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Contact: Jessica Quiroa
E: awards@docomomo-us.org
P: 347-688-2177

**General Motors Design Dome & Auditorium;
Lenox Health Greenwich Village;
George Kraigher House; *Starship Chicago*
recognized in Docomomo US' 2018
Modernism in America Awards**

Docomomo US is pleased to announce the thirteen recipients of the 2018 *Modernism in America Awards*. These outstanding projects showcase the highest level of expertise and commitment to careful preservation methods while serving as strong testaments to the efficacy of grassroots efforts, and public and private partnerships. The 2018 winners include:

DESIGN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

General Motors Design Dome and Auditorium (Warren, MI)
Lenox Health Greenwich Village (New York, NY)
Hill College House (Philadelphia, PA)
George Kraigher House (Brownsville, TX)
Imagining the Modern (Pittsburgh, PA)
Starship Chicago: A Film by Nathan Eddy (Chicago, IL)
Tom Little: Georgia Advocacy (Atlanta, GA)

CITATION OF MERIT

115, Geotronics Labs Building (Dallas, TX)
George Washington Bridge Bus Station (New York, NY)
Lurie House (Pleasantville, NY)
Banking on Beauty (California)
U.C. San Diego Campus-wide Historic Context Statement and
Historic Resource Survey (San Diego, CA)

SPECIAL AWARD OF RESTORATION EXCELLENCE

Unity Temple (Oak Park, IL)

The projects recognized for the *Modernism in America Awards* highlight the diversity of significant modern buildings and sites – not just the iconic but also those that are regionally significant - and the increasing importance of regional forces and sensitive development. Hill College House, the George Kraigher House and other projects serve as pivotal examples of the importance of partnerships between owners, institutions, municipalities, architects and the community working together to save and reinvigorate threatened or outdated architecture. **The projects highlight the highest level of restoration expertise and demonstrate creative and sensitive 21st century solutions.** As modern architecture continues to face developmental pressures, demolition or insensitive restoration, it is paramount to recognize that these projects, like earlier architectural designs, can and must be preserved in meaningful and productive ways that enhance their presence and value in their respective communities.

Speaking on the projects recognized and impact of the Awards program Docomomo US president, Theodore Prudon noted, “By recognizing the important design and preservation work being done around the country that often is overlooked, the *Modernism in America Awards* program is bringing further awareness to the substantial contribution that preservation in general - and the postwar heritage in particular - makes to the economic and cultural life of our communities.”

The *Modernism in America Awards* is the only national program that celebrates the people and projects working to preserve, restore and rehabilitate our modern heritage sensitively and productively. Now in its fifth year, the program seeks to advance those preservation efforts; to increase appreciation for the period and to raise awareness of the ongoing threats to modern architecture and design.

The 2018 *Modernism in America Awards* recipients will be recognized on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at the Design Within Reach Third Avenue Studio in New York City. Tickets and event sponsorship opportunities are available at docomomo-us.org

Design Award of Excellence

General Motors Design Dome and Auditorium

Location:	Warren, MI
Original Architect:	Harley Earl and Eero Saarinen
Restoration Team:	Paul Urbanek, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP, Wayne Bills, AIA, LEED AP, Terry Guitar, AIA, LEED AP, Rodrigo Manriquez, IALD, LC, IES, Leland Curtis, LC, Lori James, IIDA, NCIDQ, LEED AP ID+C, Ed Pfannes, PE, Dom Pastore, PE, LEED AP, Mark Goyette, Gerard Gutierrez, Matt Seeley, Ryan Dashkevicz
Client:	General Motors, LLC

The Commercial Design Award of Excellence is given for the restoration of General Motor’s Design Dome and Auditorium located on their corporate campus in Warren, Michigan. Designed by the world-renowned architect Eero Saarinen and Harley Earl in 1956, both Saarinen and Earl worked closely with the styling team and placed special attention on the spaces concerned with designing, prototyping, and evaluating new automobiles. The 180-foot diameter Dome has become an iconic piece of automotive design and one that organizations from around the world have prototyped for facilities of their own. General Motors initiated the renovation with the design team at SmithGroupJJR, which looked to enhance the Design Auditorium as an evaluation and presentation center for critiquing and displaying the next generation of automotive product design. The overall design intent was not just to modernize the facility but to do so in a manner consistent with the original detailing while implementing sustainable solutions to lower energy and maintenance costs. Speaking on behalf of the jury, Susan Rademacher stated, “This is an exemplary demonstration of how to gently and respectfully treat an icon.” Jury member Eric Keune added, “The renovation demonstrates the great care that was given to the original design team’s vision, while simultaneously bringing the spirit forward with a gentle guiding hand and using contemporary technology. It is noteworthy and commendable that General Motors was willing to invest and upgrade the building for its original use to keep up with the company’s transformations over the intervening decades.”

