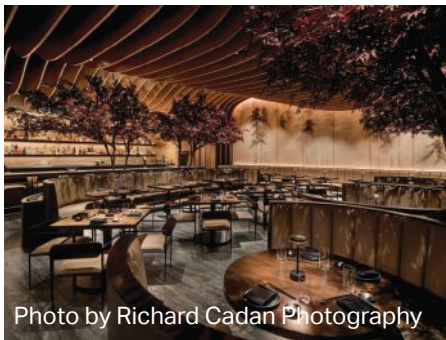


Photo by Richard Cadan Photography

NAMI

Citation Award
Orlando, Florida
ASDJSKY

Nami, the Japanese word for "wave," carves an immersive dining experience within Lake Nona's art-forward Wave Hotel. Discreetly positioned behind a pivoting door, the dining room captivates from the moment guests step in. Focused lighting, curated sound design and authentic materials enhance tastes and smells. Inspired by Japanese storytelling, Nami unites familiarity with surprise. Its transportive design invites guests to escape reality. The jury said it was well designed and reminded them of being in Japan on a visit.

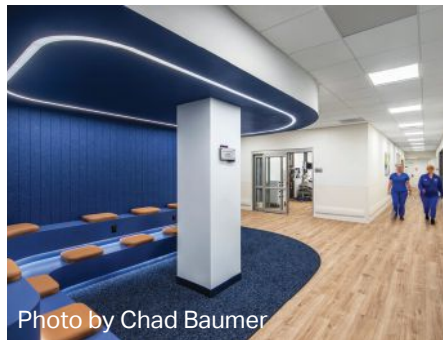


Photo by Chad Baumer

NCH Judith & Marvin Herb Family Simulation Center

Citation Award

Naples, Florida
Studio+

The state-of-the-art simulation lab, a 10,365-square-foot renovation, trains future medical professionals within a major healthcare system. Realistic learning environments replicate intensive care units, emergency rooms and hospital rooms, immersing trainees in lifelike scenarios. Balancing functionality and aesthetics, the high-tech space features gray tones, natural wood accents and cutting-edge technology. The jury said incorporating technology, collaboration and interaction is crucial to learning in medicine. This project takes us into the new realm of healthcare.

Historic Preservation and Restoration



Photos by J.C. Newman Cigar Company



J.C. Newman Cigar Factory Historic Renovation

Honor Award
Ybor City, Florida
Rowe Architects

Located in Tampa's historic Ybor City neighborhood, the J.C. Newman Cigar Factory, known for its iconic clock tower "El Reloj," has been a local landmark since 1910. The multi-phase renovation preserved its historic identity while updating and modernizing the 113-year-old building. The project created space for a re-established Tampa-based cigar hand rolling operation, reimagining the company's identity and showcasing its architectural language. This transformation not only revitalized an aging structure but also exemplifies the power of architecture to shape progress. The jury said although the building has been changed, it keeps its essence. They noted that through the preservation the building has acquired new life, even though the context around it has changed, it has responded to these new needs, setting a standard for future buildings surviving in this historic area.



Photo by Paola Quevedo

Medical Arts Building

Merit Award
San Juan, Puerto Rico
Diaz Paunetto Arquitectos

The Medical Arts Building, designed by architect Joseph O'Kelly in 1940, exemplifies Colonial Spanish Revival Style. Despite its historical significance, it fell into disrepair. The restoration addressed challenges like weathered ornamentation, corroded doors and modern codes. New egress stairs were added, and underutilized spaces were transformed into garden terraces with ocean views. This endeavor preserves history while adapting for the 21st century. The jury said the historic preservation was very successful, adding, "We should learn how to preserve, and use this as a good example. The building is attractive again, enough to gather people and their nostalgia, and to bring back people's collective memories of glorious times in the past."



Gene Leedy Office

Merit Award

Winter Haven, Florida
[STRANG] Design

This meticulous restoration now stands as a testament to the story of modern architecture in the Central Florida region. The repair and refinishing of existing brickwork both inside and outside brought warmth to the overall cool concrete palette, while the repair of double height glazing allowed for better natural light into the space. The jury noted that the design was very clean, keeping with the original structure and character and shared that modern elements once abandoned, but still valuable, are revived through the restoration.



Tampa Heights Elementary School

Merit Award

Tampa, Florida
Fleischman Garcia Maslowski Architecture

Tampa Heights Elementary School, originally built by volunteers in 1906, emerged from the ashes after a devastating fire in 2017. The existing brick walls were salvaged after the fire and were used to define the organization of the new steel skeleton structure while a floating addition creates a complementary contrast to the existing walls without disturbing the three historic front facades. The jury said this is a challenging project, but the architect finished it successfully. They appreciated that the community did not abandon it.



Hotel Greystone

Merit Award

Miami Beach, Florida
Greystone: Shulman + Associates,
Architect. Santa Barbara: Shulman +
Associates, Design Architect & Norberto
Rosenstein: Architect of Record,
Santa Barbara

Located in the Collins Park district at the core of Miami Beach, two distinct buildings were thoughtfully restored and combined into an eclectic boutique hotel complex. The hotel's façade was carefully restored with the reintroduction of the original historic terrace overlooking the street. The historic lobby of the Art Deco building serves as the main reception area for the new hotel. The jury said the amount of energy and care invested in keeping the style of the building is deserved.

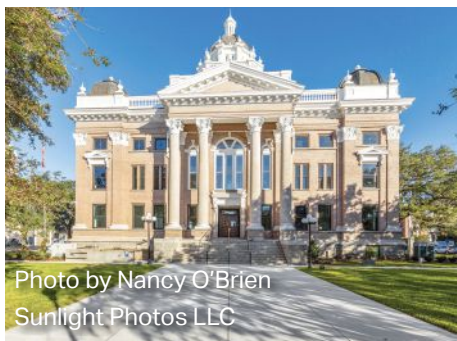


Photo by Nancy O'Brien
Sunlight Photos LLC

The Historic Lowndes County Courthouse

Citation Award

Valdosta, Georgia

Gladwin Vaughn Architecture

Constructed in 1905, the Lowndes County Courthouse in Valdosta, Georgia, remains a symbol of the county's culture. Interior restoration included marble flooring and features pressed metal ceilings. Exterior work replaced windows, restored masonry, added clay-tile roofing and included the addition of color changing lighting. The jury was impressed by the integration of modern systems into the historical elements and thought the architect was tasteful in staying true to historic value through the painstaking work of restoration.

Award of Excellence Sustainability



Photos by Eric Laignel Photography

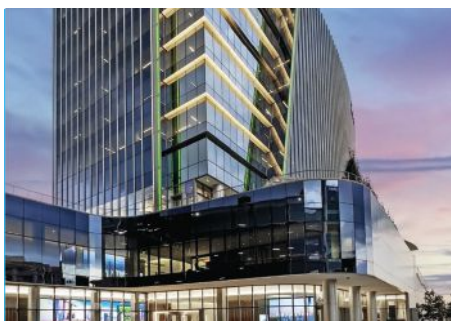
Fidelity National Information Services Headquarters

Honor Award

Jacksonville, Florida

Gensler

Located directly on Jacksonville's St. John's River, this climate-ready LEED Platinum and WELL Silver headquarters addresses Florida's coastal challenges. Integrating with the Brooklyn District community, it features a 21-foot-high green wall, public walkways and shaded areas along the two-mile Riverwalk. Energy-efficient, resilient and designed to withstand sea level rise, FIS invests in a sustainable future. The jury was impressed by the meticulous site planning, noting the architect made considerations beyond FEMA requirements. This project succeeded in making the building friendly while achieving flood strategy to build near the water.



