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AIA Minneapolis Merit Awards Recognize Excellence Beyond Design



MINNEAPOLIS, MN -- The Minneapolis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects Minnesota (AIA Minneapolis) awarded four Merit Awards to projects by AIA Minneapolis architects that tell a story of excellence beyond design, reflecting the variety of forces that shape a building.

Unique in its approach to creating a jury, these awards encompass the views of business professionals, real estate developers, community advocates, and academic leaders as well as architects.

The jury included: Grant Hawthorne, Linden Hills Community Council; Julia W. Robinson, FAIA, University of Minnesota – College of Design; Mark

Bouchard, Islero Fabrication; Tom Dunn, RE/MAX Results; Bryan Paulsen, AIA, AIA Minneapolis President; and Matt Johnson, AIA, AIA Minneapolis President-Elect.

The jury reviewed how well the entries achieved client/team satisfaction, technical innovation, environmental responsibility, budget/business success, community impact, and the architectural solution.

The following recipients were selected for a 2014 AIA Minneapolis Merit Award:

Perkins+Will's **Wadena Deer-Creek Middle School + High School**, a LEED® GOLD certificated education facility completed within two years in tornado-wrought Wadena.

Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd.'s **MnDOT Maple Grove Vehicle Maintenance Facility**, a new MnDOT facility hub that follows the Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines in design—located in Maple Grove.

Miller Dunwiddie Architecture, Inc.'s **Unity Church - Unitarian**, a community-oriented church renovation uniting the neighborhood and church—located on Portland Avenue.

Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd.'s **Hmong College Prep Academy**, a relocated growing charter school facility within a renovated and expanded, former health club—located in St. Paul. The **Hmong College Prep Academy** receives the additional honor of the **2014 Michael L. Schrock, AIA, Merit Award**.



In 2008, AIA Minneapolis created the **2014 Michael L. Schrock, AIA, Merit Award** to honor Mike Schrock, AIA, who tragically passed away in 2008. It is awarded to an AIA Minneapolis Merit Award project that most embodies “Michael’s Seven Rules of Architecture:

- 1) know where you are from;
- 2) know who you are;
- 3) know why you are;
- 4) respect your benefactors;
- 5) honor the environment;
- 6) architecture must serve those who occupy it and;
- 7) there is beauty in functional economical, safe, environmentally responsible, and owner driven architecture.

The Merit Awards were presented at the AIA Minneapolis Chapter Luncheon on June 19, 2014, at International Market Square in Minneapolis.

Read more information about the awards and event at <http://www.aia-mn.org/merit-awards/>

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.