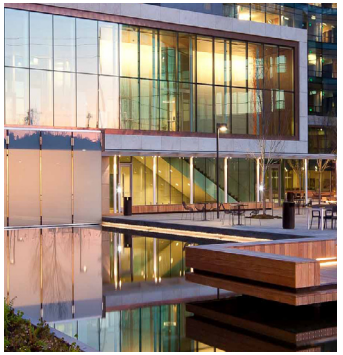
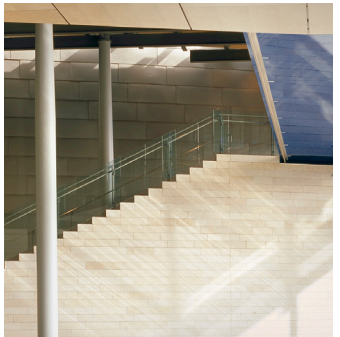


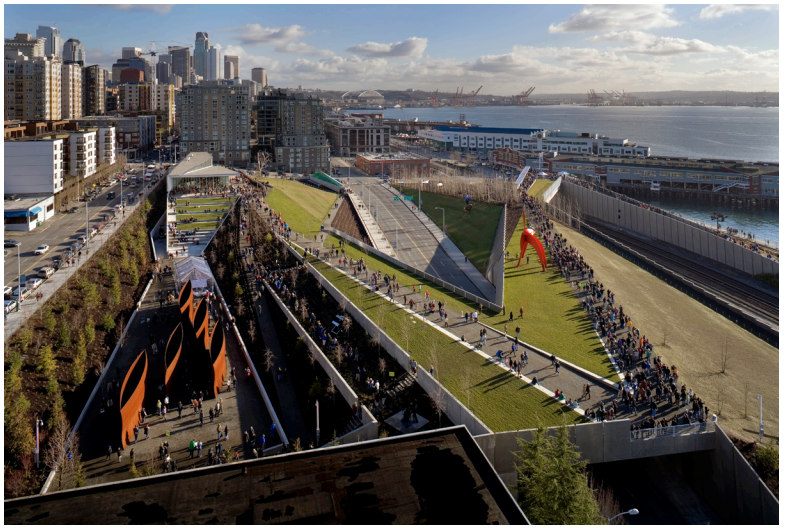


AIA KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES
2012 KNOWLEDGE LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON | AUGUST 8-10, 2012

AIA KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES

10 MUST SEE SEATTLE Architectural Sites

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE AIA COMMITTEE ON DESIGN



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WELCOME TO SEATTLE

The best way to truly know great architecture is through directly experiencing it. When the AIA Committee on Design travels we make sure we visit the best architecture our destinations have to offer – and we hope our little guide can help you slip a few tours into your visit.

Certainly not meant to be an exhaustive guide, the following pages represent 10 top new projects we recommend you experience while here. We have also listed a few Seattle icons for your tour.

Enjoy!

1

OLYMPIC SCULPURE PARK (2007)

2901 Western Avenue, Seattle
(206) 654-3100 | www.nmajh.org
Weiss/Manfredi

Envisioned as a new model for an urban sculpture park, the project is located on a industrial site at the water's edge. The design creates a continuous constructed landscape for art, forms an uninterrupted Z-shaped "green" platform, and descends 40 feet from the city to the water, capitalizing on views of the skyline and Elliot Bay and rising over the existing infrastructure to reconnect the urban core to the revitalized waterfront.

An exhibition pavilion provides space for art, performances and educational programming. From this pavilion, the pedestrian route descends to the water, linking three new archetypal landscapes of the northwest: a dense temperate evergreen forest, a deciduous forest and a shoreline garden. The design not only brings sculpture outside of the museum walls but brings the park itself into the landscape of the city.

© Sean Airhart/NBBJ

2

BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION (2011)

440 5th Ave North, Seattle
(206) 709-3100 x7100 | www.gatesfoundation.org
NBBJ

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation campus is a global center for innovation, learning and problem solving. The foundation wanted a campus that would reflect its commitment to its local roots and to its global mission. It was important to be a good neighbor, provide enduring public amenity to the city and conserve natural resources.

Extensive research, including client work sessions, best practice tours and observational research, drove the design. To reflect local roots and global mission, the office wings cantilever above the campus and are each rotated in different directions symbolizing reaching out to the world.

A curved, glass breezeway is the main circulation corridor, promoting chance encounters and sightlines across the campus. The campus includes sustainable systems such as two-acres of living roofs and a one-million-gallon underground rainwater storage tank.

3

SEATTLE LIBRARY (2004)

1000 4th Ave, Seattle
206-386-4636 | ww.spl.org
Rem Koolhaas and Joshua Ramus, with LMN

The Seattle Central Library is the flagship of the Seattle Public Library system. Innovative in both form and function, the contemporary, glass and steel building is the third central library to occupy the city block between Fourth and Fifth Avenues.

