



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AIA MICHIGAN DESIGN AWARDS ANNOUNCED

May 30, 2014- Detroit, Michigan- The American Institute of Architects Michigan announced that 9 buildings have been singled out for design excellence and will receive their awards at its annual Design Awards celebration on June 7 at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum in East Lansing. Dozens of projects were entered in the competition and they were judged by an esteemed jury from San Antonio, TX, chaired by Jim Poteet, FAIA.

The following is a list of the winning projects by category:

BUILDING CATEGORY:

Wayne County Community College District NW Campus

Detroit, Michigan

Architect: Hamilton Anderson Associates

Associate Architect: SHW Group

Owner: Wayne County Community College District

Contractor: Sorensen Gross

Photos: Justin Maconochie

Jury Comment: "The jury gravitated to this very well executed project that improves its campus as well as being a handsome architectural composition in its own right. The new buildings and additions create welcoming landscape entries and courts, beginning the experience of the campus improvements several layers back from the actual structures. Sustainable measures are holistically integrated, creating a building that derives much of its internal and external beauty through thoughtful integration of building performance. Materials are few, simply rendered, durable, and rich in color and texture, all appropriate and welcome qualities for a project that mixes together students, professionals, and community."

Rockford Construction Office Complex

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Architect: Integrated Architecture

Owner: Rockford Construction

Contractor: Rockford Construction

Photos: Bill Heber – all except the ones with people, which were photographed by IA Intern Architect Nate Umstead

Jury Comment: "This is a stunningly good example of a transformative renovation. The result contains the character of the original structures while injecting them with new purposes, spaces, and finishes to catalyze them. The project immediately rejuvenates its corner location, improving the streetscape around its perimeter. The planning and architecture work seamlessly, with open offices pushed to the perimeter, sharing views and daylight that are augmented by skylights and rooftop gardens. The material palette is spare, particularly energized by the contrast of the recycled ash flooring and walls, white structure and ceilings, and several shades of green that show up in the furniture, the 'Hollow' (multi-purpose lounge), and the captured views to the verdant cityscape and gardens."

Cranbrook Art Museum Collections Building

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Architect: SmithGroupJJR

Owner: Cranbrook Academy of Art and Art Museum

Contractor: Frank Rewold and Son, Inc.

Photos: Jim Haefner

Jury Comment: "The site of this project, at the Cranbrook campus in Bloomfield Hills, elevates the expectations for execution simply by the power of the context. Against this backdrop, the design team has

delivered a project of exquisite beauty and detail, befitting of the internationally recognized artworks it shelters. At a site level, the building forms a quiet partner with the existing Art Museum and elegant landscape and sets itself up for a future drop-off court. Inside, the plan deftly weaves the Collections structure with the Museum, integrating old and new in a hidden and seamless junction. The material renderings in the spaces are first rate, absolutely worthy of residing on a campus with both Saarinen's and contemporary architects' masterpieces."

Michigan State University Molecular Plant Sciences Research Building

East Lansing, Michigan

Architect: SmithGroupJJR

Owner: Michigan State University

Contractor: The Christman Company

Photos: Jim Haefner

Jury Comment: "The jury applauds the restraint of this project, and at the same time, its richness. Committing to such formal simplicity requires getting all the proportions and detailing just right and this project is an unqualified success by that measure. The contrast of the transparency of the curtain wall with the solidity of the masonry base and rear creates an identity for this new corner on the campus. The lobby interior was one of our favorites, gracefully accepting the wall of its existing neighbor as one element of its palette. The careful selection of the mix of green brick, while contrasting with its neighbors, was the perfect choice to forge a greater whole."

INTERIOR CATEGORY:

Zola Bistro

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Design Architect: PLY Architecture

Associate Architect: A3 Studios

Owner: Alan Zakalik and Hediye Batu

Contractor: JCS Construction

Photos: Interiors - Adam Smith and Exteriors – Raimund Koch

Jury Comment: "This handsome, well-developed interior is an understated charmer. While it is packed with innovative ideas, it doesn't feel crowded or forced. The steel banquette/bar central to the space, the sculptural wood coat rack at the entry, and the two-sided mirror wall at the restrooms blend function and expression in a way we found extremely satisfying. We particularly appreciated the contrast of the modular steel bar shelving with the free form wood screen in the dining area. It is not perhaps expected that design rigor yields warmth, but both qualities are present in this elegant project."

