

2017 AIA Georgia Design and Honor Awards recognizes excellence in architecture, interior architecture, and student work

For immediate release:

Atlanta, GA – April 25, 2017 – The American Institute of Architects, Georgia Association (AIA Georgia) has selected the 2017 recipients of the annual AIA Georgia Design and Honor Awards, which encourages excellence in architectural design and promotes public awareness of the contributions by Georgia architects, designers, and owners. Selected from roughly 134 submissions, 21 recipients with projects located across the country and 3 honor awards were celebrated at the Design and Honor Awards Gala at Ponce City Market Rooftop in Atlanta, GA on April 15, 2017.

2017 AIA Georgia Design Awards

The 2017 AIA Georgia Design Awards jury includes: Jennifer Sage, FAIA, Principal at Sage and Coombe Architects in New York, NY; Mark Cavagnero, FAIA, Founding Partner at Mark Cavagnero Associates Architects in San Francisco, CA; and Brad Tomecek, AIA, Principal at Tomecek Studio Architecture in Denver, CO.

Excellence Award in Built

[University of Cincinnati Nippert Stadium; Cincinnati, OH](#)

Heery International, Inc. in association with ARO

Embracing historic Nippert Stadium, framing iconic views and weaving itself into the carefully considered urban fabric of elegant spaces and signature buildings, the West Pavilion is a significant addition to the University of Cincinnati (UC) campus. Sitting in the heart of UC, the stadium is uniquely open year-round to daily campus circulation and use. With its powerful presence, dramatic geometry and cantilevers, the new tower provides unparalleled new amenities and revenue sources through generous club spaces, club and lounge seating, luxury suites, and an elevated outdoor terrace overlooking the field. The University of Cincinnati has buildings that are both bold and timeless, representing the best contemporary thought, but executed in generally neutral palates. The new tower reflects this approach, with exposed concrete, metal panels and glass, and carefully integrated public exterior spaces.

Excellence and People's Choice Awards in Interiors

[Atlanta Office Relocation; Atlanta, GA](#)

Perkins+Will

The client purchased a building that required renovation and repositioning to meet their needs. The newly renovated space now includes a five-story stair for connectivity of all employees, a rooftop terrace and green roof, outdoor patio/terrace, hardscape and softscape, conferencing center and large central communal zones on each floor, and a complete renovation of interior with café/dining. With new brand identification, the resulting design is fresh, energetic, mobile and collaborative. The new facility was designed to offer employees a variety of space types to work within by varying furniture configurations and styles to allow for multiple meeting types. Integrating technology and basic tools such as writable surfaces encourages employees to interact in these open areas.

Honor Award in Built

[Site Operations Center at BMW; Spartanburg, SC](#)

Perkins+Will

The South Carolina State Ports Authority's Site Operations Center at BMW is the first new executive building on the grounds of BMW Plant 10 in Spartanburg, South Carolina. This 65,000-square-foot office, nestled into a beautiful 78-acre wooded preserve, embodies the client's reputation for performance, innovative design, and quality. The modern, innovative workplace is elegantly multifunctional and fits BMW's mission to be the world's leading provider of premium products and services for individual mobility. The high-performance, 300-employee workplace is systematic, classic, and tailored, aligning with the culture, processes, and objectives of BMW. The key opportunity was to increase overall workplace satisfaction, employee communication, and engagement.

Honor Award in Residential Over \$1 Million

[House near El Cerro de Chipinque; Monterrey, Mexico](#)

Surber Barber Choate + Hertlein Architects

The site for this single family residence is located immediately alongside the northern ridge of "El Cerro de Chipinque" in the Sierra Madre Oriental range in the state of Nuevo Leon in northeast Mexico. The house is configured to maximize views of the parallel ridgeline, as well as the dramatic peak, known as La Eme ("the M"), which terminates the eastern vista. In the configuration of the residence, interior and exterior spaces are defined primarily by vertical planes of concrete, sliding in and out of the house to define interior and exterior zones for living, exploring the themes of Transparency and Penetration.