Designed with growth in mind, the 11-story Central Library has the capacity for more than 1.5 million books and materials. It also has moved into the digital age with more than 400 computers for public use as well as wireless Internet access.

The design objective was to create a building that honors books, and at same time, is very forward-looking to reflect major technological advances in the information business. Following extensive research, the design is a direct expression of the modern library's program and the functional requirements of its users.

4

EXPERIENCE MUSIC PROJECT (2000)

325 5th Avenue North, Seattle Center
(206) 367-5483 | www.empmusic.org
Frank O. Gehry

EMP Museum is housed in a building with multiple innovative galleries, interactive installations like On Stage and Sound Lab, and Sky Church—a concert venue with state-of-the-art sound and lighting housing the largest indoor LED screen in the world. The spectacular, prominently visible structure has the presence of a monumental sculpture set against the Seattle backdrop.

When Gehry met with co-founders Paul Allen and Jody Allen, he was inspired to design a structure that evoked the rock 'n' roll experience without being too literal. Gehry purchased several electric guitars, sliced them into pieces, and used them as building blocks for an early model design. Three-thousand panels, made up of 21 thousand individually cut and shaped stainless steel and painted aluminum shingles, encase the outside of the building. The finishes respond to different light conditions and change when viewed from different angles, reminding audiences that music and culture is constantly evolving.

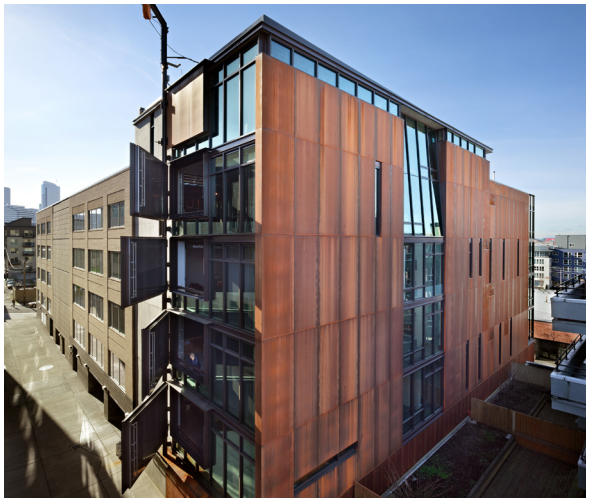
5

BENAROYA HALL (1998)

200 University Street, Seattle
(206) 215-4800 | www.seattlesymphony.org/benaroya
LMN

Home to the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Benaroya Hall embraces its civic and cultural presence with a multi-layered expression of public realm. The architecture integrates the power of the music performance with the substance of urban community.

From the circular main lobby, expansive bay windows provide sweeping views of the cityscape and the bay; at night, they create an urban-scale lantern that animates the presence of the building within the downtown skyline. Inside the concert hall, architecture and acoustics are melded into a seamless performance experience. The hall's enclosing surfaces are made of deeply colored mahogany. The lighter hues of balcony fronts, coffered ceiling panels and stage enclosures enhance the connection of audience to stage visually and acoustically. Superior sound quality is assured by the hall's precise geometry of wood and plaster surfaces, while the carefully detailed joinery and exposed fasteners of the wood paneling are inspired by the craftsmanship of musical instruments.



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6

ART STABLE (2010)

516 Yale Ave North, Seattle
Olson Kundig Architects

Art Stable is an urban infill project in the rapidly developing South Lake Union neighborhood of Seattle. Built on the site of a former horse stable, the seven-story mixed-use building carries its working history into the future with highly adaptable live/work units.

Both front and back elevations of the building are active. The alley-facing façade features an 80-foot 5-inch tall hinge topped by a davit crane and five steel-clad, hand-cranked doors that cover nearly a third of the façade. The system references a warehousing tradition in how it moves oversize objects into the building. On the street side, large hinged windows open to provide natural ventilation throughout the units.

The shell and core of the building are built to last over 100 years. Geothermal loops were inserted into the building's structural piles, resulting in an innovative and highly energy-efficient radiant heating and cooling system.

7

BALLARD LIBRARY AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER (2008)

5614 22nd Ave NW, Seattle
(206) 684-4089 | www.spl.org/locations/ballard-branch
Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

The Center is located on a gently sloping site diagonally across from a new city park. The building's extended front porch, a gathering space provides shelter from the prevailing winds and weather.

Tapered steel columns support a tilting roof that extends beyond the entrance and unites the library and service center. The planted roof turns upward at the north, allowing light into the building, its edges softened by wood purlins.

Glazed walls and skylights provide transparency deep into the public areas of the building. The glass skin bends around the corners, marking the children's area and service center lobby. Rectangular, color-stained cedar boxes containing support spaces are aligned on east-west axes. A periscope integrated into a wall adjacent to the circulation desk offers patrons views to the green roof.