Photos by Chad Baumer

Hanna Avenue City Center

Honor Award

Tampa, Florida

FleischmanGarciaMaslowski Architecture

Hanna Avenue City Center is designed to be LEED Silver Certified. The three buildings and trellis on site are covered with more than 2,300 modules of solar panels. The lobby, located in the heart of the building, greets visitors with a 2-story living green wall and features large stairs and skylights. Rain gardens filter the stormwater runoffs naturally; on-site and water efficient fixtures reduce indoor water use by 35 percent. A solar trellis provides cover while producing energy. The jury liked the incorporation of daylighting and said the building had an understanding of sustainability from diverse perspectives. One juror noted the significance of sustainability since this building is a public building, saying, "It educates people on how we should be designing for civic responsibility for future generations to come."





Photo by Ryan Gamma

Sarasota County Fire Station #13

Merit Award

Siesta Key, Florida

Sweet Sparkman Architecture & Interiors

Located 400 yards from the beach, this LEED certified station reimagines the beachfront cottage. Sustainability-driven, it separates living quarters above the apparatus bay and withstands storm surge. The jury respected the deep research and collaboration on the choice of the building materials, noting the architect made considerations not only for FEMA but for 100 years of sea level rise. One jury noted that a well-designed building is a well-loved building and will be used for a long time. A well-designed building is a sustainable building.



Photo by Robin Hill

Buena Vista East Duplex Renovation

Merit Award

Buena Vista, Florida

RAW architecture

The Buena Vista East Duplex renovation uses the constraints of a corner lot in an urban historic residential district to take advantage of its siting by adding a second floor with private suites, roof terrace accessed by an outdoor stair with orchid trellis and a raised pool with deck. The second floor is exposed to the prevailing easterly breezes and allows greater privacy and outdoor space. The jury commended the architect for not abandoning the existing building, noting we can learn about sustainability from this project.



Photo by Ryan Gamma

Clearwater Beach Fire Station 46

Citation Award

Clearwater Beach, Florida

WJ Architects, Inc.

Fire Station 46, affectionately known as the "Beach House," stands on a historic waterfront site along the Gulf of Mexico. Originally hosting Station No. 2 in the 1920s, it was later replaced by Station 46 in 1964 and renovated in 1984. The current iteration combines modernity, resilience, and sustainability while honoring its past. The project involved due-diligence studies and FEMA flood assessments. Notably, it features break-away walls to withstand storm surges and wind speeds up to 157 mph. The jury thought the building was well-proportioned and balanced and respected the existing conditions of the environment.

Test of Time



Photos by Ryan Gamma



Sanderling House

Honor Award

Siesta Key, Florida

Guy Peterson | OFA

The Sanderling House is a beachfront house located on Siesta Key. The house is a concrete pavilion composed of 12 inch by 12 inch concrete columns spaced 18 feet on center. It is enclosed by glass walls with volumetric "cubes" engaged in the pavilion. Each cube serves a purpose: purple for living and guests, yellow for family, orange for children's activities and white for shared spaces. A rooftop garden offers views of Heron Lagoon. The jury appreciated that the new owners brought in the original architect for renovations, ensuring the continued emphasis on mass and voids as vessels for natural light. The jury stated this design overcomes time. It's timeless.



Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College

Merit Award

Lakeland, Florida

Straughn Trout Architects

The Polk Museum of Art, located at Florida Southern College, since opening in September 1988, has significantly impacted the Central Florida art scene. The 35,000 square foot museum features marbled-floored corridors, oak-floored galleries, and 16-foot-high ceilings. The exterior is equally magnificent; composed of approximately 300,000 bricks in a unique assemblage of figures. The jury thought that the cylindrical canopy sitting atop exposed beams was a unique translation and that the building and materials fit the test of time. The jury appreciated the longstanding relationship of the building with the architect.



25 Central Square

Merit Award

Seaside, Florida

DAG Architects

Machado Silvetti, Design Architect

This Seaside cornerstone structure anchors the town center. As one of the original commercial buildings, it set the tone and scale for subsequent development. The structure consists of stacked residential units with a central courtyard above the commercial base and civic arcade. The jury appreciated that after 25 years, the building is still functioning as one of the main structures in the crescent, noting the building gets better as time goes on.



Photo by Beatriz del Cueto, FAIA

Restoration-Rehabilitation of the González-Cuyar Residence into the Architects and Landscape Architects of Puerto Rico Headquarters

Citation Award

Santurce, Puerto Rico

Beatriz del Cueto, FAIA, Ph.D.

This historic residence, turned professional association headquarters, was built in 1913, and is in a bustling, high-rise neighborhood. The house was meticulously renovated and brought up to new code requirements in the 1990s. The original residential layout of the house was maintained, while adapting to the new owner's use program. When hurricanes and earthquakes struck, this resilient gem weathered the storms, earning the nickname "The house that resisted the hurricanes." Its enduring legacy showcases the power of adaptive reuse and resilience. The jury liked the wooden veranda, saying it is kind to neighbors but also kind to the environment. They said further, "This project is perfect for the test of time. It is over 100 years old and has withstood hurricanes and earthquakes."



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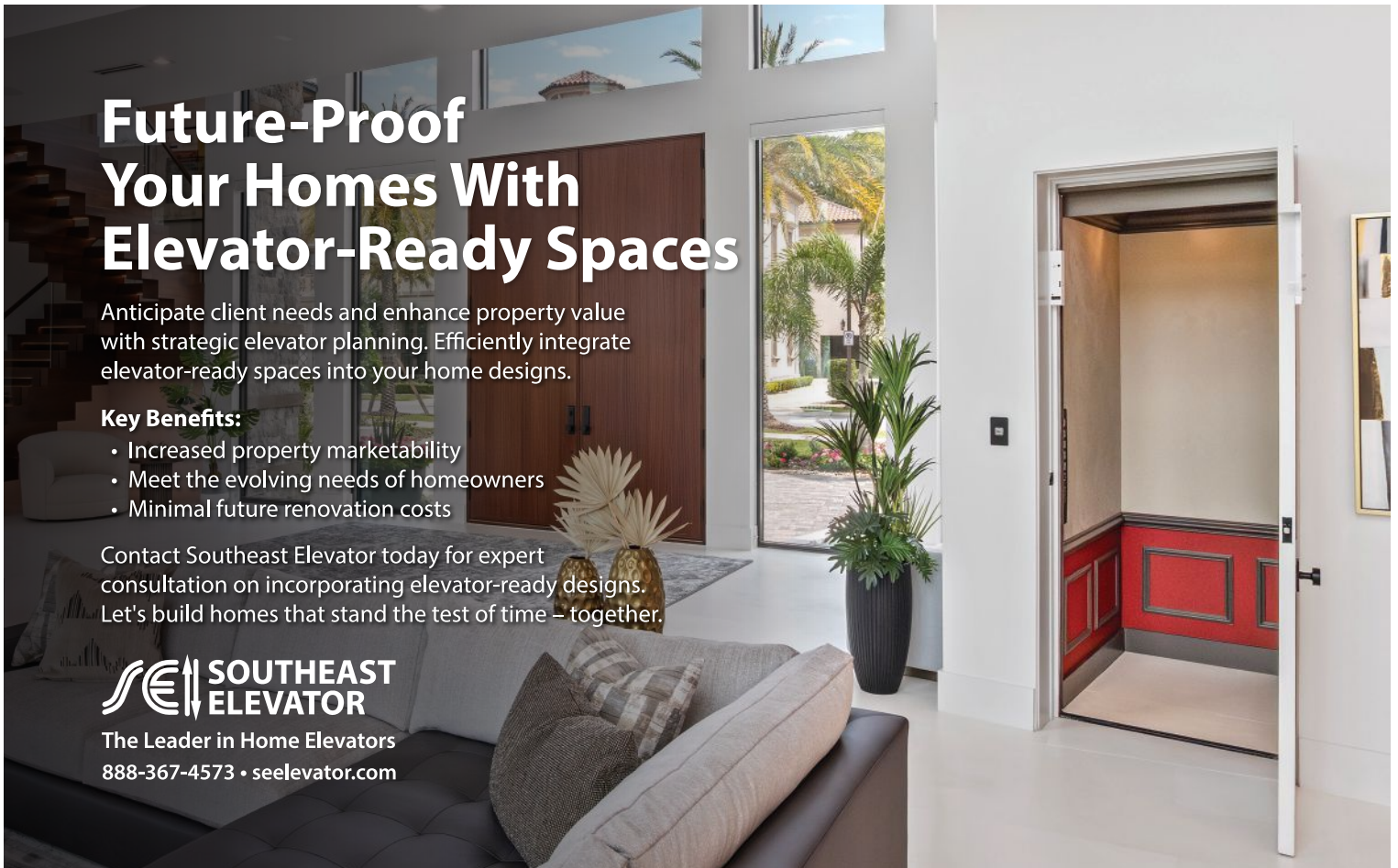
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Award of Excellence Pro Bono



