



AIA
Cleveland

2021 AIA CLEVELAND DESIGN AWARDS

RE: List of Winning Projects

Each year, AIA Cleveland recognizes excellence in design by inviting local firms to submit their best work to be reviewed by nationally renowned juries from all over the country. This year's Design Awards ceremony was held virtually.

The design awards jury co-chairs were Deborah Berke, FAIA and Noah Biklen, AIA from the renowned design firm, Deborah Berke Partners in New York.

Some of their most significant past work includes the Distribution Headquarters for Cummins in Indianapolis; the Rockefeller Arts Center in Fredonia, New York; 21c Museum Hotels across the U.S.; and the Yale School of Art.

They have won numerous awards for their work, including a National Design Award from the Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum.

Their current projects include the New Residential Colleges at Princeton University, and the Lewis International Law Center at Harvard Law School.

There were 6 Categories in this year's Design Awards program:

Student Projects – 16 total project entries

The student design awards program focuses on high quality, innovative design responses. This program allows graduate students to submit their final school project from the past academic semester. Student submissions will be pre-selected by their faculty members and members of the Cleveland design community. Selected student work will then be submitted to the Design Awards program for consideration by the AIA Cleveland Design Awards jury.

Makers – 4 total project entries

To recognize an instance in which the expression of architecture and the craft of making come together. Submissions should illustrate the governing design concept of that building in which the detail is found through the use of a particular material, detail, or technology. Submissions should set themselves apart from the 'norm' with considerations to the concept of the detail, originality of the design, innovative use of materials, execution of the concept through craft, and how it relates to the overall goals of the project.

Unbuilt Projects – 11 total project entries

Recognizes unbuilt projects for their excellence or research on design practice or theory, design competitions, and projects that are not expected to be constructed.

Small Projects – 5 total project entries

This category recognizes small project practitioners for the high quality of their work and to promote excellence in small project design in all types of buildings, restoration, preservation and, adaptive re-use. This category strives to raise public awareness of the value and design excellence that architects bring to a project, despite the limits of size and scope. Projects must be less than 5,000 square feet.

Interior Architecture – 12 total project entries

Impactful building interiors make their mark on the cities, places, and spaces where we live and work. The Interior Architecture category celebrates the most innovative and spectacular interior spaces.

Architecture – 27 total project entries

The Architecture category celebrates the best contemporary architecture regardless of budget, size, style, or type. These projects show the world the range of outstanding work architects create and highlight the many ways buildings and spaces can improve our lives.

STUDENT CATEGORY

Citation

Project: Designing for Dystopia: The Game

KSU Student: Kaitlyn Boniecki

STUDENT CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: La Vue

KSU Student: Evan Bluemel and Aileen Lin

Description:

The design is viewed as a “cabinet of curiosities,” through its display by creating an inclination for exploration and lively experiences by bridging programs and collections together. The project transforms the typical museum’s definition of a “cabinet of curiosities” from a display of revolutionary arts and sciences into a contemporary exhibition of the current culture of fashion and art by the use of vertical and horizontal openings that allows space in the interior to reach out into the exterior, and from one floor to another to create programmatic space that conceal and expose portions of displays.

The jury’s comments were: A timely and well-considered design for outdoor classrooms.

STUDENT CATEGORY

Honor Award

Project: Walls Elementary Learning Pavilion

KSU Student: Brennan Flory, Zachary Miller, Feyza Mutlu, & Zelig Fok

Description:

Versatile and adaptable surroundings are vital in determining the success of a child's learning environment. Walls Elementary Learning Pavilion creates a progressive outdoor learning environment, where a flexible architectural platform encourages hands-on learning experiences to co-exist with play.

Using a series of transformable, built-in, furniture-like units, students and teachers are invited to treat the pavilion like a blank canvas, adapting their environment to fulfill specific learning outcomes and activities. This outdoor learning environment will provide endless learning opportunities in a single setting, creating a dynamic environment that enhances student engagement and ensures an exceptional learning experience to foster mental and physical student wellbeing.

The jury's comments were: This modular open-air classroom is a beautifully drawn and insightful response to the current challenges of education. One imagines that this proposal could be easily adapted to different site conditions and includes seamless integration of sustainable and pedagogical elements that make the whole more than the sum of its parts.

MAKERS CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: The Bend

Firm: BUILD WORKSHOP

Photographer: Christopher Brown, Joel Dalzell, Greg Stroh

Description:

The Bend performs the role of advocate committed to turning a neglected public field into a vibrant recreation space. The project serves as a social connector where different users come together for both unique public programming and informal, unplanned use. Consisting of a concrete platform, hybrid steel and wood construction, canopy, and seating with solar USB charging, the project physically connects visitors and the neighborhood with an intimate, bespoke gesture. The design & fabrication was conceived of as modular & mobile. Components were built and assembled in the shop, permitting reduced time and labor on site. The project illustrates the impact of a small-scale gesture, when leveraging higher goals and ideals for the integration of campus and city.

The jury's comments were: This well-detailed, thoughtful response to a neglected public field creates a place to instigate gathering and eventually more active recreation, all within an economy of means.

