

Healthcare Design Awards 2021

OCTOBER 2021

Academy of Architecture for Health

AIA Knowledge Community

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF AIA ACADEMY OF ARCHITECTURE FOR HEALTH

Project: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Omaha VA Ambulatory Care Center | Architect: LEO A DALY | Photo credit: A.J. Brown

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AIA/AAH

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The 2021 Healthcare Design Awards

Category A

Built: Less than \$25 million
in construction cost

Category B

Built: More than \$25 million
in construction cost

The mission of the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health (AAH) is to provide knowledge which supports the design of healthy environments by creating education and networking opportunities for members of—and those touched by—the healthcare architectural profession. Together, we will improve the world by serving as the authoritative voice for the design of healthy environments, leading the way to effective future practice, and advocating with those who share our goals.

AAH is pleased to celebrate the outstanding achievements of contemporary architects and recognize the firms for their contributions to the healthcare environment with the 2021 Healthcare Design Awards. Each year, the awards showcase the best of healthcare building design and healthcare design-oriented research and highlight the trends of healthcare facilities and the future direction of design. Our panel of jurors evaluate project entries for effectively addressing conceptual strengths that address aesthetic, civic, urban and social concerns, as well as the requisite functionality and sustainability requirements of a healthcare facility.

“The awarded projects range in scale from small outpatient centers to major replacement facilities and offer creative planning and design showcasing innovation and the impact design can have on the healthcare environment,” says Brenna Costello, AIA, president of AAH. “This year’s batch of winning projects depicts beauty in the details.”

Full awards profiles are available at aia.org/aah.

CATEGORY A

RAINIER BEACH CLINIC

Seattle, Washington | Mahlum





This project arose from Northwest Kidney Center's desire to upend treatment standards for the nearly 500,000 Americans living with chronic kidney disease. Across America, patients often must spend up to 16 hours each week undergoing life-sustaining dialysis in crowded and institutional outpatient clinics. To revolutionize this area of care, Northwest Kidney Centers selected Seattle's Rainier Beach neighborhood, an area disproportionately affected by kidney disease, to demonstrate a more humanized form of dialysis care.

ARCHITECT

Mahlum

OWNER/CLIENT

Northwest Kidney Centers

PHOTOGRAPHS/ ILLUSTRATIONS

Benjamin Benschneider & Mahlum
Architects

MEP ENGINEER

Coffman Engineers

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

PCS Structural Solutions

CIVIL ENGINEER

LPD Engineering

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Brumbaugh and Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Aldrich + Associates

CONSTRUCTION COST OR ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$7,190,983

BUILDING AREA OR ANTICIPATED BUILDING AREA

12,073 sq. ft.

CONSTRUCTION START DATE

November 2018

COMPLETION DATE

December 2019

FROM THE JURY

"The focus on biophilic design has led to an enhanced dialysis experience through a simple yet profound plan solution providing access to natural light and views."

CATEGORY B

PENN MEDICINE RADNOR

Radnor, Pennsylvania | Ballinger





After outgrowing its ambulatory care facility, with its inadequate ceiling heights and disorganized layouts, Penn Medicine turned to the suburbs of Philadelphia to create a new \$200 million center that is focused on regenerating both the health of those who seek care there and the site itself. The new center is inspired by environmental stewardship and the ideals of biophilia, embracing nature and erasing the division between indoors and out. Penn Medicine's new facility is nearly double the size of its previous center, and it offers patients primary care, comprehensive cancer care, and other specialized treatments. Sustainability and the patient experience were two of the most critical design concerns for the four-story, 250,000-square-foot facility.

ARCHITECT

Ballinger

OWNER/CLIENT

Penn Medicine

PHOTOGRAPHS/ ILLUSTRATIONS

Ballinger & Albert Vecerka/Esto

MEP ENGINEER

Stantec

CIVIL ENGINEER

Pennoni

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Jonathan Alderson

CONSTRUCTION COST OR ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$150 Million

BUILDING AREA OR ANTICIPATED BUILDING AREA

250,000 sq. ft.

