

AIA Columbus



A Chapter of
The American Institute of Architects

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AIA Columbus Announces 2011 Design Award Winners

7 high-profile projects selected from 44 entries

COLUMBUS, Ohio – A library, heart and orthopedic hospital, academic buildings and restaurant are among the winners of the American Institute of Architects, Columbus Chapter (AIA Columbus), 2011 annual juried awards’ competition, honoring outstanding architecture designed by Columbus architects.

The 2011 winners, which included three honor awards and four merit awards, were selected from 44 entries. One of the merit award winners was a Project Award, which is awarded to projects scheduled to be built, as well as those that will never be built, including commissions, research and speculation. All remaining projects were Architecture Awards, projects that have been completed.

“The submissions reveal that AIA Columbus members, in addition to creating a wide variety of projects, are engaged in a wide diversity of work – including adaptive re-use, additions and new-build – covering a wide geographic area,” said Gwen Berlekamp, AIA Columbus executive director.

Entries were judged by a jury of architects led by lead juror Laura Hartman, AIA, a principal of Fernau & Hartman Architects in Berkeley, Calif. Other jurors were: Eric Haesloop, principal, Turnbull Griffin Haesloop, San Francisco; Marsha Maytum, principal, Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects, San Francisco; and Anni Tilt, principal, Arkin Tilt Architects Ecological Planning & Design, Berkeley, Calif.

Winners and their respective firms, along with photo identifications, are:

Honor Awards– Project Awards

(projects scheduled to be built, as well as competitions, commissions, research or speculation)

Honor Awards (Projects that have been completed)

Orange Branch Library, Delaware, Ohio

Photo: A03 Image 2

Delaware County District Library, Owner
MKC Associates Inc., Architect of Record
Photography by Feinknopf Photography



The new Orange Branch of the Delaware County District Library is a 33,600-square-foot, state-of-the-art library intended to serve Delaware County’s growing population. This new library, as an important gathering place within the community, has the opportunity to become a landmark building in this growing township. The design team endeavored to create a sense of permanence and pride for the community, while providing a warm inviting atmosphere.

Some of the special building spaces featured include a large glass-enclosed quiet study room with a fireplace, community meeting room, cafe, large children's area, dedicated storytime room, teen space separated with a glass garage door, self service area for hold pickup and checkout, drive-up and book drop service windows, and outreach services, including a bookmobile garage.

The Ohio State University Cunz Hall Renovation, Columbus

Photo: A12-Image1

The Ohio State University College of Public Health, Owner
Jonathan Barnes Architecture and Design, Design Architect
Photography by Feinknopf Photography



Cunz Hall, a four-story, ‘60s era, Brutalist style structure on the campus of The Ohio State University, has been extensively renovated as the new LEED home of the College of Public Health, with offices, classrooms and bioscience labs. The renovations retained the concrete structure and much of the signature Brutalist precast concrete panel exteriors, while improving upon a number of deficiencies, including:

- lack of interior day-lighting
- confusing interior circulation
- limited contextual relationship
- lack of clarity of the building’s entries that were located on four identical facades
- aesthetic limitations

Julka Hall, Cleveland, Ohio

Photo: A39-Image1

Cleveland State University, Owner
NBBJ, Design Architect
Photography by Benjamin Benschneider



Occupying a highly visible site, Julka Hall at Cleveland State University (CSU) brings together eight different departments on campus. Its three occupied floors respond to the unique site conditions by forming exterior garden and plaza spaces that are accessible by both the campus and the city. The project anchors CSU’s southeast corner of campus and acts simultaneously as a gateway to the University, and a supporting element of the urban fabric.

The College of Education and Human Services' student body includes both undergraduate and graduate students, but is weighted toward graduate education. As such, its "typical student" is a 31-year-old female who arrives at 4:30 pm and takes classes in the evening after having taught all day. Undergraduate education and nursing students follow a more traditional class schedule and will utilize the building throughout the day. Three main entrances welcome the building's three distinct users: campus residents, commuting students and the surrounding community.

Merit Awards – Architecture Awards (Projects that have been completed)

Miami Valley Hospital Heart and Orthopedic Center, Dayton, Ohio

Photo: A35-Image1

Miami Valley Hospital, owner

NBBJ, Design Architect

Photography by Benjamin Benschneider



The Miami Valley Hospital Heart and orthopedic Center redefines the hospital's identity within the region by transforming the way the campus is experienced by patients, staff, and the Dayton community. It is more than just a new building; it is a catalyst for the transformation of the Miami Valley campus.

