Excellence in Masonry Design

The Tri-State Masonry Institute, the Southwest Regional Partner of the Ohio Masonry Association held its 15th Annual Excellence in Masonry Design competition. Hosted at the New Riff Distillery in Newport, Kentucky, on November 13, 2014. Attendees were treated to a tour of the facility while enjoying a reception full of world-class appetizers.

Architects, Owners and Contractors were honored for their masonry projects in the Tri-State area. Thirteen projects were awarded, and one was given the distinction of being the “Peoples Choice”. TMI has for the past several years allowed the attendees to vote for their favorite project, before the judges’ comments are heard and the awards presentation starts.

This year, it just so happen that the facility hosting the event was voted as the “People’s Choice”. The New Riff took top honors from attendees. The entire evening was a success, with many positive comments from TMI members and guests.

Hosting the event was Alan Sullivan, Author, Architect and son of Claude Sullivan.

Claude Sullivan worked with UK, Cincinnati Reds, horse racing and overseas travels, including milestone trips for WVLK to Russia in 1956-57 and the Olympics in 1960 in Rome, Italy, as a radio announcer and was known as the Voice of the Wildcats.

Alan shared with the audience stories of his father and provided audio clips of games that Claude covered.

The evening was a great success as design teams were honored for their projects, and judged by a panel upon which Alan served as the Chairperson.
TMI MASONRY AWARDS Winners

The following are the projects that were submitted and judged to earn either a Merit, Honor or Excellence Award. Each project met or exceeded the rules set fourth by the TMI Awards Committee, and were judged individually for their use in masonry design, use and installation. Two projects earned the distinction of an Excellence in Masonry award.

Princeton Middle School
Excellence in Masonry Design
Architect:
CR Architecture + Design
Masonry Contractor:
Weisbrod Masonry
Masonry Supplier:
Division 4, Inc.

The Princeton Middle School is approximately 182,000 sf of a combined middle school/high school campus under one roof.

The middle school opened in the fall of 2013. The schools are separated by common areas including a natatorium, arena style gym, performance theater and music complex still under construction.

Features of the Princeton middle school include: grand staircases with double function as lecture areas to the lobby. The media center is centered in the classroom wings between both schools and can be broken down into separate meeting spaces of varying size. The two-story classroom wings feature double sized end caps with vibrant natural light and glass operable walls that allow labs to open to the hallways and adjacent classrooms. The project is committed to LEED Silver certification.

Jurors’ Comments:
“Polychromatic masonry color scheme contrasts and blends nicely with other areas of the building. Floating panels of masonry are surrounded by glass to accent one significant wall of the complex. Effective brick banding carries the occupants inside the building, unifying the exterior and interior. Use of banding and multiple size masonry units bring down the scale of the building of this large project.”

Diocese of Covington
Curia Office
Excellence in Masonry Design
Architect:
Hub + Weber Architects, PLC
Masonry Contractor:
Miter Masonry Contractors, Inc.
Masonry Supplier:
Division 4, Inc.

The site of the original wire cut brick and terra cotta structure was chosen to be the permanent home for the Diocese of Covington Curia Office. The site sits directly across the street from the limestone clad Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption. Arriscraft Renaissance White was chosen as a perfect match to the existing limestone.

The Arriscraft serves to unify the buildings into a campus and gives the Curia the needed mass to stand with the Basilica. The Arriscraft also provides the performance and timelessness desired for the facility. ArrisTile was used on the interior and exterior areas above the roof.

Jurors’ comments:
“Textures of new masonry emulate the college gothic original building. Proportion and sense of banding reinforce the nature of the cathedral. This design makes a modern
statement to historical context. The clay tile roofing is also complementary of the history of the campus. The glazing delivers a break in the masonry to identify a strong entry and this design uses a sophisticated detailing approach with the choices of masonry units.”

