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President’s Perspective / Nathan Butler, AIA, LEED AP

Because of the nature of our work, we often focus solely on immediate concerns: the next deadline, the upcoming presentation, this month’s invoice. Although there is much to be gained by being in the moment, at times it can cause us to lose sight of the bigger picture, missing opportunities to consider our place in a larger context. It is always refreshing to have a chance to broaden our perspective and to contemplate how our individual efforts intertwine to produce greater and more enduring results. I was reminded of this earlier this year when I came across the images posted to Twitter each day by American astronaut Reid Wiseman (@astro_reid), who has been in low-earth orbit aboard the International Space Station since May of this year. Wiseman regularly posts some of the most beautiful images of our planet that you could ever hope to see. He captions these images in an objective yet poignant manner that enables individual viewers to develop their own understanding of each image, even though they are taken from his unique vantage point, traveling high above the Earth at more than 17,000 miles per hour.

Seeing Wiseman’s images reminds me of how interconnected we are, and of how important it is for us to use our shared connections to create positive impacts in our communities, producing a cumulative global effect. Across the country and around the world, our communities are tested by issues of public health and safety, societal tension, access to quality education, and natural disaster. As architects, we understand that our profession has the capacity to do more than merely react to the pressures of social change. We possess the talent and ability to provide the creative, thoughtful, and proactive leadership necessary to help our communities navigate change. We promote the development of resilient and sustainable communities for future generations to prosper within, and because our collective work is inherently woven together it comprises the very fabric of our communities.

Recognition of this cumulative significance has led the AIA to take the strong position that communities are enabled to thrive through architecture. Understanding that a new framework is required to support the type of visionary leadership necessary in a changing world, members of the AIA moved this year to restructure the organization’s governance model at the national level. While this new model enables the AIA to be proactive and agile in developing and implementing initiatives with profound implications on our profession’s growth and position in society, it is also intended to make the most of the talent and creativity inherent within our volunteer leadership. This purpose is essential because it is aimed at cultivating visionary leadership within all levels of our profession, with the intent to produce a more relevant, robust and sustainable profession for the future.

Within AIA Florida, this need framed the development of our own strategic plan, which has guided the course of our actions over recent years. As we move forward into 2015, we have already begun to explore new opportunities to provide enhanced support at the local level, enabling volunteer leaders to focus their time and energy where it is most valuable: in service to members and the community. Leadership is developed through service, and we know that by providing strong and focused support, AIA Florida can do much to foster the growth of future generations of active leaders. These efforts will, in turn, foster the development of well-rounded architects equipped with the resources needed to sustain the long-term health of our profession through leadership and service in our communities.

AIA has moved to position itself as a more powerful resource to help you grow your practice and develop a strong pipeline of future leaders to advance our profession for generations to come. For this reason there has never been a better time to be engaged in service through your component of the AIA. As we look ahead toward 2015, I encourage each of you to bring your time and talents to the table and to leverage the renewed value of your AIA membership through service. Regardless of what stage you are at in your career, your passion and talents are needed now more than ever!
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Editorial / Diane D. Greer

All of the 2014 Design Award jury comments appear in bold italics at the top of each project description. As I read the comments and noted that several descriptive expressions recurred with some frequency, I formed the opinion that this jury was urban-oriented, concerned about public buildings in particular and strongly in favor of preserving existing buildings whenever and wherever possible. All of those areas of architectural practice are important and it seems entirely appropriate that since four of the five jurors have offices in what has been described as “the abandoned city” of Detroit, they would share any number of urban concerns. Detroit has been much in the news for the past year or so for the desperate condition of many of its buildings and neighborhoods. Faced with the possibility of 40,000 urban structures being torn down, the members of this jury must be among the architects working hard to clean up Detroit’s blighted areas and improve its infrastructure.

The design awards jury met on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Tamara Burns, AIA, is cofounder and principal of HopkinsBurns Design Studio, specializing in the preservation, restoration and adaptive reuse of existing buildings. Art Smith, FAIA, is the primary Design Principal at Harley Ellis Deveaux. He is known for creatively solving complex issues using innovative methods. He currently serves as the chair of both the AIA Michigan and AIA Detroit Honor Awards Committees. Victor Saroki, FAIA, is president of Saroki Architecture in Birmingham, Michigan, an award-winning architecture and interiors firm. In 2010, he was awarded the Gold Medal by AIA Detroit. Bob Varga, AIA, is a Principal and Senior Design Leader in SmithGroupJJR’s Detroit office. SmithGroupJJR is the seventh largest architecture and engineering firm in the U.S.

