



 Print this page |  E-mail this page

2006 AIA Honor Awards Recognize Excellence in Architecture, Interiors, and Urban Design

For Immediate Release

Washington, D.C., January 13, 2006 —

Contact: Cara
Battaglini
202.626.7462
carab@aia.org

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) announced today the 2006 recipients of the AIA Institute Honor Awards, the profession's highest recognition of works that exemplify excellence in architecture, interior architecture, and urban design. Selected from over 680 total submissions, 30 recipients will be honored in June at the AIA 2006 National Convention and Design Exposition in Los Angeles.

2006 Institute Honor Awards for Architecture:

"There was a wide variety of projects selected from the over 400 entries the jury reviewed for 2006. The jury was interested in projects that fit their context whether it was a chapel, an office building, a campus infill or urban intervention," said Jury Chair Robert E. Hull, FAIA, from The Miller/Hull Partnership in Seattle. "The diverse background of the jury insured that our selections appealed to a wide range of architectural design. In our deliberations and site visits there was the realization of the special qualities, vitality, and importance that great architecture brings to our society. The projects selected for the 2006 honor awards are a celebration of our profession's continued vitality."

Ballard Library and Neighborhood Service Center, Seattle, by Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, for the Seattle Public Library

The first major building designed and built within its neighborhood's new municipal center master plan, this project's library and service center share a gently sloping site adjacent to a city park currently under construction. The structure draws on the community's Scandinavian and maritime roots, all the while anticipating its projected demographics of a younger, more diverse population.

Bigelow Chapel, New Brighton, Minn., by Hammel, Green and Abrahamson Inc., for the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities

This 5,000-square-foot chapel serves an ecumenical graduate and professional school of theology that houses 250 students of all faiths—from Roman Catholic to Jewish to Unitarian. Rather than thinking of the chapel as a Christian worship space, the architect set forth to embody a "trinity of spiritual qualities" in intimacy, warmth, and light. The space captures intimacy and warmth through use of rippling, honey-colored, translucent, 32-inch-deep maple panels; light streams through the panels and from clerestories and skylights.

Frieder Burda Collection Museum, Baden-Baden, Germany, by Richard Meier & Partners Architects LLP, with associate architect Peter W. Kruse-Freier Architekt, for Sammlung Frieder Burda

This new museum for a private collection harmonizes with its surrounding public park as well as an adjacent Kunsthalle, or art museum. A glass-enclosed bridge connects the new museum to the existing one and shows proper respect to its venerable neighbor by touching its façade as gently as possible.

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, by Koning Eizenberg Architecture, with Perkins Eastman Architects PC, for Children's Museum of Pittsburgh

The architects say this museum expansion was inspired by the Chinese proverb that instructs parents to give their children two things: roots and wings. The project expands an existing museum from its home in an 1897 post office into an adjacent planetarium that had long stood vacant.

Joseph A. Steger Student Life Center, University of Cincinnati, by Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners, with associate architect glaserworks, for the University of Cincinnati

This 114,700-square-foot building housing administrative classrooms, computer labs, retail, and food service, as well as a restored 1920s classroom, is a dynamic part of a new spine of campus activity organized along major pedestrian and topographic paths.

Museo Picasso Malaga, Malaga, Spain, by Gluckman Mayner Architects, with associate architect Camara/Martin Delgado Arquitectos, for Fundacion Museo Picasso Malaga

This museum, dedicated to the works of Pablo Picasso, graces the historic city center of Malaga, the artist's birthplace. The architects fully restored the 16-century Palacio de Buenavista to house the main entry and permanent collection galleries within a project that also included inserting six new buildings into the urban fabric to enclose some 80,000 square feet.

TRUMPF Customer and Administration Building, Ditzingen, Germany, by Barkow Leibinger Architects, for TRUMPF GmbH + Co. KG

Situated between the Autobahn and the existing buildings of a high-tech machine-tool company, this new building for 300 employees creates a new entry courtyard for visitors and customers. The architects worked with three crystalline-formed volumes at the base of the building—lobby, auditorium, and exhibition spaces—and built up at split-level increments to the sixth floor.

Visiting Artists House, Geyserville, Calif., by Jim Jennings Architecture, for Stephen H. Oliver

This 1,700-square-foot residence of two suites accessible to studios serves artists commissioned to work onsite at a former northern California sheep ranch. The architects defined the structure with two 200-foot-long poured-in-place concrete walls that “slice along the crest of a hill, retaining the earth along the length of the cut and carving out prescribed areas for indoor and outdoor living.” The sleeping areas offer private views of the landscaping, which includes a small lake that also feeds water of constant temperature to the building's mechanical systems.

Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C., by TVS – D&P Mariani PLLC; with associate architects Thompson Ventulett Stainback PC, Devroux & Purnell Architects Planners PC, and Mariani Architects Engineers PC; for the Washington Convention Center Authority

The design team faced the challenge of creating the largest enclosed gathering space in the nation's capital: 2.3 million square feet on a 600,000-square-foot footprint that stretched across six vacant lots. The result is the first vertically stacked, long-span convention center in the country. Given the relatively small footprint and the city's strict height limits, the architects devised a spatial “sandwich” that buried one of the exhibit halls underground and elevated the other, so that lobbies, meeting rooms, and registration spaces could be at ground level.

Washington State Legislative Building Rehabilitation, Olympia, Wash., by SRG Partnership Inc., with associate architect Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, for Washington State General Administration

The challenge with the 1920s, 300,000-gross-square-foot, four-story brick-and-stone structure that was on the verge of collapse was to extend its life expectancy for another 50 years. The team succeeded in installing all new heating, cooling, plumbing, and fire-protection systems while keeping the historic features of the building intact. Additionally, the capitol dome—via its 16 columns—was reinforced to withstand a severe earthquake.

William J. Clinton Presidential Center, Little Rock, Ark. by Polshek Partnership Architects; with associate architects Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects Ltd, Witsell Evans Rasco Architects and Planners, and Woods Caradine Architects; for the William J. Clinton Foundation

While the principal design goals—to create an inviting, memorable, and inspiring place, and a visually and intellectually accessible destination—seem in the mainstream for a presidential library, this project represents a radical departure from its predecessors in that its site selection intended to rehabilitate a derelict area of abandoned warehouses.

2006 Institute Honor Awards for Interior Architecture

“The 2006 projects included a diverse range of sizes and types of interior projects representing the variety of design approaches and creative abilities of architects. The recipients represented a variety of scales, from a research laboratory in Massachusetts, to a floral studio in Florida, and of project types that included large and small office environments, academic and institutional buildings, a residence, and two theaters,” said Jury Chair Linda Searl, FAIA, Searl and Associates Architects in Chicago. “We found that universally the honored designs were a clear expression of the client’s personality and requirements, and the design concepts represented a fresh and inventive approach, reinforced by the appropriate use of materials, lighting, and color.”

Bizarre, Omaha, by Randy Brown Architects, for Djel Brown

This women’s boutique offered the architects an opportunity to challenge the typical retail store conventions “where the walls, fixtures, ceilings, and floors are all separate elements,” they say. The space’s narrow bay is divided into an enclosed space and an open space that contains a series of equally spaced pods to organize the merchandise.

English Residence, Beverly Hills, Calif., by Chu + Gooding Architects and interior designer Kay Kollar Design, for Tobias Emmerich

The owners of this mid-century Modern glass house by Harwell Hamilton Harris charged the architects with restoring the building to Harris’ original architectural intention while meeting the needs of their contemporary lifestyle. The architects used the existing caissons and basement slab to restore the original footprint of a service wing on the lower and upper levels while reconfiguring interior walls, gaining back the original design’s two bedrooms, bath, kitchen, family room, and breakfast room—plus space on the basement level for a gym.

Google Headquarters, Mountain View, Calif., by Clive Wilkinson Architects, for Google Inc.

The master plan for this project, which resulted from a strategic workplace reevaluation and need to expand by a renowned Internet company, follows a simple distribution of work “neighborhoods” along a “Main Street” circulation plan. All share resources—meeting rooms, “tech talk” spaces, micro-kitchens, and library lounge—and find their homes along Main Street.

Karla, Miami, by Rene Gonzalez Architect Inc, for Karla Conceptual Event Experiences

The architects’ magic turned an industrial warehouse and adjacent overgrown vacant lot into a flexible space that fosters large-scale production of floral arrangements as well as the staging of events for the local corporate and entertainment community. Throughout the project, spaces and fixtures were designed and chosen with simplicity of form and material to maximize effect while staying within a budget.

Mother London, London, by Clive Wilkinson Architects, for MotherSpace for this advertising agency, which grew in six years from a six-person operation to the number one agency in Britain, had to treble the workspace for the staff and capture a radical attitude that embraces a completely flat organizational curve. Everyone in the firm works around a single work table, which has grown progressively larger as the staff expanded. Working within the client-selected three-floor, 42,000-square-foot existing warehouse, the architect transformed the top floor, which boasts 13-foot ceilings and 14,000 square feet of open area, into the primary work area.

Nissan Design America, Farmington Hills, Mich., by design architect Luce et Studio Architects, with executive architect Albert Kahn Associates, Inc. for Nissan Design America

The client challenged the architect to create a “synergistic, creative work environment that would strike a balance between the frank industrial nature of the program and architectural sophistication” by adding a wing for automotive design that would allow a seamless evolution from conception to prototype. Featuring a 20-foot-tall pivoting stainless steel door as well as a 20-foot-tall projecting screen, the public space allows the staff to communicate through visual images, creating a “public landscape of the design process.”

