LOS ANGELES’ U.S. COURTHOUSE HONORED WITH IALD AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
LIGHTING DESIGN BY HLB LIGHTING BRINGS A DYNAMIC OUTDOOR CONNECTION TO A PUBLIC SPACE

CHICAGO, IL USA, 9 MAY | Luminaries of the lighting profession gathered at Chicago’s trendy Revel Fulton Market on 9 May to honor the winners of the 35th Annual International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) International Lighting Design Awards. Seventeen projects from eleven countries were on display – including interiors, workspaces, museums, hospitality sites, and a place of worship. This year’s winners represent some of the most innovative and inspiring work found anywhere in the world of architectural lighting design.

The design of the United States Courthouse in Los Angeles, CA USA, with lighting design by HLB Lighting, took home an Award of Excellence, accepted in person by E. Teal Brogden, IALD; Hayden McKay, FIALD; and Michael Lindsey, IALD.

Looking to control the environment of court proceedings, courtrooms are often closed off and segregated from the outdoors. This courthouse challenges convention by harnessing, controlling and delivering natural light to public spaces and courtrooms. Whether traversing through the atrium bathed in sunlight or seated in a courtroom able to look out to the daytime sky, the connection to outdoors was critical in influencing a positive human experience.

Optimizing visual comfort in the courtroom, light shelves on both sides of clerestories, integrated electric uplights and 2 sets of motorized shades balance daylight, glare, and transition to the interiors. Adjustable, vertical LED front lighting is provided to the judge and witness area to ensure that luminance ratios remained comfortable. Delivering a luminance ratio of 30:1 or lower between adjacent glazing and people’s faces, long hours within the courtroom result in a more comfortable atmosphere for occupants.

Focused on delivering natural light from a skylight 220 feet above the lobby floor, shaping and material selection of the ceiling skylight proved crucial. Designers began with a design of a flat, six degree sloped skylight with interior mirrored louvers. But the team quickly learned that the mirrored louvers would introduce powerful sun beams causing potential damage to interior surfaces and occupant discomfort.

Instead, HLB designed an exterior sawtooth monitor design with gloss interior surfaces and matte exterior surfaces, resulting in softer daylight in the space – and more effectively, with nearly a 11% increase in delivered light levels to the lobby floor over the baseline system. To correct for the 38° street orientation, the sawtooth articulation of the façade also delivers unobstructed views through transparent glazing when facing north or south, while vertical louvers or opaque enclosures on east/west facing panels control sunlight penetration.

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Driven by the client to achieve LEED Platinum certification, both daylighting and electric lighting were early sustainable design targets. Coined the “Drive to 35,” the lighting design team supported the lowering of the overall building energy usage from the original baseline of 47 EUI to 35 EUI, harnessing daylighting and reducing electric light. Introducing controlled natural light into the design allowed for noticeable dimming of lighting fixtures that would otherwise be on, ensuring electric lighting is only used when needed – and reducing thermal heat gain from direct sunlight.

“This is masterful daylighting,” one judge said of the project. “It’s rare for occupants and visitors to experience such a dynamic connection to the sun in a public space.”

The IALD Lighting Design Awards program, established in 1983, honors lighting projects that display high aesthetic achievement backed by technical expertise. A panel of award-winning lighting designers, architects and interior designers review the projects in a three-day, anonymous review process. Full information about the judging process can be found in the 35th Annual IALD Awards Call for Entries.

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

The International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), established in 1969, is an international organization supporting a network of more than 1,400 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.

END OF ITEM

35TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS AWARDS PROJECT CREDITS

AWARD EXCELLENCE
United States Courthouse - Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA USA

LIGHTING DESIGN
E. Teal Brogden, IALD
Hayden McKay, FIALD
Michael Lindsey, IALD
Jae Yong Suk
Lupita Legaspi, Jr. Assoc. IALD
Maura Reinhart, Jr. Assoc. IALD
HLB Lighting Design

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
Architecture
Gene Schnair
Michael Mann
Craig Hartman
Paul Danna
Jose Luis Palacio
Susan Bartley
Keith Boswell
Steve Zimmerman
Garth Ramsey
Frank Castillo
Skidmore Owings & Merrill LLP

Electrical Subcontractor
Ed Noble
Ron Pierre
Helix Electric

M/E Engineering
Gary Brennen
Syska Hennessy Group

LEED Consulting
Christopher Snee
AECOM

General Contractor
Marc Kersey
Clark Construction Group, LLC

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