



For Immediate Release

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Three Iowa Architecture Firms win AIA Iowa Excellence in Sustainable Design Awards

Des Moines, Iowa (September 26, 2008) – The American Institute of Architects, Iowa Chapter (AIA Iowa), has named three Iowa buildings and three Iowa Architecture Firms winners of the 2008 AIA Iowa Excellence in Sustainable Design Awards held Friday, September 26, at the AIA Iowa annual Awards Celebration at the Iowa State Historical Building in Des Moines. The purpose of the AIA Iowa Excellence in Sustainable Design Awards are to recognize excellence in sustainable design and emphasize its importance within the community and profession.

This Awards Celebration was held in conjunction with the AIA Iowa Annual Convention held Thursday, September 25, and Friday, September 26, 2008 at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines. The 2008 Convention, “Kicking Habits”, focused on kicking little habits that will solve big problems, and the tools needed today to generate change and meet the Sustainability 2030 Challenge, a goal of creating carbon neutral buildings by the year 2030. Additional awards including the AIA Iowa Excellence in Design Awards, AIA Iowa Education Award, and AIA Iowa Medal of Honor were also presented at this event.

AWARD WINNERS:

“Long-Life, Loose-Fit” Honorable Mention

The MC Ginsburg project located in Clive, Iowa and designed by AIA Iowa Firm Member, HLKB Architecture of Des Moines, Iowa received an Honorable Mention, “Long-Life, Loose-Fit” Award. Jury Member Douglas Stockman, Principal of el dorado inc in Kansas City, Missouri, commented, “It seems to be achieving the one thing that we [architects] continually struggle with, which is do we make a building last 100, 150 years or do we make it completely disposable and recyclable?”

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Merit Award

The Substance Studio project located in Downtown Des Moines, Iowa and designed by AIA Iowa Firm Member, Substance of Des Moines, Iowa received a Merit Award. Jury Member Vladimir Krstic, Professor in the Department of Architecture at Kansas State University, commented, this project “stretches and interprets in their own way-sustainability.”

Merit Award

The Ames Transit Authority-CyRide project located in Ames, Iowa and designed by AIA Iowa Firm Member, ASK Studio of Des Moines, Iowa received a Merit Award. Jury Member Dominique Davison, AIA, NCARB, LEED® AP, Principal of Davison Architecture + Urban Design LLC in Kansas City, Missouri, commented, “[the images of this project] makes you want to be there.” An additional comment was made by Vladimir Krstic, Professor in the Department of Architecture at Kansas State University, “I find this more original than many other buildings we’ve seen”.

JURY:

The 2008 AIA Iowa Excellence in Sustainable Design Award jury was held Thursday, September 11, 2008 at the Kansas City office of BNIM Architects. Jury Chair was Steve McDowell, FAIA, LEED® AP, Principal and Director of Design of BNIM Architects in Kansas City, Missouri. Jury Members included Shannon Criss, Associate Professor at the School of Architecture, University of Kansas; Dominique Davison, AIA, NCARB, LEED® AP, Principal of Davison Architecture + Urban Design LLC in Kansas City, Kansas; Vladimir Krstic, Vladimir Krstic, Professor in the Department of Architecture at Kansas State University; and Douglas Stockman, Principal of el dorado inc in Kansas City, Missouri.

Since 1857, the American Institute of Architects has represented the professional interests of America's architects. AIA Iowa, headquartered in Des Moines, is a statewide affiliate of the national AIA. AIA members express their commitment to excellence in design and are proactive in the design of livable communities. Members adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct that assures the client, the public, and colleagues of an AIA member architect's dedication to the highest standards in professional practice. For more information, go to www.aiaiowa.org or call 515.244.7502.

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For interviews with any of the award winners or additional photos, please contact Jessica Reinert at AIA Iowa, (515) 244-7502, or e-mail her at jreinert@aiaiowa.org.