UNBUILT PROJECTS CATEGORY

Citation

Project: Perfect Posts of Architecture

Firm: Onyx Creative

UNBUILT PROJECTS CATEGORY

Honorable Mention

Project: CRF Boathouse

Firm: JKURTZ Architects

Owner: Cleveland Rowing Foundation

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 12,000 sf

Description:

The New Boathouse at the Cleveland Rowing Foundation accommodates storage, team pace, and accessible workout and shower facilities for the foundation's many rowing programs. Oriented on a skewed diagrid; alternating structural inflection points lift and fall. The structural composition and resulting topology recall the rhythmic oscillations of a scullers' oars passing above and below the surface of water; both physical and reflected. The sculpted roof becomes an urban landmark, and its smoothness subverts the gritty order into which it is set, a new symbol of the foundation viewed both from the surface of the water and the bluff above.

The jury's comments were: The lightness of the structure gives the building an ethereal presence on the waterfront.

UNBUILT PROJECTS CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: Shenzhen Natural History Museum Competition

Firm: DLR Group | Westlake Reed Leskosky

Owner: Engineering Design Management Center of Bureau of Public Works of Shenzhen Municipality

Location: Shenzhen, China

Size: 785,765 sf

Description:

Situated on the Pearl River, often called the Golden River of Guongdong, the city's growth, both naturally and urbanistically, was based on the commerce and access that the river provides. The

rivers flowing through the area carve the natural environment and provide an urban ecosystem that the city was built around. The Shenzhen Natural History Museum plays an important role in facilitating the built and natural environments as an ecological evolution within the area of the Guongdong Province. The concept builds on the carving of this land by the river delta, allowing each environment created to tell its own story.

The jury's comments were: Bold forms with strong materiality use light and surface texture to create an elegant response to the program and site.

SMALL PROJECTS CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: Garvey Shade Pavilion

Firm: JKURTZ Architects

Owner: Boston Parks & Recreation

Location: Dorchester, MA

Size: 800 sf

Cost: \$240,000

Photographer: Ken Richardson

Description:

A new shade pavilion located at the entry of Garvey Playground in Dorchester, Massachusetts is conceived as a lattice of alternating fins. Composed as fields of parallel steel bulb flats, the overlapping fins permit a variety of dappled shade conditions. The bottom layer is painted white to reflect the landscape, and the upper layer is painted gold to offer a subtle glow through the depth of the canopy. The unique steel shapes, commonly used as stiffeners in ship and bridge building, offer a superior strength to weight ratio and reference Boston's storied shipbuilding legacy.

The jury's comments were: This simple and well-detailed shade structure creates a focal point and a pleasant gathering space in a neighborhood park.

INTERIORS CATEGORY

Citation

Project: Christ Presbyterian Church - Spirit and Space Masterplan and Rehabilitation

Firm: Perspectus Architecture

INTERIORS CATEGORY

Honorable Mention

Project: The Pivot Center for Art, Dance & Expression

Firm: City Architecture

Owner: Foran Group Development LLC

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 80,000 sf

Cost: \$7,900,000

Photographer: Cory Klein

Description:

The historic Astrup Awning Building has been redeveloped as the Pivot Center for Art, Dance & Expression. This adaptive reuse has brought new investment, youthful activity and vital services to Cleveland's Clark-Fulton neighborhood. Interior renovations preserved original architectural features while adding modern amenities that support multiple uses, including offices, a dance studio and art gallery.

Bringing positive and catalytic attention to the neighborhood, the Pivot Center is much more than a redeveloped building – it is a transformative gathering space and important civic anchor. The Center brings healing and a renewed space to the community, while serving as a welcoming neighborhood asset.

The jury's comments were: The architects used a light touch in the adaptive reuse project allowing the existing building's good qualities to shine through.

INTERIORS CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: APG

Firm: Vocon

Owner: APG / W25D Investors LLC

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 9,726 sf

Cost: Confidential

Photographer: David Joseph

Description:

APG relocated from a large industrial building with minimal views to the blossoming Ohio City neighborhood. Taking advantage of the newly constructed Quarter project on West 25th and Detroit,

the 1st floor showroom presented the Dealer with prime Cleveland real estate to create a dynamic client experience and honor the Herman Miller Brand.

The jury's comments were: This clean modern interior space mixes off-the-shelf and custom interiors that honors mid-century design, including a handsome custom plywood reception desk.

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Honorable Mention

Project: Indianapolis Public Library West Perry Branch

Firm: HBM Architects

Owner: Indianapolis Public Library

Location: Indianapolis, IN

Size: 22,800 sf

Cost: \$8,100,000

Photographer: Megan Ratts

Description:

The concept for the building centers on a budget-friendly, simple rectangular building form that pulls inward at special points (entry, Children's area, outdoor patio), creating folded trapezoidal planes delineating large expanses of daylight-framing glass. A perforated metal panel screen, designed to invoke the enlarged cell structures of a leaf, shades the southern glass wall. This 'geometry meets nature' aesthetic connects the building to the surrounding landscape and is reflected both outside and inside the building through geometry, organic forms, and clear glass for visual connectivity to the riparian woodland to the north.

