

Design for Aging Review Awards, 17th Edition Supplement

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Design for Aging

AIA Knowledge Community

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Project: Cooperwood Senior Living | Architect: Duvall Decker | Photo credit: Andrew Welch

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Learn more and join the AIA Design for Aging (DFA) Knowledge Community at aia.org/dfa.

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The Design for Aging Awards, 17th Edition

The mission of the AIA Design for Aging (DFA) Knowledge Community is to foster design innovation and disseminate knowledge in the pursuit of two primary objectives: to enhance the built environment and to improve the quality of life for an aging society. This includes relevant research on characteristics, planning and costs associated with innovative design for aging. In addition, DFA provides outcome data on the value of these design solutions and environments.

Full awards profiles are available at aia.org/design-aging-review-2023.

MERIT RECIPIENTS

COOPERWOOD SENIOR LIVING

Duvall Decker | Flowood, Mississippi





This affordable 80-unit assisted living and memory care community in central Mississippi reimagines a growing housing typology. Neither an institution nor a big “house” filled with minimal units, the project is architecture for people whose lives are fully integrated into the environment and community. It offers its residents a sense of belonging, bolstered by the developer’s desire to serve a growing senior community. The site was originally purchased at auction by a father and son developer team in the mid-1990s, and, over more than two decades, the community surrounding the site thrived. As the population aged, the developers reflected on their personal experiences caring for elderly family members and their dismay with institutional facilities or extremely expensive senior centers. With those experiences in mind, Cooperwood Senior Living embraces and condenses two scales of home and community into a vibrant living environment that is both familiar and surprising. The project’s siting embraces and improves a preexisting drainage ditch that flows through the site. What originally presented as a challenging condition has been transformed into a landscaped pond and natural habitat.

ARCHITECT

Duvall Decker

OWNER/CLIENT

Confidential

PHOTOGRAPHS/ ILLUSTRATIONS

Andrew Welch

MEP ENGINEER

Engineering Resource Group

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Spencer-Engineers, Inc.

CIVIL ENGINEER

Waggoner Engineering

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

WAS Design

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Fountain Construction Co Inc.

GROSS CONDITIONED FLOOR AREA:

76,000 sq. ft.

FROM THE JURY

“It’s clear that the design team gave lot of thought about how to integrate the building into its natural surroundings, creating a sense of place and a home.”

MERIT RECIPIENTS

GRAMERCY SENIOR HOUSING

Kevin Daly Architects | Los Angeles, California





Built on the site of a block-length lot that was once owned by the city of Los Angeles and served as a towing yard, Gramercy Senior Housing is one of the first developments in the city to capitalize on supportive housing funds. The project, guided by extensive public outreach, delivers 64 sorely needed apartments to low-income and homeless seniors in one of the country's most expensive housing markets. Across 70,000 square feet, Gramercy Senior Housing accommodates residents who make less than 50% of the area's median income. With bustling Washington Boulevard to the south and a swath of Craftsman homes to the north, the complex appears as an array of structures connected by an exterior walkway system finished with an organic trellis that contrasts with mirror steel hoods that protect windows from southern exposure. The project was optimized for modular construction, and its highly efficient floor plans draw in natural light and ventilation from either end. The project offers residents a sense of place that is particular to the site, differentiating it from typical affordable housing projects in Southern California.

ARCHITECT

Kevin Daly Architects

OWNER/CLIENT

Hollywood Community Housing Corporation

PHOTOGRAPHS/ ILLUSTRATIONS

Paul Vu and Joshua White

ACOUSTIC

Newson Brown Acoustic Engineers

CASP

RJC Group Inc

CIVIL ENGINEER

KPFF Consulting Engineers

LAND USE ATTORNEY

Rosenheim & Associates, Inc.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

place

LIGHTING

HLB

MEP/SUSTAINABILITY

PAE Engineers

SPECIFICATIONS

CGA Associates, LLC

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING + SHORING DESIGN

John Labib & Associates

YEAR OF SUBSTANTIAL PROJECT COMPLETION

2021

GROSS CONDITIONED FLOOR AREA

37,200 sq. ft.

FROM THE JURY

“This is an original approach to housing, rethinking circulation patterns in apartment buildings and how a multi-unit building design can enhance community life.”

MERIT RECIPIENTS

STONEWALL HOUSE

Marvel | Brooklyn, New York





On the prominent corner of Myrtle Avenue and St. Edwards Street in Fort Green, Brooklyn, the 17-story Stonewall House stands as the country's largest LGBT-welcoming elder housing development. The project was built in response to a request for development proposals issued by the New York City Housing Authority, which called for affordable housing for aging seniors on an infill site located on a housing authority campus. Stonewall House has 145 apartments, offering many residents an escape from homelessness or relief from unaffordable rentals. Nearly half of the building's residents identify as LGBT, and Stonewall House provides a community of acceptance. In the words of one resident, who was interviewed by the online outlet The Daily Beast, the project provides a sense of safety, hope, and dignity. The project itself has also been accepted by its neighbors, who recognize that it brings new activity to an important corner in the neighborhood and connects it to the broader city.