Honor Award in Renovation/Restoration

[Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School, Atlanta, GA](#)

Perkins+Will

Located within downtown Atlanta's Grant Park neighborhood, the renovation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School is the result of a competition by Atlanta Public Schools to reimagine a neglected urban school. Originally built in 1973, the Brutalist-inspired building required major upgrades including a more defined main entry/administration, bringing daylight into existing

classrooms, and new athletic fields. The design solution recognizes the owner's limited budget in addressing these major upgrades while also relocating and improving shared components that include the Auditorium, Cafeteria, and Media Center.

Honor Award in Built

[Peterson Dining Hall; Fayetteville, GA](#)

Perkins+Will

The passion project of Grammy-award winning musician Zac Brown, Camp Southern Ground, located on a bucolic campus 35 miles south of Atlanta, serves typical children, children on the neurological spectrum, and the children of gold-star military families. The first of 23 buildings in the 450-acre campus master plan, Peterson Hall floats lightly on the rolling meadow at the heart of the site, providing the first glimpse of the camp to visitors arriving from the main entrance. A simple rectangle, oriented east-west to maximize views, daylighting and energy performance, the building bends gently in plan to focus views out of the south side of the building toward the center of the camp and the organic farm, while providing broad views across the landscape to the north. The narrow plan footprint combined with plentiful glass provides abundant north daylight and precisely shaded south light. A gracious stairway and overhangs provide plentiful, shaded "hang-out" space for games, resting, socializing and performing before and after meals.

Honor Award in Student Project

[The Commonwealth of Chelsea: Locality & Society; New York, NY](#)

Nicholas Place

The city of New York is oftentimes referred to as the capital of the world. All the amenities one could dream of, readily available to all the inhabitants of the Big Apple, thus making it one of the most desirable places on the globe. This however, adversely affects the city as a whole. With the major increase in population and density, the demand for food steadily increases, as well as the need for additional housing. The aim of this project is to meet the needs of all mentioned above. Deriving the form from the environment, both micro and macro, the exterior skin responds to exterior stimuli, while the interior responds to the programmatic requirements set forth in the spirit of community and society.

Merit Award in Built

[Caddell Building; Atlanta, GA](#)

BLDGS

A new classroom and faculty office building adapted from a 1950s concrete and steel framed structure. To maximize the interaction between the instructional spaces and the adjacent pedestrian path, the front façade was replaced with a fully glazed curtain wall system. To increase environmental performance, the glass is shaded year-round by a 28-foot deep cantilevered canopy of light-reflecting louvers, parametrically tuned to the solar path. In addition to providing unobstructed views to and from the building, the new canopy frames the

path in front of the building, further enhancing the building's presence and engagement with the campus.

Merit Award in Residential Under \$1 Million

[Mountain Retreat; Tipton, NC](#)

Bach Design Studio

The architectural concept behind this project on a top of a North Carolina mountain was to create a retreat where nature is in focus and which accommodates the leisure and luxury of vacation living, while flowing perfectly into the surrounding nature. For that reason the house is not designed as one big volume, but consists of three interconnected structures. The Main House with a view of the lake and distant mountain ridges with living, dining and kitchen as well as the master suite, the Entry/Hall Building, greeting visitors with a view to the west oriented courtyard and the Guest House. Surrounding terraces connect those structures and create a platform for multiple outdoor leisure spaces sheltered from the weather. The spaces weave in and out, framing panoramic views of mountains and lake to blur the boundaries between inside and outside.

Merit Award in Interiors

[101 Marietta: Lobby Renovation & Rebranding; Atlanta, GA](#)

Perkins+Will

The Dilweg Companies purchased 101 Marietta Street (Centennial Tower) in 2015 looking to reposition the property in 2016. While the building's iconic chevron silhouette is an integral part of the Atlanta skyline, the building's identity and lobby needed help to compete with the flourishing downtown market. The building is home to the Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Dream as well as several media and tech companies. To serve this demographic and make the project more relevant for today's workstyles, the design team envisioned an engaging and playful "third workplace" that could be used by building tenants and visitors alike. The intent of the design and material choices was to strip away remnants of multiple previous renovations, create an active and engaging experience and give visitors the chance to be in the moment with the people around them.

