National ASLA Awards Program Introduces New Category

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) announced the addition of the new award category “Urban Design” for their Professional and Student Awards. For both the ASLA Professional and ASLA Student Awards programs, juries comprising leading landscape architects will select a number of Honor Awards in Urban Design and may select one Award of Excellence. This new category brings the total number of categories for the ASLA Professional Awards to seven and the ASLA Student Awards to eight.

Tarlton Completes Renovations to Saint Louis Science Center Omnimax Theater

Tarlton Corp. of St. Louis, MO, renovated the Saint Louis Science Center’s OMNIMAX® Theater. The firm’s scope of work in the five-story, 80 ft (24.4 m) diameter domed theater and adjacent spaces included the installation of a raised access floor; installation of handrails and guardrails; lighting upgrades; installation of a projector access platform; technical upgrades that allow the Science Center to livestream and simulcast educational programming; and more. Tarlton Concrete Restoration, a division of Tarlton, cleaned the theater’s rows of tiered concrete seating and applied a polyurethane-based coating to the floor, which will improve surface wear and provide long-term protection in the high-traffic theater.

NTA Joins the ICC’s Family of Solutions

The International Code Council (ICC) acquired NTA, a provider of testing services, product certification, inspection, engineering, off-site construction plan review, and code evaluation. The Indiana-based company will significantly expand the services the ICC provides by adding laboratory and testing capabilities. NTA currently serves residential and commercial builders, code officials, manufacturers, and suppliers throughout the building industry. The company has offices and a testing laboratory in Nappanee, IN, and will soon break ground on a new testing campus in Bryan, TX.

LafargeHolcim Quarries Honored by NSSGA

The National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) announced awards in the areas of Community Relations Excellence and Environmental Excellence. The two awards programs recognize aggregate producers who help enhance the public perception of the industry and their individual operations by supporting local communities and exceeding technical, environmental, and regulatory requirements. The Lafarge Presque Isle Quarry in Presque Isle, MI, was honored with a Gold Award in Community Relations Excellence from the association. Additionally, the Presque Isle Quarry will receive NSSGA’s Two Stars of Excellence Award. This award recognizes operations that receive multiple Gold Awards for Safety, Environmental, or Community Relations Excellence within 5 years. Several other LafargeHolcim quarries received Silver and Bronze awards for Community Relations and Environmental Excellence.

Pickard Chilton Completes Design for Global Gateway Shinagawa

Architecture studio Pickard Chilton—in collaboration with Kengo Kuma & Associates—completed the master plan for Global Gateway Shinagawa, a redevelopment of the northern portion of the Shinagawa Station and railyard in Tokyo, Japan. The project is being developed by the East Japan Railway Company. Construction will begin this year, with initial phases opening in 2024.

Global Gateway Shinagawa comprises 13.6 million ft² (1.26 million m²) of development. It will include the construction of eight significant buildings linked together along the 1 mile (1.6 km) length of the site. An elevated pedestrian promenade will connect the diverse buildings, which will provide office, retail, and residential space as well as cultural facilities. Additionally, Pickard Chilton is the design architect for the Block IV tower, a 4.9 million ft² (455,000 m²) mixed-use complex that will comprise two 30-story towers connected by a seven-story podium.

Shea Concrete Celebrates “Precast Days” and 70th Anniversary

Shea Concrete Products, in association with the National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA), hosted an educational opportunity called “Precast Days” in late 2019, welcoming visitors to each of their precast concrete production facilities. The company opened their doors to explain the precast manufacturing process and demonstrate the equipment, technology, and engineering expertise that goes into making Shea’s precast concrete products. They hosted industry experts for hard-hat tours and food-truck celebrations out of their Rochester, MA; Nottingham, NH; and Wilmington, MA, facilities. Shea also celebrated their 70th anniversary at their Amesbury, MA, headquarters, marking seven decades since founder Ernie Shea began operating what would become Shea Concrete out of his family’s backyard.

Boston Children’s Museum Partners with Sasaki to Address Flooding Threat

Boston Children’s Museum, located...
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along Fort Point Channel in Boston, MA, announced a resilience planning initiative to respond to the acute flooding risk posed by sea-level rise and extreme weather events. In March 2018, the museum’s campus briefly became an island when a severe storm brought high tides that flooded the adjacent Congress and Sleeper Streets. The entire Fort Point area is one of the lowest-lying areas in South Boston. Taking a proactive approach, the museum selected international design firm Sasaki to lead the development of a design master plan to address critical flood mitigation challenges while also reimagining the Harborwalk in front of the museum as an engaging play and learning landscape. Work on the project has begun and is expected to conclude in the summer of this year.

DFI Educational Trust Awards Scholarships at Gala Fundraising Dinner

The 14th annual Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) Educational Trust Gala Fundraising Dinner took place on November 7, 2019, in Corona, NY. The gala was attended by more than 125 guests and raised over $25,000. Proceeds from the event benefit the Stanley Merjan City College of New York (CCNY) Civil Engineering Scholarship Fund, George J. Tamaro Manhattan College Civil Engineering Scholarship Fund, and DFI Educational Trust General Fund. Recipients of the 2019 scholarships attended the event to receive their awards.

Four CCNY civil engineering students received scholarships from the Merjan Scholarship Fund. Established in 2010, the fund is named for the late Stanley Merjan, an inspiration and mentor to young engineers throughout the construction industry. Merjan Scholarship recipients included:
• Jeffrey Liu, a senior with a concentration in structures. He is currently the concrete mixture design captain of the local Concrete Canoe Club and President of the local chapter of the Structural Engineers Association of New York;
• Imam H. Mihan, who is specializing in structural engineering. He is currently an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) student chapter at CCNY;
• Alison Richard, who is specializing in structures. After graduation, she plans to be involved in new construction, project management, and forensic engineering, in addition to pursuing a master’s in structures; and
• Michael Vera, a student who currently works as an Engineering Intern for the NYC School Construction Authority. He recently participated in research in Japan pertaining to the structural stability of buildings during earthwork loads.

Four Manhattan College civil engineering students received awards from the Tamaro Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is named for George J. Tamaro, the first-ever DFI Legends—Engineer Award recipient. Tamaro Scholarship recipients included:
• Cara Cao, who is a senior and President of the DFI Student Chapter at Manhattan College. She recently participated in a research paper that has been accepted for presentation at the Transportation Research Board;
• Michael LaValle, a senior who recently completed an internship with JF Shea Construction. He is President of the Manhattan College ASCE student chapter and is involved in Concrete Canoe, DFI, and more;
• Taylor Malangone, who is a senior and a member of various student chapters, including ASCE. She was recently inducted into the Chi Epsilon Honor Society. She also recently interned with AECOM’s geotechnical group; and
• Rachel White, who is actively involved with many clubs and honor societies on campus, including ASCE, DFI, Concrete Canoe, and Chi Epsilon. After graduation, she plans to pursue a master’s degree in engineering.

Merjan Scholarship recipients, from left: Michael Vera, Imam H. Mihan, Alison Richard, and Jeffrey Liu

Tamaro Scholarship recipients, from left: Cara Cao, Michael LaValle, Taylor Malangone, and Rachel White