



## **AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER AWARD TEXTS 2011**

### **MEDAL OF HONOR 2011: Daniel Libeskind, AIA**

Daniel Libeskind, AIA is an international architect and designer, and founder of Studio Daniel Libeskind, whose work includes museums, concert halls, universities, housing, hotels, convention centers and shopping centers. His buildings address the cultural context of their communities while inspiring new understanding of the importance of design to go beyond the expected.

In New York, as we approach the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center, Mr. Libeskind is best known as the author of the master plan for the rebuilding of the site and the re-animation of Lower Manhattan. That plan is being realized today, with a spiral of gestural towers cradling a memorial and memorial museum that remember the events of the day and the lives taken away.

An American citizen since 1965, Mr. Libeskind first studied music, becoming an accomplished performer before turning to architecture and receiving degrees in New York and England. With world-renowned cultural and commercial projects completed around the world, from Berlin to Busan, Dublin to Denver, Osnabrück to Toronto, his office sets a new standard for cultural innovation.

As practitioner, theorist, writer and teacher, Daniel Libeskind's ideas have influenced a new generation of architects, planners and urban designers, and all others interested in the future of our cities. Daniel Libeskind, along with his wife and partner, Nina Libeskind, have made a commitment to New York City, locating their office and residence in Lower Manhattan, and becoming active in the AIA New York Chapter and Center for Architecture. Worldwide acclaim and magazine cover recognition have not diminished their down-to-earth approachability, sense of humor and poetic spirit.

The New York Chapter honors Daniel Libeskind with the Medal of Honor for his contributions to the profession, the City and the world.

### **AWARD OF MERIT: Frank Sciame, Hon. AIA New York Chapter**

Frank J. Sciame, Hon. AIANY, established his construction company in 1975 after receiving a degree in architecture from the City College of New York. His firm's motto, "where building is an art," characterizes his unique approach to assuring design excellence, thus accounting for his success with disparate cultural institutions including the Morgan Library, the Pratt Institute School of Architecture, Historic Front Street, Central Synagogue, the New Museum, and the Museum of Art and Design. Mr. Sciame has always been dedicated to the realization of the work of the most talented architects, is a collaborator of the highest level, and a great supporter of the Center for Architecture. His contributions to the Liquid Wall enabled the Center for Architecture to mount an unprecedented experimental installation at the heart of the

Innovate: Integrate exhibition. And, in this year where the World Trade Center site rebuilding is coming to fruition, the special role that Frank played – at the request of Mayor Bloomberg – has assured that the National 9/11 Memorial could be built to our collective expectations at reasonable cost. In recognition of over thirty-five years of leadership in construction, service and philanthropy, the AIA New York Chapter confers the Award of Merit.

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: Charles McKinney, Hon. AIA New York Chapter**

The AIA New York Chapter is pleased to confer Honorary Membership on Charles McKinney, ASLA, the Principal Urban Designer at the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. Formally Chief of Design at Parks, Charles' work addresses the 21<sup>st</sup> century social and recreational requisites of sustainability. He was instrumental in creating the *High Performance Landscape Guidelines: 21st Century Parks for NYC*, a comprehensive, city-focused manual for creating sustainable parks and features many best practices for managing soil, water and vegetation resources. The document expands our design standards in such areas as urban livability, environmental responsibility and approaches to changing community preferences. Charles has also done a spectacular job in presenting and promoting these new guidelines to architects, landscape architects and designers, as well as to other city agencies and the press. The announcement and presentation of the Guidelines was one of the most successful and well-attended programs at the Center for Architecture, drawing over 300 people and leading to a showcase exhibition of its contents in the Margaret Helfand Gallery. The citizens of New York and the design community owe a debt of gratitude to Charles McKinney for his conscientious, creative and diligent creation of parks and recreation spaces.