Merit Award in Student Project

[The City and the Masque; Rome, Italy](#)

Natalie Imran, Savannah College of Art & Design

Rome is a tale of two cities: the illusion of its historic center runs parallel to the reality of its modern periphery. Within this duality of the city, Rome's Aurelian Wall—the boundary which divides the city's valorized past with its neglected present—has become the 'masque' of Rome, and actor within the city spectacle. Both seductive and compelling, the mask is an instrument of the illusion, altering the city's image, memories, and perceptions, with its ability to both conceal and reveal. Read as both a factual and a fictional scenario, the project becomes a visual manifesto for understanding the multiple issues of the city's constructed space. As a point of

convergence between Rome's two narratives, the project uses an isolated fragment of Rome's Aurelian Wall to set the stage for a dialogue between inside and outside, past and present, illusion and reality.

Merit Award in Built

[Watt Family Innovation Center; Clemson, SC](#)

Perkins+Will

Clemson University's Watt Family Innovation Center (WFIC) provides a unique environment in which advanced instructional technologies foster student engagement and industry partnerships that address real-world complex problems. The 70,000 GSF facility invites students to take ideas from concept to the marketplace by the use of its rich program spaces: Project Labs, high-tech Collaborative Learning rooms, Immersive Visualization Theater, Rapid Prototyping Lab, High Bay Lab, Skills Development Studio, High Tech Auditorium and Project Demonstration and Collaboration spaces. While the WFIC is primarily an institution-wide resource for innovation, the building is also a place to experiment with new learning models for general engineering courses, exposing students to real world challenges that inspire deeper learning.

Merit Award in Student Project

[Sublime Tectonics: The Living Building Challenge on Georgia Tech Campus; Atlanta, GA](#)

Abigail Aragon & José Sosa

This proposed Living Building Challenge certified student center, entitled Sublime Tectonics, generates a park-like atmosphere and fosters a new "hot spot" on the northern edge of the Georgia Tech campus, which lacked a conducive area for students to socialize, study, and collaborate. The site design re-establishes the historic topography, creating a new wetland area as a nod to the creek that once existed. Based on the created topography, the ideas of rich composition, wonder, complexity, and discovery manifest themselves in the Living Building. Looking to natural formations as massing strategies, dramatic spaces that manipulate scale, light, and texture take form, creating a strong dynamic between intimidation and playfulness. Spaces prompt fascination with the relationship of interior and exterior and the framed views to the landscapes beyond.

Merit Award in Renovation/Restoration

[Defoor Hills Warehouse Renovation; Atlanta, GA](#)

SmithDalia Architects

The warehouses at 2282 & 2300 Defoor Hills Rd. are conceived as a single project that re-purposes two nondescript warehouses into a vibrant mix of creative office environments. The design includes the removal of sections of both buildings to provide natural light and create shared spaces for future tenants. Although distinct in character, the structures work in concert to establish a common identity. Soaring, daylit interiors and natural materials impart a warmth and presence that is a desirable feature of the modern office. Because of the ubiquitous use of

steel throughout the warehouses, steel was carried as a thematic detail for other necessary components. Steel doors on the restroom stalls, steel countertops, benches and other elements impart a freshness and boldness throughout. Warmer accents are in surprise locations during the procession through the buildings and courtyard. This project is best seen as a catalyst for rebranding this district, toward transformation of the area into an urban destination.

