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2016 AIA Florida/Caribbean Honor and Design Awards Issue

In May, the 2016 Design Awards jury convened in San Francisco to review 263 projects in five design categories. Composed of prominent San Francisco-area architects, the jury included Carrie Byles, FAIA, LEED AP BD+C, partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Fred Powell, FAIA, director, Powell & Partners Architects; John Maniscalco, AIA, founding partner, John Maniscalco Architecture; Joshua Aidlin, AIA, founding partner, Aidlin Darling Design; and Lise de Vito, Assoc. AIA, principal, Zack | de Vito Architecture + Construction. Ultimately, a total of 27 projects representing 21 different firms in Florida and Puerto Rico were honored. AIA Florida also recognized nine outstanding members and firms with 2016 AIA Florida Honor Awards. This issue of Florida/Caribbean Architect celebrates the best architecture in the region. The work represented on these pages strengthens our communities and inspires us. To properly present the 27 winning projects to readers would require a good deal of space. However, constrained by the number of available pages, we proudly congratulate the 2016 AIA Florida/Caribbean Honor and Design Award recipients.
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“Ultimately, leadership is not about glorious crowning acts. It’s about keeping your team focused on a goal and motivated to do their best to achieve it, especially when the stakes are high and the consequences really matter. It is about laying the groundwork for others’ success, and then standing back and letting them shine.”

– Chris Hadfield, first Canadian to walk in space

President’s Perspective

MARTIN DIAZ-YABOR, FAIA

Just like that, the year is almost over! But, as 2016 draws to a close, the AIA Florida Board of Directors met in San Juan, Puerto Rico, for its final meeting of the year. At the same time, the Florida/Caribbean region was holding its fall meeting in San Juan on the heels of the 2016 AIA Puerto Rico Convention.

The AIA Florida Annual Convention and Trade Show convened at The Breakers in Palm Beach. The convention was a great success and, I must say, likely one of the best AIA conventions ever! Everything was exceptional — the keynote speakers, the continuing education courses, the golf tournament, the awards ceremony, the trade show and the camaraderie. Everything was outstanding, and I could not be more proud. The convention committee and staff did an outstanding job, and I urge you to join me in commending them on a job well done.

I am grateful for the hard work of the Board members and staff. Amazingly, the association has surpassed the many goals set for 2016. We have successfully realigned the Board, installed an active Strategic Council, instituted a new format for the Florida Foundation for Architecture, raised funding for FAPAC, and increased the number of up-and-coming associate members who are involved in all of the state components. What a great year it’s been, and it’s not over yet.

For the remainder of the year, Board committees continue to work on programming, the Association leadership attended the AIA Large States Conference in Texas, and strategic planning for 2017 is underway. AIA Florida is currently adding new courses to the online course library as well as planning license renewal seminars to ensure all members have access to continuing education required for licensure. Be sure to visit www.aiafla.org for details about continuing education opportunities.

As my term as president nears an end, I would like to thank those who supported the goals set forth by the Board. I also want to commend the staff of AIA Florida along with Executive Vice President Vicki Long, Hon. AIA, CAE, for their outstanding work in supporting the efforts of the Board. To my fellow architects who spent tireless hours away from home and office to help achieve our goals, thank you! I look forward to seeing the association continue to prosper in the future.

You will all be in great hands after I’m put out to pasture in January 2017. The incoming president, Joyce Owens, AIA, RIBA, will carry on the mission of the AIA through her capable leadership. I wish all of you and your families the very best, and I look forward to working with you through our continued work with AIA Florida. For now, that’s it! I’m signing out. God bless!

AIA FLORIDA IS CURRENTLY ADDING NEW COURSES TO THE ONLINE COURSE LIBRARY AS WELL AS PLANNING LICENSE RENEWAL SEMINARS TO ENSURE ALL MEMBERS HAVE ACCESS TO CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED FOR LICENSURE.
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Honor Award of Excellence for New Work
L.A. Villa – Oppenheim Architecture (Architect of Record: Stenfors Assoc. Architects, Los Angeles, California)
Images: Roger Davies, Architectural Digest

Perched above Los Angeles on nearly eight acres, this house pivots on its axis at each level in response to different functional and program requirements. The jury commended the uniquely defined spaces and incredible rigor in the detailing of the residence.
Honor Award of Excellence for New Work
Aeronautical and Aerospace Institute of Puerto Rico – Toro Arquitectos
Images: Paola Quevedo

During the day this classroom building appears as a solid element from the outside, but as night falls, it becomes a translucent beacon for the Boringuen Airport. The jury praised the integration of program and form and the ability of the colorful doorways to soften the severity of the concrete.
Honor Award of Excellence for Renovations/Additions
Malaga Residence – Brillhart Architecture
Images courtesy of the architect

