

2019 AIA Connecticut Design Awards

Celebrating the accomplishments of Connecticut architects
and the excellence of Connecticut architectural projects



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BUILT AWARDS:

Commercial, Institutional, Educational, or Multi-family Residential Design



Hancher, University of Iowa / Pelli Clarke Pelli
Photographer: Jeff Goldberg/ESTO



Hancher Auditorium, Iowa City, Iowa, Architect:

Pelli Clarke Pelli



Photographer: Jeff Goldberg/ESTO Hancher Auditorium, Iowa City, Iowa, Architect: Pelli Clarke Pelli

Photographer: Jeff Goldberg/ESTO

In 2008, Iowa City experienced a 500-year devastating flood that caused more than \$700 million worth of damage on the University of Iowa campus. It was only a matter of time before Hancher Auditorium—the epicenter of performing arts on campus—was submerged in high-flood water and ultimately destroyed.

The new Hancher now conforms to FEMA's 500-year-flood criteria and sits on a hilltop overlooking the river that destroyed it a decade ago. The design responds to its site and context on the exterior, and to its program and planning on the interior. The exterior is inspired by the nearby Iowa River, sweeping horizontal forms emulate the river's curve. The interior opens upward, spanning multiple levels. Rehearsal space, a café, costume shop, and an 1,800-seat proscenium theater provides students and guests the necessary environment for creative expression. Design emphasis was placed on accessibility, transparency, flexibility, and sustainability, and meets the university's goal of a 30% energy cost reduction to acquire a LEED Gold rating.

Excellence



Northwestern Mutual Tower and Commons / Pickard Chilton
Photographer: Tom Rossiter



Northwestern Mutual

Tower and Commons / Pickard Chilton
Photographer: David Sundberg/ESTO

Northwestern Mutual’s 32-story, 1.1 million gsf Tower and Commons unites four office buildings to create a high-performance 8-acre urban corporate campus that engages employees and the city, while embodying the company’s longstanding values to “do the right thing”. Implementing best practices in workplace design, the elegant glass tower’s curved form at the eastern edge of the campus embraces the 3-acre gardens. Ten-foot-wide mullion spacing and horizontally oriented floor-to-ceiling glazing reinforce the open office’s panoramic views. A fundamental driver of the design was to embrace Milwaukee and contribute to the downtown’s civic transformation. The project engages the city at all scales – for pedestrians along the streetscapes and in the gardens; to the broader lakefront neighborhood; to its place in the skyline. The tower’s crown jewel is the Shared Resources on the 32nd floor. With a large deck offering views over the city and Lake Michigan, the double-height multi-purpose space serves as a special gathering space for employees and charitable events.

Merit



ATCO Campus / Pickard Chilton
Photographer: Jason Dziver

Located in Calgary on a former brownfield, the ATCO Campus is a new headquarters for the energy and logistics company that brings the ATCO family closer together while providing neighbors and customers with a beautiful place to gather and enjoy the rehabilitated landscape. The campus is a dynamic composition of two four-story office buildings, interconnected by the Commons, a central boat-shaped multi-purpose facility. The LEED NC-Gold buildings provide panoramic views to the Rockies and the Calgary skyline. The first floor of the parkade creates a plinth upon which the buildings and quad are sited.

Merit



The Bridge Golf Teaching Facility / Roger Ferris + Partners
Photographer: Paúl Rivera

The goal of this project is to provide a high quality, state of the art golf teaching facility. Our challenge was to insert a new structure containing the teaching facility within the panoramic vista from the clubhouse of an established, environmentally certified, world class golf course without changing the character of the existing experience. Our solution was to insert the structure into the hillside, using the existing topography to berm against two sides of the building, preserving the panoramic views of the course, the shore and the bay beyond, while exposing just the two sides of the building facing away from the clubhouse.

Merit



Goldring/Woldenberg Complex, Tulane University / Pelli Clarke Pelli
Photographer: Jeff Goldberg/ESTO

A.B. Freeman School of Business is comprised of two buildings, Goldring/Woldenberg Hall I and Hall II, located on McAlister Drive, a busy pedestrian path in the heart of Tulane University's campus. Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects' design unifies the two buildings into one academic complex with a new 46,000-square-foot, four-story addition and a 46,000-square-foot renovation of a classroom, two auditoriums, and two lecture halls. Inspired by Tulane's mascot, the Wave, and large oak trees lining McAlister Drive, the scalloped pattern of the four-story glass curtain wall entrance activates and, at night, illuminates both the outside courtyard and central atrium inside, becoming a vibrant gathering place for students throughout the day and evening.