CONSTRUCTION START DATE

October 2018

COMPLETION DATE

June 2020

FROM THE JURY

“The building serves as an elegant but understated backdrop to its landscape with elements of delight that are impactful and purposeful.”

CATEGORY B

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

Downey, California | SmithGroup





Founded in the late 19th century, Rancho Los Amigos has long been a premier rehabilitation center for adult and pediatric patients recovering from life-altering spinal cord and brain injuries, strokes, and physical and developmental disorders. Owned and operated by Los Angeles County, the center offered world-class treatment that was dampened by its inefficient layout of outdated single-story buildings scattered across the 212-acre campus. This project has radically transformed the center, bringing it in line with the ideals of a holistic and human-centered rehabilitation process. The new facility works as an indoor/outdoor recovery zone, smudging the lines between interior and exterior spaces so that rehabilitation can spill beyond the hospital walls.

ARCHITECT

SmithGroup

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT

Taylor Design

OWNER/CLIENT

Ben Ovando

PHOTOGRAPHS/ILLUSTRATIONS

John Edward Linden Photography

MEP & STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

TTG Corporation

CIVIL ENGINEER

Psomas

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Katherine Spitz & Associates

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

McCarthy Builders

CONSTRUCTION COST OR ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$228 Million

BUILDING AREA OR ANTICIPATED BUILDING AREA

209,250 sq. ft.

CONSTRUCTION START DATE

May 2015

COMPLETION DATE

January 2019

FROM THE JURY

“Much of the design success of the project is a result of how interwoven the spaces are with each other, the extensive natural light, and how successfully the lines are blurred between inside and outside.”

CATEGORY B

THE DAVID H. KOCH CENTER FOR CANCER CARE AT MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER

New York, New York | Perkins Eastman Architects & Ennead Architects





The new 750,000-square-foot David H. Koch Center for Cancer Care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center represents the latest chapter in the institution's 137-year effort to prevent, control, and, ultimately, cure cancer. The center is the largest freestanding cancer care facility for both Memorial Sloan Kettering and New York City at large. Across its 25 floors, the center offers seemingly every aspect of cancer care, allowing patients to access the varied services they may need in a single visit. Accommodating a staff of nearly 1,300 people, the \$1.5 billion center includes 231 exam rooms, 110 private infusion rooms, 37 procedure rooms, and 16 inpatient beds for patients who require short stays.

ARCHITECT

Perkins Eastman Architects

ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT

Ennead Architects

OWNER/CLIENT

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PHOTOGRAPHS/ ILLUSTRATIONS

Andrew Rugge-Perkins Eastman & Chris Cooper Photographer

MEP ENGINEER

Jaros Baum & Bolles Consulting Engineers

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Thornton Tomasetti

CIVIL ENGINEER

Philip Habib & Associates

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

RGR Landscape Architecture

CONSTRUCTION COST OR ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$1.5 Billion

BUILDING AREA OR ANTICIPATED BUILDING AREA

750,000 sq. ft.

CONSTRUCTION START DATE

May 2015

COMPLETION DATE

January 2020

FROM THE JURY

"A simple approach to the massing and façade allows the huge structure to be broken down to create an iconic architectural solution."

CATEGORY B

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, OMAHA VA AMBULATORY CARE CENTER

Omaha, Nebraska | LEO A DALY





This project, the first-ever public-private partnership venture for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, arose from community concern about compassionate care for veterans. It supports an aging facility, built in 1950, that strained to provide adequate services to a growing population of veterans. A standout among the department's more than 1,200 facilities, the inspired architecture offers a meaningful experience for both patients and staff. The care center's programming alleviates the strain on the legacy hospital by shifting primary and secondary care to an outpatient setting. Across its three stories, the center has eight primary-care clinics, a specialty care clinic, a radiology department, and a lab and pharmacy.

ARCHITECT

LEO A DALY

OWNER/CLIENT

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

PHOTOGRAPHS/ILLUSTRATIONS

A.J. Brown

MEP ENGINEER

Kim Cowman, PE, LEED AP, NCARB; LEO A DALY

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Ryan Curtis, PE, EDAC, LEED AP BD+C; LEO A DALY

CIVIL ENGINEER

Matt Zipperlen, PE; LEO A DALY

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

Doug Nelsen, PE, LC, Assoc. IALD; LEO A DALY

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Robin Fordyce, PLA, ASLA; Vireo

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

CONSTRUCTION COST OR ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$67 Million

BUILDING AREA OR ANTICIPATED BUILDING AREA

157,216 sq. ft.

