IESNYC Announces 2012 Lumen Award Winners

Lighting Industry Celebrates at Annual Lumen Gala

NEW YORK, June 26, 2012 — The winners of the 2012 Lumen Awards were announced during the annual Lumen Gala, which took place at New York’s Chelsea Pier Sixty on Thursday, June 21. Presented by The New York City Section of the Illuminating Engineering Society (IESNYC), the Lumen Awards recognize excellence, professionalism, ingenuity and originality in lighting designs that have transformed some of the world’s most prestigious buildings and spaces.

“Despite record-breaking heat, it was a glorious night as we celebrated projects that are not only visually dazzling, but are truly historical achievements in architectural lighting design,” said Charles Cameron of Studio C Squared Inc. and IESNYC president.

During the awards presentation, ten Lumen Awards in three categories were presented by Adrienne Shulman of GE Lighting and Megan Carroll of Xicato: the Lumen Award of Excellence, the highest level of recognition for permanent architectural application; the Lumen Award of Merit, meritorious recognition in permanent architectural application; and the Lumen Citation, special recognition awards for an art installation, technical detail, portion of a single project, temporary installation or other work. A commemoration was also made to Stan Deutsch Associates in celebration of their 50th anniversary, as well as their significant contributions to the IES.

Judging this year’s entries were William Armstrong, Principal, William Armstrong Lighting Design; David Cyr, LC, MIES, IALD, Associate, George Sexton Associates; Chad Groshart, IALD, IES, Associate and Global Practice Leader for Lighting, Atelier Ten; Alicia Kapheim, Lighting Industry Consultant, AbundantIllumination; Charles Linn, FAIA, Architect, Journalist and Author; Attila Uysal, Principal, SBLD Studio; and Susannah Zweighaft, LEED AP, PLDA, CLEP, LC – Partner, AKF Group, LLP.
Additionally, Gala attendees fondly remembered colleagues and industry trailblazers William F. Blitzer, head of the Lightolier company; Marvin Gelman, who began his career as the Lighting Director of NBC’s Tonight Show with Steve Allen, and went on to launch Lighting Services Inc (LSI); former President of IESNYC Gloria Koch Leonidas, who held influential leadership roles with Lightolier, Zumtobel, Pacific Lighting Systems & Ross DeAlessi, and Electrical Reps West/Harvco; and Jonathan Speirs, Speirs + Major, who was awarded the RIAS Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010.

“We congratulate this year’s winners on their outstanding designs, and look forward to seeing even more people from the growing lighting industry at next year’s event,” said Cameron. “We also extend our tremendous thanks to the Lumen Committee for all the work they have put into making yet another fabulously successful Lumen Award Gala.”

2012 LUMEN AWARD WINNERS

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The National September 11 Memorial, New York, NY

Photography: © Caridad Sola Photography

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Fisher Marantz Stone, Inc., Paul Marantz, Zack Zanolli, Carla Ross-Allen, and Barry Citrin

In downtown Manhattan, the long-awaited National 9/11 Memorial opened on the 10th anniversary of the infamous tragedy, surrounded by a site in the throes of construction. In remembrance of the victims and for the unity of a nation, two reflecting pools reside as remnant voids of the fallen towers, relatively discrete within the half-completed plaza. From collaboration and persistence, a glimmer of solace and peace has surfaced in the midst of a highly bureaucratic and emotionally arresting project that was conceptualized by one, orchestrated by many, and created for all.
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Rookery Building, Chicago, IL

Photography: The Rookery LP

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Office for Visual Interaction, Inc. (OVI),
Jean Sundin and Enrique Peiniger

The Rookery, a milestone in American architecture, makes history again as nighttime lighting graces its façades for the first time in the edifice’s over century-long history. OVI’s new exterior lighting softly highlights the intricate masonry and distinctive red color. To fulfill the Chicago Landmarks Commission requirements, custom 14-watt LED luminaires (1.5”-high) are concealed from pedestrian view, using field-adjustable mounting arms that minimize contact with the historic facade. Special micro-optics create a flattened cone of illumination, grazing three stories high, without spilling light into the night sky and eliminating glare for tenants. The resulting scheme minimizes both hardware and energy use.

CITATION for Lighting that Supports the Architecture

Cornell University: Milstein Hall
Ithaca, NY

Photography: © Iwan Baan

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Tillotson Design Associates,
Suzan Tillotson and Christopher Cheap

Cornell University’s new Architecture, Art, and Planning building, Milstein Hall, is thoughtfully intertwined with the existing historic buildings. The three story building includes flexible studio space on the upper plate, a pedestrian plaza and auditorium on the ground level, and a critique space and gallery below grade. The lighting systems were carefully designed to amalgamate to the unique ceiling design at each of the three levels with some unexpected lighting interventions woven in. Fixture and lamp selections compliment the building aesthetic and the specific function of each floor.
CITATION for Integration of Daylighting and Electrical Lighting
Sidwell Friends School: Meeting House, Washington D.C.

Nestled at the heart of the arts center, the Quaker Meeting Room is bounded by serenely floating architectural planes. The central roof monitor adds daylight, with indirect fluorescent lighting for presence at night. Floating wall panels control daylight through existing clerestories behind, and allow for concealed lighting. On the other walls, lights in large reveals at the ceiling wash where daylight could not reach. Electric light maintains the space’s elegance even when daylight is not present. Controllability ensures lighting can be tailored to complement varying daylight, projection onto the walls, or to highlight the central focus of the room.