The fifth juror, Noah Resnick, teaches and practices architecture in Detroit as principal of a small research-based architecture and urban design studio. His studio, UrbanDetail, operates within the interrelated concepts of: the architectonics of multiple scales, the architect as urban collaborator and the architect as community builder. He is also a full-time Assistant Professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture.

I visited the UrbanDetail website and found what seemed the philosophy behind many of the insightful comments made during the jury’s selection process, particularly as related to preservation and renovation. On the website was the following description of the firm’s vision for Roosevelt Park, a blighted Detroit neighborhood. The vision is one that would “transform a blighted city property into a sustainable public space providing a range of amenities to serve the local neighborhood on a daily basis, as well as offer a regional attraction by hosting planned musical, cultural, gastronomic, and athletic events. The designers seek to leverage and coordinate disparate volunteering and funding efforts that are abundant throughout the city. On a pro-bono basis, and with the direction of local non-profits and community members, the designers propose an open framework intended to evolve as community interaction with the park defines its program.

The Roosevelt Park vision is built on noble goals and good intentions developed to save a blighted city property with design work done pro-bono. I was reminded of another award-winning project in AIA Florida’s 2013 awards program that was also a community effort done on a pro-bono basis and also for a park – not to save the park but to commemorate something that once existed within its confines. It is AIA Florida’s People’s Choice Award.

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Spencer House, Sarasota, Florida
Guy Peterson OFA, Inc., Sarasota, Florida

The articulation of the street frontage balanced with privacy creates a strong, simple, elegant statement. The well-executed program shows restraint, uses simple materials and produces beautiful geometric expression.

Sited on a busy street in an established neighborhood, this house was designed to insure privacy and provide outdoor living inside the walls. The house consists of a vertical tower emerging from a horizontal base that is at grade and contains the main living spaces. The home's outdoor spaces occur on the ground plane and vertically inside the structure.

Sarasota Beach Pavilions, Sarasota County, Florida
Sweet Sparkman Architects, Inc., Sarasota, Florida

There is an intelligence in these buildings that is too often missing from public structures and that intelligence is married to the high quality of the aesthetics. The basic utilitarian function of the pavilions is elevated to the level of celebration.

When Sarasota County commissioned a series of beachside park restrooms, the design team used an abstract version of sea oats, the vegetation synonymous with Gulf beaches, to create a theme for each pavilion. The pavilions provide new ADA compliant facilities built to withstand hurricane force winds, as well as other sustainable features including clerestory louvers for passive ventilation, cisterns for rainwater collection and skylights for daylight harvesting.
Superior Court of California, County of Calaveras, San Andreas Courthouse, San Andreas, California  
DLR Group, Inc., Orlando, Florida

The use of stone on both the interior and exterior gives an earthiness to the crisp modern geometry of the building, creating balance and warmth and a sense of human scale.

Strongly influenced by its setting, this new courthouse is an example of modern courthouse planning in an unconventional setting. The building incorporates asymmetrical compositions, horizontal expression and an increased level of transparency. Security and safety measures are balanced with transparency and openness throughout the building.

Biscayne Bay Residence, North Miami Beach  
Max Strang Architecture, Inc., Miami, Florida

A clean sculptural design that exhibits simple refinement with minimal materiality.

This four-bedroom residence has a 25-meter lap pool that flows into the house and becomes the governing feature of the overall design. The house maintains complete privacy from the street while the interior opens to the waterfront.
Florida International University Science Classroom Complex, Miami, Florida
Perkins + Will, Coral Gables, Florida

The architect successfully articulated each facade yet the whole is fully balanced. Although a large program, there is a lot of private space. Art and light are effectively utilized to create a rhythm for the interior.

This classroom complex creates a graduate learning environment in which technology is woven into hands-on learning experiences. The project is a collaboration with the site and surroundings, thus rooting it in context through the use of materials, scale and pedestrian connections.

Streamsong Resort Lodge, Polk County, Florida
Alfonso Architects, Inc., Tampa, Florida

The building interior exhibits monumentality without overwhelming users. The rich use of materials superbly defines the function of each level of the structure.