M@dison Building

Detroit, Michigan

Architect: Neumann/Smith Architecture

Owner: Bedrock Real Estate Services

Contractor: Sachse Construction

Photos: Justin Maconochie & Communication Associates

Jury Comment: "The jury found this to be an exemplary adaptive reuse project. Strategic modifications—more often subtracting rather than adding—reveal the raw fabric of the building, giving the spaces a vitality appropriate to its new use. The new insertions are well considered and bold enough to hold their own against the muscularity of the revealed structure. The auditorium space, raw and colorful, is a good example of the balance that was struck with the design. The generous roof terrace allows generous views of the surrounding city and makes a strong statement about this project's role in its future."

UNBUILT PROJECT CATEGORY:

Liquid Planning Detroit

Detroit, Michigan

Architect: MAde Studio

Client: Data Driven Detroit

Sponsor: Graham Sustainability Institute, University of Michigan

Jury Comment: "The jury was very impressed with the fine-grained analysis that underlies the urban designs of this Unbuilt project. The idea of proactive storm water management as a generator for urban design is both timely and important. We thought the two contrasting subject areas, one residential and the other industrial, were an elegant way to explore the varying issues and opportunities present in the urban situation. The graphic presentations of the resulting interventions are both compelling and realizable."

LOW BUDGET/SMALL PROJECT CATEGORY:

Wing Lake Stone Schoolhouse

Bloomfield Township, Michigan

Architect: HopkinsBurns Design Studio

Owner: Bloomfield Hills Schools

Contractor: Frank Rewold and Son, Inc.

Photos: HopkinsBurns Design Studio and Don Rochlen

Jury Comment: "This historic renovation makes the case that the constraints of small size and limited budget can, in the right hands, be a source of architectural strength. The didactic elements of the design gently explain the historic structure without becoming overbearing. The workings of the belfry with its simple rope tie and the preserved plaster chalkboard exemplify the careful thought that went into the project. We appreciated that certain elements -- the light fixtures and the cloakroom cabinet-- were strategically added, not in the service of historical accuracy, but for the proper future function of this quiet space."

STEEL AWARD CATEGORY:

Highland Community Hospital

Picayune, Mississippi

Architect: SmithGroupJJR

Owner: Forrest General Hospital

Contractor: Roy Anderson Corp.

Photos: Maxwell MacKenzie

Jury Comment: "This is a very handsome project resulting from difficult building program. The architectural character of hospitals is often sublimated in the service of myriad technical requirements. In this project, the relative simplicity of the building's façade composition belies its detailed complexity. Articulated steel window surrounds and an intricate scupper design add subtle richness to the design. Time and again, elements of the project leverage budget and design effort by serving multiple purposes. The gabled roof, with its delicate slatted metal screen makes a strong aesthetic statement while cleverly concealing the rooftop mechanical equipment. The building lobby balances the structural clarity of the elegant king post trusses and exposed tube columns with the warmth of carefully applied wood paneling. The jury recognizes the significant effort represented in the masterful execution of steel details present here."

25 YEAR AWARD CATEGORY:

This category is for a distinguished project, executed prior to 1989 and used for at least 25 years for the same purpose for which it was designed. The 25 Year Award honorees are chosen because the original design has made a lasting impact on the design community and continues to be utilized for its intended purpose. While the designs may have undergone updates over the years, the thoughtful, well-designed spaces have stood the test of time and the buildings are just as relevant today as 25 years ago. This year's winners are **The Palace of Auburn Hills** by ROSSETTI and **Birmingham Residence** by Robert L. Ziegelman, FAIA of Luckenbach/Ziegelman Architects PLLC.

STUDENT PROJECT AWARD:

"Creating an Understanding of the Built Environment"

Author: Adam Cook, University of Detroit Mercy

Jury Comment: "A wonderful expressive solution to a challenging program and site while creating a sensitive environment with strong connections to the urban environment."

Project photos are available at: <http://aiami.com/Default.aspx?pagelid=1854905>.

The American Institute of Architects Michigan, headquartered in the historic Beaubien House across from the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit, established its awards program to bring to public attention the value and importance of architectural excellence and to recognize those whose notable achievements encourage all to make excellence in architecture the standard. Visit www.aiami.com or call 313.965.4100 to learn more.

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