New Riff Distillery
“People’s Choice” and Merit Award - Retail and Manufacturing Masonry Design
Architect: glaserworks
Masonry Contractor: Kurzhals, Inc.
Masonry Supplier: ESSROC

This new free-standing distillery strives to bring the craft of a heritage industry into the 21st century, combining entertainment and bourbon production.

There are a variety of spaces organized around and having direct view of the process areas and still tower, clad in Arriscraft Stone and glass. The Doubler Room is a multipurpose space and the Tower room is flexible space for larger groups, up to 300.

Jurors’ Comments:
Masonry adds a nice touch to a complex palate of materials that includes an expansive use of glass and metal panels with masonry utilized inside and out.

Turkeyfoot Road Home
Honor Award – Residential Masonry Design
Residential Designer: Studer Residential Designs, Inc.
Masonry Contractor: G&G Langenbrunner Masonry
Manufacturer / Supplier: Reading Rock, Inc.

The pictures speak for themselves. From the manmade lake entrance to the custom and entirely machine and dry tamp Rock Cast home, this is the largest Rock Cast home in Cincinnati and the first ever roll and turn banister made dry tamp and first one piece balustrades. Don’t forget to stand on the porches and look. Rock Cast is not only on the outside of arches but also on the inside.

Jurors’ Comments:
This project utilizes a high level of craftsmanship and detail, which brings unique interest to this residential project, both on the exterior building and landscape beds. This project also makes creative use of the masonry units to provide historic reference. The masonry blends into the landscape with site walls that extend to outdoor spaces to unify the design. The monochromic scheme is used effectively.”

Christ Church Glendale
Honor Award – Religious Buildings Masonry Design
Architect: City Studios Architecture, LLC
Masonry Contractor: Flach Brothers Masonry
Masonry Supplier: Division 4, Inc.

This project consists of a 15,000 sf addition to the historic Christ Church in Glendale, OH. The project replaced a 1959 addition that has fallen into disrepair. The new addition contains a new contemporary worship space, fellowship hall, offices, meeting rooms, classrooms and nursery.

The original stone church, completed in 1872, is part of the Glendale Historic Register. The architect worked closely with the church building committee to provide a contemporary solution that respects the existing church and does not compete with it.

Jurors’ Comments:
The building exemplifies a seemingly cost-efficient design detailing. The exterior of the building is seamless, bringing a smooth transition into the building interior. An effective selection of masonry units blends, articulates and unifies
the inside and outside of the building without mimicking the original design. A warm color palate compliments the choices of window color and unites the design, which is sophisticated yet simple. The design achieved a balance with playful spots of color. The stretcher courses help relieve the building mass and transition the structure to a more human scale.

Miami University Western Campus Residence Halls Honor Award – Residence Halls Masonry Design
Architect: CR Architecture + Design
Masonry Contractor: Weisbrod Masonry
Masonry Supplier: Division 4, Inc.

Stonebridge, Beechwoods and Hillcrest residence halls are situated alongside the newly established pedestrian walkways on the Miami University Oxford campus, telling the story of traditional Georgian, red-brick architecture, flowing into a more contemporary, stone clad architecture on Western Campus. Stonebridge residence hall stands closest to the heart of campus with a Georgian-style architecture, and modern touches. The modern touches evolve across Beechwoods into a contemporary design with Hillcrest residence hall, closer to the Western Campus.

These three residences showcase student life with sweeping open common areas that include kitchens, collaborative studies and fireplaces to warm up after long walks across campus during winter.

Jurors’ Comments:
“Borrowing on western college tradition this trio of dormitories mediates between the red brick campus and stone portion- between contemporary and traditional styles. The stately quality of stone portico unifies the composition.

P&G Cincinnati MLB Urban Youth Academy Merit Award – Athletic Design
Architect: MSA Sport, A Division of MSA Architects
Masonry Contractors: RVM Construction and Krallman Masonry, Inc.
Manufacturer: Reading Rock, Inc.

The facility, located in Ft. Thomas, KY, is a dual function facility operating as an office building and urgent care center. The two main entrances allow patients and physicians to use the urgent care center after hours. The MOB practices are organized in a linear fashion, which lends to consistent design and interchangeability.