Sited on land reclaimed from phosphate mining, this resort complex is shaped by the surrounding landscape. The resort, conference center and spa were designed to work cohesively together while maintaining an individual presence.
Streamsong Resort Club House, Polk County, Florida
Alfonso Architects, Inc., Tampa, Florida

This project integrates beautifully with its site and displays a strong understanding of scale and rhythm in its exterior detailing.

Sited in a saddle of sand dunes overlooking a golf terrain that seems foreign in the Florida landscape, the clubhouse contains 12 guestrooms, a conference center, bar and restaurant.

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La Mina Ecological Preschool (GELM) Annex Building, Corozal, Puerto Rico
Diaz Paunetto Arquitectos, PSC, San Juan, Puerto Rico

The architects have created a striking sculptural façade that utilizes recycled material. The program is lively in its massing, proportions and materiality creating a beautiful transformation.

Built in 1960 and abandoned for more than 30 years, this renovation project was completed on time and within a limited budget. A new concrete slab was laid over the existing walls and extended over existing stairs to create a projecting glass volume overlooking the playground. A steel skin covers the building, allowing filtered light into the space and establishing a dialogue with the environment.

Miami Center for Architecture and Design (MCAD), Miami, Florida
Shulman + Associates, Miami, Florida in association with Forbes Architecture, Miami, Florida

These additions to an existing building were deftly done and the renovations show a sophisticated understanding of how architecture affects space. The architects struck a good balance between the Neo-Classical skeleton and the modern insertions, relating them seamlessly so they work well together.

An historic post office built in 1914 in downtown Miami is the new home of MCAD. The design strategy balanced historic preservation concerns with the goal of creating a contemporary image. The generous proportions of the original building and the openness of the new plan allowed the architect to carefully restore historical elements like the vaulted brick ceilings and arched doorways.
Bayfront Addition, Sarasota Bay, Florida
Halflants + Pichette Architects, Sarasota, Florida

This is a great example of how to create a terrific space by removing a ubiquitous type of enclosure that is totally unnecessary. It proves that there are architectural alternatives that are assets to preexisting buildings rather than just utilitarian shading devices.

In a residence cut off from good views of the bay, this renovation and addition opens the house up to views and provides a connection to the water. In addition to creating a mezzanine level, interior stair and dining area, the renovation added a generous shaded porch and a double-height shaded window where a wall previously existed. There are now views of the bay from both the main and mezzanine levels.

Standhaus, Sarasota, Florida
Sweet Sparkman Architects, Inc., Sarasota, Florida

This is an amazing transformation in which the architect recognized the value of the existing house and provided an intervention that proved the worth of the original.

The owners of this 1950s home envisioned a private modern retreat that would integrate architecture and landscape into a cohesive whole. The program included renovating the living, dining and kitchen areas, wrapping the existing exterior in a new masonry envelope and adding a lap pool, terrace and outdoor living room.

Miami Regional Airport Hangar, Opa-Locka, Florida
Shulman + Associates, Miami, Florida

The architect should be commended for recognizing the inherent beauty in large transportation structures that are usually demolished. This is a wonderful transformation of an industrial building into an artwork. There is a beautiful dialogue between the architecture and the planes within, proving again that less is more.

Built by the U.S. Navy in 1941, this is the only one of three identical hangars to be restored, making many of the components in the other two hangars available for reuse. Existing systems and hardware were cleaned and recycled where possible and damaged unusable materials were selectively replaced with materials salvaged from similar structures.
University of Miami, Historic Administration Building, Coral Gables, Florida
R. J. Heisenbottle Architects, P.A., Coral Gables, Florida

This is a humble, yet incredibly careful restoration. The simplicity of the project was revived while seamlessly integrating it into a modern infrastructure. The contemporary uses of the interior spaces also integrate well with the original structure.

Marion Manley, FAIA, was the second female licensed to practice architecture in Florida and the first to receive AIA Florida’s Gold Medal in 1973. She designed this building in 1947 and it was constructed using three donated surplus military barracks with open porches overlapping at a central knuckle. For 50 years, it has housed UM’s Art Department, being referred to as “the shacks.” The restoration was begun in accordance with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior Standards for restoration of an historic site.