Merit Award in Renovation/Restoration

[Mid-Century Remix; Atlanta, GA](#)

Robert M. Cain, Architect

Mid-Century Remix is an anomaly. Tucked into Atlanta's Virginia Highland, a neighborhood of 1930's English cottage-style homes, recent teardowns and subsequent McMansions is a 60's mid-century modern home with Eichleresque design connotations. Californian Joseph Eichler, America's only "modernist merchant builder", built nearly 11,000 speculative homes starting in the 1940's. The assignment was to expand the kitchen and dining area into the nonfunctional carport with its too steep drive, enlarge the living room, enhance the interior and exterior "Eichler" effect (due to the inadequate implementation of the original design) and renovate the basement.

People's Choice Award in Unbuilt

[1020 Spring Street; Atlanta, GA](#)

Beck Group

1020 Spring is an unbuilt mixed-use high rise project located at the corner of 10th and Spring Street in Atlanta. The landowner commissioned the design firm to develop this concept to demonstrate the feasibility of a mixed-use office, residential and hotel complex utilizing the maximum development capacity of the site. That represented a total of 1.8 million square feet on a 4-acre site, with supporting infrastructure, parking, and public amenities. This area required sensitivity in the fact that the site is the location of a significant structure, the H.M. Patterson & Son Funeral Home and Chapel. The building is well-known in Atlanta, designed by Philip Trammell Shutze and constructed in 1928. Design solution that was decided upon would acknowledge and incorporate precious historic building elements into the new design, to forge a more permanent memory of the legacy of this site.

People's Choice Award in Student Project

[\[Bridging\] The Gap: Clarkston's Hyper-Ethnic Fabric; Clarkston, GA](#)

Abaan Muhammad Ali

Clarkston, GA, is known as "the most diverse square mile in America". Since the late 1990s refugee asylum programs in the United States have identified Clarkston as a city for refugee resettlement. Although the small city is no longer handling the large influx of people from all over the world as in earlier days, the city is now being tasked with defining itself, and envisioning the future with its immense diversity. Focusing on the ethnic and cultural boundaries that existed within the community, I was tasked to create an identity for the

community, the symbolized the disenfranchised and under-represented immigrant population along with the existing natural born community. Through the use of different scales and enacting a set of defined "Languages," I recognized a bridge input would create a more cohesive language and identity towards the evident physical and social barriers existing within the site.

People's Choice Award in Built

[CARTI Cancer Center; Little Rock, AR](#)

Perkins+Will

CARTI Cancer Center provides single-facility comprehensive oncology care with a unique identity designed to foster a collaborative approach between the clinicians, caregivers and patients. The building while providing a multitude of necessary services emphasizes a comforting and sensitive patient environment. Selected by CARTI to lead a multidisciplinary team the firm provided architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, and branding services. Set atop a heavily wooded ridge, the new CARTI Cancer Center overlooks undulating hills and rock formations, with long views to the mountains beyond. Taking inspiration from its surroundings, solar orientation and sustainable design strategies, the Center's exterior pays homage to the local landscape through the uses of locally sourced stone and other building materials.

People's Choice Award in Residential under \$1 Million

[Fish House; Roswell, GA](#)

Tim Fish, AIA

After a long search for a suitable site on which to build, the architect/owner found a steep narrow site with views to a waterfall. It had been considered too difficult to build on in the past. In order to balance the house on the site, two perpendicular block like forms were envisioned. One to retain, and one to balance and reach. Keeping the simple idea intact through the development of the design became a quest. A central stair serves to pin the masses together, and distributes light within. Roof decks become an extension of the living spaces, and an expression of the forms. The transformation of the cliff like site to a house and home was a long and sometimes challenging journey that now brings peace and comfort.

People's Choice Award in Residential over \$1 Million

[Lyons Residence](#)

Lominack Kolman Smith Architects

The Lyons Residence successfully balances client desires, neighborhood requirements, and environmental sensitivity in a harmonious and attractive design that is contextual to its built and natural surroundings. Located along the marsh of St. Marys, Georgia, the residence was carefully placed. Angled on a long narrow lot, the house respects setbacks and coastal construction conditions while capturing the best possible views of the marsh and water beyond. Influenced by the surrounding landscape, paint colors were matched from Spanish

moss in neighboring trees and oyster shells were incorporated into foundation level concrete. Clustered sections of low hip roof projections characterize the house's form, influenced by the long lines and sweeping eaves evident in Prairie school and traditional coastal design. The house sits gently within the surrounding landscape of towering live oaks and Spanish moss, camouflaged and subservient to its setting.