Merit



Farmhouse Education Center - Stamford Museum and Nature Center / TSKP Studio
Photographer: Richard Barnes Photography

The Farmhouse Education Center is the first education building addition to the 118 acre Stamford Museum and Nature Center in 50 years. The Education Center provides educational spaces, visitor services and a new entrance to the Farm museum. It includes: a 1,600 sq. ft. multipurpose space with commercial kitchen and an open deck overlooking an existing paddock, a Maple Sugar and Cidering House, expanded parking, additional paddocks and outdoor gathering spaces such as the Farmhouse plaza, the Grove plaza with fire pit and boulder seating, and an outdoor classroom.

Merit



Wintrust Arena / Pelli Clarke Pelli
Photographer: Jeff Goldberg/ESTO

Wintrust Arena is a multi-purpose event space in Chicago. The event center is part of a redevelopment plan to transform the neighborhood into a vibrant mixed-use district. Wintrust Arena's main design feature is a stepped roof that swells upward over the arena seating, recalling the ceilings of Chicago's great public rooms. Within the arena, the roof's structure is exposed, making the steel trusses that support it an expressive part of the design and reminiscent of the emergence of steel-tubed design in 1960s Chicago. Additionally, medium-scale, metal-clad pavilions are located intermittently around the perimeter of the building, mediating the change in scale and housing many support spaces.

Merit



Yale NUS College / Pelli Clarke Pelli
Photographer: Jeff Goldberg/ESTO

Yale-NUS College is the first liberal arts college in Singapore, jointly created by Yale University and the National University of Singapore. Balancing the traditions of Yale with the cultures of Southeast Asia, the campus is designed in a contemporary architectural language influenced by the climate of Singapore. Sun- and rain-screened colonnades and roofs with generous eaves are used throughout the campus. Five-foot ways, the shaded walkways found alongside traditional Singapore shop houses, further tying the buildings together.

BUILT AWARDS:
Residential Design



East Branch House / Turner Brooks



Photographer: Turner Brooks East Branch House / Turner Brooks
Photographer: Turner Brooks

This house is for two geologists and children in a small river valley in the Catskills of N.Y. Perhaps in homage to their profession it appears to scrape and grade the ground on the site of an abandoned gravel pit with its bending L-shaped form. While the north/south bedroom wing cuts off the view and sound of the road to the east, the other east/ west wing housing the living area opens up to look south across this shielded zone, then over a large pond (a residue from the old gravel pit) and finally off down the narrow valley into which the East Branch River flows. At the southern end of the bedroom wing, the tower element houses 3 stories of bunks, and at the top floor provides a small study/nest with views up and down the valley. To the west, a path leads down to the river where kayaks are stored and where the family can enjoy a favorite pastime of fly fishing.

Excellence



Pavilion House | Architect: Kaehler Architects; Architecture: MCH/Arnaud Montigny with Guillaume Roussel, Paris, France.



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The design challenge was to create an all glass home near the road while providing privacy, noise buffering and capturing views of the river and meadow. Our solution was to design some of the program within a simple “barn” building parallel with the road and position the glass main house behind it. Another challenge was to save a large specimen tree located close to the house. Our solution was to incorporate the tree between the barn and the house making it the anchor of the garden at the entry.

Excellence



Pool House / Roger Ferris + Partners



Photographer: Paúl Rivera Pool House / Roger

Ferris + Partners

Photographer: Paúl Rivera

Compelling and ambiguous, this underground pool/ guest house is experienced as an apparition in the landscape along the coast of the Long Island Sound. Set into a subtle incline just before the land drops off to meet the beachfront, it is almost invisible as one approaches from the main entrance of the estate. From this point of arrival, the only hint of what lies below is a series of glass skylights cut into the ground. The structure faces the sound through full-height glass walls that bring daylight into the interiors and retract to give access to a terrace that is shaded by a brise-soleil.

BUILT AWARDS:
Interior Architecture

Excellence



Pioneer / Beinfield Architecture
Photographer: Nico Arellano



Pioneer / Beinfield Architecture
Photographer: Nico Arellano



Pioneer / Beinfield Architecture

Photographer: Nico Arellano

Pioneer is a luxury apartment community built for explorers, innovators, free-thinkers and pathfinders. The project is a collaboration between 5 award winning development and design firms working toward a singular vision. To build a place where people can live, meet and feel at home - a luxury base camp for their life's adventure.