Photography: Michael Moran Studio, Michael Moran

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Arup, Christopher Rush, Theresa Mahoney, Matt Franks, and Brian Stacy

AWARD OF MERIT
Cité de l’Ocean et du Surf Museum, Biarritz, France

The oceanographic sea-side museum Cité de l’Ocean et du Surf glows calmly when darkness falls. The lantern effect is achieved with the use of uninterrupted peripheral coves with dimmable high efficiency fluorescent fixtures turning on in synchrony with sunset. Inside, ceiling of the exhibition areas is convex, reminiscent of the nearby sea and its waves. Absolutely no fixtures were allowed in the ceiling, so the light scheme offers a totally uncluttered and smooth horizontal surface.

Photography: © Fernando Guerra

LIGHTING DESIGNER
L’Observatoire International, Hervé Descottes and Nicolas Dufils
AWARD OF MERIT

CUC - Claremont University Consortium, Claremont, CA

Previously a dismal gabled-roof workshop and storage shed, this administrative building has been reborn through a series of creative light installations that dynamically define office and communal areas creating uniquely user-friendly spaces. Playful lighting gestures extend from the exterior where a wood slat entrance is threaded with linear LED strips leading inside to an interactive LED “leaf” garden, then onto multipurpose rooms expressing strategically random arrays of recessed fluorescent downlights and dimmable solar tubes of varying apertures, enveloped by an undulating “cloud-like” structure, stretching the building’s length and screening the mechanical systems. Voila! A wealth of visual and functional delights.

Photography: LTL Architects, Luke Gibson

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Lumen Architecture, Nelson C. Jenkins, Francesca Bastianni, and Alejandro Bulaevsky

AWARD OF MERIT

Elizabeth Arden, Stamford, CT Offices

The lighting for Elizabeth Arden not only supports the offices daily activities, it also plays with the refractive and reflective qualities of light thru glass. The visual impact begins at the entry with a decorative chandelier made of 92 perfume bottles. Each equipped with a white LED, creates a lively and kinetic sculpture, and sets a tone for the overall lighting concept and asks “What does it feels like to be inside a perfume bottle?” Glass meeting and lounge spaces form abstract and over-scaled containers of light; each unique chandelier plays with light thru translucent and transparent materials.

Photography: © Eric Laignell

LIGHTING DESIGNER
RS Lighting Design, Randy Sabedra
AWARD OF MERIT

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Washington DC

Photography: Hoachlander Davis Photography, Anice Hoachlander

Forty years after his death, a memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has been constructed on the National Mall, symbolically located on a direct line between the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials. An imposing “stone of hope” sculpture, a sweeping inscription wall and a granite “mountain of despair” convey the message of freedom, opportunity and justice. Carefully integrated lighting elements express the spirit of this metaphorical message and create a powerful visitor experience. The stringent operating mandates of the National Park Service and the desire to achieve nighttime harmony with the adjacent memorials were important technical considerations.

AWARD OF MERIT

The High Line: Section 2, New York, NY

Photography: © Emile Dubuisson

Transformed from a decaying industrial railroad into a public park, Section Two of the High Line brings the park to a total 1.5 miles. Visitors promenade through the street grid 30 feet in the air, their path highlighted with lit handrails, illuminated benches, and accentuated areas of vegetation. All light fixtures are below eye-level, creating a glare free, dream-like view of the cityscape. Even when darkness falls, the lit handrails keep the park’s paths safely lit, while the low height of these lights eliminate glare for unique, spectacular night views of the city.

LIGHTING DESIGNER

David Mintz, FIALD, FIES

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Randy Burkett Lighting Design, Inc.
Randy Burkett FIALD, LC, Elizabeth Arras, Mary Goodwin, Susan Jennings, and Ron Kurtz LEED AP

LIGHTING DESIGNER

L’Observatoire International, Herve Descottes and Jason Neches

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AWARD of MERIT

Yotel, New York, NY

Lighting Designer
Focus Lighting, Paul Gregory, Michael Cummings, Scott Hay, Christine Hope, Kenneth Schutz, and Ken Ventry

Yotel’s distinct design aesthetic was inspired by business class airline cabins and Japanese capsule hotels. Upon entering Yotel, guests escape the bustle of the streets of Manhattan and are instantly immersed in a futuristic environment of computerized concierges, a luggage-toting robot, and beds that rotate and transform with a push of a button. This UK-based hotel brand demands “21st century luxury” through the use of light-hued finishes in modern and sleek spaces. Lighting features are seamlessly integrated into the architecture to showcase the minimalist spaces. With a bold, yet simple approach to lighting, Yotel celebrates its unique style while achieving a LEED Silver rating.

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About IESNYC

The NYC Section (IESNYC) of the Illuminating Engineering Society is a volunteer professional membership organization comprised of individuals who share a mutual appreciation for, and fascination with, all things lighting. The roster includes lighting designers, architects, engineers, consultants, lighting manufacturers, lighting representatives, electrical distributors and allied professionals. All are dedicated to promoting both the art and science of illumination not only to members, but also to other professional organizations, the industry, and the public. This is done through inspirational events, informative programs and educational series, as well as social networking opportunities.