Overtown Youth Center

Merit Award

Miami, Florida

Kobi Karp Architecture & Interior Design Inc. in collaboration with Design2Form

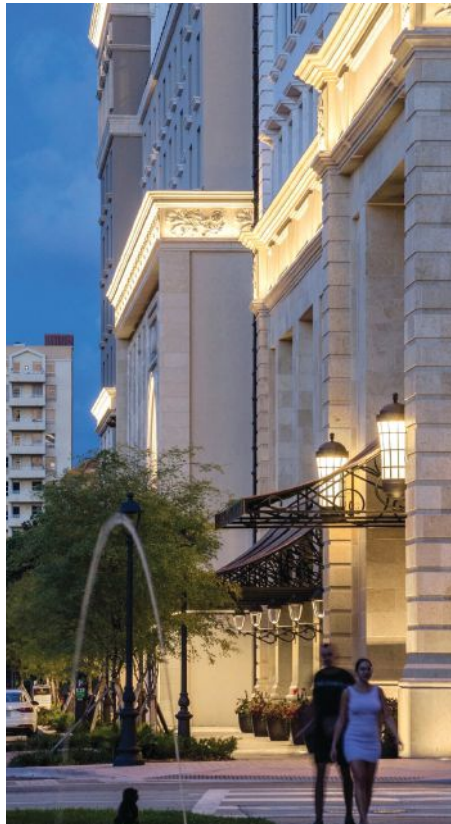
The Overtown Youth Center is a remarkable program empowering at-risk youth and their families. The program includes open workspaces, multi-purpose rooms, a family medical clinic, classrooms and outdoor activity areas for enrichment after school programs. The jury was impressed by the dense and significant amount of work done on this pro-bono project. They noted that the rich style, color and graphics appeal to the youth of the neighborhood, and welcome participants to the program, making it successful as a neighborhood-friendly building.

Masonry

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Photos by David Whitcomb Photography



Plaza Coral Gables

Honor Award

Coral Gables, Florida

Arcadis

Plaza Coral Gables, a vibrant mixed-use development, transforms a 6.7-acre downtown site into an urban village. Comprising three city blocks, the project includes two office towers, a residential tower, townhomes, parking, a hotel and an existing historic building. It encourages pedestrian activity via a network of paseos with overhead, operable skylights and new colonnade sidewalks that benefit from tree shade during the day, and a series of landscaped bridges and terraces above, that are well-lit at night. The three-story meticulously restored historic building remains in the heart of the project, serving as a central point and anchors the new surrounding lush tropical gardens and public green spaces. The jury thought the design strategy gave the entire neighborhood a design feeling and appreciated the many different ways masonry was used within the project.



Photo by Venjhamin Reyes

Resilient Retreat

Merit Award

Sarasota, Florida

Schimberg Group

This holistic retreat is nestled on an 85-acre conservation site. The design prioritizes safety, flexibility and comfort for trauma survivors. The project embraces the beautiful environment with buildings wrapped by covered porches highlighting the Florida vernacular. Three separate buildings contain two residential wings and a central living/dining area. The jury was fond of the floor plan and the accessibility offered to users, saying, "The project was carefully designed in ways that helped boost interaction."



Photo by Nathaniel Ebert

Ortega Riverfront

Merit Award

Jacksonville, Florida

Starr Sanford Design

Located in Ortega Yacht Basin off the St. John's River, the house's classic elements of painted brick and Tudor style meld with the surrounding fabric of the historic neighborhood. The themes of solid mass versus transparency are explored throughout the home. The jury thought the masonry façade highlighted the beauty of the brick wall, with the design resulting in a project with great harmony and proportion.

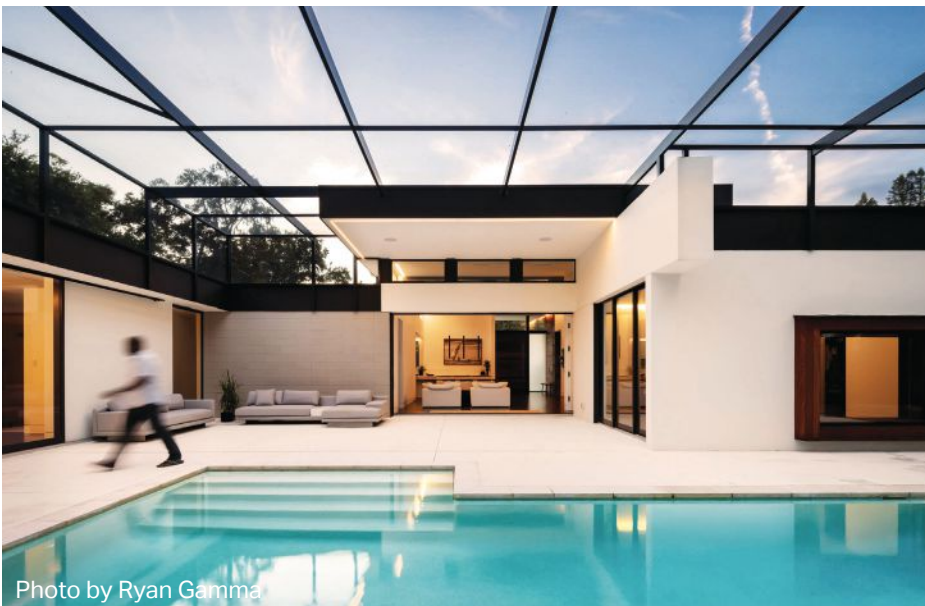


Photo by Ryan Gamma

Catamaran House

Merit Award

St. Petersburg, Florida

Lear Studio Architects

This Pink Streets remodel rejuvenated a 1970s home, blending minimalism and eco-conscious design. Inspired by the clients' sailing lifestyle, the home seamlessly connects indoor and outdoor spaces, with floor-to-ceiling doors and sliding glass walls. The "urban patio" and monolithic fireplace enhance comfort and functionality. The jury thought the uniformity of masonry walls brought together the exterior and interior creating an overall atmosphere of harmony and noted the deliberate choice of masonry makes the project successful.

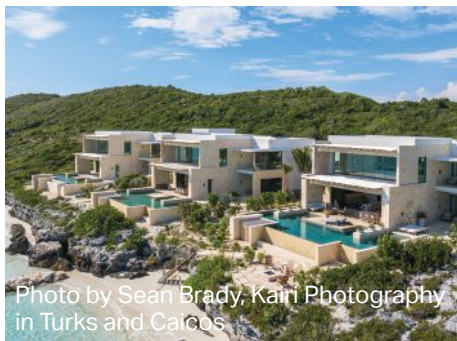


Photo by Sean Brady, Kari Photography in Turks and Caicos

The Strand

Citation Award

Providenciales, Turks and Caicos
RAD Architecture, Inc.

The Strand is a luxury resort and residential community in Cooper Jack Bay. Six elegant residences overlook the Caribbean Sea. Each five-bedroom home features a dramatic two-story great room overlooking the pool and contains a separate courtyard with outdoor kitchen. The jury thought the strength of the design lies in the integration of nature, as the flow of the house takes you on a journey to the reveal of the beach, creating a big Instagram moment. When the jurors looked at this project, they all wanted to be there.

