

US Fed News

Washington and Virginia Schools to Receive 2008 Architectural Awards from AASA

660 words

4 January 2008

[US Fed News](#)

English

© Copyright 2008. HT Media Limited. All rights reserved.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 -- The American Association of School Administrators issued the following news release:

ARLINGTON, Va. -- A high school in Washington and a university in Virginia will take home top honors in the American Association of School Administrators' 2008 Architectural Awards contest. The awards will be presented on Feb. 14 at AASA's 2008 National Conference on Education in Tampa, Fla.

Lincoln High School in Tacoma, Wash., is the recipient of the Shirley Cooper Award. The award is presented to the project that best meets the educational needs of its students. The school's historic renovation and additions were designed by DLR Group of Seattle, Wash.

A traditional 1913 high school, Lincoln was given new life while maintaining its place as a historic center of the neighborhood. The design team created a flexible space for the future within a school steeped in tradition. Three learning academies were constructed, with the ability to expand to six academies as student needs increase and change. Small-group learning areas and teacher collaborative workspaces were opened up. The school, located on a 24.5-acre site, features stained-glass skylights, original molding and original windows to highlight the tradition of the school.

Ferguson Center for the Arts at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Va., won the Walter Taylor Award. The award is given to the school that best meets a difficult design challenge. The new structure was designed by Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas + Company of Norfolk, Va.

On the five-acre site of a 1950s high school in Newport News, Christopher Newport University created a new world-class performance facility. The center includes a 1,700-seat theater/concert hall; a 440-seat proscenium for professional and student music and theater productions; a 150-seat black-box theater with a moveable stage and seats; sound-isolated music practice rooms; set design and dance studios; lighting labs; scene and costume shops; an outdoor amphitheater; classrooms and faculty offices. A lobby was designed so it could also be used for catered and fund-raising functions. The reuse of this land has had a positive influence on the school district and the community. Since the center's opening, the number of theater majors has tripled, music auditions are up by 40 percent, more than 80,000 community residents have attended performances and the Virginia Symphony has doubled its performance schedule there.

The Shirley Cooper and Walter Taylor Awards recognize architects for excellence in educational facilities planning, design and renovation. Winners are chosen by a jury panel of representatives from the sponsoring organizations: AASA, the American Institute of Architects and the Council of Educational Facility Planners, International.

Also honored will be the leaders of the two schools: Superintendent Arthur Jarvis of Tacoma and President Paul Trible of Christopher Newport University. Eight citation honorees will also be recognized.

The citation winners are: Carl Wunsche Senior High School, Houston, Texas, designed by SHW Group, Houston, Texas; Cleveland High School, Seattle, Wash., designed by Mahlum Architects, Seattle, Wash.; Cristo Rey Jesuit High School & Colin Powell Youth Leadership Center, Minneapolis, Minn., designed by **Fielding Nair** International, Minneapolis, Minn.; Fern Hill Elementary School, Tacoma, Wash., designed by BLRB Architects, Tacoma, Wash.; Keene State College Science Center Courtyard, Keene, N.H., designed by Dirtworks, PC Landscape Architecture, New York, N.Y.; John S. Martinez School, New Haven, Conn., designed by Svigals + Partners, New Haven, Conn.; School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, State College, Pa., designed by Overland Partners, San Antonio, Texas, in collaboration with WTW Architects, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Syracuse High School, Syracuse, Utah, designed by VCBO Architecture, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The designs of the winning schools, including the citation winners, will be on display at the 2008 National Conference on Education, Feb. 14-17, in Tampa, Fla.

TNS RG39-jf78-080105-1328331 18MASHJofrey

Amy Vogt, Communications and Media Relations Manager, 703-875-0723, avogt@aasa.org

Document INDFED0020080105e41400361

© 2008 Factiva, Inc. All rights reserved.