**ANDREW J. THOMAS AWARD: Carol Lamberg**

Carol Lamberg, a true pioneer in affordable housing, has served as Executive Director of the Settlement Housing Fund since 1983 where she has systematically worked to eradicate homelessness in New York City. Settlement Housing Fund has produced over 8,700 apartments in 56 developments, retaining ownership through partnerships or affiliates. It owns 31 buildings with 1,750 apartments in Brooklyn, the Bronx and Manhattan. Most of the developments that Settlement Housing owns are mixed-income buildings, occupied by families whose incomes range from public assistance levels to about \$85,000. The developments generally include community amenities and programs of benefit to building occupants. Ms. Lamberg has proven herself to be a most effective and potent political agent for policy change, serving as Co-Chair of the New York Housing Conference, drafting amendments to the Housing Act of 1937, the National Housing Act and the New York State Private Housing Finance Law. She is also Regional Vice President of the National Housing Conference and on the Board of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council as well as Housing Partnership Insurance. Ms. Lamberg has provided opportunities for affordable housing for underserved New Yorkers through a 30-year distinguished career of public service in affordable housing and government advocacy.

**THE HARRY B. RUTKINS AWARD**

The Harry B. Rutkins Award honors service to the Chapter, to the Institute and to the Profession. Frederic Schwartz, FAIA, embodies the best intent of this recognition: service. His salient professional activity has been advocating, practicing and realizing the value of superior design quality as a means to achieve social equity for clients in and of the public realm. Success in one public endeavor breeds success in another. Thus, Mr. Schwartz has been responsible for the design of modular, factory-produced affordable and sustainable housing and for infrastructures within the entire public arena, including health clinics, community centers, schools, transportation hubs and airports, sanitation facilities, and honored places of sacred memory. In this year when we remember the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, his memorials in

Valhalla, New York and Jersey City are important reminders of the lives lost that day. Fred is leading New Orleans' post-Katrina Recovery Plan for 21 historic neighborhoods and is designing a prototype "super-green" town of 20,000 for Ghana's capitol, Accra. With consistently unanimous praise from the public and our profession, Fred's career of accomplished built work has consistently demonstrated advocacy of design excellence, one combining outstanding intellectual rigor with creatively intelligent design solutions to serve all people.

**PUBLIC ARCHITECT AWARD: Laurie D. Kerr, AIA**

The Public Architect award recognizes an architect in the public domain who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession in terms of public policy, resulting in exemplary architecture or urban design.

Laurie Kerr has excelled as a practicing architect and as policy maven, establishing and implementing innovative strategies and methods of realizing design excellence and environmental stewardship. After a successful career in private practice, Ms. Kerr joined the NYC Department of Design + Construction to serve as Chief of Sustainable Research, where she authored the first draft of the City's sustainability plan. Since 2006, as Senior Policy Advisor for Buildings and Energy in the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning & Sustainability, she has been responsible for developing and implementing green building policies for NYC. These include improving the efficiency of the city's building energy use as a central strategy to reduce city-wide carbon emissions by 30% by 2030. She is a key member of the team that developed PlaNYC, our city's vision of sustainable growth.

With degrees in Architecture, Applied Physics and Engineering from Harvard, Cornell and Yale, Laurie Kerr is a role model for all those who have applied their passions and intelligence to improve our world.

**THE GEORGE S. LEWIS AWARD: WNYC**

The George S. Lewis Award honors an individual or organization that has helped to make New York a better place in which to live and practice. WNYC, now known as New York Public Radio is such an exemplary institution. Its spirit, quality and intelligent discourse benefit from the leadership of Laura Walker, its Chief Executive Officer and President.

WNYC, launched in 1924 as New York City's radio station, secured its independence in 1997 when the WNYC Foundation bought its broadcast licenses. Since then, WNYC has moved from the Municipal Building to Hudson Square and has created the Jerome L. Greene Performance Space. With the acquisition of WQXR, New York's classical music station, the franchise has been renamed New York Public Radio. It is America's premier public radio franchise as measured by audience size, reaching over 2 million people each week.

The stations extend New York City's cultural riches to the entire country on-air and online, with signature local programs including, among others, *The Brian Lehrer Show*, *The Leonard Lopate Show*, *Soundcheck*, *The Saturday and Sunday Shows with Jonathan Schwartz*, as well as nationally distributed programs including *Radiolab*, *Studio 360 with Kurt Andersen*, *On the Media* and, with PRI, *The Takeaway*.

**STEPHEN A. KLIMENT OCULUS AWARD**

The Chapter is proud to confer the 2011 Stephen A. Kliment *Oculus* Award for excellence in architectural journalism on John Morris Dixon, FAIA.

