



[SMALL PROJECTS] ARE ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY

AIA CHICAGO HONORS 2ND ANNUAL SMALL
PROJECT AWARD WINNERS

LOOKING AT ANY MAJOR CITY'S SKYLINE, people can't help but stare at the skyscrapers and massive buildings designed by firms that, more often than not, match the size of the structures. But it's the small projects—homes, offices, restaurants and other places we routinely frequent—that affect our everyday lives. For the second year, AIA Chicago is honoring these projects that, though they can be in our everyday lives, are designed to be anything but ordinary.

Small is the defining word in these Small Project Awards. All projects entered in the competition had to be designed by firms with fewer than nine licensed architects or architectural interns. Construction budgets for each project had to be relatively modest, under \$750,000. Chicago architects rose to the call and 94 projects were submitted, and the jury winnowed down the group to their favorites in structures, objects and unbuilt design categories.

Flipping through these pages, one can imagine watching kids run through a backyard sprinkler in Bucktown, relaxing by the water on a warm summer day at a pool house in Michigan or enjoying that first sip of great Chicago beer under the eye-catching "99 Bottles of Beer" chandelier at Revolution Brewing in Logan Square. There's nothing ordinary about any of it.

> **Lauren Finch**

JURORS:

John DeSalvo, AIA
John DeSalvo Design
Jan Parr
Editor, *Chicago Home & Garden* magazine
William Yudchitz, AIA
Revelations Architects/Builders Corporation

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magazine	Petersen Aluminum
Cosentino	Revolution Brewing
Double 3 Six	Studio 41
InterOcean Cabinets	Toto

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS
STRUCTURES

Photography by Roger Foley, Foley Photography



HONOR AWARD

A Barnyard Retreat
Manakin Sabot, Va.

ARCHITECTURE FIRM:
FRAERMAN ASSOCIATES
CLIENT:
SHELLY AND CURT
WILTSHIRE



"I think that it's spectacular," said a juror about this barnyard retreat. An owners' desire for a swimming pool and guesthouse next to their Virginia farmhouse resulted in a contemporary barn design with the material palette found in the existing farmhouse—copper, stone and painted wood. "The wall structure in the barn is what made it," said another juror. A large trellis runs the length of the guesthouse—which includes a home office, guest suite, exercise loft, living space, kitchenette and pool bath—providing shade for pool goers, as well as contributing to its energy efficiency by shading the barn. To sum it up, a juror commented that "It's modern, but classic."

Photography by Darin Leo Harris



HONOR AWARD

Garden
Infrastructure +
Connector
Chicago

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
BLENDER
ARCHITECTURE
CLIENT: PRIVATE

The clients purchased the property next door for the purpose of adding a garage, while simultaneously maintaining the open space. In the addition, Blender Architecture created a connection between the architecture and the landscape, and included a cistern under the garage to collect rain water from all structures and re-distribute it for landscape irrigation and the outdoor fountain. "It looks modern and livable," commented a juror. Gabion walls are incorporated into the north wall of the garage and used to separate the neighboring property. The separating wall has a built-in planter that allows the leftover irrigation water to filter through and back into the cistern. Salvaged wood from the demolition was re-purposed for a new bathroom and the exterior is clad in a cedar rain-screen. Exterior bluestone is used on the floor to further diminish the outside from the inside. "The materials seem clean, simple and appropriate," said a juror.



SMALL PROJECT AWARDS
STRUCTURES

This 1,400-square-foot pool house uses a similar material palette to the traditional main house, but provides a modernist counterpoint. "I see roots back to the '50s in this house, but it has a modern, earthy, worn look," a juror commented.

Resting on a wood deck plinth, which gives it a light, weightless appearance, the building's first floor has a screened outdoor shower and dressing area, a bathroom with direct access to and from the pool area, large living space—with floor-to-ceiling windows and bi-parting sliding doors which look out onto the pool—a kitchenette and a bedroom suite with a private screen porch. The open steel stairs climb to the upper-level's sleeping loft. Outside, cedar sunscreens are mounted on industrial tracks and slide to protect the interior space from the sun and shutter the windows.

HONOR AWARD

Sawyer Pool House
Sawyer, Mich.

