2010

GSA DESIGN AWARDS CALL FOR ENTRIES

GSA

DEADLINE: 9.22.2010

WALL DRAWING #1259: LOOPY DOOPY U.S COURTHOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

Every two years the U.S. General Services Administration affirms its enduring commitment to exemplary construction and architectural design by hosting the GSA Design Excellence and Construction Excellence Awards Program. I am delighted to invite you to enter the 2010 competition.

Since its launch in 1994, the Design Excellence Program has ensured the construction of high quality federal civilian buildings, and the GSA Design and Construction Awards Program has paid tribute to the Program's most outstanding successes. Past winners include land ports of entry and border stations that blend into their landscapes while providing comfortable and safe environments for their occupants, and a neglected storage facility that was transformed into a light-filled workplace where employees control the comfort level of their individual workstations. Winners have been new buildings as well as retrofits of older building stock, and they have all embodied the latest innovations in the architectural field.

In their design and construction, the products of GSA's Design Excellence Program have represented our nation's core values of transparency, democracy, and individualism, and they have realized those principles functionally and efficiently. In recent years, GSA has expanded this vision, embracing innovation and sustainability as central to our building portfolio, and our new goal of a zero environmental footprint federal government will pull creativity and green ingenuity through our building design process.

The winners of the 2010 GSA Design Excellence and Construction Excellence Awards will embody all of these rigorous criteria. They will surpass them, too, and introduce new, high standards of space configuration, public engagement, or employee well-being that will push our vision further and usher in the next generation of design.

The Design Excellence and Construction Excellence Awards Program allows GSA to evaluate our design, art, and construction processes, and it provides us with an opportunity to set new bars against which future projects and Design Excellence and Construction Excellence Awards submissions are measured. As we look forward to highlighting the creative and hard-working individuals who helped develop the exemplary projects of 2010, we also understand that with this inspiration comes a responsibility to continually improve our contributions to our nation's public architectural heritage.

We look forward to receiving your entries, and best of luck in the 2010 competition.

MARTHA JOHNSON
Administrator
U.S. General Services Administration

ENTRY CATEGORIES

Beginning this year, the design awards program will no longer differentiate between lease construct, capital construction, new construction, major modernization or smaller scale renovation projects. With the exception of On the Boards, all categories are for projects that have completed construction within the eligibility period.

Architecture includes new construction and modernization of federally owned buildings or privately owned federally occupied buildings.

Art comprises visual arts commissioned for new federal properties and modernization projects through the Art in Architecture program.

Conservation encompasses analysis, treatment, and reinstallation of existing works of art that is sympathetic to its original fabric and intent.

Construction acknowledges the meticulous realization of GSA projects through procedures and practices ranging from cost management to construction quality.

Communication Design is the successful communication of information through words and images, which includes wayfinding and other environmental graphics as well as print and Web-based publications.

Engineering includes structural solutions, mechanical systems, and new applications of technology in newly completed or upgraded federally owned buildings or privately owned federally occupied buildings.

Interior Design includes new and renovated workplaces in federally owned buildings or privately owned federally occupied buildings. The category also includes limited-scope interior modernizations, such as First Impressions lobby upgrades.

Landscape Architecture consists of newly completed or upgraded public outdoor spaces at federally owned buildings or privately owned federally occupied buildings. The category includes limited-scope outdoor modernizations, such as first impressions site upgrades.

Preservation projects are those that impact historic structures and are consistent with GSA's preservation policy and stewardship goals as well as the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Urban Design and Planning recognizes that GSA properties can shape adjacent public spaces and neighborhoods, and celebrates the important role GSA can play in supporting local urban design and planning initiatives.

On the Boards comprises GSA-authorized concepts in any of the above categories, which are as yet unbuilt.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is the largest public real estate organization in the United States. The agency is responsible for building, maintaining, renovating, restoring, and modernizing more than 1,500 federal civilian facilities, and it manages a total inventory of 350 million square feet on behalf of the federal government. In this capacity GSA has a mandate to set the highest standards of excellence in design and construction: We create and preserve public architecture and art for many generations of federal employees and citizens to use and enjoy. Through its Public Buildings Service, GSA carries out this legacy in partnership with private firms and individuals across the country. Together we are setting new standards for America's built environment, and making tomorrow's landmarks.

The GSA Design Awards Program recognizes the most outstanding achievements that result from these partnerships. Categories including architecture, preservation, and urban design represent every way design, art, and construction professionals contribute to the quality of the federal workplace.

DEADLINE

All entries must be received by 12:00 noon, Eastern Standard Time, on Wednesday, September 22, 2010.

Mail or hand-carry entries to:

GSA Design Awards 2010
Attn: Renee Pilone
U.S. General Services Administration Public Buildings Service (PCAA)
Room 3341
Office of the Chief Architect
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

For additional information, please contact:

Renee Pilone
Telephone Number: 202.841.0601
Email Address: design.awards@gsa.gov

See www.gsa.gov/designawards for submission forms.