CONSTRUCTION START DATE

April 2018

COMPLETION DATE

August 2020

FROM THE JURY

"The architects were able to provide an uplifting spirit through their use of color that referenced military ribbons and created an interesting play of color inside."

CATEGORY B

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, GARDNER NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE

Cincinnati, Ohio | Perkins&Will





On the University of Cincinnati's campus, the Gardner Neuroscience Institute creates a comfortable environment for sensitive patients and their families. The institute also gathers nearly 125 faculty members from the university's Centers of Excellence, housing them in a cutting-edge home for care, education, and research on complex neurological conditions. The building serves as a new front door for the medical campus and is a testament to UC Health's world-class treatment and research. UC Health approaches its care through a humanistic lens, and the patient group served by the institute deals with unique issues. To accommodate patients prone to nausea, dizziness, or fatigue, or those facing movement disorders, circulation inside the building is quite simple.

ARCHITECT

Perkins&Will

OWNER/CLIENT

University of Cincinnati Health

PHOTOGRAPHS/ ILLUSTRATIONS

Mark Herboth

MEP ENGINEER

Heapy

CIVIL ENGINEER

Kliengers Group

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Shell + Meyer

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Messer Construction

CONSTRUCTION COST OR ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION COST

\$51.4 Million

BUILDING AREA OR ANTICIPATED BUILDING AREA

114,000 sq. ft.

CONSTRUCTION START DATE

June 2017

COMPLETION DATE

April 2019

FROM THE JURY

"Truly a project that can be appropriately described as a single stroke of genius. A simple bar building resolves research-based health concerns of the potential patient, energy, and architectural articulation through one tensile scrim."

Healthcare Design Awards 2021 Jury



Thomas J. Trenolone, FAIA (Chair)

Tom Trenolone is an architect and design advocate with the international architecture and engineering firm of HDR Architecture, Inc. He is a Design Director and Principal with the firm. He is the President and founder of daOMA (design alliance OMAha), a non-profit focused on greater design awareness in communities' lectures and discourse. Tom served as the Creative Director for Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas, and recently completed the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab in Chicago, Illinois. He is the recipient of the 2002 Kagan Design Fellowship.



David Allison, FAIA, FACHA

David Allison is an Alumni Distinguished Professor and has served as the Director of Graduate Studies in Architecture + Health [A+H] at Clemson University since 1990. His teaching, research, and scholarship involve the study of relationships between health, healthcare, and the built environment. The A+H program at Clemson is nationally recognized for its focused curriculum and emphasis on design excellence within the discipline of healthcare architecture. Professor Allison is also a Licensed Architect in South and North Carolina as well as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.



Betsy Beaman, AIA, IIDA, SEGD

For over 25 years, Betsy Beaman was a founding Principal and Director of Design of the Atlanta-based, award-winning architectural design firm Stanley Beaman & Sears. With over 35 years of experience, Betsy oversaw the design of the firm's projects in all three of their primary market segments: Healthcare, higher education, and the cultural arts. Her passion for the arts and building form greatly influenced the work of the firm and she has won numerous awards for design excellence on a local, regional, and national level.



J. Windom Kimsey, FAIA

Windom Kimsey developed a reputation for innovative design early in his career through a series of award-winning projects and buildings. His career has since been devoted to public projects, especially the design of civic, public safety, and educational facilities for which he has received numerous awards and accolades. In addition to many project awards, in 1998 Windom received the American Institute of Architect's National Young Architect Award for Design and Leadership in the profession, and in 2004 he was inducted into the AIA's College of Fellows. He received the AIA Nevada Silver Medal in 2007, and just two years later received the 2009 AIA WMR Silver Medal.