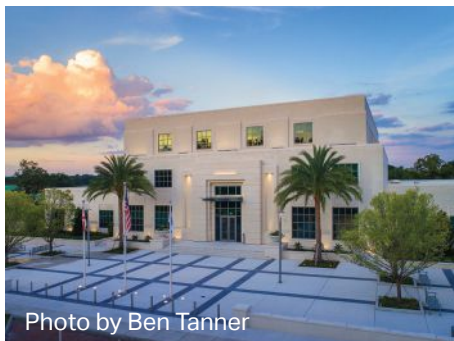


Photo by Ben Tanner

Ocoee City Hall

Citation Award

Ocoee, Florida
HKS Architects

Situated at the southwest corner of a newly master-planned town center, the new Ocoee City Hall faces the city's historic main street. Brick masonry and cast stone were chosen for the new city hall's exterior palette and accented with custom spandrel panels featuring sculptural elements inspired by the passionflower. The jury appreciated how the architect and owner approached the project using the opportunity to boost civic moral and pride through the design and direction of the building.



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Rosewood Memorial Pavilion

Honor Award

Alachua County, Florida

Architects Lewis + Whitlock

The Rosewood Memorial Pavilion, a 1,320-square-foot facility in Alachua County, Florida, serves as a gateway to the 28.6-acre Rosewood Memorial Park. Blending wood and glass, the pavilion honors the legacy of the Rosewood Community and the tragic events of the Rosewood Massacre. It symbolizes remembrance, truth, justice and the aspirations of the community. The jury liked that the gate serves as a starting point and at the same time an ending point in remembering someone. The jury said as architects, one of our jobs is to define or translate emotion into something architectural. This structure beautifully captivates the people's emotion and lets it go. The design achieves that.



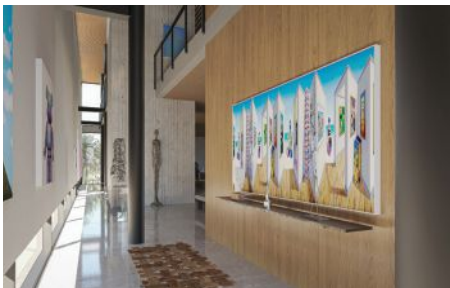
The Art House

Honor Award

Nokomis, Florida

Damien Blumetti Architect

Art House, nestled on Casey Key in Nokomis, Florida, blends modern design with a living art gallery concept. The residence features a prominent double-story art wall, corten screen and flowing water element traversing from front to ocean-side. Designed primarily with concrete, it combines durability with minimalist aesthetics. The jury liked the materials selection and that the architect brought the ocean to the house with use of the water feature, also noting their admiration of the transposition of relationship between transparency and opaqueness creating relatively closed spaces for artwork but still giving a sense of openness.





University of Florida College of Design, Construction and Planning Ramos Collaboratory

Honor Award

Gainesville, Florida

Brooks + Scarpa with KMF Architects

The architecture building expansion for a prominent design college adds 60,000 square feet of educational space, revolutionizing learning with adaptive, multi-purpose areas for collaboration. Central to the collaboration are interactive research hubs that will foster high-impact research targeting global issues. This LEED Platinum and Well-Building Certified project embodies future-focused education and innovation. The jury appreciated the creation of all of the spaces for students to interact with each other and thought the terra-cotta cladding of the new program showing transparency and opaqueness harmonized well to blend in with the campus.



340 Treasure Boat Way

Merit Award

Sarasota, Florida

PS Design Workshop

Nestled in Siesta Key, Florida, this luxury residence harmonizes modern design with coastal living. A double-height dining room and kitchen bathed in natural light complement an expansive covered patio, seamlessly extending interior spaces to serene canal views. The outdoor living room offers tiered seating by the waterfront. The jury liked that the floating structure of the house created shade for the courtyard and said they could see the architect's intention, calling the house beautifully composed.



Camp Wesumkee

Merit Award

West Summerland Key, Florida
[STRANG] Design

Camp Wesumkee, an 11-acre Girl Scout camp on West Summerland Key, was redeveloped after Hurricane Irma. The new campus features elevated structures to withstand flooding and a curvilinear boardwalk and breezeways for ventilation. The jury appreciated that the corridor and breezeway connect all of the areas to viewpoints of the sea and the use of louvers as elevation elements, blocking daylight in addition to being structural. The jury called the execution in planning an effective way to achieve design excellence.



Eco 3

Merit Award

Boynton Beach, Florida
Contin Architecture and Design

The Eco 3 is a 154-unit complex addressing workforce housing needs. Adjacent to a Florida natural scrub area, the design integrates simple construction with sustainability, featuring insulated concrete forms, green balconies, stormwater retention and solar energy. The jury particularly liked the undulating typography and sustainability aspects of this project. They appreciated the architect's thought of the end user of the building, adding sustainability aspects in a way that can be affordable and sensible.



FIU Engineering Center

Merit Award

Miami, Florida
Perkins&Will

This top-tier R1 research university is expanding its engineering footprint with a new 121,000-square-foot, six-story College of Engineering and Computing Center. The facility will include 20,000 square feet of interactive research and teaching space with the best in-class computing and prototyping equipment, enhancing collaborations with Health Sciences Colleges and preparing professionals in many high-tech fields. The jury liked the arrangement of the building to create synergy between two schools and really appreciated the site planning, remarking that it is a "beautiful way of situating the building."



Clearwater City Hall

Citation Award

Clearwater, Florida

WJ Architectures, Inc.

The City of Clearwater is redefining its urban landscape with a new, state-of-the-art, 40,303-square-foot city hall and integrated civic plaza. The project welcomes citizens and city officials and fosters connectivity, accessibility and community interaction. The jury liked the design of the overhang on the building because it is both practical and interesting and felt that the architect focused on design strategies to make the city hall a representation of the community, creating the people's space. The building serves as a welcoming gesture.



Eckerd College Café Addition

Citation Award

St. Petersburg, Florida

Sweet Sparkman Architecture & Interiors

A small liberal arts college in Florida is building a sustainable cafe that harmonizes with its natural and architectural heritage. Designed to address extreme weather and rising sea levels, the new building features a cantilevered roof, concrete plinth and shaded areas. The jury called the project very carefully designed and thought the architect did an exemplary job adding a new program to existing one — a mediation between old and new.



Estero House

Citation Award

Bonita Springs, Florida

Damien Blumetti Architect

Estero House in Bonita Springs captivates with its floating appearance and sleek, modern screen that provides sun protection and privacy. Supported by a minimalistic structural system of four columns and a circulation core, it features concrete terraces and planters blending seamlessly with the landscape. The jury liked the openness of the ground level and thought the operability of the building was very well articulated.



Reimagining Pei: Preserving an Architectural Legacy in Sarasota

Citation Award

Sarasota, Florida

Brooks + Scarpa

This academic and cultural campus revitalizes Pei's historic dorms integrating new terra-cotta structures that float above, creating shaded spaces and a striking skyline. The jury admired the ambitiousness of the project and the "village-like, festive" feel created at the ground level and referred to the project as "very distinguishable and an homage to I.M. Pei."



Roseland

Citation Award

Chicago, Illinois

Brooks + Scarpa with Studio Dwell

This project offers 264 affordable and market-rate units, emphasizing community-oriented living with large public areas over private spaces. Featuring energy-efficient design, it integrates Roseland's historic elements, creating a unique sense of place and public courtyards. The development aims to attract diverse residents and transform the neighborhood into a vibrant, connected community. The jury liked the use of panels to diffuse the building into the landscape, calling the project a landmark for the city.