[The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC, Houston, by DMJM Rottet, for the Royal Bank of Scotland plc](#)

The design team needed to create an office environment for an international bank client that had recently split into two groups, allowing each group its own identity while also creating some communal space for them to share. The architects employed a “box-within-a-box” concept for the public areas while maximizing the light and views that come with the client’s location on the 65th floor of a Pei Cobb Freed building. Using a subtle form of branding, the interior motif plays on the concept of pattern and grids within a Scottish tartan rather than employing decorative motifs or overt logos.

[Schepens Eye Research Institute Laboratory Renovation, Boston, Payette for Schepens Eye Research Institute](#)

The architects used studies in transparency, translucency, and contrasts in color and texture to completely transform 64,000 square feet of “tired” lab space into three floors of state-of-the-art molecular biology research environment. A racetrack corridor scheme became an open laboratory design that enhances the interaction among research groups and dramatically increases the amount of assignable lab and lab support space. The renovation takes full advantage of large perimeter windows to maximize the amount of natural light and the loft-like feeling of the space.

[Skillman Library, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., by Ann Beha Architects, for Lafayette College](#)

The architect strove to expand and transform an undervalued and underappreciated 1964 library of 75,000 square feet into a new learning center where students can work collaboratively and at the same time establish a connection with surrounding buildings, circulation paths, and landscaping lacking in the original design. On its main level, the center—with the addition of 30,000 square feet, now offers a large and flexible “information studio,” with a café, casual reading areas, meeting areas, group study rooms, digital project rooms, a gallery, and computer rooms.

[Temporary Theater, Portland, Ore., by BOORA Architects, for the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art](#)

Designed for an institute of contemporary art that each year presents a festival for contemporary performances of theater, dance, music, and electronic media, this project turned an empty warehouse into a performance venue with a 200-seat theater and a cabaret stage, plus an ancillary bar and café. The architects delineated the theater space from the rest of the warehouse with a wall of scaffolding that hid production equipment. Additional scaffolding provided seating, and an overhead gantry crane served as home for the theatrical lighting.

[Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, D.C., by McInturff Architects, for the Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company](#)

To provide a first-time home for an edgy-production theater company that has been entertaining Washington, D.C., for 25 years, a developer offered space—to be designed via a publicly funded competition—for the rent of \$1 per year. Embedded deep within a large residential/commercial building at 14 feet below street level, the developer provided finished exterior facades and a concrete shell, leaving interior fitout to the theater.

[2006 Institute Honor Awards for Regional and Urban Design](#)

“The jury reviewed a broad spectrum of submissions from the smallest scale projects to the largest proposal for the transportation framework for the new nation of Palestine. The awards recognized projects that best demonstrated the application of sustainable design principles to creatively use open space and density to advance social, economic and environmental health,” said Jury Chair Diane T. Georgopoulos, FAIA, of Mass Housing Finance Agency in Boston. “Some projects were of significant excellence because of the masterful coordination of open space, access corridors, and built form within historic, brownfield, or institutional urban contexts. Other projects invented new analytical techniques that hold promise to become approaches the profession may profitably employ in the future.”

[The Arc: A Formal Structure for a Palestinian State, West Bank and Gaza, Palestine, by Suisman Urban Design, for the RAND Corporation](#)

Palestine’s crumbling infrastructure presents a major challenge for a new Palestinian state, where the

population is predicted to reach 6.6 million by 2020. This project represents a concept for developing the physical infrastructure of a new independent Palestine as well as a tangible symbol of Palestinian statehood and progress. The team focused on construction of a new international airport and seaport, linking the ports of the West Bank via transport facilities, development of new infrastructure for seaside tourism, and the physical and economic rehabilitation of the urbanized areas of Gaza. The project directs population and urban growth to the West Bank.

Chippewa/Cree Reservation Plan, Box Elder, Mont., by Ferdinand S. Johns, AIA, with Allison Orr and the Community Design Center, Montana State University (MSU) School of Architecture, for the Chippewa/Cree Tribal Council

The design team worked hard to find a means of gathering information from community members after tribal leaders asked for help in developing a 50-year master plan for the Rocky Boy's Chippewa/Cree Reservation in northern Montana, which is expected to grow in population from 3,000 to 19,000 by 2050. Although the 130,000-acre landscape is extraordinarily beautiful, physical, economic, and social conditions are extremely poor. And, though tribal leaders were eager to participate, community members were not, perhaps disappointed and distrustful after years of planning efforts and little results. The design team finally proposed five alternative master planning scenarios depicted through photo montages, through which they were able to glean vigorous feedback from tribal members and leaders alike, establishing a direction for future development.

