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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIA Minnesota Announces Eight Honor Awards Recipients

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA – Eight honor awards were announced at the 78th AIA Minnesota Annual Convention and Exhibition, on Thursday November 8. The jury, consisting of principals from three nationally recognized architects firms, reviewed 71 honor awards submissions, all from Minnesota architectural firms. The Honor Awards were reviewed within five categories: Architecture, Interiors, Restoration & Renovation, Urban Design and Master Planning, and Small Project.

The Honor Awards Jurors included: Bob Berkebile, FAIA, Principal, BNIM Architects, Kansas City, MO; Carol Ross Barney, FAIA, Principal, Ross Barney Architects, Chicago, IL; and Sharon Johnston, AIA, Principal, Johnston Marklee Architects, Santa Monica, CA. Jurors said that these eight submissions gave a real snapshot of the meaning of architecture today.

The Honor Awards, a tribute to architectural excellence, encourage a high level of architecture, recognizes the clients and architects who have distinguished themselves, and informs the public of these important architectural contributions. The following eight projects won a 2012 Honor Award:

Project Name: **Lakewood Cemetery Garden Mausoleum**



Photo credit: Paul Crosby Photography

Project Location: Minneapolis, MN

Client's Name: Lakewood Cemetery Association

Firm of Record: HGA Architects and Engineers (HGA)

Juror comments: "Such a beautiful structure that surpasses expectations. It's massive exterior is so solid, but the interior gives an airy quality. It reflects a huge sense of serenity for all visitors. "

Project Name: **Nelson Cultural Center, American Swedish Institute**



Photo credit: Paul Crosby Photography

Project Location: Minneapolis, MN

Client's Name: American Swedish Institute



Firm of Record: HGA Architects and Engineers (HGA)

Juror comments: "It gives a real sense of restraint...it is what you could call a "democratic building". We felt that the additional construction bowed to the majesty of the original house."

Project Name: **Dollar General Distribution Center Employee Hub**



Photo credit: *Bill Baxley*

Project Location: Bessemer, Alabama

Client's Name: Dollar General

Firm of Record: Leo A Daly

Juror comments: "Celebrates the hard work of their employees. Efficient, yet magical way the building comes together - it transcends the sum of its parts. Proves that in the right hands, even a Dollar General can be sexy and fun."

Project Name: **McAllen Main Library**



Photo credit: *Lara Swimmer*

Project Location: McAllen, Texas

Client's Name: City of McAllen

Firm of Record: Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd. (MS&R)

Juror comments: "Happy marrying of two things that might represent tragedy - an empty building and the public need for a library. It was almost as if it had been a great thing to have a leftover Walmart. Even though it had been a big-box, you can feel a depth of space. Would love to see this type of conversion become a trend."

Project Name: **Chicago State Street cityTarget**



Photo credit: *Scott Gilbertson*
250 Market Street, Suite 654
Minneapolis, MN 55405-1621
Tel 612-338-6763 Fax 612-338-7981



Client's Name: Target Corporation

Firm of Record: Target Store Design (design architect) RSP Architects (firm of record)

Juror comments: "Wonderful to be able to preserve the history of the former Carson Pirie Scott department store and at the same time improve the quality of the Chicago urban space. Loved the way they designed the layout to enable the shopper to see through the building."

Project Name: **Pierre Bottineau House**



Photo credit: Jerry Mathiason

Project Location: Original location: City of Maple Grove maintenance yard - Moved to: Elm Creek Park Reserve in Maple Grove, Minnesota

Client Names: Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), Three Rivers Park District, City of Maple Grove

Firm of Record: McDonald & Mack Architects

Jurors comments: "This project exposed the connection between preserving the extensive original details and wonderful craftsmanship of this historic 1854 home and the challenge of moving and designing a useable structure for the realities of today's world."

Project Name: **Rapson Redux**



Photo credit: Troy Thies Photography

Project Location: Saint Paul, MN

Client's Name: Jack and Linda Hoeschler

Firm of Record: SALA Architects, Inc.

Jurors comments: " The more we reviewed this submission, the more attractive it became. The structure has the ability to stand in Rapson's shoes...you can squint your eyes and see what Rapson must have envisioned...it's as if he had done the work himself."



Project Name: **Essential House: Infill Housing Prototype**



Photo credit: Daniel Yudchitz, AIA

Project Location: Saint Paul, MN

Client's Name: Daniel Yudchitz, AIA

Firm of Record: Dan Yudchitz, AIA

Jurors comments: "We appreciated the impact this home must have on its neighborhood. A low budget project that celebrates very refined elements of space and the joys of light. It transcends the basic construction. It may point the way to our collective future."

Honor Awards will be officially presented to recipients at the Friday, November 30, **2012 Awards Celebration at International Market Square in Minneapolis.**

The Celebration will showcase AIA Minnesota's highest-level award, **the Gold Medal**, which will be presented to Craig Rafferty, FAIA, Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Lindeke Architects. Other AIA Minnesota awards to be presented that evening will include: Young Architects Awards, Special Awards, 25-Year Award, Affordable Housing Design Award, and Louis Lundgren Award.

For more information about the Honor Awards or the November 30 Awards Celebration, go to www.aia-mn.org or contact Mary Larkin at larkin@aia-mn.org.

The American Institute of Architects Minnesota, founded in 1892, is dedicated to strengthening our communities, improving our built environment and providing exceptional design. For more information on the organization and Minnesota architectural firms, reference our Web site at www.aia-mn.org and pick up a copy of Architecture Minnesota, the award-winning architectural magazine of the Midwest.

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