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ICIA® names winners of 2nd ARCHI-TECH AV Awards

By ICIA - June 09, 2004

Program honors design and integration of AV into construction projects

ARCHI-TECH magazine and the International Communications Industries Association, Inc.® (ICIA®) are pleased to announce the six winners of the second annual ARCHI-TECH AV Awards 2004, presented at the AV Communications Excellence Awards Banquet Tuesday, June 8, at InfoComm. The Awards Banquet, a sold-out, high-profile event at InfoComm 04, is a forum for AV professionals to celebrate the successes of leaders and pioneers in the industry. Held following the Manufacturers Industry Forum and Opening Welcome Reception, the banquet recognizes outstanding individuals and products in audiovisual industry.

The six winners were chosen out of a field of entrants that included a variety of industry applications such as corporate and government. A distinguished panel of judges made of audiovisual systems integrators, design consultants and architecture professionals evaluated each submission based on its concept, process, design, solution, results and creativity.

Always a Starry Night on the Queen Mary 2

The Best Overall 2004 award goes to Queen Mary 2, a 500-seat multipurpose auditorium with an integrated 150-seat planetarium onboard Cunard Line's new flagship Queen Mary 2. The project was designed by Nautilus Entertainment Design, Inc. and architecture firm The Design Team Ltd., with systems integration by HMS s.a., Paris and planetarium integration by Sky-Skan Incorporated.

In addition to housing the world's first planetarium at sea, the auditorium was designed to accommodate both film and video projection, serve as a concert hall for live music performances, support meetings and lectures, including corporate meetings, and serve as a broadcast production studio. In keeping with the overall Queen Mary 2 design intention technology was integrated into the architecture whenever possible. Catwalks and coves were designed to house speakers, stage lights and video projectors; cinema speakers were mounted within the walls and covered with acoustic cloth coordinated to match the architectural décor; and projection surfaces were designed to be out of view when not in use.

Successful collaborations

ARCHI-TECH Publisher Deborah Napier explained that the goal of the initiative is to bridge gaps between the architects and modern communications technology professionals as well as to showcase the success stories of collaborations among architects, design consultants and AV systems integrators. "For the second year in a row, we have received an excellent assortment of projects," she said. "The winners exemplify some of the best projects from around the country and they truly represent our industry's finest work. We are proud to have them appear in our editorial pages. The winners were of the highest caliber and we were very pleased with this event."

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The six winning projects are:

- Queen Mary 2

Architect: The Design Team Ltd.

AV Integrator: Nautilus Entertainment Design Inc.

- Christian Dior Couture, New York City.

Architect: Mr. Architecture;

AV Integrator: Essential Communications.

- Fashion Show, Las Vegas.

Architect: Orne + Associates (design architect) and Altoon & Porter Architects (architect of record);

AV Integrator: Vantage Technology Consulting Group.

- Hangar One, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Architect: Swaback Partners;

AV Integrator: Automation iQ.

- National Constitution Center, Philadelphia.

Architect: Pei Cobb Freed;

AV Integrator: Electrosonic Systems, Inc.

- Richard B. Fisher Center, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York.

Architect: Gehry Partners, LLP;

AV Integrator: SPL Integrated Solutions.

"We began this program to recognize some of the great installations in this business," says Randal A. Lemke, Ph.D., Executive Director of ICIA. "The entrants and award-winners last year were outstanding, and we found the same high quality in this second year. These are future award winners will be the reference point for buyers of AV systems as they begin working with architects."

All winning entries will be featured in the July/August awards issue of *ARCHI-TECH* and will also be featured on the *ARCHI-TECH* and ICIA websites at www.architechmag.com and www.infocomm.org.

About *ARCHI-TECH* magazine

Subtitled, "Bridging the Gap Between Design and Technology," *ARCHI-TECH* is the premier business-to-business magazine for the design community devoted to systems integration and building technology. *ARCHI-TECH's* editorial purpose is to inform, educate and help establish a comfort level among architects with the latest developments in emerging technologies.

With a circulation of more than 28,000 professionals consisting of architects, technology consultants, lighting designers, AV designers and systems integrators, *ARCHI-TECH* reaches an important group of building professionals who are critical in helping pave the way for electronic lifestyles of the future.

ARCHI-TECH and *ARCHI-TECH Residential*, formerly published by DKNA MultiMedia, was recently acquired by Stamats Buildings Media, Inc. (SBMI), publishers of Buildings magazine. SBMI is a subsidiary of Cedar Rapids, Iowa-based Stamats Communications Inc.

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