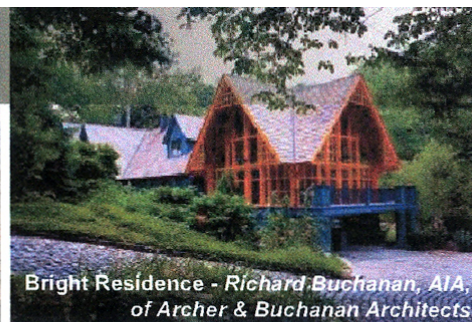


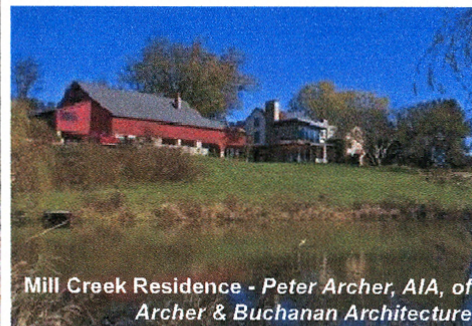
Spotlight on Architectural Design Awards



Main Line Manor and Pool House
Abby Schwartz, ARA, of Abby Schwartz Associates



Bright Residence - Richard Buchanan, AIA, of Archer & Buchanan Architects



Mill Creek Residence - Peter Archer, AIA, of Archer & Buchanan Architecture

I recently caught up with John DiBenedetto, F.A.R.A., who wears several hats within the Society of American Registered Architects (SARA) organization, including, serving on the national board, and regionally, as Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Council as well as Co-Chairman of the PA Council, Design Awards Program. He enthusiastically shared an update on this year's SARA award presentation.

Knowing that at the heart of ANY distinctive home or building, an architect is gainfully immersed in detail. So it was no surprise to me to learn that the annual Professional Design Awards Program was impressively growing in magnitude and distinction.

The awards program, while a regional event, is not limited geographically, so firms, organizations and individuals from around the country may submit designs. (The majority of submissions, according to John, however, are regional). John DiBenedetto quickly points out that "this is a very competitive program and the award recipients are among the top in the profession." There are various categories of building types, clearly single family and multi-family homes are prominent contenders.

The Sixth Annual Professional Design Awards dinner, held recently, honored eleven projects (and the respective architects), which exhibited the special "sculptural and architectural details, spatial relationships and ingenuity that embody exceptional design, integrity, vision and skill" exemplifying the awards. Awards were presented in four main categories, including, Awards of Excellence, Honor Awards, Merit Awards and Special Recognition. This year, none other than the governor himself presented a Governor's Citation that paid tribute "to the group's contribution to the profession of architecture, particularly in the Commonwealth of PA, and its support in the construction industry."

After reviewing numerous submissions, a jury consisting of both architects and designers spotlighted the following projects, organizations and individuals:

Mike Cronomiz of Re:Vision Architecture received an Award of Excellence (the top honor), for his work with the Musconetcong Watershed Association in Asbury, NJ.

Several Honor Awards were presented. The recipients included: Alan Metcalf of Metcalfe Architecture & Design for the Hargroves House and Robert Venturi of Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates, Inc. for work on The Episcopal Academy Chapel. Brett Webber, AIA, of Brett Webber Architects, PC, received Merit Awards for both the Girard Townhouse and 2400 Chestnut Street.

Residences also were honored. The recipient of the Award of Excellence is a home in Gladwyne (Mill Creek) designed by Peter Archer, AIA, of Archer & Buchanan Architecture Ltd. Another project, a pool courtyard and garage guesthouse within a Main Line Manor, located in Bryn Mawr, The designer of this project, is Abby Schwartz, ARA, of Abby Schwartz Associates, who received a Special Recognition Award.

Richard Buchanan, AIA, of Archer & Buchanan Architects Ltd. in West Chester received an Honor Award for a project in Coatesville.

This year the PA Council is hosting SARA's National Conference to be held in Philadelphia, October 7 through October 10. For further information about SARA or the awards program and entry requirements and deadlines, contact John DiBenedetto, F.A.R.A., at 215-285-9040 and www.sara-national.org.



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Carole Felton, MBA, SRES, is President of Carole Felton Communications, now celebrating its 24th year as a boutique, multi-award winning marketing and public relations firm offering strategic marketing and demographic-based public relations and management consulting. The firm offers a wide-range of services, including writing, developing Internet/social media marketing and public relations complementing brand development, meeting planning and events, project development and implementation, and more. Clients and projects range in diversity (medical, legal, real estate and other professional services) and magnitude from start-up companies to multi-million dollar residential and commercial ventures. Regionally and nationally recognized specialties include real estate public relations, as well as product and program launches/expansions targeting the 55 + demographic. The firm based in Bala Cynwyd, PA may be reached at 610-664-4987 or cafelton@verizon.net for consultation.