

Honor Awards

Architecture:

Firm: Trapolin-Peer Architects, APC

Project: Tulane University Richardson Memorial Hall

- Well-considered and beautiful expansion of / addition to a school of design, one that reveals architectural aspects of both the original building and the addition;s relationship to it. A nice teaching tool as well as a terrific new design statement on campus!
- An elegant dialogue between new and existing.
- *The addition acknowledges the classical building's order, extending its language through its proportions, alignment of lines, and material palette that keeps the historic fabric intact while making space for a contemporary design to be expressed.*
- *This design team masterfully embraced the complexity of revitalizing a historic building while integrating the dynamic needs of a cutting-edge university facility. Throughout the process, they remained true to a clear and compelling design vision. The result is a striking interplay between old and new—where every space reflects thoughtful contrast and cohesion. The original structure has been reimaged with a fresh identity that honors its past while introducing innovative elements that speak to contemporary use and design excellence.*

Small Project

Firm: ARCH335 Design | Build Louisiana Tech University

Project: Captain's Launch

- A very simple but superbly executed project, where every small detail was thought through carefully and elegantly.
- A new fully accessible paddle boat launch for a summer camp for children with special needs.
- The project carries an industrial elegance with a clear commitment to craft. It integrates where it should, yet maintains a distinct design identity that affirms it as architecture done with rigor and care.
- The details of this project were exemplary at every level. From the main structure to the imprints in the handrails, the attention to detail was impressive. It is a small project, but makes a huge mark on its community, supporting a function that is deserving of this type of care and quality.

Award of Merit

Restoration/Rehabilitation/Adaptive Reuse

Firm: SO Studio

Project: Carencro Welcome Center and Museum

- *A very sweet, small but powerful project that juxtaposed a thoughtful restoration / interpretation component with a very well-scaled, modest, and well-designed addition.*
- *This is a small but mighty projects on many levels! The original cottage was revealed and beautifully restored; the contemporary addition is a perfect younger sibling to the historic building; the exhibition on the interior beautifully informs about the historic nature of the cottage. All members of the award committee were delighted by this gem of a project.*
- *This is the definition of a small project with a big impact. The architectural solution is delicate and subtle and successfully harnesses the essence of the original house while telling a story that reaches far beyond it's walls.*

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Interior Architecture

Firm: AQ Studios

Project: 34 Restaurant & Bar

- Portuguese restaurant. / a lot going on!
- A beautifully designed restaurant, with a mix of materials and colors, gives each area its own identity and feels authentic to the way Portuguese design embraces texture, textiles, and color; layered with Brazilian, Asian, and African elements. The restaurant, much like Portugal itself, presents an aesthetic that reads as simultaneously historical and contemporary
- Describing this project as complex is an understatement. A demanding program combined with a variety of a space uses comes to life in an intense material palette that masterfully brings it all together.

Architecture

Firm: Trahan Architects

Project: Luther George Park Performance Pavilion

- A bold, sculptural centerpiece for a new park, well-integrated with the landscape--physically, spatially, functionally.
- Unique in its design and innovative in its construction, this sculptural element created its own definition of space making within the landscape. The form in the landscape and the views to and through the element activated a space broad beyond its physical reach.

Architecture

Firm: Holly & Smith Architects, APAC

Project: Nunez Community College Student Testing and Career Counseling Center

- "Progressive new community college campus, very handsome"
- This project shows how thoughtful choices can elevate a simple volume with basic material palette to become refined and high-quality design. The clear massing employs a few simple moves effectively to achieve a harmonious composition with pleasant indoor and outdoor spaces. The metal panels on the exterior have restrained and elegant colors and patterns that work well as a backdrop to the beautiful live oaks on site. On the interior the simple but well thought-out design is apparent in the central corridor, which becomes an interesting space activated through the organized structure, effective use of daylight, and varied levels of openness to adjacent rooms.
- The design problem that this project presented was compact and complex. The design solution utilized multiple different materials composed in a way to address the site's varied adjacencies. Green space and transparency in the exterior facade combined natural light and views with a demanding program.

Architecture

Firm: Bell Butler Design and Architecture

Project: Birkdale Concierge

- A thoughtful, small-scale project, subtle in its difference from the surrounding context, and well executed. The surrounding open spaces are programmed for multiple uses, and the design responds to daily and seasonal events, ensuring that the spaces remain active year-round.
- Thoughtful little jewel pavilion
- Sometimes, less is truly more. This minimal pavilion was envisioned as an integral part of a design that impacted spaces beyond its physical reach. Its form allowed the community to engage from all sides of this compact insertion into the landscape.
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Architecture

Firm: NANO LLC

Project: Octavia Books + Scrambled Café

- Octavia Books Cafe / cute, simple, clean adaptive reuse.
- The pivoting shelves bring playfulness while linking the bookstore and café in a way that is both functional and symbolic. The children's space and gathering areas open the project to the street, giving the interior light, movement, and a stronger connection to the public.
- Nice little bookstore and café.
- This project took advantage of an historic building with hidden character by exposing it and integrating a modern aesthetic. The natural materials that the designers selected worked to unify the design and create a fresh look that brought an old space back to life.