This first step of renewal opens the campus interior with a welcoming gesture to the public and softens the campus center with green space. The existing central courtyard, which was congested with vehicular traffic, has been significantly increased in area and developed into a pedestrian friendly park. Vehicles are removed from the center of the court, and the existing front drive is transformed into planted gardens, stone pathways and a rolling brook.

Hocking College Energy Institute, Logan, Ohio

Photo: A26-Image1

Hocking College, owner

DesignGroup, Design Architect

Photography by Feinknopf Photography



The Hocking College Energy Institute (HCEI), a 12,200-square-foot classroom building, was designed to be the headquarters for Hocking College's two-year degree program in sustainable technologies. Courses are taught in fuel cell technology and hybrid vehicle maintenance, as well as NABCEP certification, ground-source heat pump maintenance, and wind generator installation.

Built for a modest cost (\$238/SF), HCEI is LEED-Platinum certified. In order to meet the budget requirements, while achieving these demanding goals, the design team pursued several simple concepts:

- Climate Responsive Design
- A Living Laboratory
- Leading by Example

Northstar Café – Beechwold, Columbus, Ohio

Photo: A38Image1

Kevin Malhame, Owner

GRA+D Architects, Andrew Rosenthal, Design Architect

Photography by Feinknopf Photography



The existing shell building was standard commercial in-fill construction (storefront, metal deck, bar joists and brick veneer). A breezeway that connects the rear parking to the front of the building is faced with glass creating a third wall of window on the front half of the space. Early in the design a central understanding of the space was simply two zones – a kitchen in the rear half of the space and the front space a dining room.

A wall faced with small porcelain tiles mediates between the two primary zones, which are then knit together in a variety of ways. The kitchen pushes out into the dining area to form the point of sale and beverage preparation areas. The dining room gets punched back into the windowless rear of the restaurant (much in the same way individual booths do). This space becomes more finished and intimate. Outside awareness, prevalent throughout the main dining area, is provided by a single skylight.

Merit Awards – Project Award (Projects scheduled to be build, as well as competitions, commissions, research or speculation)

Seneca County Courthouse Restoration, Tiffin, Ohio

Photo: P01_image1

Board of Seneca County Commissioners, Owner
Schooley Caldwell Associates, Design Architect
Photography by Schooley Caldwell Associates



When the County Courthouse was constructed in 1884, all county government functions except the sheriff and jail were housed in it. As the county grew in population and legal complexity, various functions were moved out. Eventually the old courthouse deteriorated to the point that the courts moved out, opening the door to a demolition project, which was stymied when local residents protested the imminent loss of their landmark courts building

Restoration of the historic Courthouse will provide state-of-the-art space for the Common Pleas Courts and the Clerk of Courts, as well as providing an appropriate setting, and a single, secure entrance, for the Probate and Juvenile Courts, which will be able to move into the spaces originally intended for them in the Annex. This project, while accepted by the commissioners as functional and less expensive to the taxpayers than previously proposed alternatives, is currently "on hold" for political and economic reasons.

The AIA Columbus Honor Awards competition celebrates outstanding architecture and design and their role in enhancing a community's quality of life. Over the past 35 years, more than 175 projects have received AIA Columbus awards for outstanding architectural design. They include some of Columbus' most famous and well-known buildings:

- Rhodes State Office Building (1975)
- Limited National Headquarters (1980)
- Riffe Center (1991)
- Ohio Statehouse Restoration (1996)
- Southern Theater Renovation (1998)
- Ohio Judicial Center (Ohio Supreme Court) (2004)
- Loann Crane Center for Design (2005)
- William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library (The Ohio State University) (2009)

- Grange Insurance Audubon Center (2010)

The AIA was founded in 1857; the Columbus chapter was founded in 1929. Through education, government advocacy, community redevelopment and public outreach activities, the AIA and its 80,000 members work to achieve a more humane built environment and a higher standard of professionalism for architects. AIA Columbus has 650 members, serving a 30-county area from Mansfield to Marietta. For more information, visit www.aiacolumbus.org.

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