©Jeff Goldberg

8

FISHER PAVILION (2002)

298 2nd North Ave, Seattle
(206) 684-7200 | www.seattleopera.org
Miller Hull

The previous Flag Pavilion and Plaza, which this project replaced, sat as an isolated object along the southern edge of this Green and blocked the view from the nearby Charlotte Martin Children's Theater to the Fountain. Opening up this view led to a "subterranean" design solution in which the building is essentially pushed down into the ground and a new rooftop plaza is created on top. The northern facade of the new Pavilion is glazed, and opens up onto the new Green with a series of roll-up garage doors, while the rooftop plaza above serves as a new vantage point looking out to the Fountain and Green.

The new pavilion is an exhibition space with twenty feet clear height intended for a variety of events. The pavers covering the rooftop plaza are designed in a pixilated matrix pattern to simulate an image of water droplets in a pond when viewed from the Space Needle above. Two concrete "pylons" with glazed canopies – designed to accommodate elevators and mechanical equipment – mark the entries into and onto the building.

9

SEATTLE CITY HALL (2003)

600 4th Ave, Seattle
(206) 684-4000 | www.seattle.gov/council/visiting_city_hall
Bohlin Cywinski Jackson | Bassetti Architects

Seattle's new City Hall is a powerful addition to downtown. It meets the space needs of the mayor and city council, and provides new venues for public gathering, reception and citizen services. Symbolically, its design elements evoke the spirit of the Northwest and reflect the city's rising international profile-a true expression of Seattle's civility and livability.

The City Hall celebrates the sloping site with a grand stair through a stepped plaza designed by landscape architect Kathryn Gustafson. Visitors are welcomed with sweeping views of Puget Sound and the Olympics as they move through a landscape of terraced gardens and amphitheater seating.

Transparency reflects the goal of an open, accessible city government, easily identified, where ordinary citizens can locate city services. The curved metal volume of the City Council Chamber is a modern form that evokes a civic dome.

10

PIONEER SQUARE STATION (2007)

3rd Ave, Seattle
metro.kingcounty.gov/tops/tunnel/ts-pioneer.html
Jerry McDevitt AIA at GGLO Architects (formerly of TRA), with lead artist Kate Ericson

Initially created as a bus garage in 1990, Pioneer Square Station was rebuilt as a link station for light rail trains. Although the parti echoes that of University Street - mezzanines at each end and a tall volume in the center - its character is totally different.

The stations is "rough and ready," with a vaulted ceiling that recalls the Romanesque Revival arches above ground, exposed air grilles, and mildly Victorian light fixtures. Walls and mezzanines are gray granite on one end and rust-colored granite on the other, echoing the neighborhood's red-brick and gray-stone palette. The station has a distinctive, and pleasing, presence above ground: a vaulted blue-metal entrance pavilion whose form recalls a pergola in nearby Pioneer Square.

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SEATTLE ICONS

A

SPACE NEEDLE (1962)

400 Broad St, Seattle
www.spaceneedle.com
Edward E. Carlson and John Graham, Jr.

B

PIKE PLACE MARKET (1907)

First and Pike, Seattle
www.pikeplacemarket.org

C

PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER (1962)

200 Second Avenue North, Seattle
(206) 443-2001 | www.pacificsciencecenter.org
Minoru Yamasaki

D

SMITH TOWER (1914)

506 Second Avenue, Seattle
(206) 622-4004 | www.smithtower.com
Edwin H. and T. Walker Gaggin

E

5TH AVENUE THEATRE (1926)

1308 Fifth Avenue, Seattle
(206) 625-1418 | www.5thavenue.org
Robert C. Reamer

F

RAINIER TOWER (1977)

1301 Fifth Avenue , Seattle
www.unicoprop.com/prop/rainier_tower
Minoru Yamasaki

IN ADDITION

G

NOVELTY HILL JANUIK WINERY (2008)

14710 Woodinville-Redmond Road NE, Woodinville
(425) 481-5502 | www.noveltyhilljanuik.com
Mithun

H

CHAPEL OF ST IGNATIUS (1997)

Seattle University, 901 12th Ave, Seattle
(206) 296-6000 | www.seattleu.edu/chapel
Steven Holl Architects

I

CHIHULY GARDEN AND GLASS (2012)

305 Harrison St, Seattle
(206) 753-4940 | chihulygardenandglass.com
Dale Chihuly

1 Olympic Sculpture Park
2 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
3. Seattle Library
4. Experience Music Project
5. Benaroya Hall
6. Art Stable
7. Ballard Public Library
8. Fisher Pavillion
9. Seattle City Hall
10. Pioneer Square Station

A Space Needle
B Pike Place Market
C Pacific Science Center
D Smith Tower
E 5th Avenue Theatre
F Rainier Tower
G Novelty Hill Januik Winery
H Chapel of St Ignatius
I Chihuly Garden and Glass

AIA Seattle
1911 First Avenue, Seattle
(206) 448-4938

ACCOMMODATIONS
The Fairmont Olympic Hotel
411 University St, Seattle
(206) 621-1700

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