

Lieutenant Governor's Design Awards in Architecture

Since 1986, the Nova Scotia Association of Architects has held its annual architectural design awards competition to recognize outstanding architectural design by its members. Over the years, five Lieutenant Governors have served as Patrons to this Award.

This year, the jury met and reviewed 19 entries of outstanding projects for the 2013 design awards. The presentation ceremony and reception for the Lieutenant Governor's Design Awards in Architecture will be held later this year at Government House, where His Honour Brigadier-General The Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd) will present the Medal and Certificates to the designers and their clients of the award winning projects.

The much improved portable display system, first used at the 2012 AGM, replaced the tired old system that had served the NSAA for over 30 years. The NSAA is still looking for an eager volunteer to undertake responsibility of looking after and the setting up the new panel boards.

I would like to thank those who served on the Jury for the 2013 awards: Christine Macy, Dean of Dalhousie Faculty of Architecture and Planning, George Cotaras, NSAA, MRAIC / Fowler Bauld & Mitchell Ltd., and Jonathan Carmichael, NSAA, MRAIC / S.P. Dumaresq Architects Ltd.

We look forward to the 2014 awards. The submission of projects will be the in early April which will allow the jury time to review and judge the projects before the Annual General Meeting. Please take time to review your recent work and consider your submissions.

Please see the attached list of the 2013 entries, award winners and jury comments. The projects will be on display at the NSAA AGM, as well as on the NSAA website after the awards ceremony has been conducted.

Gary R. Hanley, FRAIC
Chairman of the Jury

Nova Scotia Association of Architects Lieutenant Governor's Design Awards 2013

Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Excellence

JDA Architects now Stantec
Mackay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd

Wagmatcookewey School
Lean-To House

Award of Merit

WHW Architects Inc
Abbot Brown Architects Incorporated

Charles P Allen High School, Bedford
Dalhousie Human Resources Offices

Citation in Architectural Design

Omar Gandhi Architect
Houdini Design

Black Gables, Louisdale
Ritchie Residence Renovations, Sandy Cove

Honourable Mention

GF Duffus & Company Ltd.

Halifax City Hall - Stone Masonry Restoration

Entries

Abbot Brown Architects Incorporated	Dalhousie Human Resources Offices
Abbot Brown Architects Incorporated	West End Renovation
DSRA Architecture Inc	Pictou County Wellness Centre
Duffas Romans Kundzins Rounsefell Ltd.	Dalhousie Ocean Sciences Building
GF Duffus & Company Ltd.	Halifax City Hall - Stone Masonry Restoration
Houdini Design	Ritchie Residence Renovations, Sandy Cove
JDA Architects now Stantec	Wagmatcookewey School
Lydon Lynch Architects Limited	The Anchorage and the Keelson, King's Wharf
Lydon Lynch Architects Limited	RCMP Reg. Headquarters
Mackay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd	Muir Craig Cottage
Mackay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd	Lean-To House
Michael Napier Architecture	Vertu Suites
Omar Gandhi Architect	Black Gables, Louisdale
Omar Gandhi Architect	Moore Studio, Hubbards
Rayleen Hill Architecture Design Inc	SOMA
Solterre Inc	Shed Retreat
WHW Architects Inc	Bluenose Academy, Lunenburg
WHW Architects Inc	Charles P Allen High School, Bedford
William Nycum and Associates	St. John Ambulance Headquarters

Members of the Jury

Christine Macy	Dean, Architecture and Planning, Dalhousie University
George Cotaras, NSAA, MRAIC	Fowler Bauld & Mitchell Ltd
Jonathan Carmichael, NSAA, MRAIC	SP Dumaresq Architect Ltd.
Gary R. Hanley, NSAA, FRAIC	Mettam Group Inc, Chairman of the Jury

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Jury Comments

Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Excellence

JDA Architects now Stantec Wagmatcookewey School
T-shaped school plan with two wings and single-loaded corridors.

A very clear and workmanlike plan is echoed on the building's exterior with finely-crafted coloured pavilions and wood lattice, that bring rhythm and variety to the school. An careful attention to the human scale, and sensitivity to the activities contained within, is carried throughout the building. The design employs orientation, views and material selection to realize a rich variety of spaces and places to learn and to linger.

Mackay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Lean-To House
Linear house on six parallel grade beams.

A crystal-clear plan strategy is reinforced at all levels of the design: the structural bays, the way the building meets the ground, and even through a very witty presentation on the boards. Exposed grade beams provide a visual expression of engagement with the ground, and a literal expression of the interior structural bays, allowing the building to slide above. This is again echoed in the wood clad trusses that reinforce the clear articulation of the house into a sequence of bays.

Award of Merit

WHW Architects Inc Charles P Allen High School
Large and complex facility with sculptural expression.

Plan strategy with extended wings offers excellent light and air to all rooms. Sculptural expression on the exterior offers both unity and variety to effect a well-integrated composition overall. Good use of interior finishes raises the quality of interior spaces.

Abbot Brown Architects Inc Dalhousie Human Resources Offices
Interior renovation of traditional office wing

Elegant and minimalist renovation of a traditional office wing employs glass and wood to create a contemporary work environment. A judicious use of partial height enclosures and glass provides a sense of openness and light while maintaining visual and acoustic privacy. Fine details and finishes.

Citation in Architectural Design

Omar Gandhi Architect Black Gables, Louisdale
Two gable-roofed houses slightly askew on site.

Simplicity and clarity of concept. Elegant economy of plan and exterior expression.

Houdini Design Ritchie Residence Renovations
Renovation and adaption of barn into two story dwelling.

Plan underscores axial procession through the ground floor, while providing a rich variety of spaces. Clever strategy for accomplishing privacy and light transmission across the ground floor plan. Richly textured interior finishes provide feeling of warmth.

Honourable Mention

GF Duffus & Company Ltd. Halifax City Hall Masonry Restoration

The jury recognizes the design accomplishment of this exception restoration project, which lies in its careful handling of water flow down the building — so well that the modern interventions are virtually invisible.