Villa Ballada

Citation Award

Sarasota, Florida

Halfplants + Pichette

The project features 22 residential condos over parking, with a lobby and two retail spaces along Kumquat Court. This design shields parking from view and revitalizes the street with retail space. Balconies, discrete vehicle access and prominent pedestrian access enhance the community and street life. The jury liked this unique Mondrian-like concept and appreciated the depths in the facade in the elevation, creating shade and sun-screening.



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Theoretical and Research Professional



Brutally Repurposed: An Adaptive-Reuse of Marcel Breuer's Weaver Building

Honor Award
Washington, D.C.
Brooks + Scarpa

The Robert C. Weaver Federal Building is a 700,000 square-foot office building in Washington, D.C. This prime example of Brutalist architecture was designed by architect Marcel Breuer. In response to the challenges faced by downtown Washington, D.C., where remote work has left many office spaces vacant, the proposed reimagination of the Weaver Building involves creating a dynamic mixed-use structure. This transformation includes more than 300 units of new housing, a reduction in office space and community amenities for both occupants and the public. The jury liked that the architect took the between space and gave it new life. One juror noted, "I admire the deep and ambitious attempt to achieve a grand vision without demolishing an existing building."



Towards Greening Housing Projects in Florida: A Case Study of Integrating Daylight Design, Vernacular Principles and Energy Efficiency in Designing a Net Zero Apartment Building in Fort Lauderdale

Merit Award
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Dr. Shermeen Yousif, Assoc. AIA
Assisting Students: Adam LeBlanc and Xena Rodriguez

This project explores Florida's vernacular architecture and passive design strategies. The research project approaches a design workflow of employing advanced technologies of machine learning, building performance simulation methods, including daylight analysis and thermal simulation, to drive the design process. Early-stage consideration of building performance is crucial for informed decision-making. By integrating these solutions into the design process, it aims to create ecologically conscious designs inspired by indigenous principles. The jury appreciated the different design process, sharing that there is a lot of potential in this study.



Architects & Builders: a heuristic model

Citation Award

Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic
Dr. Beatriz del Cueto, FAIA, Ph.D.

In the early 20th century, architect Antonin Nechodoma and contractor Frank B. Hatch collaborated in the Spanish Caribbean. Their enduring legacy lies in introducing not only a new architecture into the Spanish Caribbean, but also created innovative exposed aggregate textured finishes for their facades which has been extensively replicated throughout the region. The jury said they were impressed by the dedication to the research topic and the interesting connection found between the builder and the architecture.



From Natural to Artificial: transformations of residential building materials and their adaptations in the Spanish Caribbean

Citation Award

Spanish Caribbean (Cuba, the
Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico)
Dr. Beatriz del Cueto, FAIA, Ph.D.

The Spanish American War of 1898 and subsequent United States colonization of the Spanish Caribbean reshaped local vernacular housing. The introduction of Portland cement revolutionized domestic architecture, offering fireproof, vermin-proof, and hurricane-resistant structures. The jury found there was a lot of value in the research and appreciated the look into this past architectural technology movement.



Parkland Memorial

Citation Award

Parkland, Florida
KoDA

The Parkland community faced profound sorrow and unimaginable fear after a high school shooting. This proposal honors those lives lost on that day, creating a memorial space of comfort and hope. Families and friends can gather here. The design introduces a hammock-like habitat with 17 clearings, each marking a life lost. Visitors descend a stone path to a reflection pool, where the sky meets the earth. Through tree branches, immaterial light manifests the presence of those lost. The jury thought it beautifully captured the concept of remembering those lost by using the absence of the architecture.



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Theoretical and Research Student



The city and the restitution of the social value of waste

Honor Award

Santurce, Puerto Rico
Nildalce Berrios Negrón
University of Puerto Rico,
Rio Piedras Campus

Waste management is a global challenge, and Santurce, Puerto Rico, faces similar issues. Abandoned buildings and waste contribute to environmental pollution and a negative city image. This proposal aims to recognize waste as a resource and create a Collection and Educational Community Center. This center will promote sustainable practices. The jury really admired the project with one juror noting architecture should do something for the community.

MATERIALS REUSED



Bay Huts

Merit Award

Florida Bay, Florida
Gabriel Perez Gomez
Florida International University

Florida Bay Huts, located east of Key Largo and north of Islamorada, aim to transform Florida Bay into a global tourist attraction. Addressing sustainability, resilience, accessibility and comfort, this project celebrates the natural beauty of the bay. The jury said this was an interesting, fresh topic and commented on how well thought out it was, noting that it even has a freshwater system.



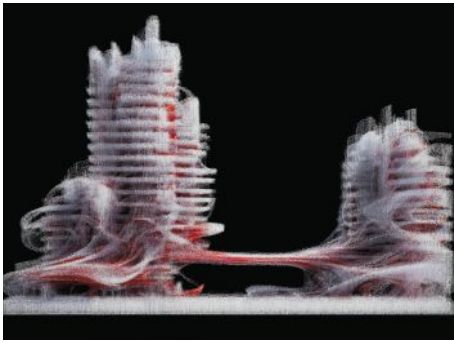
The Windcatcher In The Urban

Housing: Bioclimatic design strategies to address the climate crisis and meet human comfort needs in Puerto Rico

Merit Award

Urban Center of Morovis, Puerto Rico
Sophia Isabel Rivera Cruz
University of Puerto Rico

In response to Puerto Rico's environmental challenges, the project's bioclimatic design strategies prioritize human comfort and energy efficiency. Windcatchers enhance thermal comfort by capturing high-speed winds. The jury highly regarded this painstaking research and appreciate the effort to use ancestral wisdom to put into architecture.



Deep Semantics-Crafting Design Semantic Universes

Citation Award

Arie Chocron Assoc. AIA, Alyssa Scherger
Assoc. AIA, Thomas Tucker,
Professor Daniel Bolojan
Florida Atlantic University

Generative AI revolutionizes architectural design, creating nuanced semantic universes. Using Chicago's 3D data, the students developed a "semantic universe" to inform AI-driven designs. They showcase AI's transformative role in creating architecturally significant concepts. The jury remarked that a time intensive study like this should be appreciated, and evolving AI technologies makes this project very interesting. The students put a lot of effort into controlling the AI to achieve this.

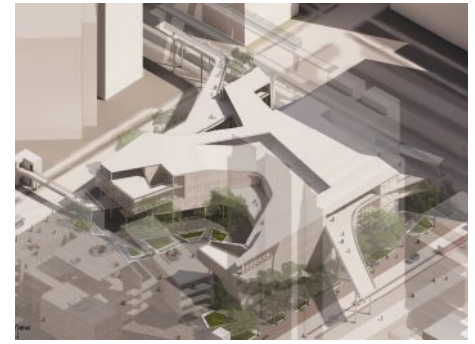


Lemon City Cemetery: The Living Memorial

Citation Award

Miami, Florida
Chelsea Cameron
Lila Coffey
Florida International University

Lemon City Cemetery, a historic burial ground, was lost amidst redevelopment. Rediscovered in 2009. It memorializes 525 lives, yet records indicate 1,796 burials. This proposal involves three phases: preserving the story, reclaiming the cemetery and surrounding spaces, and reforesting Miami. The jury thought this was a unique and interesting approach and keeps history alive for future generations.



