APPLE’S MICHIGAN AVENUE STORE IN CHICAGO RECEIVES IALD AWARD OF MERIT
LIGHTING DESIGN BY FOSTER + PARTNERS LIGHTS A LANTERN ON THE CHICAGO RIVER

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 Apple Store on Michigan Avenue in Chicago, IL USA, with lighting design by Foster + Partners, took home an Award of Merit.

Apple Michigan Avenue cascades down from Pioneer Court, creating new connections between the city and the Chicago River. The idea was to create a soft, warm, and inviting atmosphere, like a living room, where people can meet, learn, share, and create with innovative products. The building features carefully balanced illumination of all floor and timber ceiling surfaces across the glass line. In the evening, the building functions like a soft lantern on the Chicago riverfront, providing visitors with a new public space along the river path.

Most fixtures in the ceiling are expressed as a uniform field of recessed downlights. Behind sits a highly-sophisticated performance design: a low-depth, high-output fixture featuring over 10 optical devices. This unlocks a vast flexibility in the lighting effects that the fixtures can produce.

The design process for this project delved deeply into the physics of lighting. The lighting team analyzed the relative success of various design options across numerous performance parameters, including hyper-realistic simulations of the human perceptual experience.

One technical challenge explored how incoming daylight would mix with interior artificial light at different locations within the project. By using a physically-based rendering engine and viewing the results on an HDR monitor, the team was able to accurately judge the atmosphere being created, ensuring a like-for-like representation of the developing design.

One core goal of the project was to positively support the health and well-being of employees and public visitors. The team selected an LED driver that minimizes both visible and non-visible flicker during deep fixture dimming and long-term exposure to avoid eyestrain, headaches, and fatigue. During evening hours, the project’s lighting dims exhibiting a warmer color temperature, designed to coincide with the fading of natural daylight and avoiding negative impacts to the Circadian rhythms of employees.

The lighting designers – involved in everything from day-to-day updates to client meetings – developed a companion concept to support the architectural goals. The result is an extremely transparent façade that allows uninterrupted evening views through the building, from all angles.
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 OF MERIT
Apple Michigan Avenue, Chicago
Chicago, IL USA

LIGHTING DESIGN
James Sherman
Foster + Partners

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
Architecture
Foster + Partners

Plaza Architects:
Ross Barney Architects

Main Contractor
Power Construction Company

Structural Consultant
Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger

Mechanical Engineers
Cosentini Associates

Landscape Consultant
Ross Barney Architects

Plaza Lighting Consultant
Schuler Shook

Plaza Architect
Ross Barney Architects

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