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Jurors’ Comments:
“The white stone modular units and the traditional red brick anchor this modern medical building in the masonry tradition of the Ohio valley region.”

Miami University Armstrong Student Center
Merit Award – Commercial and Office Buildings Masonry Design
Executive Architect: BHDP Architecture
Design Architect: William Rawn Associates
Masonry Contractor: Jess Hauer Masonry
Masonry Supplier: Division 4, Inc.

This project’s vision was to focus on the student community. The design team utilized a matching custom brick blend as the main building material element.

The three story center’s key spaces include a sky lit “interior street,” 500 seat theater, large event space and a culinary marketplace, ideal for the student on-the-go to study. Since its opening in the spring of 2014, the Armstrong Student Center has quickly become the central “student-hub” on the Miami University Campus.

Jurors’ Comments:
“The red brick unifies an emphasis on the historical context of campus. The details of brick masonry within classic Georgian architecture context enhances the strong traditional campus.”

City of Florence - Fire/EMS Station 3
Merit Award – Public Service Masonry Design
Architect: Hub + Weber Architects, PLC
Masonry Contractor: Weisbrod Masonry
Masonry Supplier: Division 4, Inc.

The new Fire/EMS Station for the City of Florence, KY, is designed to pull together a cohesive visual identity for the City by using materials that match those used in its other municipal facilities.

The building has a tall, red modular brick veneer wall separating the building into two distinct areas: a 3-bay garage and the living/office/training portion.

The red brick is exposed on the interior in both areas. The garage bays incorporate beige structural brick, as both exterior and interior walls have a variety of masonry sizes and include ample glazing to display and highlight the equipment inside. A memorial to the events of 911 was incorporated into the exterior design.

Jurors’ Comments:
“The masonry palate of color visually separates the different zones of the building. The glazing separates the masonry products and identifies a strong sense of entry.”

Jack Adams Baseball Stadium
Merit Award – Athletic Masonry Design
Architect: PDT Architects, LLC
Masonry Contractor: Kurzhals, Inc.
Manufacturer: Reading Rock, Inc.

This baseball stadium for Elder High School in Cincinnati utilizes brick enclosures that accent each other, although they are the same color. The materials include a combination of Rock Cast in dry mix and precast which are difficult to distinguish from each other. The detail work of the material and the front entry arch create a dynamic image.

Jurors’ Comments:
“The gothic entry arch makes a dramatic entry to the stadium. The cream color banding blends architecturally from stone cast to precast panels.”
This two-story project consists of brick and Dry Tamp Rock Cast to the rear. Tri Health Physicians occupy a portion of the 2nd floor. STR/Retail was assured that all precast was to match dry mix Rock Cast. The brick color blends in with the wall. This project is the first non-gray building in the Xavier campus area.

Jurors’ Comments:
“The simple stratification of the cream rock cast panels and red brick allude to the storefront use of this building. The detailing of the brick and the color panels and banding work well as a composition.”

At the end of 2012, Schumacher Dugan opened Union Centre Office Park 1, a two-story, 32,000-square-foot, $5 million office building at 9032 Union Center Blvd., West Chester, Ohio. Tenants include Millikin & Fitton Law Firms, Liberty Mutual, Nationwide Insurance law offices, Employers Health and Re/Max Preferred Group.

Brick and stone veneers were used to complement the surrounding unit masonry veneers on the streets of West Chester mixed use development, including a newer West Chester Library and Park, with a mix of retail and hotel buildings.

Construction started earlier this year on a second building, Union Centre Office Park II, slated to open last month.

Jurors’ Comments:
“Masonry palate underscores the castle-like design with a rustic stone base and stone banding above to bring the large scale building to a more human scale for the front façade; color brick changes at each end of the building make a solid corner. Interesting details bring stone and brick into the entry sign.”

Tri-State Masonry Institute Regional Promotional Partner of the Ohio Masonry Association
800-443-6779
www.ohiomaonry.org