2017 AIA Georgia Honor Awards

The 2017 AIA Institute Honor Award for Interior Architecture jury includes: Janice Wittschiebe, AIA, Principal at Stevens & Wilkinson; John Starr, AIA, Principal at Lord Aeck Sargent; and Forrest Lott, FAIA, Principal at Lott & Barber. The Bernard B. Rothschild Award is chosen by a select committee of former Rothschild awardees.

Bernard B. Rothschild Award

[Robert L. Brown Jr., FAIA](#)

Robert L. Brown, Jr. FAIA has compiled an exemplary record of public service during his career, impacting how the entire profession is practiced in Georgia. Mr. Brown earned his architecture degree from Tuskegee University, establishing his firm R.L. Brown & Associates in 1984. His role as a true Citizen Architect includes leadership positions with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Georgia Historical Society, Southern Polytechnic State University, and Agnes Scott. But perhaps his most significant contribution has been in setting the direction of the Georgia Department of Transportation, serving as its chair in 2016-17, and on the Board of Commissioners for more than a decade. Highlights of his design portfolio include iconic work on the campuses of Morehouse College and Tuskegee. Mr. Brown was elevated to the AIA College of Fellows in 1999. He is also widely respected for a commitment to mentoring upcoming generations of architects, with many of them now in important leadership roles in the profession in Georgia. For these reasons—a commitment to civic leadership, education, and mentorship, he is eminently deserving of the recognition for the 2017 AIA Georgia Bernard B. Rothschild award.

Emerging Professional Award

[Desmond Johnson, AIA, NCARB, NOMA](#)

For his enthusiasm, innovation and active participation in leadership with the American Institute of Architects, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, National Organization of Minority Architects and the Young Architects Forum, he is recognized as the 2017 Emerging Professional of the Year. Specifically, AIA Georgia commends his efforts building and sustaining AIA membership, creating value for young professionals, and being at the forefront of achievements regarding his career development - contributing to some of the most complex and significant projects within his firm.

Architecture Firm of the Year

[Gensler, Atlanta Office](#)

Since 1993, Gensler has been a leader in both the Georgia architecture profession and business community. This commitment shows through Gensler's social responsibility program, gServe, and the firm's commitment to the profession and design excellence. In 2016, Gensler Atlanta gServe members donated over 450 hours of time to programs, causes and organizations. Moreover, innovative programs such as gConnect and Gensler University are developing the next generation of architects. Gensler has won national recognition with the AIA IDP Outstanding Firm Award and the National Architecture Firm Award, and has received numerous local design excellence awards in Georgia and Atlanta - pushing the envelope of the architecture profession. Gensler's commitment to the AIA, the profession and its community is recognized with the 2017 AIA Georgia Firm of the Year Award.

The 2017 AIA Georgia Design & Honor Awards Gala was sponsored by:

Stego Industries, LLC; Sesco Lighting; MillerClapperton; Derucki Construction Company; Newforma; Crosville Studios; Dyson; Planar, a Leyard Company; NGS Film and Graphics; Hanwha L&L Surfaces; and Beazley; and an in-kind sponsorship by Milliken.

About the American Institute of Architects

Founded in 1857, the American Institute of Architects consistently works to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings, neighborhoods, and communities. Through nearly 300 state and local chapters, the AIA advocates for public policies that promote economic vitality and public wellbeing. Members adhere to a code of ethics and conduct to ensure the highest professional standards. The AIA provides members with tools and resources to assist them in their careers and business as well as engaging civic and government leaders and the public to find solutions to pressing issues facing our communities, institutions, nation and world. Visit www.aiaa.org.

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