

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee members, some of whom have served for years, are in charge of everything connected with the annual awards program except for determining the winners. The following people served on HRACRE's 2012 Excellence in Development Design Awards Program Committee:

Chair: Chris Aebel, Clark Nexsen Architecture & Engineering

Vice chair: Belinda Redd, AECOM

Brian Bonson, RRMM Architects PC

Robert Boyd, Roof Services Corp.

Michael Divaris, Divaris Real Estate Inc.

Jana Hadder, Arrington Commercial Interiors

Brad Hulse, Hourigan Construction

Jeff Knowles, Hoy Construction

Jean Mumm, LeClairRyan

Mike Padden, Clark Nexsen Architecture & Engineering

Brad Tazewell, Clark Nexsen Architecture & Engineering

Eugene Thompson, Ionic DeZign Studios

16TH ANNUAL AWARDS

Commercial real estate projects receive HRACRE 2012 accolades

The 16th annual Hampton Roads Association for Commercial Real Estate's Excellence in Development Design Awards banquet was held Thursday, Oct. 18, at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside.

Barbara Ciara, managing editor for WTKR News-Channel 3 and columnist for the Daily Press newspaper, returned as mistress of ceremonies to emcee the prestigious event for a third year.

Chris Aebel, a project manager with Clark Nexsen Architecture & Engineering, once again chaired the HRACRE Excellence in Development Design Awards Program Committee.

"My second term as chairman has been both exciting and challenging," Aebel said. "A key goal of the committee this year was taking a historically successful event and making it even better. We increased the number of submittal categories to allow more flexibility to potential applicants and also looked very closely at selecting a new venue to host the event."

This year there were 12 winners in eight categories, with four of those receiving Awards of Excellence.

Aebel thanked committee members for taking time out of their busy schedules to be part of this annual event.

"Your diligence in securing sponsorships, thoughtfulness in coming up with new ideas and patience with me as I continue to learn and improve at my job are greatly appreciated," he

said.

To this year's sponsors, Aebel extended a "million thanks" for their support and contributions.

Sponsors aside, he said, the continued success of the regional event rests largely on the tireless efforts of Dana Walker, HRACRE's executive administrator.

"I recall thanking Dana 'a gazillion times' last year," Aebel said, "and I could easily double that this year. This event wouldn't be what it is without Dana, and I thoroughly enjoy working with her."

Aebel also put out a plea to those in the architecture and engineering community of Hampton Roads.

"For both new and repeat attendees, please, please give us any feedback – positive or negative – on how the event went," he said. "How was the food? Was the venue convenient and appropriately set up? Were there enough awards categories? The more input we receive, the better we can fine-tune the event for next year and continue to grow."

Representing nearly 700 members in both the Peninsula and Southside areas of Hampton Roads, HRACRE is dedicated to promoting the best interests of commercial real estate in the region through key issues confronting the industry. For more information, visit www.hracre.org.



2012 EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENT DESIGN AWARDS

Oct. 18 | 5:30 to 8 p.m.
Sheraton Norfolk Waterside

BEST SUSTAINABLE * AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Renaissance Academy



Owner/Developer Virginia Beach City Public Schools

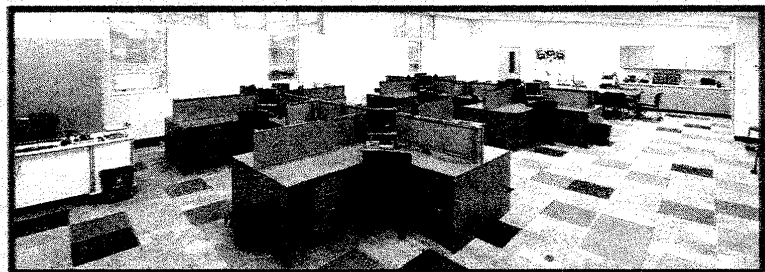
Architect RRRMM Architects PC

Contractor W.M. Jordan Co.

Renaissance Academy in Virginia Beach is a special place for kids that need help getting back into the educational mainstream. A two-story H design effectively provides each of its four diverse programs with their own building while the core provides for the needs common for all. Each main group has its own administrative space and teacher center. Facilities they share include a wide variety of educational classrooms and labs, suites, kitchens, libraries, gyms, greenhouses and a ropes course for team building. A museum devoted to the first African-American school, which was once located at the semi-urban site, is part of the academy. The entire school is served by both hard-wired and wireless

communications, as well as cutting-edge electronics. With an impressive list of high-performing, energy-efficient and sustainable features, the building has achieved the USGBC's LEED Gold rating. The highly successful project was finished ahead of schedule and under budget.

Judges' comments This submittal was entered in the Best Educational Building category, but the jury felt it appropriate to move it to Sustainable because the sustainable features are so strong. What we liked so much is that this is more than getting verification from the USGBC. It is about educating students about living sustainably. There are displays that demonstrate some of the sustainable



features of this facility including an energy dashboard where you can track energy consumption in real time. A display shows how rainwater

is being harvested for onsite reuse. Mechanical equipment to heat and cool the building is typically hidden but in this case is displayed, including signage

to educate the observer. A green roof reduces the building's heat island effect. Food is grown and eaten on site. Now that is eating locally!