AMAN TOKYO WINS IALD AWARD OF MERIT
LIGHTING DESIGN BY LIGHTING PLANNERS ASSOCIATES

SAN DIEGO, CA USA, 28 APRIL | Luminaries of the lighting profession gathered at the San Diego Air and Space Museum on 27 April to honor the winners of the 33rd Annual International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) International Lighting Design Awards. Seventeen projects from eight countries were on display – including religious spaces, memorials, façades, and even a gas station. Taken together, the winners represent some of the most innovative and inspiring work found anywhere in the world of architectural lighting design.

Aman Tokyo, a chic resort in Tokyo, Japan, with lighting design by Lighting Planners Associates, took home an IALD Award of Merit – one of two they received that evening.

The lighting of Aman Tokyo, set atop a skyscraper in the middle of the city, takes Japanese-style design seriously. The team of designers from Lighting Planners Associates embrace the shifting, delicate balance of natural and artificial light in the space with a design that gives careful consideration to brightness and color temperature, as well as seasonal and daily changes.

The 33F lobby is a grand space with luminous 3000K walls wrapped in washi glass – a layered laminate with Japanese washi paper pressed within its layers to diffuse light. The 6-story high, vaulted ceiling features a tent membrane made luminous by 4200K and 3000K 32W FL tubes set at a 1.2m pitch. Controls gently shift the light during day and night, simulating daylight or providing softer lighting at dusk when the Tokyo nightscape is on display. To remove unnecessary shadowing and reduce reflection in the windows, on-site usage mockups and maintenance experiments helped designers rearrange luminaires and configure the system structure.

“Dark finishes, linear lighting and backlit elements provide a result in keeping with the Japanese theme and the luxurious setting,” praised one judge. “The design succeeds in achieving a fine balance.”

At the bar, designers carefully adjusted pendant height to reduce glare and reflection. To accommodate the dining tables, the designers minimized the vertical luminance level near the windows so guests can enjoy the view over Tokyo. Cove lighting around the columns and decorative lighting are moderated appropriately at dinner time. To ensure sufficient table lighting, glareless spotlights are mounted within ceiling louvers.

“Clean, well-integrated lighting establishes links to Japanese tradition,” another judge wrote. “A consistent approach towards daylight strengthens the project’s sense of place.”

Similarly, no downlights are used in the pool area to let guests fully relax and enjoy the Tokyo nightscape from the water. During the day, daylight is adjusted with blinds; at night, cove lighting and floor stands add soft ambiance. Underwater linear LEDs along the bottom edge of the pool add another indirect lighting element so the environment is not too bright at night. Diffused, indirect lighting provides the right light while making it difficult to see from outside.

#MORE#
The IALD Lighting Design Awards program, established in 1983, honors lighting projects that display high aesthetic achievement backed by technical expertise. Additionally, projects can also be submitted for consideration in the sustainable design award category, which means the project undergoes an additional round of judging keyed solely to the fulfillment of sustainable design principles. A panel of award-winning lighting designers, architects and interior designers review the projects.

For complete details and high resolution photos of this year’s award-winning projects, visit iald.org.

The International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), established in 1969, is an international organization supporting a network of more than 1,250 lighting design professionals who satisfy its rigorous qualification process. Its members are distinguished by a unique blend of aesthetic and technical expertise, and operate at the highest level of integrity to create a better world through leadership and excellence in lighting design; to cultivate the universal acknowledgement and appreciation of the Power of Light in human life.

33rd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS AWARDS PROJECT CREDITS

AMAN TOKYO
TOKYO, JAPAN

LIGHTING DESIGN
Kaoru Mende, FIALD
Kentaro Tanaka, Associate IALD
Mikine Yamamoto, Associate IALD
Kyoko Takubo
Lighting Planners Associates

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
ARCHITECTURE
Taisei Corporation

INTERIOR DESIGN
Kerry Hill Architects

PHOTOGRAPHY
© Lighting Planners Associates, Toshio Kaneko

###