Trinity Cathedral, Miami, Florida
R. J. Heisenbottle Architects, P.A., Coral Gables, Florida

The careful restoration of this important building makes it an incredible example of what can be returned to its original form, even if that form predates modern design techniques.

Designed by H. H. Mundy and built in 1925, this cathedral served Miami’s first Episcopal congregation. Restoration began in 2009 to repair extensive damage to the foundation causing the floor to settle as much as one foot. In addition to structural repairs and stabilization, the marble floors, walls and altar railings have been repaired and new mechanical, electrical and fire systems have been installed without damage to the building’s historical integrity.
**DESIGN AWARDS**  
**MERIT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION**

**Viscaya East and West Gate Lodges**, Miami, Florida  
**R. J. Heisenbottle Architects, P.A., Coral Gables, Florida**

It takes a great deal of skill to successfully integrate historic structures into a modern infrastructure in a way that doesn't negatively impact the character of the original. This project exemplifies the level of quality that should be expected in all historical restorations.

Built between 1913 and 1916, Viscaya was one of the country's finest private residences. The restoration of this pair of gate lodges to their original layouts created new administrative offices for the house museum. The once-utilitarian structures have all new mechanical systems and plumbing while floors, windows and shutters were replaced to match the originals.

**DESIGN AWARDS**  
**HONOR AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE**

**Baumann Cosmetic & Research Institute**, Miami, Florida  
**Shulman & Associates, Miami, Florida**

This program has clean, modern detail and it shows that a program can be enhanced by narrative when the architect is allowed to be the storyteller. The simplicity and restraint in the overall palette allows the product in the space to be seen as art. The space is the background for that art.

This design explores the interwoven worlds of science and the pursuit of beauty. The bi-nuclear design is centered on the concept of a runway or spine that serves as a functional connector between research activities and the clinical waiting room, retail shop, treatment rooms and offices.

Overall the sensibility is clean and precise with a white primary canvas complimented by a homogenous color scheme that provides a counterpoint to the products for sale.
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William R. Hough Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
Rowe Architects, Inc., Tampa, Florida

This project is the perfect example of the flexibility that can be achieved with masonry. While new, the building is gracefully open and successfully sited in the context of an historic campus.

The design of this facility was based largely on the University's desire to foster a team-based philosophy of business education, the department that it houses. From the covered porches and lounges on each floor to the building's three-story court, there is an abundance of areas for collaboration and study. State-of-the-art instructional spaces and offices are distributed on each floor, facilitating interaction between students and faculty.

University of Florida Clinical and Translational Research Building, Gainesville, Florida
Perkins + Will, Coral Gables, Florida

There is a strong parti here that has been carefully developed. In an age in which bigger is better, this project shows that less is more while artfully blending an intimate setting into an urban context.

This facility serves as the major catalyst for developing models and synergies in an aging and geriatric medical research and education program. The program combines clinical space, dry labs and research and office space for the UF College of Medicine. The 115,000-square-foot facility will be carbon neutral and is certified LEED Platinum.
2424 Building, Coconut Grove, Florida
Mateu Architecture, Inc., Miami, Florida

This is a clean modern design that, while rooted in a specific style, has a timeless sense of proportion.

This three-story office building, sited on busy U.S. Hwy 1, has an audience of 100,000 commuters every day all moving past the building at 55 miles per hour. On its opposite side, a quiet residential street faces the building. These two opposing contexts, along with the difficulties inherent in a wedge-shaped lot, acted as the main sources of creative tension when the building was constructed in 1984. In 1985, it was recognized by AIA Florida with an Award of Excellence in Architecture for new work.

Villa Cedro, Florida
Carl Abbott, FAIA, Architect/Planner, PA, Sarasota, Florida

This 30-year old house looks like it could have been built five years ago. The architecture is fresh and it integrates seamlessly into the landscape. It's almost as though the quality of the architecture has improved over the years as the landscape has matured.

Built in 1984, this large house blends into the landscape and becomes one with the site. The house is Y-shaped in plan, creating linear wings with the angle where solid walls meet to form the entry. From the entry, the public areas are wide open to the landscape.
Origins, Venice, Italy  
Sweet Sparkman Architects, Inc., Sarasota, Florida

This is an elegant celebration of sand, both in its movement and its transformation of the material. It's remarkable that this project is able to achieve an atmosphere using only two materials and that these materials are able to create an impact that engages all the senses.