An architecture graduate of MIT, John was also on the staff of the school's student newspaper, *The Tech*, where he spent many long hours typing away along with Steve Kliment. In 1960, he gave up the drafting board for architectural journalism. Following staff positions at *Progressive Architecture* and *Architectural Forum*, he served as Editor of *P/A* for over 20 years. Since then his eloquent writing has graced the pages of several other publications, including *Architecture*, *Architectural Record*, *Architect*, and – most especially – *Oculus*, for which he has penned the XX-Year Watch since 2008.

As an AIA member, John has long been active on the national Committee on Design, which he has chaired. He wrote the Midtown Manhattan section of the original *AIA Guide to New York City*. Among his other book credits is the chapter on Architecture for the Arts in the national AIA's 150th-Anniversary compendium, *Architecture: Celebrating the Past, Designing the Future*. Through his column and feature articles in *Oculus*, he continues to provide fresh insights into the urban icons of our past, which still resonate today.

**SPECIAL CITATION: Lisa Phillips and the New Museum for Redeveloping the Legacy of the Bowery**

By having the insight to recognize the entrepreneurial spirit and rich cultural legacy of the Bowery, Lisa Phillips and the Board of the New Museum not only selected a visionary location for a world class art museum but also re-established the vibrancy of a vital New York City neighborhood. Today the future of the museum stands on the shoulders of that gutsy decision, for the area surrounding the museum now includes over sixty new galleries, a new hotel and multiple renowned restaurants. The design of the museum itself intentionally pays respect to the contextual fabric of the neighborhood. Its transparent storefront façade opens to the neighborhood, making it a natural community hub. Ongoing programs like the Bowery Artists Tribute, the annual Block Party at Sarah D Roosevelt Park and First Saturdays for Families connect the Museum with its locale. This community engagement culminated last month when the Museum initiated *The Festival of Ideas for the New City*, a collaboration of more than 200 cultural and civic organizations that attracted 70,000 people to the neighborhood. AIANY was one of the Festival's early collaborators, so we especially recognize the efforts of Lisa Philips and the Museum staff in realizing this transformational event.

**SPECIAL CITATION: Battery Park City Authority, Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, Albanese Organization, Inc. for Collaboratively Advancing Sustainability**

The groundbreaking collaborative effort of the Battery Park City Authority, Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects and the Albanese Organization, Inc. to envision, design and build the first sustainable residential high rise building in the United States, provided a clear roadmap for the development of the sustainability movement in our country. Working together in 2000 prior to the development of USGBC LEED standards for high rise residential construction, this remarkable team designed and built the Solaire project according to the 64 point high-performance Residential Green Guidelines, then newly formulated by the Battery Park City Authority. The success of this three-way collaboration lead to the crafting of the sustainability provisions in the NYC Building Code, developments in LEED Standards, as well as two additional green buildings at Battery Park City, the Verdesian (from 2006) and the Visionaire (from 2009), each one exceeding the sustainable expectations of that which preceded it. It is for this reason that the AIA New York Chapter honors Battery Park City Authority, Pelli Clark Pelli Architects and the Albanese Organization, Inc. with a Special Citation for progressing in uncharted territory to substantially advance sustainable design, and, in so doing, creating wonderfully habitable green structures for Lower Manhattan.

**SPECIAL CITATION: Solar One Green Energy, Arts and Education Center**

Solar One's mission is to empower people of all ages with the vision, knowledge and resources to attain a more environmentally sound and sustainable future. This drives a broad agenda of public engagement on issues of sustainability, starting at the scale of our daily lives, and reaching deep into areas of public policy and contemporary discourse on environmental stewardship. Through their Education, Green Arts, Outreach and Advocacy programming, Solar One conveys the inspiration, tools and information needed to achieve sustainability in our households, communities, and cities.

One of the key initiatives of Solar One is the creation of a new Environmental Center, Solar 2, to be located at Stuyvesant Cove Park. The Solar 2 building will be energy positive and will meet the Living Building Challenge for net-zero water usage. Its purpose is to help catalyze a shift in the way New York City generates and consumes energy and water through hands-on education and live demonstrations.

For its essential work educating the public about climate change, energy independence and CO2 emissions, as well as its significant contributions to PlaNYC and NYC's Master Waterfront Plans, AIANY is pleased to award this commendation to Solar 1 and its executive director, Chris Collins.