The jury's comments were: This neighborhood library has an admirable civic presence and an inviting daylit interior.

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Honorable Mention

Project: The Tappan

Firm: Bialosky Cleveland

Owner: Sustainable Community Associates

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 82,388 sf

Cost: \$23,000,000

Photographer: Christian Phillips

Description:

The Tappan is a new, 95-unit apartment building located in the Scranton Corridor of Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood. Its dark iron spot brick skin references the grittier, semi-industrial section of the neighborhood, while warm wood elements peel away to evoke an intimate, residential sanctuary. Elements of stitching and weaving are evident in construction methods, details, and finishes, inspired by the neighborhood's rich textile heritage.

The jury's comments were: A thoughtful urban in-fill project with a courtyard to foster community within the building. Nicely articulated materiality gives the building a strong street presence.

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: Dealer Tire Site & Garage

Firm: Vocon

Owner: Dealer Tire

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 165,000 sf

Cost: Confidential

Photographer: Matt Carbone & Lauren Davis

Description:

Dealer Tire preserved the 165,000 sf historic Victory Center Building to revitalize Midtown Cleveland. The design team added a parking garage and landscaped a 2-acre park, transforming a city block of hardscape into green space, including a loop trail and outdoor seating. Bioswales capture 100% of the runoff and butterfly-friendly plantings annually host monarchs.

The exterior spaces honor Dealer Tire's business with tire-inspired design elements. These features include the parking lot sculpture and the parking garage's screen, which speaks to movement.

The jury's comments were: A strong adaptive reuse project with good site planning and a high-performance sustainable landscape.

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Merit Award

Project: Fox Residence

Firm: Horton Harper Architects

Owner: Leigh Fox

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 4,012 sf

Cost: \$720,000

Photographer: Horton Harper Architects

Description:

The Fox Residence is located in Duck Island, an unpretentious neighborhood overlooking the Cuyahoga River and Cleveland's low-lying industrial areas. The client wanted a home that could accommodate their growing family throughout all stages of their lives. Thus, the home is conceived as two buildings. Each building sits on its respective parcel and is connected to the other via a single-story room within the center of the plan, which serves as the entrance into main house. This physical separation repairs the disjointed sequence of houses along the street, while affording its inhabitants the privacy desired in multigenerational homes.

The jury's comments were: This project is a study in making a forward-thinking home typology within the fabric of a single-family neighborhood. The scale, details, and material palette are well-considered and skillfully executed.

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Honor Award

Project: Geauga County Public Library - Thompson Branch Library

Firm: CBLH Design with Perkins + Will

Owner: Geauga County Public Library

Location: Thompson, OH

Size: 8,500 sf

Cost: \$4,500,000

Photographer: Mark Herboth

Description:

Thompson Branch Library is designed to reflect the history and culture of its rural Ohio township through familiar barn geometry. Just as the barn has consistently adapted and innovated over time, the library has transformed as both an information hub and civic gathering place. The interior spaces are simple and intuitive, keeping with the functional spirit of agrarian living. Three key areas of inspiration

for the library design helped build consensus in the community: the handmade, a welcoming hearth and reference to vernacular barn structures.

The jury's comments were: A beautiful and thoughtful design for a neighborhood library that is welcoming, well-sited, and has a distilled approach to materials.

ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY

Honor Award

Project: Maltz Performing Arts Center Phase Two

Firm: DLR Group | Westlake Reed Leskosky

Owner: Case Western Reserve University

Location: Cleveland, OH

Size: 64,200 sf

Cost: \$39,800,000

Photographer: Kevin G. Reeves

Description:

The project is an educational performing arts facility for Case Western Reserve University and an addition to a historic temple. The addition provides educational and performance spaces for the university's theater and dance departments with a proscenium theater, black box theater, shops, service, dressing rooms, classrooms, and offices. The addition defers to the original temple and avoids competition with the dome, taking its cues from the lower massing of the landmark building. The northeast and northwest corners of the addition are clad in limestone. The massing creates a legible rectangular perimeter, framing the more crystalline glass and metal forms within.

The jury's comments were: A restrained and crisply detailed addition that both defers to the existing complex and adds a striking new presence. The interiors use a limited, high-contrast palette to a powerful effect.

People's Choice Award:

Project: Chinatown Eastgate

Firm: MGS Global

ACTIVISM AWARD

Crystal Montgomery, Assoc. AIA

For far-reaching accomplishments in preservation advocacy, community engagement, and public awareness of architecture and landmarks.

EMERGING ARCHITECT AWARD

Abby Baker, Assoc. AIA

For bringing beauty, creativity, and sustainability to design projects and volunteerism to our design community and beyond.

PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

Hallie Crouch, Assoc. AIA

For outstanding service to the AIA, as well as dedication and commitment to the success of AIA Cleveland as Secretary, Co-Chair of programming, Chair of Associates Committee, and Co-Founder of Women in Architecture Committee.