This conceptual installation explores the qualities of a single material, the rare quartz sand of Siesta Key in west Florida. Created for the 2012 Venice Biennale, the design explores the theme of “Common Ground” by removing the material from its original location and changing the environment in which it exists to raise awareness of both its material properties and origins. The sand is incorporated into an open cubic volume that visitors can step into. A concealed pipe loop combined with a compressed air vacuum allows the sand to flow from the basin to the ceiling and continually fall through the space.
E-Lodge, Condado, Puerto Rico  
Diaz Paunetto Arquitectos, San Juan, Puerto Rico

The strong dynamic façade exhibits depth, functionality and beauty. One can easily imagine the way this façade could change in the course of a day. The design is engaging and incorporates lots of movement, light and energy.

The primary intention of this design consists of establishing a clear and unconcealed connection between the architecture and its context. In a context where culture and climate intermingle, the project becomes a sensory experience marked by the sea. To tourists, this is a welcoming image, a reference to the place and a confirmation of the natural attractions.

Greater Accra Regional Hospital, Accra, Ghana  
Perkins + Will, Coral Gables, Florida

Due to all the constraints inherent in practicing medicine, it's very rare in healthcare typology that you see such a fine example of architecture. In this project, the organization of space seems like it would provide incredible healing benefits to patients.

This hospital was designed to replace the existing Ghana Ridge Hospital with modern facilities that reflect the current social aspirations of a rapidly developing African country. The project engages with the living qualities of the site by fine-tuning the way it responds to the necessities and expectations of patients. Spaces are formally articulated as a series of layers reinterpreting the vernacular response to space where transitional gatherings have a deep cultural significance.
**North Beach Tactical Revitalization**, Ft. Lauderdale Beach, Florida

*Shulman + Associates*, Miami, Florida

The urban scale of this plan is sophisticated yet sensitive. It is intended to rejuvenate the area using both architecture and landscape while balancing history by preserving buildings. The plan truly embraces the natural area that originally brought people to the region to live.

Working with the client, the City and neighborhood groups, the architect developed a vision for North Beach that has expanded to project-specific work. Beginning with documentation and analysis, a vision developed to transform a neighborhood through a mix of building conservation, environmental restoration and innovative new building additions. The architect’s proposed interventions were intended to provide a road map toward future policy and development strategies.

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**Florida International University Academic Support Center**, Miami, Florida

*Gould Evans, PA*, Tampa, Florida

The skin of this building is a clever response to sun shading, taking its cue from local plants. This physical manifestation of the botanical metaphor will bring fresh air into the campus.

This campus building was developed as an open, welcoming signature design that greets visitors to the campus. The building skin was inspired by local features, most notably the palm frond. The metal panel rain screening on the façade acts as a screen or filter and can also provide a vehicle for color on the exterior. The view corridor moves through the building, permitting exterior spaces to engage with activities inside the building.
Verandah House, Sarasota, Florida
Halflants + Pichette, Sarasota, Florida

This house is not the ubiquitous white box so often found in the area. Rather it seems comfortable expressing itself in a different way. The elegance and simplicity in the organization of spaces surrounding the courtyard, matched by the material selection, creates openness in the floor plan.

With generous overhangs, shaded terraces, operable systems and solar cells, this project was designed for a semi-tropical environment. The tall, narrow main house is oriented east to west with roof overhangs running its entire length, serving as a verandah and mediating the heat. This also helps shade the yard and creates a cooler climate around the pool.

Billboard Building, Miami, Florida
Shulman + Associates, Miami, Florida

This is such a simple gesture yet it tackles movement in such a big way. The building provides a welcoming solution on a difficult site and serves as a prominent gateway to the design district.

Located at the entrance to Miami’s Design District, this building exploits its location to maximum effect. The project combines a three-story, 1920s commercial building with a slender addition that rises more than 90 feet. The addition embraces the old building with a wrapper forming a billboard that faces the highway on one side and a rear wall that faces the district on the other.

Case Study House
Brillhart Architecture, Miami, Florida

This project has a parti that was thoughtfully developed. The project shows that less is more while artfully blending an intimate setting with the urban context.