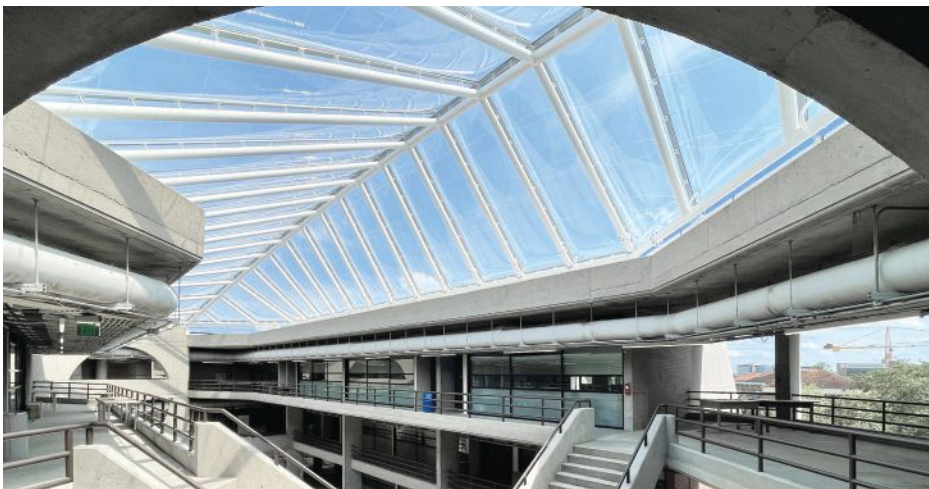
New Museum and Cultural Center for the City of Miami

Citation Award

Miami, Florida
Rafael Cardero
Florida International University

The Museum and Cultural Center in Miami is a bold architectural icon, reflecting the city's diversity. Flexible interiors encourage creativity, fostering a sense of community. Spanning 160,000 square feet, it features exhibition spaces, event halls and outdoor areas. The grand open-air atrium leads visitors through interconnected galleries, showcasing contemporary art and Miami's rich history. The façade combines glass, metal and concrete, creating a powerful visual statement. The jury liked the sculptural new shape and style and noted the building is almost trying to reach out to its surroundings.

Object

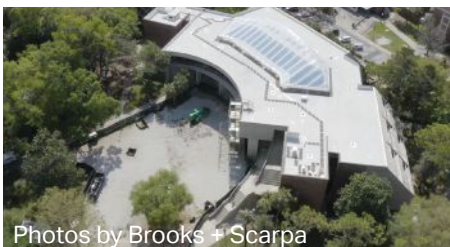


Atrium Canopy at the University of Florida Architecture Building

Honor Award

Gainesville, Florida
Brooks + Scarpa with KMF Architects

The Harp, an ingenious solution for a Florida university's iconic atrium, balances form and function. Designed to protect against water ingress while preserving the open-air experience, it accommodates the trapezoidal shape. Lightweight ETFE material ensures safety, daylight and aesthetic enhancement. The Harp exemplifies sustainable engineering, transforming necessity into an asset for learning and gathering. The jury said it was well designed and well-constructed. They liked the selection of the more organic material over something more rigid, which is usually chosen, noting the design overcomes the engineering.



Photos by Brooks + Scarpa





Gothic Reimagined

Honor Award

Verona, Italy

Dustin White, Assoc. AIA

Gothic Reimagined explores language as a design method, leveraging novel AI tools and 3D printing with upcycled stone waste. Analyzing Gothic elements, the research distorts, splits, and rearranges forms, the resulting bas-relief, 3D printed from Italian limestone, reinvents historical fragments into a novel structure resulting in a groundbreaking fusion of AI-generated design and physical stone form. The jury liked that there are a lot of practical solutions that can come from this technology, noting the good vision to potentially diminish the labor intensity but still have ornamentation. A new horizon of architecture is coming.



Photo by Brooks + Scarpa

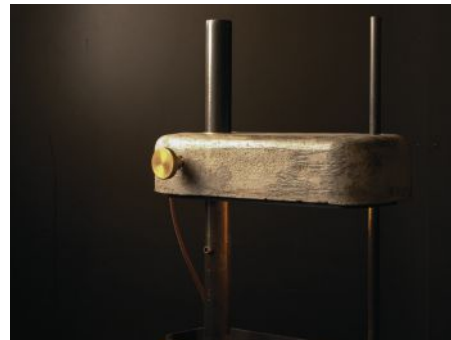
Liquid Wood

Merit Award

Santa Monica, California

Brooks + Scarpa

Selected as one of the artists for a Santa Monica Park, the architect created Liquid Wood, an innovative fusion of functionality and aesthetic fluidity. The sinuous bench, crafted from microlam wood beams, mirrors the ocean's ebb and flow. Through CNC machining and hand carving, it invites tactile and visual engagement, redefining public spaces as both art and utility. The jury said they liked how open it was to the public, adding it does not have only one purpose, the user can interpret how to use this furniture on their own.

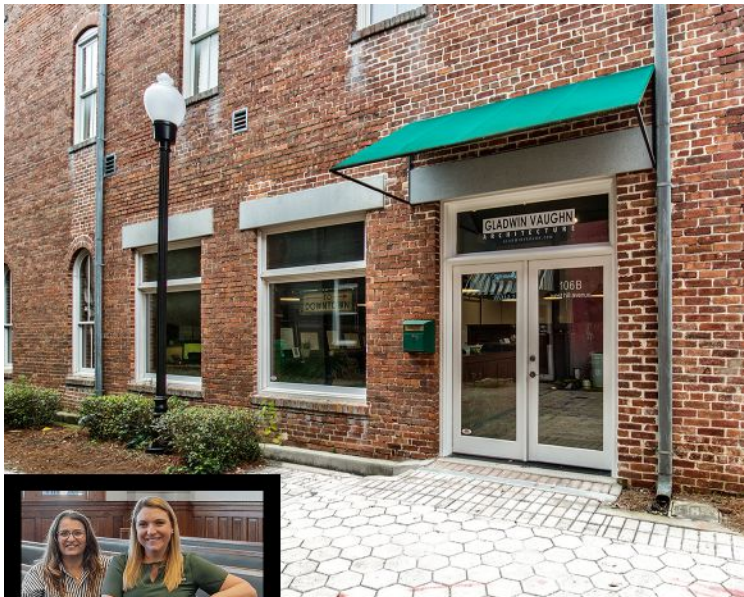


The Steel & Concrete Luminary

Citation Award

Christian Guzman, Assoc. AIA

The Steel & Concrete Luminary harmoniously merges resilience and minimalist elegance. Crafted from steel and concrete, it explores their interplay strength and subtlety, resilience and grace. The adjustable concrete shade houses the light source while the base doubles as a functional tray. A captivating addition to workspaces, symbolizing innovation and sophistication. The jury said the object tells who designed it. This is an architect's lamp. The selection of material, concrete, hardware is like an architect's jewelry box and said, "An obsessive effort, I admire them."



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Honor Awards



Photographer of the Year
Gabriel Perez Gomez

Gabriel Perez Gomez's unique style merges portrait and architectural photography, creating narratives where architectural settings frame the model, adding a vital human scale. Gabriel's journey into photography was simultaneous with his architecture design path. While he crafts intentional moments in his architectural designs, he enjoys looking for those specific moments created by architects in their work. Gabriel also enjoys approaching a project from non-traditional viewpoints, in search of compositions that might otherwise go unnoticed when viewed more conventionally and looks to approach the photography of a subject in search of what matters, whether it is the geometry, the choice in materials, the presence of light, or the relationship between architecture and human scale. Gabriel's combined passions of architecture and photography enriches his creative process. The jury appreciated the way he incorporated lifestyle into his photographs — creating a unique and distinct perspective.



**The William G. McMinn, FAIA,
Award for Outstanding Architectural
Education Contributions**
Henry Rueda, Assoc. AIA
Florida International University

Henry Rueda, Assoc. AIA, is an esteemed educator, designer and practicing architect whose teaching career began in Venezuela in the early 1990s. He also has an award-winning practice in collaboration with others focusing on hospitality and single-family homes. He taught at multiple architecture schools in Caracas and in 2007 co-founded Fundación Espacio, a non-for-profit organization promoting critical discourse through lectures, exhibitions and publications in Latin America. Over the course of his career, Professor Rueda has been invited to lecture in many countries and to participate in reviews in different Schools of Architecture across the United States. Relocating to Miami in 2014, he joined FIU, advancing from adjunct professor, visiting professor, to Associate Teaching Professor and in 2022, became chair of the Department of Architecture. During these 10 years, he was also a member and chair of the Lectures and Exhibitions Committee, and instrumental in bringing an impressive number of Latin American architects to the Department of Architecture. His vision emphasizes leadership, innovation and social justice in professional practice, academic projects and environmental advancement. The jury said Professor Rueda is very deserving and was impressed by his leadership in shaping curriculum at FIU.