As the designers of the Amenity space we wanted to build a sense of wonder and excitement – Within the height of three stories we created communal areas that invite you to come inside and explore, where one area leads naturally into the next, offering glimpses of what's hidden within. Modern design with wood planking and industrial touches, punctuated with charming accents, reclaimed wood and bright splashes of color.

Merit



Summer Street Lobby / Atelier Cho Thompson
Photographer: Nicole Franzen

Atelier Cho Thompson designed this space with the ambitious goal to re-imagine the lobby as a new type of space: a place to develop social and intellectual capital and to establish a new paradigm for the spaces of the modern workplace. Work is no longer confined to the office but takes place in coffee shops and around dining tables, on calls and in huddles. They designed the lobby to respond to this vision of work and to create a warm and sophisticated environment to welcome visitors. Atelier Cho Thompson envisioned the lobby's deeper potential as a space for collaborating, networking, brainstorming, and imagining.

BUILT AWARDS:
Adaptive Re-use:

Excellence



Greenwich Historical Society Reimagined Campus / David Scott Parker Architects
Photographer: Durston Saylor



The Greenwich Historical Society

Connecticut's Cos Cob Landing was the "cradle of American Impressionism." In the late-19th/early-20th century, renowned artists summered at its National Historic Landmark, Bush-Holley House immortalizing the bucolic setting and structures in their art. By the mid-20th century, changing demographics, development, and modern roadways eroded this important artistic precinct. Greenwich Historical Society saved and restored the Bush-Holley landmark as their headquarters but had little space for expanding needs and interpretive programs. To accommodate growth, the Society gradually acquired ailing adjacent structures, and in this project revitalized them as a cohesive historic campus; including adaptive-use restoration of "Toby's Tavern," as well as the construction of a new archives/gallery complex inspired by former dependencies, depicted in artworks by the Impressionist art colonists. Placement of these structures now buffers and screens this National Historic Landmark from neighboring I-95 furthering the Society's mission and reestablishing the place that inspired a generation of American art.

UNBUILT AWARDS:



Mill River Park Discovery Center / JCJ Architecture

As part of an effort to reclaim and rehabilitate 28-acres of blighted parkland in the heart of downtown Stamford, the Mill River Park Collaborative (MRPC) issued an RFP for a new facility that would function as an interactive learning and development center for educational programs in the park. The MRPC indicated the project's form must be such that it can be considered a work of art. In addition to creating a place of enduring appeal that engages and holds the eye of the observer, the building would include facilities to interactive exhibits, functional classrooms/labs, support areas for an adjacent ice skating rink, carry out café, office and support spaces for employees.

Merit



Challenge Museum / TSKP Studio

As Dongwon, South Korea's largest fishing company and owner of StarKist Tuna, nears its 50th anniversary; and in honor of Chairman Kim Jae-Chul, founder of Dongwon Industries, one of South Korea's most successful self-made tycoons, revered for his dedication and contribution to South Korea's history and culture and is acknowledged worldwide for his business prowess; a competition was held to design an iconic museum to celebrate Chairman Kim Jae-Chul's life, the Dongwon's challenge spirit and promote learning for future generations. Design Developed Goals • create a memorable image for visitors – evoking the human spirit facing challenges; • establish harmony between the museum, surrounding mountains and farms; • articulate the major areas – the Planetarium, Chairman Kim Jae-Chul's Legacy Hall, the Museum, and the Educational components.

ARCHITECTURE: THE ENCOMPASSING ART AWARDS:



Staircase / Saniee Architects, LLC
Photographer: Neil Landino

Stairs give a beat, a rhythm to ascending and descending. The beat is mostly single paced except for landings. How to create a visual rhythm out of a single beat using sticks?
The vertical posts create the first visual rhythm. Alternate them and a double beat emerges. Then let the treads poke in and out and highlight the inner ones with protrusions.
Now we have an object, a screen, separating spaces. Look closer and it alternates and cuts the view off in a regular rhythm. Look more closely and the alternating notes go in and out as they climb up. Look through it and it is an open tunnel with alternating bands crossing it.

Merit



Clinica Verde/Amanda Martocchio Architects Photographer: Melvin Rodriguez

“It takes a village!” is a true statement regarding the design and construction of a prototype for a rural health clinic in Las Lagunas, Boaco, Nicaragua. In fact, it took the active collaboration of members of this remote village; Clinica Verde, an NGO that delivers high quality medical care and health education focused on pregnant mothers; the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health; and Amanda Martocchio Architects Connecticut-based studio. They were asked to create a “Puesto de Salud” prototype for providing compassionate healthcare in rural communities throughout Nicaragua, within an environmentally and socially sustainable framework. Las Lagunas was the first community where the prototype was built.