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
NICHOLAS CLARK
ARCHITECTS LTD.
CLIENT: DANIEL AND
ALLISON BASKES
CONTRACTOR: ANDRE
PRIEDE, WHITE BIRCH LLC



Photography by Linda Oyama-Bryan



Photography by Bob Coscarelli, Bob Coscarelli Photography

CITATION OF MERIT

Bucktown Residence
Renovation
and Addition
Chicago

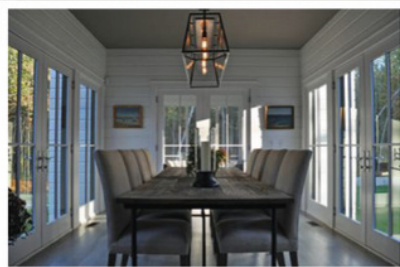
DESIGN ARCHITECT:
FROELICH KIM + CERDA
ARCHITECTURE
CLIENT: CERDA FAMILY
CONTRACTOR:
GERARDO CERDA, CERDA
DESIGN BUILD



This old Bucktown two-flat felt tired and claustrophobic to this family of five. They wanted to restore—and reuse—the existing masonry and provide a link between the new kitchen and family room to the outside. "You get the feeling that they didn't stop thinking about this subject. They went all the way through," said a juror.

The restored brick walls of the old interior were left exposed and, in contrast, the addition has a clean, modern design, including a wall of glass that provides a visual link from the new rooms to the backyard. A new private deck on the second floor master bedroom completes the rear exterior of the house, its geometric shape adding a more sculptural form to the façade. The new garage detailing mirrors the main house and provides a backdrop that defines an inviting private rear yard where the children can play freely. "It's a nice use of the entire site," explained a juror. "The roof and the backyard are part of the entire living space."

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS
STRUCTURES



Photography by John Toniolo

CITATION OF MERIT
Farmhouse Retooled
Three Oaks, Mich.

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
FANGMANN GENSBURG
HARTING ARCHITECTS
CLIENT: JEFF HARTING AND
JOHN TONIOLO

Drawing inspiration from the L- and T-shaped farmhouses that dot the countryside throughout the Midwest, the design includes two window-gabled ends, found in larger farm houses, and a front porch. Running along the front of the house, the porch floats approximately two feet in front of the exterior wall, allowing light and shadow to pass between the house and the porch. The top is a "Live Roof," which serves as a green element and a visual element from the second floor. "I love the green roof," said a juror. Porch columns are paired and connected with galvanized piping lattice. Utilizing the exterior siding and galvanized piping inside creates a cohesive integration of materials throughout the home. The home's façade has casement windows in a two-over-two pattern. "You get light in every room," commented a juror.



Photography by Leslie Schwartz, Leslie Schwartz Photography



CITATION OF MERIT
Lake Geneva Cottage
Linn, Wis.

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
KUKLINSKI + RAPPE
ARCHITECTS
CLIENT:
TOM AND CHRIS MOLDAUER
CONTRACTOR:
BILL INN, WYNTREE
CONSTRUCTION

This new weekend home has an exterior that blends in well with its more traditional neighbors, while the interior fits the contemporary lifestyle of its owners. What appears to be a one-and-a-half story cottage, the steep hillside landscape—with slopes exceeding 40 percent—conceals an additional level of living that faces the lake side of the house. "I like that it was built into the hill," commented a juror. "That was clever."

Inside, a centrally positioned staircase rises from the main lower level to a loft and provides a screen between the living and dining spaces. The loft is the perfect place to relax with views of the lake. Birch was used throughout the interior, including ceiling panels, which conceal cove lighting. "The interior is an A+," said another juror.

Photography by Anthony May, Anthony May Photography



Architecture, product design and marketing all had equal importance in the design process of the Roche-Bobois showroom in Chicago's River North Furniture District. Sleek new materials, representing the modern design of Roche-Bobois, contrast with the heavy timber of the historic loft space. "It made me want to stay in the store and look around," said a juror.

Visibility into the two-level showroom was increased by providing a relocated entrance with an angled steel and concrete floating stair to draw pedestrians up, while a large opening in the floor provides views and natural light into the lower level. A double wall of glass—specifically designed to display "cloud" lights—surrounds the stairs with lights hanging between them, turning what would normally be a simple railing into an experience. Floating ceilings at various levels related to furniture settings create a sense of space and provide a display for Roche-Bobois wall fabrics.