Noah Tolson, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Lean Green Belt

Noah Tolson's varied experiences in construction, developing products and bringing them to market, launching a company, and working as a strategic consultant all led to the strong importance he places on collaborative partnerships and data-driven decisions. Noah believes that project success grows from consistent, honest communication and diligent, empathetic decision-making. In an industry where efficiency and lean practices are becoming increasingly important, Noah offers a track record of planning projects to optimize operations, resulting in significant cost savings for his clients.



Norio Tsuchiya, AIA

Norio Tsuchiya joined triARC architecture & design as the Creative Director and Senior Project Manager in June 2020. He is leading the triARC team in continually improving the environment of care for both the clients as well as the community. Starting with an epiphany at a Japanese Elementary School in Quito, Ecuador, Norio embarked upon a path that would eventually allow him to practice architecture in the United States. His life experiences growing up overseas as well as his education through graduate school have influenced Norio to design with empathy and to create places where people thrive. Healthcare architecture has been his focus for the past 15 of his 20-plus years in design.



Kirsten Waltz, AIA, ACHA, EDAC, LEED AP

Kirsten Waltz is the Director of Facilities Planning & Design for Baystate Health, which encompasses over 4 million square feet of inpatient and outpatient facilities across Western Massachusetts. She is experienced in programming, planning, project management, and design of healthcare projects. Kirsten's interest in healthcare architecture stems from her genuine desire to improve patient, family, and staff experiences and better their day-to-day lives. Kirsten is the Past President of the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health (AAH) and a member of the Facilities Guidelines Institute (FGI) Steering Committee: Guidelines for Design and Construction 2022 revision cycle.

The AAH Case Study Library



The AIA Academy of Architecture for Health Case Study Library helps to bridge the gap between research and practice. This collegial sharing of peer-reviewed projects results in the development of scalable metrics and provides the industry with some best practice “Rules of Thumb” and “Benchmarking” analyses, which in turn will help the profession design better projects. A typical case study highlights the project’s key design intentions, relevant photographic images, floor by floor interdepartmental Net to Gross Square Footages and Net to Gross Factors, as well as minimum and maximum travel distances for patient and staff travel within key departments.

aia.org/aahcasestudies

AIA/AAH

List of Healthcare Design's Best Under 40 (U40)

The U40 list is a nomination-oriented recognition to celebrate individuals under 40 years of age making significant contributions to the advancement of healthcare design. Candidates for the award must display leadership and innovation and take on initiatives that go beyond the project responsibilities, working toward the advancement of the industry.

2021 RECIPIENTS

Sara Bayramzadeh, Ph.D., M.Arch.

Dr. Sara Bayramzadeh joined Kent State University in 2018 as the Coordinator of and an Assistant Professor in the Healthcare Design program. She is recognized for her research on trauma room design, psychiatric units and operating rooms designs. Sara is interested in interdisciplinary research efforts to enhance healthcare outcomes through effective environmental design. Her research efforts at Kent State University have been recognized by the 2020 New Faculty Outstanding Research and Scholarship Award. Sara has been a recipient of multiple national and international awards, such as the 2016 Joel Polsky Academic Achievement Award from the American Society of Interior Designers for outstanding dissertation and the 2018 Best Paper Award from *Applied Ergonomics Journal*.

Alison Leonard, AIA, CHID, EDAC

Alison Leonard is an innovative healthcare architect with focus and expertise in behavioral healthcare design as well as healthcare planning, research, and interior design. With 18 years of healthcare experience, she is a nationally recognized leader and an evidence-based design certified architect. Alison works with CannonDesign's dedicated national Mental and Behavioral Health practice in Texas. She is passionate about reducing the stigma around mental health issues by creating inventive therapy spaces, challenging old ways of thinking, and advocating for the continuum of mental health care within the communities she touches. Alison is a Certified Healthcare Interior Designer and Evidence-Based Design Certified Architect and has been featured in various publications.

Recommend an individual for the U40 award next year when nominations open in early 2022.

Please direct all inquiries to aah@aia.org.

Award call for entries

The AIA Academy of Architecture for Health annually showcases the best of healthcare building design and design-oriented research.

Submissions open January 2022.

aia.org/aahawards