Associate of the Year
Veronica "Nicky" Pereda, Assoc. AIA

Nicky Pereda, Assoc. AIA, currently serves as associate director at large for AIA Florida, has served two consecutive terms as AIA Tampa Bay associate director, and has been an active part of the Young Architect Committee for three years. Nicky has also spent more than 10 years as a volunteer with other nonprofits and organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Emmaus Women at her parish. Some of Nicky's many notable achievements include co-hosting firm crawls and study events, and developing the ARE Jeopardy study guide for her firm and AIA Tampa Bay's associates. Nicky's passion for service and mentorship exemplifies her impact on the profession and has led to many outreach opportunities, including participation in a podcast, ArchTalk, where she spoke about the positive efforts of AIA Florida, and all of her experiences and volunteer efforts in membership and advocacy. Nicky participated in both the AIA Florida Legislative Day and the AIA National Leadership Summit, where she took back a renewed appreciation for what AIA does for the profession to share with her coworkers and fellow members. Her efforts in organizing events, such as Associates Happy Hour at convention and mentoring and advocating for emerging professionals have significantly benefited AIA Florida, AIA Tampa Bay and the architecture community at large.



Allied Member of the Year
Nate Yoder

Nate Yoder has made exceptional contributions to AIA Florida Gulf Coast and AIA Florida. In his volunteerism with AIA Florida Gulf Coast, Nate has coordinated bi-weekly CEU programs and a bi-monthly speaker series, secured sponsorships, including one of the largest sponsorships for the chapter to date, volunteered with the board of directors, and fostered a key relationship with Architecture Sarasota significantly enhancing engagement for the chapter to inevitability become more profitable. In addition, Nate's dedication to engaging younger architects through product site visits, speaker series and social events has significantly raised awareness and increased membership for the chapter. Nate is always accommodating, always happy to help and always promoting architecture.



Builder of the Year
Batten Construction

Established in 1992, Batten Construction specializes in luxury custom homes, upscale commercial retail and high-end hospitality projects in South Florida. Known for collaborating closely with esteemed architects, the company ensures a seamless blend of aesthetics and functionality in its projects. Under the leadership of Douglas Batten, Batten Construction values honesty, integrity and clear communication likening their client and collaborator relationships to a successful marriage. Their commitment to excellence, personalized service and innovative practices has solidified their reputation as industry leaders. The jury appreciated the focus and commitment to their architect/builder relationship.



**The Charles W. Clary, FAIA,
 Government Service Award**
Mark Smith, AIA

Mark Smith, AIA, a long-time Sarasota resident and architect, has made significant contributions to his community and profession. He founded Smith Architects, P.A. in 1994 and has volunteered his time to serve on numerous boards, including the Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce and Sarasota County Sheriff's Advisory Board. Smith, AIA Florida President in 2007 and the recipient of the 2009 AIA Florida Silver Medal for Community Service, serves on several committees and actively engages with residents to address their concerns. Smith's dedication to preserving architectural heritage and improving community services underscores his impact as a public official. He currently serves on the Sarasota County Commission. The jury agreed that you can receive no higher endorsement than a nomination by Senator Clary himself, the namesake of the award. Senator Clary sharing in his nomination that Smith's contribution to the dignity and value of the architectural profession as an elected official has been invaluable.



The Anthony "Tony" Pullara Chapter Award

AIA Florida Gulf Coast

AIA Florida Gulf Coast, celebrating its 60th anniversary, at just less than 300 members excels in outreach, membership development and strategic programming at a level consistent with much larger components. The chapter's partnership with Architecture Sarasota harnesses their shared vision of awareness and education in architecture and has helped expand its network and reach. This year the chapter collaborated with Architecture Sarasota on an event that asked students to reimagine IM Pei's New College of Florida campus. Following the success of the academic initiative, the program was then offered to professionals as a part of a design competition. In addition to its collaborative efforts with Architecture Sarasota, the chapter provides membership with a robust selection of education and networking opportunities, including monthly CEs, Design Drinks happy hour events and a popular 10 x10 series. The chapter supports the development of its younger membership by offering weekly ARE study sessions at local firms and has covered the financial cost of a digital study program, helping to expand the reach of its exam preparation assistance to additional members.

The flagship event of the AIA Florida Gulf Coast chapter, the Sarasota Design Conference, just celebrated its 25th year with a two-day program that offered 13 CE hours and featured five speakers from around the world. To serve as voice of the profession for their community, the chapter embraces advocacy efforts by sending members and students to participate in AIA Florida Legislative Day and its component leadership to the AIA Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. Fostering the pipeline of leadership is important to the chapter, and several of its members are graduates of the Jacob Leadership Institute, with support of the chapter. Through these pursuits, and more, AIA Florida Gulf Coast is truly living up to its vision to "provide stewardship and lead positive change in the community through the power of design."

AIA Tampa Bay

AIA Tampa Bay is a thriving chapter built on a foundation of communication with its members, educational opportunities, advocacy, public outreach and successful governance. AIA Tampa Bay offers its members more than 20 continuing education hours a year, including a successful lunchtime series, which offers one CE credit for lunch each day of the week, one week each quarter and student, associate and Women in Architecture, education-based programming.

AIA Tampa Bay continues to lead efforts in advocacy with robust and regular participation in AIA Florida's Legislative Day, with two of AIA Tampa Bay's members named Citizen Architects this year. AIA Tampa Bay took home the Leader of the PAC title for the 2023 AIA Florida FAPAC component challenge by raising more than \$10,000. The chapter communicates with the Authorities Having Jurisdiction in Tampa, Clearwater and St. Petersburg and has welcomed both the Tampa Bay mayor and local public officials to participate at chapter events, including the opening of the Center for Architecture and Design, which garnered impressive media attention.

Each spring the chapter, along with the Center for Architecture & Design, holds a series of events to bring awareness and promote the importance of architecture and design in the community through their premier public outreach program, Tampa Bay Design Week. The event has an attendance of more than 500 community members and reaches an estimated 10,000 through promotion and social media. The chapter also promotes the work of its members through an annual design and honor awards program which includes a people's choice component. Through the chapter's pursuit towards excellence, AIA Tampa Bay continues to meet and exceed an exceptional standard of value and benefits for its members.



**The Anthony "Tony" Pullara Individual
AIA Service Award**
Bill Hercules, FAIA

William J. Hercules, FAIA, is renowned for his transformative contributions to healthcare architecture, blending innovative design with visionary leadership. As chair of AIA Orlando's Healthcare Committee, he expanded it into one of AIA Orlando's largest programs. His tenure as President of the American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA) saw ambitious agendas, including doubling board-certified healthcare architects and promoting American certification abroad. Hercules' dedication to AIA Florida includes roles on the Strategic Council, initiating the Florida People's Choice Awards and leading STE[A]M education programs. As president and treasurer of The Florida Foundation for Architecture, he engaged the public in appreciating exemplary architecture. His advocacy extends to the AIA National Strategic Council, focusing on rural and suburban practice, the metaverse, architecture's value and health and wellness.