This home’s small footprint and orientation on the site enables a rich dialogue between art, architecture, culture and landscape in everyday life. At just 1,250 square feet, the house has its long axis running parallel to the long side of the lot creating ample space for both a swimming pool and an orchard.
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Michael Lingerfelt, FAIA

The Gold Medal is one of the highest honors that AIA Florida bestows on one of its members. The award is presented in recognition of many years of distinguished service that have made a significant impact on the profession of architecture.

Michael Lingerfelt, FAIA, has been recognized through various component excellence awards for the initiatives, programs and advocacy efforts he has pioneered. In recent years, he has been instrumental in architectural disaster recovery resulting in his being nationally recognized as an expert in relief assistance as it relates to architecture. He is a renowned post-disaster inspector, assessing buildings for habitation.

With more than 33 years of design and project management experience, Michael was inducted into the AIA College of Fellows in 2012. He is also a past recipient of AIA Florida's President's Award and the AIA Orlando Medal of Honor. In 2011, Michael led AIA Florida as its president.

SILVER MEDAL – HILLIARD T. SMITH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Martin Diaz-Yabor, FAIA

Through a variety of leadership roles at the local, state and national levels, Martin has always been a vocal advocate for architecture. His involvement in government affairs has been significant, leading to the development of committees focusing on special events and public outreach. Among the countless leadership positions he has held, Martin has served on the Miami-Dade County Blue Ribbon Commission, the Mayor’s Advisory Council for the Green Building Initiative in Coral Gables, the Shoreline Development Review Committee for Indian Creek and as an Adjunct Professor of Architecture at Florida International University.

Martin has continually strived for excellence in architecture and identified ways to carry out the mission of the AIA at every level.
FIRM OF THE YEAR
Mateu Architecture

Since 2002, Mateu Architecture has operated with a commitment to design excellence, business integrity and professional ethics that have resulted in more than 65 AIA design awards and many years of contributions to the profession. Leading by example, Roney Mateu, FAIA, excels in every aspect of the firm he directs. The culture of his firm is one of family where everyone counts and all contribute. The work the firm produces demonstrates clarity of purpose with the goals of having a positive impact on the site and inspiring the users.

For having distinguished itself through design excellence, selfless community service including pro-bono projects, tireless commitment to three academic institutions, serving on numerous design juries and sharing knowledge and experience in countless lectures, Mateu Architecture is a worthy recipient of Firm of the Year.

ANTHONY "TONY" PULLARA INDIVIDUAL HONOR AWARD
Natividad Soto, AIA, LEED AP BD+C

The award is presented in recognition of devoted service to the profession of architecture. Natividad "Nati" currently serves on the national AIA Women in Architecture National Network and she has served on the National Convention Public Relations Committee and was a local planning committee member for the Architects as Agents for Social Change Conference and the Academy of Architecture for Health Conference. At the state level, she served on the Board of Directors and spearheaded the Women in Architecture Task Force. She is currently a member of AIA Florida's convention committee and the Vice-Chair of FAPAC.

In Miami, Nati is a founding director of the new Miami Center for Architecture and Design and she heads the center's Campaign and Development Committee. She also serves as a mentor to architecture students at the University of Miami (UM), Florida International University (FIU) and Miami International University.
Anthony Abbate, AIA

As a local government leader in northwest Florida, David Bailey is also strongly dedicated to the future of the architecture profession. He was the youngest department director for the City of Pensacola and he served as the director of the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency from 2003 to 2007, providing critical leadership for the revitalization of Pensacola’s commercial waterfront. Since 2009, he has used his understanding of infrastructure, planning and good design to serve as the Town Manager of the New Urbanist community of Seaside, Florida and, most recently, Rosemary Beach, where he currently serves as Town Manager. In addition, he voluntarily instructs and mentors associate members of the AIA Florida Northwest component who are preparing to take the architectural registration exam.

For his consistent commitment to quality architecture and urban planning, as well as his dedication to the advancement of the architectural profession, this award was presented to David Bailey, AIA.
ALLIED MEMBER OF THE YEAR
CGI Windows and Doors

This award is presented to a non-architect member of the AIA who has promoted and contributed to the value of AIA Florida and the profession. CGI has a tradition of offering support to the association and its local components while remaining a leader in the development of architecturally and environmentally desirable products. As a state allied member of eight Florida components, CGI continually exhibits interest in and support of the profession through sponsorships and continuing education programs. In the past year, representatives of the company have provided continuing education to more than 250 members and supported the AIA convention as well as nine other events around the state.