Lloyd Crossing Sustainable Urban Design Plan, Portland, Ore., by Mithun Architects + Designers + Planners, for the Portland Development Corporation

This plan for a 35-block district defines a vision founded on aggressive low environmental impact and high economic potential for the neighborhood. Its key goals include transforming an underused inner-city neighborhood into a vibrant, attractive, and highly desirable place to live and work; accommodating a five-fold increase in the area's population and built space; and restoring the ecosystem to mimic the behavior of a pristine forest and achieve key elements of a pre-development environmental impact level.

Millennium Park, Chicago, by Skidmore Owings & Merrill LLP, for the City of Chicago, Millennium Park Donors, Millennium Park Inc., and Lakefront Millennium Managers Inc.

SOM served as master planners and master architect, design architect for the ice rink, architect for the promenade, and structural engineers for the band shell and pedestrian bridge. The project's associate architects are: Teng & Associates (Grant Park North Garage), Frank O. Gehry and Associates Inc. (Jay Pritzker Pavilion), Gustafson Guthrie Nichol Ltd. (Lurie Gardens), Muller & Muller (Bicycle Station), Hammond Beeby Rupert and Ainge (Harris Theater for Music and Dance and the Exelon North Pavilions), Kureck & Sexton Architects (Crown Fountain), OWP/P (peristyle and architect of record for the Ice Rink), Renzo Piano (design architect of Exelon South Pavilions), McDonough Associates (architect of record for Chase Promenade and Exelon Pavilions), and Harley Ellis Devereaux (Boeing Galleries). The Millennium Park, offering a wide range of activities, completes Chicago's 100-year vision of Grant Park. It incorporates a multimodal transit center, performing arts facilities of Chicago Music and Dance, a new band shell, Great Lawn, and bridge. A former eyesore in the center of the city, the park, under current executive director/project director Edward K. Uhler, FAIA, Millennium Park Inc., now offers a new and exciting people-friendly destination for Chicagoans and visitors alike.

North Point, municipalities of Cambridge, Boston, and Somerville, Mass., by CBT/Childs Bertman Tseckares Inc., with associate architect Greenberg Consultants Inc., for Spaulding & Slye Colliers and Guilford Transportation Industries

This project creates a new, transit-oriented, 5.2-million-square-foot neighborhood on a 45-acre parcel. Formerly a railroad yard, the project will transform underused industrial land into a vibrant mixed community. It calls for 20 new city blocks, a state-of-the-art MBTA transit station, 10 acres of green space with a large central park, an extension of the Minuteman Bike Trail, nearly a mile of new roadway and utility infrastructure, plus a wide array of public amenities and improvements.

Swiss Government Piazza, Bern, Switzerland, by Lee & Mundwiler Architects, with associate architect

Stauffenegger & Stutz for the City of Bern/Tiefbauamt, Switzerland

The City of Bern serves as Switzerland's capital, and its medieval center is a UNESCO World Heritage site. The heart of the center itself is the Swiss Parliament Building, fronted by the Federal Plaza, which, despite its historical significance, had never been the subject of an urban design plan. An international design competition led to the current solution, which allows the plaza to function as a prelude to official state events and still allow it to be used as a public space for markets, political demonstrations, and tourist visits.

Martin Luther King Plaza Revitalization, Philadelphia, by Torti Gallas and Partners, for Uni-Penn LLC and Philadelphia Housing Authority – Universal

The site was the home of a high-rise public housing project that was bringing down its working-class neighborhood just south of downtown Philadelphia. The solution to return the area to health entails 50 percent of new construction to be located on the site of the demolished towers and the rest as extensive renovation and infill development in the surrounding community. The architect employed a neighborhood focal center, neighborhood park, and new rowhouse streets patterned on Philadelphia neighborhood traditions.

University Square, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, by Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners, with associate architect Hughes Condon Marler: Architects, for UBC Properties Trust

This project's vision is to establish a flagship "gateway" neighborhood that will welcome the world to the university and further its goals of designing and building a sustainable and socially vibrant university town. The program calls for two buildings to be constructed over an underground transit station. These mixed-use buildings will contribute to formation of "University Square," a new public open space.

About The American Institute of Architects

For almost 150 years, members of The American Institute of Architects have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. AIA members have access to the right people, knowledge, and tools to create better design, and through such resources and access, they help clients and communities make their visions real. www.aia.org

Note to Editors: High resolution images and fact sheets are available to the media. Please contact Cara Battaglini in the AIA media relations office with your request at 202.626.7462 or email carab@aia.org

###