

The jury was impressed with the breadth and depth of submittals, depicting a wide range of talent and work on a global level. I have combined the comments of our jurors and will offer them to you as we review tonight's winners.

### **CITATION AWARDS**

#### **Santa Fe Community Convention Center – Fentress Architects + Spears Architects**

- We were impressed with the architects' skill in meeting the challenge of scale in this project.
- It is a difficult building type, often resulting in large hulking boxes. This project was especially successful in light of the quaint Santa Fe design vernacular required for this necessarily large box program.
- The project excelled in de-mystifying the massing of this building type, notably with bold and well-proportioned exterior details. It is difficult to do on this scale without looking silly. And it appears that it functions well within the city. We were impressed with the welcoming courtyard, the regional artwork and many elements of sustainability. We also appreciated the pocket parks at the typically unsightly loading area.
- Nicest surprise of all was the interior – who has ever seen a fireplace in a convention center? We were delighted with the bold and simplified decoration of the vernacular. Impressed that the details could be as literal as they were and not appear pastiche. This was accomplished through bold, simple contemporary interpretations of historical elements.
- We felt it was a resounding success in meeting the difficult challenge of making a convention center feel comfortable, intimate and inviting and creating the scale of a good neighbor in downtown Santa Fe.

#### **El Paso (unbuilt) – Archaeo Architects**

- The jury affectionately referred to this house as 'a desert ship' – noting references to Richard Neutra as well as the International Style -- with its clean elegant lines being a nice contrast as well as being one with the rugged site.
- The flat roof pavilions cascading down the hillside created compelling elevations, nicely and naturally anchored to the site.
- There was thoughtful use of materials and we were impressed with the dramatic curved entry wall of distressed metal, pierced to create the auto court, enhancing the sense of discovery upon arrival.
- We noted the logic and beauty of the deep overhangs, the horizontal plates and horizontal slots of glass seemed to make a great deal of sense for the light of this region.
- The manipulation and interplay of the interlocking shapes resulted in a thoughtful, welcoming and graceful project.
- Overall, an elegant design.

### **Easter Seals Santa Maria El Mirador – AOS Architects**

- We offer a salute to the modesty and restraint of this complex building with its many functions.
- There are varied levels of interest in the use of materials; the forms and the spaces are clearly created for human use and enjoyment. We were particularly impressed with the south facing courtyard, sunken a bit and thus creating a unique connection to the site as well as to the building. The courtyard feels like it would be a lovely place to be in as well as to pass by each day walking along the adjacent long hallway.
- The overall organization was clear and straightforward.
- There is a lot going on with the structure, and that fact is successfully coupled with a nice restraint in the use of different materials.
- The design is clean, simple and well proportioned. It appears to have eeked a great deal of impact out of what quite possibly were very tight construction dollars. And it successfully incorporates many sustainable features.
- The building seems to dwell comfortably in its place and time without mimicry.
- Overall a very successful project and one that will surely be used and enjoyed by many in the years to come.

### **Van Drimmelen/Gore Residence –Archaeo Architects**

- We were notably struck with the consistent commitment to honesty throughout this house.
- There is an elegance in the restraint and consistency of color, materials and detailing – all working together to create a quiet, serene and contemporary space.
- A subtle element nestled into the hillside comes gently to life upon entering. Walls seem to fade as each exterior view is artfully framed.
- The slices of light created by the linear skylight were truly fantastic. We could only imagine the pleasure of watching the sun pass through the main room during the day and throughout the year.
- The building sits well in the landscape and is undeniably of the New Mexico region.
- It would surely be a joy to live in this artful creation.

### **MERIT AWARD**

#### **Re-barn (unbuilt) – Autotroph**

- We felt this project was a grand success in the traditional definition of the category of UnBuilt Projects, that being those projects belonging to the R&D/Research and Development arena of architecture..... before 'Unbuilt Projects' meant only that the economy had tanked and the thing just didn't get built.
- The submittal was superb in its clarity of purpose: it clearly identified a problem that existed and a solution was created through a series of excellent diagrams. The problem was described and solved before our eyes.
- The solution successfully repurposed a meaningful piece of southern Maryland vernacular architecture – and created a lovely counterpoint to the nearby sprawl just a stone's throw away.
- The sustainable design strategies were excellent and clearly depicted, and it was a masterful solution to the preservation dilemma of how to give new life to historic structures.

## **HONOR AWARD**

### **Modern Ruin – Autotroph**

- The jury affectionately referred to Modern Ruin as “our big star” – this is a great project and the submission was excellent as well; it was very complete in its presentation and its design.
- We were led to the design solution through the understanding of the project context and the solution became more visible to us and more real than we could have ever expected.
- The solutions were bravely real and even heroic. The rammed earth and rusted steel panels seemed to be growing out of the industrial context.
- There is a beautiful, almost bleak quality to this house. Modern Ruin is a very appropriate name. Surely the courageous owner/builders must feel what we saw.... these lovely powerful forms left standing after the dust had settled.
- The solution is sculptural and is an elegant expression of its context.
- There is a sense of humor and irony– something that can only be reflected when you have the confidence that what you are doing is the right thing. The honesty here is crystal clear.
- There is nothing self-conscious about this project. Three big materials, beautifully combined, directly merged in a very original way.
- Our Big Star !

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