**SPECIAL CITATION: Kirsten Sibilia, Assoc. AIA**

Kirsten Sibilia, Assoc. AIA, LEEP AP, through her inspired leadership and dedication as Director of Publications, and as Chair of the Oculus Committee, has been instrumental in raising the level of the Chapter's publications, and energetically promoting the Chapter's goals through more effective communications to the profession and the public.

During her many years of service as a tireless and energetic member of AIA New York, she has been a vocal advocate for the profession, heightening awareness of the value of design, the power of the built environment, and the importance of sustainability. As a former co-chair of the Chapter's Marketing and PR Committee, chair of the Chapter's Public Relations Task Force and as a founding member of the Public Relations Advisory Committee, she has been a pioneer in mentoring marketing professionals and architects on more effective strategies for growth and leadership transition. As the author of the chapter on Public Relations for the 2008 edition of *The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice*, published by the AIA, she has provided valuable insights and practical guidelines for architects in difficult times. Leading the successful re-launch of *Oculus* magazine in a revised format with a new publisher, Kirsten has rendered invaluable service to the Chapter.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S CITATION FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Mark Behm, Assoc. AIA**

The 2011 Vice Presidential Citation for Professional Development is awarded to one of the youngest leaders in the AIA, Mark Behm. Mark has served the Chapter and the Profession in numerous ways, with the goal of expanding professional knowledge among the larger architectural community. A graduate of Texas A&M and a professional at Mancini-Duffy, Mark has led the Chapter in growing membership and programs as Chair of the Professional Practice Committee. He also was the lead coordinator on the "Architect's Fast Track Leadership Series". The AFTL Series focuses on preparing the next generation of principals and has been very well received by new and experienced professionals alike.

Mark received the AIANYS Intern-Associates award last year at the State Convention in Buffalo and has served the Chapter as a Board member for the past two years, bringing the perspective

of young and emerging architects to bear on policies, programs, and membership. Mark has also been active in the ENYA Committee for Emerging NY Architects, the ARE Boot Camp Review program and the Member Services Committee.

With this award we recognize the outstanding, innovative, and creative achievements of this dedicated young professional, and encourage his continued participation as a Chapter leader.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S CITATION FOR DESIGN EXCELLENCE: Committee on Architecture for Education**

The 2011 Vice President's Citation for Design Excellence recognizes the leadership of the Committee on Architecture for Education in championing the value of design in the development of educational facilities and the importance of those institutions as a fundamental element of an intelligent society. Their leadership has advanced the profile of educational facilities as a distinct and complex building type, worthy of recognition in its many forms. The schools, university facilities and libraries in New York's five boroughs are at the heart of what makes our city livable and oriented toward the future.

Co-Chaired by Umberto Dindo, AIA and Lazar Kesic, AIA, the commitment to design excellence of the Committee of Architecture for Education has manifested itself through a comprehensive program of in-depth lectures and exhibitions, including the recent event "Charter Schools: Partnerships for Innovation" which looked at the distinct architectural challenges and opportunities associated with the charter school movement.

The committee also coordinates tours of new schools, including a recent tour of the "vertical, green campus" at PS/IS 276. Through such programming, the Committee on Architecture for Education has marked educational facilities as a bellwether of a rapidly evolving society investing in its most valuable resource: its human capital.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S CITATIONS FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH: The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and The Design for Aging Committee**

The 2011 Vice President's Citation for Public Outreach recognizes the leadership of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, a group that has been doing everything right and which sets the standard for Committee programming. Every month, without fail, year in and year out, the co-chairs Rob Eisenstat and Jim Wright put together interesting and informative programs and tours on topical issues. Recent programs include Plan2031, the Second Avenue Subway, and the World Trade Center Transit hub tour.

To bracket the award, we also give a citation to a new committee that has identified a need, come up with a mission, and created programs for a new audience. The Design for Aging Committee led by Jerry Maltz, AIA and Richard Rosen, AIA has, in a very short time, become a significant addition to the outreach committees. Launched late last year, the committee has run successful programs on aging in place, on senior sustainability guides and on universal design. They have also put together position papers for the Chapter on the Top Ten Ways Architects Can Become Age-Friendly and Urban Design and Architectural Guidelines for an Age-Friendly New York City, and are collaborating with the Department of Buildings to incorporate more age friendly requirements into the building codes.