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
Joshua Colt Fisher

High quality and originality in still photographs that advance the cause of good design are the hallmarks of this award. Joshua Fisher is a graduate of the University of Florida (UF) School of Architecture who became interested in photography while studying abroad. Fisher describes his passion for photography as having evolved from his architectural training. "The sensibilities required to design physical relationships and provide opportunities for living interaction are integral to documenting their existence."

His unique approach to capturing the vibrancy and movement of architecture enables him to advance the cause of outstanding architectural photography.

BUILDER OF THE YEAR
Hedrick Brothers

With a sincere interest in encouraging craftsmanship in the construction industry, this award recognizes a company's ability to translate an architect's design into a beautiful quality product. For 35 years, Hedrick Brothers has served the Palm Beach area with exceptional craftsmanship and uncompromising service. Nominated for their collaborations with REG Architects, Hedrick Brothers has worked on Palm Beach County's historic courthouse, the Harriett Himmel Theatre and most recently, a 60-acre equestrian estate.
In 2013, the AIA Board of Directors voted to implement an object award to recognize AIA Florida members who have designed an object that demonstrates a level of invention, creativity and craftsmanship beyond the constraints of space or cost restrictions.

**OBJECT AWARD**

**World Trade Center Memorial, Tampa, Florida**

**Wilder Architecture, Inc., Tampa, Florida**

This project is praiseworthy for honoring the memory of those who were killed on Sept. 11, 2001. The architectural sculpture pays tribute to that event in a simple, but sophisticated design.

The City of Tampa dedicated this sculpture on the tenth anniversary of 9-11. Located at Patriot's Corner, the object was designed to show support for the military and first responders. It is a moving tribute to the events of that day. The World Trade Center is represented as an elevated concrete base, matching the orientation and scale of the original buildings. Thin aluminum members rise from the base tracing the placement, material and proportions of the twin towers. The memorial is 1/100th the scale of the actual towers and surrounding city block. The steel WTC artifact, an eight-foot column, is held above the base within the symbolic north tower and it functions as a sundial. As the shadow of the artifact falls on the ground on the morning of Sept. 11, the lower radial slab marks the duration of time from the first airplane's impact on the north tower at 8:46 a.m. to the subsequent collapse of the tower at 10:28 a.m.

**InfinityBrillhart Architecture, Miami, Florida**

This object is a great outreach element for the community. As a participatory object, it is very successful at interacting with all senses of those who see it. It is the integration of art with people.

This kinetic sculpture presents an interactive story of Miami’s rise. The object is both machine and metaphor for the city, illustrating the complexity of downtown and its rapid growth spurts. The object is an aluminum-framed box with a mirrored ceiling and floating base, the street grid of downtown Miami and the water's edge, all represented by a network of pink and blue neon tubes. Situated inside are 35 important buildings suspended from a system of cables and pulleys. By pulling down on the handles, participants are able to raise the building footprints and create a pop-up effect of Miami high rises.

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PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD
Smokey Hollow Commemoration at Cascades Park, Tallahassee, Florida
Architects: Lewis + Whitlock, PA, Tallahassee, Florida

This award, presented for the first time this year, was a joint effort between AIA Florida and the Florida Foundation for Architecture. Projects to be considered included component nominations and projects submitted in 2013 for the Award of Excellence. All submissions were required to be non-residential properties open to the public. The buildings had to be located in Florida and constructed within the immediate past five years. The 58 qualified buildings were posted on www.floridapeoplechoice.org and were open to public voting from June 16 until July 18. With exactly 800,818 votes cast from 570 different cities in 46 states and nine countries, this beautiful tribute to an important African-American community in Tallahassee was selected.
When architect Jonathan Parks was looking for the perfect way to top off his Aurora Award-winning TipTop Haus in Lido Key, he chose Geolam. Geolam Duo decking was Parks’ choice for its aesthetic appeal and high performance.

"Geolam performs at a very high level," Parks says. "It is beautiful and very durable. We actually tried to destroy it and we couldn’t. Everything should hold up this well."

Congratulations to Jonathan Parks on his stunning, award-winning design. I thank you for choosing to take Geolam to the TipTop.