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SHOREWOOD GHOST TRAIN RECEIVES IALD AWARD OF MERIT
LIGHTING DESIGN BY CREATIVE LIGHTING DESIGN & ENGINEERING

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 Ghost Train in Shorewood, WI USA, with lighting design by Creative Lighting Design & Engineering, took home an Award of Merit, accepted in person by Marty Peck, IALD; Michelle Klein; and Dave Drumel.

The designers at Creative were asked to illuminate a 200’ pedestrian bridge; gateway to a small suburban community. Without any funds, the designers recognized that an extraordinary concept was needed to inspire fundraising. Research discovered that the original bridge once carried a historic high-speed train that traveled the tracks from 1930 through 1963. They formed an idea to combine art, history and technology and create the illusion, or ghost, of this passing train. The design team’s pitch and concept video helped to raise the $300,000 USD installation budget in 90 days.

Once funded, designers got to work. Continuous linear rows of (42) 48”, 9°x9°, RGB graze fixtures per side follow the lower bridge chord to wash the vertical surface, using custom brackets and glare shields for maximum coverage and minimal light trespass. Programming the 12” fixture increments in sequence creates the effect of passing railcars.

Three rows of 1W, programmable RGB nodes were arranged along the top chords, 3,200 in total. Their programming was synchronized to suggest the train’s approach, headlight, passing windows, taillight and trailing dust. Flashing beacons atop the abutment towers precede the train’s crossing, suggesting crossing signals. Choreographed sound effects complete the illusion of The Ghost Train, running at historic speeds and schedules once each direction every night.

The bridge crosses a state road, adjacent to a city, located in the village and owned by the county – that required coordination with four municipalities. Independent structural reviews alleviated attachment methods, bracketing and weight concerns. A traffic study required interfacing controls with three adjacent stoplights to minimize distraction by stopping traffic during train runs.

Not only is the solution a fun and immersive attraction for the area – dozens of spectators can be seen nightly watching the two passing “trains” – it’s more environmentally friendly. Less energy is used than the original eight 400wMH floods lighting the abutments. Tight beam control, shielding and precise aiming minimizes sky pollution.

“Lighting completely transforms what would otherwise be an ordinary structure,” said one judge. “I love this project!”
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
The Ghost Train
Shorewood, WI USA

LIGHTING DESIGN
Martin J Peck, IALD
Michelle Klein
Creative Lighting Design & Engineering, LLC

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
Dave Drumel
Staff Electric
Kurt Schnabel
Mike Jonas
Clearwing Productions
Dick Eschner
Pat Algiers
Shorewood Public Art Committee

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