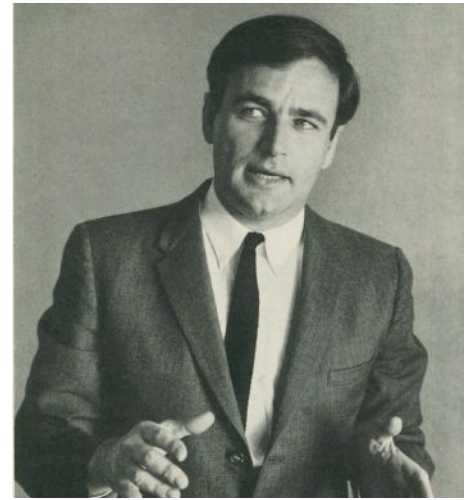
Recently, Bill led the efforts to create a Resolution on a Health and Wellbeing Policy for AIA which was adopted during the 2024 annual meeting. His extensive involvement, from legislative advocacy to mentoring young architects, is proof of his unwavering commitment to the profession and reflects the true qualities of this honor. The jury was impressed by the extraordinary breadth and depth of Bill's service to AIA and the architecture community, noting how his participation on the national level helps spread the service of AIA Florida, creating a ripple effect.



Firm of the Year
LEO A DALY West Palm Beach Studio

LEO A DALY's West Palm Beach studio, energized by local arts and culture, has shaped Florida's skylines for more than 50 years. Originally Schwab Twitty Architects, the studio specializes in educational, residential and commercial projects, earning a reputation for design excellence and client services. Their commitment to mentorship, community involvement and sustainable design reflects their dedication to enriching the human experience.

With more than half of the team with the firm for 18 years or more, sharing their knowledge and experience with interns and emerging professionals is a part of the firm's culture. Embracing work-life balance, the diverse staff from around the world works hard, enjoys some fun, and has time to recharge. Active in AIA leadership, the studio supports programs like AIA Women in Architecture and the Christopher Kelley Leadership Program, exemplifying their service to the architecture profession.



Medal of Honor for Design
Victor Lundy, FAIA

Victor Lundy, FAIA, artist and architect was a leader in the Sarasota School of Architecture, is a pioneer in the modernist architecture movement and created a legacy of unique architecture that endures on the West Coast of Florida and beyond. He is quoted as saying "For me, drawing is sort of synonymous with thinking." Lundy studied under Walter Gropius at Harvard University. He moved to Sarasota and opened his own firm in 1954, where he joined fellow Harvard graduate, Paul Rudolph, and became one of the leaders of the Sarasota School of Architecture,

Lundy is best known for his uniqueness in design style from the other members of the Sarasota School, with a focus on "soaring" rooflines and curves. These unique and stunning traits can be found in some of his most iconic projects in Florida, including the Herron House, the Blue Pagoda Sarasota Chamber of Commerce building, Galloway's Furniture Showroom and the Warm Mineral Springs Motel, which is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Lundy is often best known for his churches, including the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sarasota and the Drive-In Church in Venice, Florida.

A collection of his work is now in the Library of Congress archives. Lundy is 101 years old. All living former recipients of the Medal of Honor for Design nominated Victor Lundy, FAIA, in recognition of his remarkable artistry and enduring impact on architecture and design in Florida and beyond.

Silver Medal

Jason Hagopian, AIA

Jason Hagopian, AIA, is a dedicated community leader and architect committed to positive change and inclusivity. As vice chair of The Pride Center at Equality Park's board of directors, Jason spearheaded a comprehensive master planning project that shaped the programming for The Pride Center's extensive property, including Florida's first LGBTQ+ affordable senior housing project, of which he also served as a design and construction advisor. The master plan project has been shared with other associations across the country as a guide for campus design and LGBTQ+ friendly affordable housing development.

Jason has served for more than eight years on the City of Miami Beach Design Review Board. During his time on the DRB, he has advocated for superior design, sustainability and employment equity. Jason served on the Miami Center of Architecture and Design (MCAD) board for six years where he effectively grew the Board by 20 percent during his presidency and oversaw MCAD's largest community outreach event, the Urban Warrior Awards. During his service with MCAD, Jason encouraged continued educational partnerships with nearby schools of architecture and increased programming during the pandemic where he crafted



virtual opportunities focused on bringing the community together.

Jason is an active member of the Rensselaer Alumni Association Board, currently serving as Vice President and co-chair for the communications committee, where he is focused on growing the alumni community by connecting with other chapters and fostering connections between alumni interaction with each other and with current students. Jason is an active leader within all levels of the AIA, serving as AIA Fort Lauderdale president-elect, AIA Florida

committee member for the outreach task force and as Small Firms Exchange state representative to AIA National. His leadership and devotion as a tireless volunteer and champion are evident in his ability to transform spaces and empower communities through his expertise.

The jury thought Jason's breadth and depth of community service and outreach was extensive, commendable and refreshing, sharing how much they enjoyed seeing their peers out doing good things in the community.

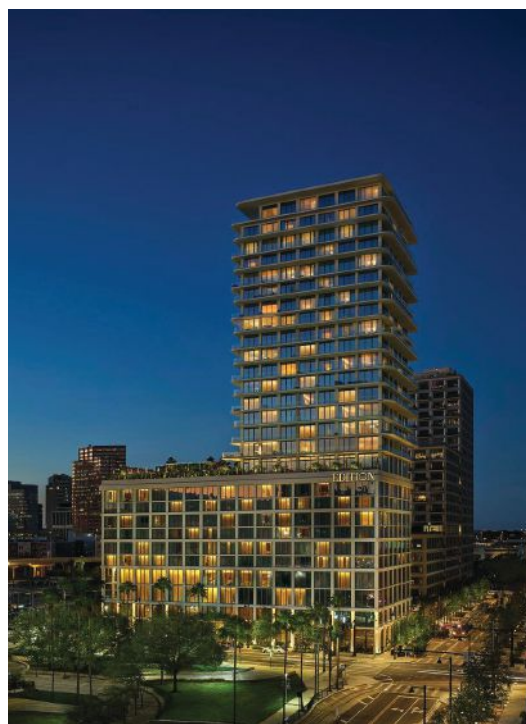
People's Choice

The Tampa EDITION

Morris Adjmi Architects, in collaboration with Nichols Architects

The People's Choice Award is designed to engage the public in discussions about architecture. This year's competition featured buildings where we live, work and play.

After weeks of competition and votes from around the world, the Tampa EDITION has been named the 2024 People's Choice recipient.





Gold Medal Lourdes Solera, FAIA

Lourdes Solera, FAIA, has passionately championed the AIA, the architecture profession and women in architecture for more than 25 years through her extensive involvement at local, state and national levels of the association. Beginning with AIA Miami's Architecture Week in 1999, her commitment has only deepened. In 2004, Lourdes became AIA Miami's first female president since 1941, and in 2009, she co-founded Women in Architecture Miami with Nati Soto, FAIA. Later inspired by the AIA National Women's Leadership Summit, Lourdes and Elizabeth Camargo, AIA, co-founded the annual Women's Leadership conference in Miami.

While serving as AIA Florida president in 2022, Lourdes continued her hope of all 13 AIA Florida components establishing a WIA, by starting the statewide AIA Florida Women in Architecture with a goal on reaching as many women in the profession as possible

to highlight their work and mentor the emerging professionals. A toolkit she co-created for AIA National was used to start the AIA Palm Beach Women in Architecture committee in 2014, where she most recently spoke at their first Women's Conference, continuing the pipeline of strong women leaders in the AIA. Also, during her presidency at AIA Florida, she spearheaded three task forces to address issues, was instrumental in securing international juries in Barcelona and Panama, clarifying the Design and Honor Awards instructions for jurors, and spearheaded a restructuring of the strategic council.


In 2012, Lourdes was elevated to the AIA College of Fellows for her leadership in the institute. Since joining the College of Fellows, Lourdes has served as a regional representative and is currently serving as a juror for AIA National's College of Fellows. Lourdes serves as a mentor, advocate and

encourager for emerging professionals, an ally and teammate to her colleagues, while advocating for community and historic preservation. She continues her legacy of lifting and shining a light on the voices of women in the profession. The jury emphasized the importance of the long-term impact Lourdes has made to AIA and to women in the profession at the local, state and national levels with her significant contributions to the association and the community.




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