ARCHITECT

Marvel Architects, Landscape Architects, Urban Designers, PLLC

OWNER/CLIENT

BFC Partners

PHOTOGRAPHS/ILLUSTRATIONS

Joshua Simpson

ACCESSIBILITY CONSULTANT

United Spinal Association

ACOUSTICIAN

Longman Lindsey

CODE CONSULTING

Design 2147

CIVIL ENGINEER

AKRF

ENGINEER

Skyline Engineering

FAÇADE CONSULTANT

The Façade Group

LANDSCAPE DESIGNER

Joanna Pertz Landscape Architecture

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Dot Dash Building Systems

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Severud Associates

SUSTAINABILITY

Bright Power

YEAR OF SUBSTANTIAL PROJECT COMPLETION

2020

GROSS CONDITIONED FLOOR AREA

124,665 sq. ft.

FROM THE JURY

“The team made big moves that did not cost much but provided great outdoor spaces, a rarity for New York City.”

Design for Aging Review Awards Jury



Jennifer Sodo, AIA LEED AP BD+C (Chair)

Jennifer Sodo is the Senior Living Market Leader at EUA, where she leads her team members in the planning, design, and construction of senior living communities. As an architect, she is inspired by the connection between people and place and endeavors to create inspiring environments for people of all ages. Jennifer holds a Master of Architecture and Bachelor of Science of Architecture from the University of Cincinnati. Jennifer is a next generation leader and advocate for older adults, speaking and writing extensively on topics including innovations in dementia, industry trends, post-pandemic design, and using space as a tool in advancing an engaged workplace. Jennifer has spoken at many senior-living focused conferences, EDRA, and AIA Conference on Architecture and has written pieces for *Environments for Aging* magazine, *Seniors Housing Business*, and *Senior Housing News*.



Lisa Warnock

Lisa Warnock is an accomplished interior designer with nearly 25 years of experience in senior living, multi-family, and hospitality. Lisa earned a Bachelor of Architecture in Interior Design at Marylhurst University, is NCIDQ certified, and is a Registered Interior Designer in the state of Tennessee. Lisa's career began while running her own design firm, Glow, with a strong focus on lighting design and high-end residential interiors. With a growing interest in the Senior Living market sector, she joined Myhre Group Architects to become an expert in that industry. Lisa quickly accomplished that goal and built an award-winning team of designers at both Myhre Group and LRS Architects in Portland, Oregon. Lisa's extensive knowledge, experience and work ethic led her to multiple promotions earning the title of Principal at various firms and now, she has returned to Glow again, with the goal of changing the way people think about and design for aging.



Margaret Suit

Margaret Suit has worked for Erickson Senior Living Development in various capacities for the past 30 years. She has served as a Vice President of Development since January 2012. In her current role, Margaret is responsible managing and guiding new campus development through the architectural design process with specific regard to the coordination of site design, master planning, independent living units and common area programming and design. Throughout her career at Erickson, Margaret has been responsible for defining the program for various campus types and updating these programs to include current industry innovations in step with Erickson operational programming. Working in conjunction with the development team, in-house design professionals and third-party consultants, she leads the management of the design process for all Erickson developing communities. Prior to coming to Erickson, Margaret worked as a project architect for an architectural firm specializing in the design of college campus and embassy buildings in the DC Metropolitan area. Margaret holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from the University of Maryland, a Master of Arts degree in Aging Services Management from University of Maryland Baltimore County and is a LEED certified professional.



Philippe Saad, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP

Philippe Saad is a Principal at DiMella Shaffer, where he leads the senior housing and affordable housing markets. Both an advocate and proponent of quality community housing, Philippe's experience over 20 years focuses on a wide variety of housing types and care levels nationally. Philippe is a frequent speaker at LeadingAge, The Global Aging Network, and Environments for Aging. He is the recipient of Environment for Aging Design Champion 2022 for his work on housing for LGBTQ Older Adults. He is a founding board member of LGBTQ Senior Housing Inc. developing The Pryde, New England's first LGBTQ friendly senior housing, and the co-chair of the Design for Aging Knowledge Community at the Boston Society of Architects. He received a Master of Science in Architecture from MIT and a Bachelor of Architecture from the American University of Beirut, in Lebanon where he grew up.



Winifred Newman, Assoc. AIA, Ph.D.

Dr. Winifred Newman is the Mickel Professor at Clemson University, the Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs, and Director of the Institute for Intelligent Materials, Systems and Environments (CU-iMSE), promoting digital and human-machine hybrid solutions as a paradigm shift in the design and occupation of the built environment. Dr. Newman concentrates on spatial perception in architecture, ecological psychology, adaptive environments, and neuroaesthetics with active research in neuroscience and architecture, data visualization, mapping, STEM learning environments, and histories of technology and science. Dr. Newman is the Executive Editor of the Journal for Technology, Architecture, and Design. Recent publications include Data Visualization for Design Thinking: Applied Mapping.



Design for Aging Review Awards

The Design for Aging Review showcases communities that represent conscientious surroundings and advance environments for senior living. The award recognizes architects and their teams who demonstrate innovative design solutions to improve the quality of life for older adults within specific project constraints.

Learn more about the program.
aia.org/dfar-awards