Balancing existing conditions and setbacks with budget and program, this 3,000-square-foot addition respects the scale and form of the original home while adding significant space. The addition was praised by the jury for being elegant and refined, and blending seamlessly into the original program.
Honor Award of Excellence for Renovations/Additions
East Meets West – Hughesumbanhowar Architects
Images: Cllan Carisle

Using the existing façade as a guide, the architect mirrored the scale and massing of the existing building onto the new structure in the eastern half of the site, beginning the architectural dialogue between east and west in what the jury called “classically beautiful proportions.”
The jury praised this architect for recognizing the simplistic beauty of the existing structure and respecting it in the addition of new public safety and concession structures. The new facility is positioned on the site to define the east edge of the restored plaza, creating civic space between the new and historic structures.
Honor Award of Excellence for Renovations/Additions
2301 N. Bay Rd. – Touzet Studio
Images: Carlos Fleitas

Praising its exquisite detail, the jury recognized this addition as an abstracted version of the original language that seamlessly fits into the existing structure. The program included modernization of the property, integrating virtually invisible technology and an addition of studio space above the kitchen.
Honor Award of Excellence for Interior Architecture

South Beach Penthouse – Oppenheim Architecture
Images: Karen Fuchs

With a large sculptural stair connecting the three floors of this Miami Beach penthouse, a serene and natural environment was created using a neutral palate of plaster, stone and wood. The jury hailed the project for having a sophisticated use of materials, elegant proportions and the ability to take advantage of daylighting.
This restoration project included efforts to repair localized damage to floor beams, reconditioning original jalousie windows, repairs to interior and exterior walls and reconstruction of the umbrella using materials that meet Florida Building Code standards. The jury applauded the exquisite technical detailing and design-execution.
Honor Award for Unbuilt Design
MOLA – [STRANG] Architecture
Images courtesy of the architect

Panoramic views of the river informed the gentle arc of this residence. The jury lauded the use of warm material in contrast to the surrounding materials. Jury members also applauded the rhythm and proportion of the wood fins in their ability to both control views inward and direct views outward.
Honor Award for Unbuilt Design

Nathan Benderson Park Finish Tower – Guy Peterson, Office for Architecture (Architect of Record: Fawley Bryant Architects)

Images courtesy of the architect

As part of the initiative to transform a sand and shell mine into a world-class rowing facility and public park, this tower is designed as an instrument for viewing by embracing precision and sight. The tower captures a full 360-degree view of the course and surrounding event space to the east.
The first of its kind in Latin America, this building conforms to the landscape emerging as a sinuous object within it. The living green roof will generate 15 percent of the building's energy demand, and water filtration gardens will help restore ecosystems.
Situated on a 120-acre farm in the Umbrian countryside of Northern Italy, this structure is intended to support staff and equipment for an American winemaker. Stringent local regulations required that not more than one-third of the exterior walls could be above grade, half of which must be clad with local stone.
Honor Award for Sustainable Design
Verandah House – Halflants + Pichette/Studio for Modern Architecture
Images: Bill Speer

With generous overhangs, shaded terraces, operable systems and solar cells, this house embraces Sarasota’s subtropical latitude as it opens to a sheltered courtyard. Photovoltaic panels in three separate arrays generate enough electricity per year to offset 80 to 90 percent of all onsite energy consumption. The design was also awarded the 2014 Merit Award of Excellence for Unbuilt Design.
Honor Award for Theoretical/Research Design
Apalachicola Maritime Museum – Ryan Sheplak, AIAS
Images: Courtesy of the architecture student

This project utilizes a set of key points derived from Kenneth Frampton’s theories on Critical Regionalism to illustrate an architectural intervention that bears the capacity to both respect and respond to the indigenous elements of the region.
San Marco Island Residence – [STRANG] Architecture
Image: Bruce Buck

An intriguing yet private entrance to this home releases into a light-filled, transparent arrangement of living spaces with expansive views of the bay.

Florida Women's Hospital – HKS Architects
Image: Michael Stavardis

This 13-story women's facility incorporates 336 beds and will house units for obstetrics, surgery, neonatal ICU, oncology and cardiology.

Caribbean Hillside Residence – Carl Abbott, FAIA, Architect/Planner
Image: CMC Photos

Overlooking the Dutch Caribbean, this home consist of multiple levels providing a user experience that unfolds into views from intimate to grand.
In an effort to reveal the honesty of the original 1960 home, this project included a number of exterior doors, window finishes and structural updates all of which complemented or complied with the design intent of the original construction.

Through a series of stages, this historic home was rehabilitated to preserve and restore historic materials used to build the home while incorporating sustainable solutions, accessibility features and modern infrastructure systems.

Once an iconic motel, popular with many African-American families vacationing in Miami, this 50-room motel had fallen into complete disrepair. Working with the community and local officials, the design team transformed the space into a community cultural center. The program includes a museum and exhibit space, multi-purpose rooms, classrooms and offices.
Kassamali House – Mateu Architecture
Image: Carlos Domenech

Built in Coral Gables in 1989, this home wraps around the landscape and a 10-foot-wide skylight runs the entire length of the house. A full-height glass curtain wall at the rear elevation completes the design.

