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NEW ORLEANS FIRMS WIN ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS

The New Orleans architectural firms of Eskew+Dumez+Ripple and Trapolin-Peer Architects won Honor Awards in the American Institute of Architects Louisiana affiliate's annual Design Awards competition. The awards were presented at the AIA Louisiana Design Conference Awards Luncheon, held in Destin on August 2.

The firms of studioWTC, Lee Ledbetter & Associates, Trapolin-Peer and Holly and Smith also won Awards of Merit in the competition.

Eskew+Dumez+Ripple won for its design of the Arabella Street Residential Renovation in New Orleans. This renovation of a circa 1920 residence entailed a complete interior reconfiguration and addition of 1,500 square feet. It included an open living area and unique indoor/outdoor experience.

Trapolin-Peer won an Honor Award for its design of the James M. Singleton Head Start Center in New Orleans. The 13,000 square foot facility includes a central corridor with unobstructed classroom and conference room layouts, direct access to indoor and outdoor play areas, and the use of sustainable building materials.

Awards of Merit winners and their projects are:

Studio WTA for its renovation design of the John P. Ische Library Commons at the LSU Health Sciences Center. The new Library-Commons is divided into multi-media rooms, a café and study lounges, with the focal point being the café/coffee bar featuring a 1931 Enrique Alvarez frieze. Custom display cases provide barriers in spaces, and display a multitude of objects and artifacts showcasing the history of the institution and medicine.

Lee Ledbetter & Associates won for its design of an Avery Island residence with 360 degree views organized around a central square – the dining room. The central double-height octagon space allows for passive cooling, and the residence also features ample overhangs and porches.

Trapolin-Peer Architects won for its design of 910 Toulouse Street in New Orleans. This project includes three circa 1815 structures that were extensively renovated as family and apartment living spaces. The renovation incorporated contemporary materials working in union with the stringent Vieux Carre' building requirements, along with courtyard renovations.

Holly and Smith won for its renovation and expansion design of the Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU) Kinesiology, Health Studies and Nursing Building, and its design of Village de Jardin senior housing development in New Orleans.

The SLU building included a new entry, which includes two lantern-like tower elements that refer to the art deco design of many campus buildings and unites the building, a covered breezeway and bridge to an outdoor room, and windows which allow for maximum views and solar control.

The Village de Jardin housing community features a traditional neighborhood concept and includes multiple building types from single family to apartment buildings to a multi-use complex, all aligned to provide green space and community gardens.

A total of 54 design projects by architects throughout Louisiana were entered in the prestigious Design Competition. The jury of judges awarded four Honor Awards and seven Merit Awards.

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