

Kohn Pedersen Fox and Associates, Heron, and Architect Alva Ramphal, AIA Receive Top Honors from AIA Tampa Bay

24 people, firms and projects honored for excellence in design and service to community

Tampa (Nov. 4, 2021) – The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Tampa Bay Chapter named 24 recipients of its highest annual awards, the Honor and Design Awards, at the Celebrate Design awards reception on Thursday, November 4th at the Tampa River Center at Julian B. Lane Park. Greg Wolf, the beloved in-arena host for USF Athletics and The Tampa Bay Lightning, presented the awards. AIA Tampa Bay honors architects, philanthropists, public servants, and organizations that are committed to improving communities through design excellence.

The Medal of Honor was given to Alva Ramphal, AIA. Al has been actively involved in AIA, and continues to be actively involved in the AIA, and the community for nearly 40 years. Al has served at 3 different Florida components as well as on the AIA Florida board. Al has chaired the chapter's Golf Committee for the past 5 years and has grown the tournament to record attendance and income. Al enjoys volunteering as a coach to teach at risk youth the game of golf at the Orlando Minority Youth Golf Association. For his ongoing selfless, generous and impactful work on behalf of the association, profession and the community, we are delighted to present Al Ramphal with the Medal of Honor

The highest Design Award, the H. Dean Rowe, FAIA Award for Design Excellence, was awarded to Kohn Pedersen Fox and Associates for [Heron](#). The jury commented, "We loved the simple materials, pure in their expression. The treatment of the concrete adds a nice warmth and the angles in the balconies that get progressively more pronounced as they rise up the building are a fun way to add interest to the façade. The perforated panels on the parking garage and countless other details are masterfully executed".

The AIA Tampa Bay Honor Awards also recognized 9 people and firms for outstanding accomplishments and service to the architecture profession and the community:

- *Firm Award:* Traction Architecture — for their consistent demonstration leadership, vision, and ability.
- *Pullara Award:* Beverly Frank, AIA— for her exemplary service to the chapter, the community and profession of architecture.
- *Kelley Emerging Professional Award:* Trace Gainey, AIA— for his work in championing the causes and issues that are important to Associate members and young architects.
- *Award of Excellence:* The Honorable Guido Maniscalco, Tampa City Councilman — for his outstanding support to the mission of the chapter, built environment and architectural profession.
- *President's Award:* Dawn Mages, AIA Tampa Bay Chapter President — for her commitment to advocating for the architecture profession, her dedication to the chapter, and work in establishing the new Center for Architecture and Design.
- *Artisan Award:* T2THES. — for outstanding workmanship and craftsmanship in their work for Hotel Haya
- *Allied Member Award:* Larry Flynn with AISC — for his service to the chapter and promotion of the value of AIA and the architecture profession.

The Eduardo Garcia Award was presented to Margaret Cook. The annual award is offered to architects registered 10 years or less and recognizes talent, passion, and dedication; qualities for which Eduardo Garcia was known.

12 out of 56 project submissions were selected for the AIA Tampa Bay Design Awards for representing exceptional work in architecture and urban design. Each winning project, granted an “honor” or “merit” award, was chosen for its exemplary design quality.

Merit Awards recognize projects that demonstrate a commitment to excellence in architectural design. Merit Awards were presented to:

- WJ Architects, [Art Center Manatee](#)
- WJ Architects, [Pier Market](#)
- WJ Architects, [North Tampa Christian Academy](#)
- WJ Architects | Hoffman Studio, [Martinez House](#)
- Rowe Architects Incorporated, [J.C. Newman Cigar Factory Renovation](#)
- PLACE Architecture, [Grand Central Brewhouse](#)
- ASD | SKY, [Sparkman Wharf](#)
- Alfonso Architects, [Hotel Eleo](#)
- Straughn Trout Architects, [AdventHealth Fieldhouse and Conference Center](#)

Honor Awards recognize projects that demonstrate the highest standards of design and innovation and a commitment to excellence in architectural design. Honor Awards were presented to Jon Kirk, AIA for [Lake Crago Outdoor Recreation Complex](#), to SOLSTICE Planning and Architecture for [Perry Harvey, Sr. Park](#), and to Alfonso Architects for [Streamsong Black Golf Clubhouse](#)

Criteria considered by the jurors included design quality, program resolution, innovation, thoughtfulness, and technique. This year’s jurors were Verity Frizzell, FAIA, principal at Feltz & Frizzell Architects, Joseph David, recipient of the Anton Vegliante Award for advancement of the profession, and Mike Buldo from, Marchetto Higgs Stieve Architects and building code and construction typology expert.

The 2021 Sustainability award was awarded to ASD | SKY for [Largo City Hall](#). The jury commented that, “the sustainability features were numerous, the massing was pleasing, and the materials were well used”.

The People's Choice award, with over 500 likes, was presented to TVS Florida, Inc. for the [MOTE Science Education Aquarium](#). People’s Choice entries are posted on [Behance](#) and the community voted for its choice throughout the month of October.

AIA Tampa Bay

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is the professional association for architects and those in the architecture field. AIA Tampa Bay is the regional chapter representing approximately 703 members in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Polk, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter and Pasco Counties. The AIA provides programs and services including educational programs, design competitions, community service programs and serves as the united voice of the architecture profession. The regional chapter office is located in the Center for Architecture and Design in Ybor.

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