Casa Gioco – Carl Abbott, FAIA, Architect/Planner
Image: Sean Harris and Peter Turo

Twenty-nine years ago, this home was designed for a client requesting an exuberant, fun home filled with bright colors and exciting forms. Situated on a narrow site fronting into a large harbor, this home is made of two independent rectangular building forms — the large, linear main house and the tall, private master suite.

Raingarden – [STRANG] Architecture
Image: Calder Wilson

Smooth stucco walls match the deep fins of each of the row houses in this nine-unit apartment building. The open living plan includes polished concrete floors, exposed ducting and white cabinetry.
Merit Award of Excellence for Renovations/Additions
Sarasota High School New Gate – Solstice Architects
(Architect of Record: Harvard Jolly Inc.)
Image: ESTO

In conjunction with the renovation of this 50-year-old campus designed by Paul Rudolph, the design of the new gate at Sarasota High School sought to contrast the original building form in an unadorned design that simultaneously deferred to the power of the original space.

Merit Award of Excellence for Interior Architecture
Aesop DTLA – Brooks+Scarpa
Image: Art Gray

The interior of this historic LA Theatre District shop was manufactured using six-inch cardboard tubes to create walls and furniture with countertops made of recycled paper.

Merit Award for Unbuilt Design
Casa 34° 58' N 83° 20' W – Mateu Architecture
Image courtesy of the architect

Conceptually, this design occupies its place on the land by floating on columns away from the road. A perforated metal wall connects and separates the structure from the road and demarcates public from private.
Merit Award for Theoretical/Research Design

Landschaft: A Cultivation of Absence – Kimberly Connell, AIAS
Images: Courtesy of the architecture student

Utilizing the term “landschaft” as a framework, this research project places importance on the constant making, remaking and rereading of past and present relationships in order to cultivate a matrix to aid in the fostering of local culture.
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One of the highest honors awarded by AIA Florida, the Gold Medal recognizes architects who have distinguished themselves in a manner resulting in a profound impact on the profession over an extended period of time.

Guy Peterson has been an active member and leader of AIA Florida for more than 35 years. During that time, he was honored with more than 80 design awards including AIA Florida Firm of the Year and the Medal of Honor for Design. As a dedicated professional, he not only strives for design excellence in his own work. He also shares his passion for, and insight into, sensitive sustainable design through mentorship.

Former national AIA President Mickey Jacob, FAIA, wrote in a letter of recommendation: “For more than three decades, Guy Peterson’s leadership has influenced countless people, programs and actions that have directly resulted in a profound innovative change in both the profession of architecture and the architecture education process.”

Recently, Guy transformed the dilapidated 1967 Barkus Furniture Store into an award-winning education and exhibition center to house the University of Florida’s (UF) CityLab-Sarasota and the newly minted Center for Architecture Sarasota. His design work on the project was done pro bono along with a number of other significant projects, including The Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center and facilities at Benderson County Park, Nora Patterson Park, Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida and Selby Gardens. His body of work is that of a dedicated and selfless professional who has worked to elevate the stature of architects beyond the profession and into the public domain.

The jury determined that Guy Peterson exemplifies all the characteristics embodied in the AIA Florida Gold Medal. His dedicated efforts to the education of students and the public, his community involvement and, most of all, his remarkable talent in the advancement of excellent design make him a worthy recipient of the 2016 Gold Medal.
Silver Medal and Hillard T. Smith Community Service Award
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AIA Florida Southwest

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HKS Architects, Inc.

Builder of the Year
Phil Kean Design Group

Photographer of the Year
Ryan Gamma

Object Award
“Why Sit When You Can Play,” designed by The Urban Conga
Image courtesy of Ryan Swanson, Assoc. AIA
2016 AIA Florida People’s Choice Competition

For the third year, members of the public were asked to vote for their favorite Florida architecture. The annual People’s Choice Competition is sponsored by AIA Florida and the Florida Foundation for Architecture. Garnering more attention on social media than in past years, the competition brought in more than 283,000 votes over the course of four weeks. Projects eligible to be considered for vote this year included major renovations/adaptive reuse and new work completed in the past five years, open to the public and located within the state of Florida.

First Place
Moxie Kitchen+Cocktails
Location: Jacksonville
Designed by: AI3, Atlanta, Georgia
Choice Competition

Second Place
St. Peter’s Anglican Church
Location: Tallahassee
Designed by: Touchstone Architecture and DodStone Group Architects

Third Place
Patriot Plaza at Sarasota National Cemetery
Location: Sarasota
Designed by: Hoyt Architects

Fourth Place
UF Health Jacksonville North
Location: Jacksonville
Designed by: Gresham, Smith and Partners

Fifth Place
Jessie Ball duPont Center
Location: Jacksonville
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