ELIGIBILITY

Projects authorized by GSA that have completed construction or have had their design concept approved between January 1, 2005 and September 1, 2010 are eligible for awards.

We invite individuals and firms who have worked on qualifying projects between these dates to submit. Previously submitted projects that did not win a GSA design award may be re-entered if they fall within the stated dates.

The Design Awards Program is open to:

- Contract design professionals, contractors, construction managers, artists, firms, or organizations that have completed or are working on projects for GSA or under GSA authority.
- GSA employees or former employees who have or had professional responsibility for a GSA-authorized project.

JUDGING AND PRESENTATION OF WINNERS

GSA will assemble a jury of nationally recognized private-sector design professionals, artists, contractors, and construction managers to select award recipients at two levels: Honor Award and Citation. The jury may choose to make more than one award in any category, elect to make no award in a category, or switch a project to another category.

Evaluation criteria include:

- Innovation in devising solutions or meeting specific needs
- Technical and functional proficiency
- Aesthetic sensibility
- Environmental performance that meets or surpasses GSA goals
- Cost effectiveness on a lifecycle basis
- Timely project delivery
- Ability of the project to serve as a model for other GSA projects

Winners will be notified by letter. Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, DC, on January 20, 2011.

Award plaques will be presented to winning firms and individuals, and to the GSA officials under whose authority the work was performed. Individuals who provided support to each award-winning project will receive certificates of recognition.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The entry must be organized for easy review, clearly communicating the scope of the project as well as the outstanding features relevant to the entry category. Include the following items in the binder, in the order listed below. Disorganized binders, or binders whose contents do not adhere to this outline will not be considered.

Materials must be placed in transparent sleeves inside a standard white 1-1/2" three-ring binder with insertable pockets on the spine and covers. The project name, location (city and state), and category must appear on the binder's front and spine.

If you wish to enter the same project in more than one category, submit separate binders tailored to each category. Binders should not simply duplicate information.

- **Completed entry form** Two copies of the entry form, printed in 10-point type or larger. Electronic copies of the entry form are available at www.gsa.gov/designawards. Photocopies are acceptable, but self made forms will not be considered.
- **Executive summary** An executive summary describing the project and the reasons it merits consideration for an award.
- **Narrative (maximum 3 pages)** A narrative that summarizes the project-addressing the purpose, goals, design methodology or construction process, results, cost effectiveness, timely delivery, and significance of the project. Not to exceed three typewritten, single-sided, single-spaced pages.
- **Precedent** Bullet points stating precedents that the project sets for future GSA projects.
- **Drawings** Hard-copy plans, elevations, and sections that will fit in the binder sleeves without folding.
- **Site plan, if required** All entries in Architecture, Art in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and On the Boards must include a site plan.
- **Photographs and/or renderings with captions, credits, and authorizations** Professional quality photography and/or renderings of the project. These black-and-white and/or color images must show different views. Limited to one image per binder sleeve.
  - Architecture entries should include photographs of the building in context, and of significant interior spaces.
  - Preservation projects must include before and after photographs of the same locations/views.
  - Construction entries should have photographs showing the quality of exterior and interior craftsmanship.
  - Each image must include an identifying caption, photo credit, and authorization allowing GSA to reproduce the image in print and electronic media without compensation. Authorizations must be signed by the photographer or his or her authorized representative. Type photo caption, credit, and authorization on a single sheet of paper for each photograph and attach to the back of that photograph. Please do not use rubber cement, nor write directly on the photograph.
- **CD or DVD** with high- and low-resolution digital images. A CD or DVD with digital images of all photographs, renderings, and drawings.
  - Photos should be TIFF or EPS files measuring 8" x 10" at 300 DPI. Provide CMYK TIFF files if possible.
  - The same images should be submitted as JPEGs in RGB color mode, and which measure 8" x 10" at 100 DPI.
  - Place these two sets of images in separate folders marked "High Resolution" and "Low Resolution."
  - All file names must be descriptive, e.g., "East Elevation Photo1.TIFF" or "Interior Lobby Photo3.JPG."
  - A reproduction agreement, signed by the photographer or his or her authorized representative, should also accompany this disc.

For Construction Excellence:

In addition to describing the construction process and quality of the finished product, Construction Excellence applicants should answer the following questions:

- **Budget** Was the project completed on or below budget? If not, give the reason.
- **Schedule** Was the project completed on or ahead of schedule? If not, why?
- **Partnering** How was partnering handled to maintain a positive working relationship among all project team members?
- **Conflict Resolutions & Change Orders** How were conflict resolutions and change orders managed to mitigate impact on the project schedule and budget?
- **Value Engineering** Was value engineering performed? If so, what was its effect on the project's budget, schedule, and quality?
- **Awards & Commendations** Did the project win any local craftsmanship awards? Have users provided letters on the quality of the facility?

GSA may request additional materials from award winners for publicity and exhibition purposes. All entry materials become the property of GSA and may be used to publicize GSA's Design Awards Program and other activities. Entry materials will not be returned.