CITATION OF MERIT

Roche-Bobois
Chicago

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
HIRSCH ASSOCIATES LLC
CLIENT: ROCHE-BOBOIS PARIS
CONTRACTOR:
TONY LINDSAY, URBAN
INNOVATIONS

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS STRUCTURES



CITATION OF MERIT

Eduardo's Enoteca
Restaurant
Chicago

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
CBD ARCHITECTS



Photography courtesy of Eduardo's Enoteca

One of the first orders of business in the remodeling of Eduardo's Enoteca, a restaurant and wine bar in Chicago's Gold Coast neighborhood, was the tearing out of the existing dropped ceiling grid, which exposed the beautiful barrel truss vault ceiling that had been hidden for too long. Gaining the height and intrigue of a heavy timber structure in the small footprint did not go unnoticed. "What a treasure to find that ceiling," exclaimed a juror. "And everything else works off of that."

After that, CBD Architects gathered reclaimed wood to thread throughout the space—from the bar to the banquette to the table tops. The banquette serves a multitude of functions within the space, including guiding people into the restaurant, serving as a drink rail for those waiting and giving dining patrons a sense of privacy. The majority of the remaining materials were readily available, such as the simple tile from a big box retailer that was cut and laid out in a herringbone pattern. "It's an amazing transformation of space," commented another juror.

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS

STRUCTURES

The Clark Family Welcome Gallery at Adler Planetarium is the exciting pre-show experience to the planetarium's main event — the Sky Theater. To live up to that billing, Thomas Roszak Architecture designed the space to feel "other-worldly." "It reminds me of entering the Milky Way," said a juror. Aluminum tubing and polyester fabric were used to create a dramatic design, while being cost effective. The fabric was layered in alternating areas, creating darker and lighter slices, representing a "time slice" in outer space, along the pathway. The fabric was selected for its ability to reflect the gallery's LED lighting system while also absorbing light where mixed-media video is projected on the fabric walls. The team collaborated with experts in video, animation, sound and lighting for interactive exhibits with layered projected images, motion-detecting light and sound effects, and unusual display technologies throughout the space.



Photography by Scott McDonald, Hodrich Blessing Photographers

STRUCTURE CITATION OF MERIT

The Clark Family
Welcome Gallery at
Adler Planetarium
Chicago

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
THOMAS ROSZAK
ARCHITECTURE
CLIENT: ADLER
PLANETARIUM



UNBUILT STRUCTURE HONOR AWARD

Wisconsin Dogtrot Truss House
Madison, Wis.

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
FROELICH KIM ARCHITECTURE

Froelich Kim Architecture was commissioned to design this non-traditional house that sits on 20 acres of recently decommissioned farmland, using off-the-shelf, prefabricated metal building trusses. One juror expressed that the design was "tried and true to the land." The equally sized bookends of the house flank the double-height living area, where the kitchen, dining room and living room are located. A bridge that spans the space above—connecting the bedroom wing to the loft space—was designed as a sculpture studio above the garage. On the exterior, horizontal wall girts, at 24 inches on center, create the framework for the staccato composition of standard two-foot-high window units. "There is a lot of fun in this," commented another juror.



Images courtesy of Froelich Kim Architecture

SMALL PROJECT AWARDS
OBJECTS

Turning an old, decrepit printing factory into the functioning brewery, Revolution Brewing, left no budget for the finishes of the brewpub. Working with what they had, Wrap Architecture created the 99 Bottles of Beer Chandelier from recycled beer bottles. Having blown art glass for many years, this project was an opportunity to incorporate art into architecture. While one juror commented "It's so clever," another stated "I love it!"

Photography by Robert Harris



CITATION OF MERIT

99 Bottles of Beer Chandelier
Chicago

ARCHITECT OF DESIGN: WRAP
ARCHITECTURE
CLIENT: REVOLUTION BREWING
CONSULTANTS: ROBERT HARRIS

CITATION OF MERIT

Art Chicago: Video
Arcade
Chicago

DESIGN ARCHITECT:
URBANLAB
CLIENT: THE MERCHANDISE
MART, CHICAGO



Images by Urbanlab

This temporary video exhibit was on display during Art Chicago 2007 at The Merchandise Mart, Chicago. Four modules displayed artist videos, while two camera-based projections displayed "real-time" video feed of the crowd visiting the exhibit. "It has clarity," said a juror.

Cameras recorded attendees as they approached the exhibition and they were able to see themselves in several projections at different time delays moving through the exhibit. The open-plan allowed attendees to gather around and within the space. Module interiors enabled attendees to focus on the work of video artists. A transducer-based sound system was applied to the fabric/foam module walls turning each into large stereo speakers. The modules were designed and built to be simply taken apart and reassembled at other art fairs.