Lenox Health Greenwich Village

Location: New York, NY

Original Architect: Albert C. Ledner

Restoration Team: Northwell Health, Perkins Eastman, CANY, Turner Construction, BR+A, Silman, Cerami & Associates, Russell Design, Sam Schwartz, VDA, Langan Engineering, Louis Sgroe Equipment Planning

Client: Northwell Health

The Commercial Design Award of Excellence is awarded for the restoration of the Lenox Health Greenwich Village, formerly known as the Joseph Curran Building and the O’Toole Medical Services Building, in New York City. Designed by Albert C. Ledner in 1964, the building, which served as the National Maritime Union headquarters, was bold in its appropriate ship-like design, in its deference to circular forms (illustrating fairness and equality), and in its stark contrast with the more historic architecture that typifies Greenwich Village. In 1973, the building was purchased by St. Vincent Catholic Medical Centers and became the Edward & Theresa O’Toole Medical Services building. After St. Vincent closed their doors, a herculean effort was made by preservation advocates to save the building, resulting in the commitment of the new owners, Northwell Health. The design team, led by Perkins Eastman, painstakingly restored and adapted the historically significant building within a landmarked district to capture the original design vision, while creating a leading-edge medical facility—the first of its kind in Manhattan. In selecting the project, the jury noted, “This beautiful and unique building is an incredible piece of urban architecture whose restoration respectfully honors the building’s original concept while creatively adapting a dramatic structure to a new purpose. This project offers clients and cities alike valuable lessons about the transformative impacts of architecture

and design; specifically, the often-surprising elasticity which waits patiently, and at times unexpectedly, in certain works of modern architecture.”

Hill College House

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Original Architect: Eero Saarinen and Dan Kiley (landscapes)

Restoration Team: Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC (Architecture), INTECH Construction, Inc. (Construction Management), AHA (MEP/FP Engineering), Becker & Frondorf (Estimating), Edwards & Company (Envelope Consulting), Floss Barber Inc. (Interior Design), Keast & Hood (Structural Engineering), Keystone Preservation Group (Materials Conservation), The Lighting Practice (Lighting Design), Metropolitan Acoustics (A/V and Acoustic Design), OLIN (Landscape Design), Pennoni (Civil Engineering), Ricca Design Studios (Food Service Consulting), Shen Milsom Wilke (Security), Zipf Associates (Elevator Consulting)

Client: University of Pennsylvania

The Civic/Institutional Design Award of Excellence is given for the restoration of the Hill College House. Located on the University of Pennsylvania’s campus, the building was designed by Eero Saarinen with landscapes by Dan Kiley in 1960. Saarinen grounded his design for the five-story, 195,000-square-foot brick residence in the idea of a self-sufficient village; it was the first purpose-built women’s dormitory at Penn. No major renovation had been performed at Hill College House since it was built, and although the architecture continued to foster a strong sense of community, dated systems and finishes needed updating. Penn wanted to bring the residence up to 21st century standards while retaining its unique features, and the design team’s collaborative approach involved conservation, laboratory materials analyses, and archival research to understand Saarinen’s original details and appropriate contemporary replacements or complements. After undergoing a 15-month, LEED Gold certified comprehensive renovation, the landmark reopened to 500 student residents in August 2017. Speaking about the project the jury noted, “This project highlights the commitment to restore a beautiful but overlooked campus structure and honors the lasting values found in modern architecture. The work accomplished by the design team not only respects the original vision, but also addresses the needs of students today, improving functionality and gaining a LEED certification – Saarinen for the 21st century.”

George Kraigher House

Location: Brownsville, TX

Original Architect: Richard Neutra

Restoration Team: Lawrence V. Lof (Project Lead), Texas Southmost College

Client: City of Brownsville and Texas Southmost College – Dr. Juliet V. García, president, and Dr. José G. Martín, provost.

The Residential Design Award of Excellence is given to the restoration of the George Kraigher House in Brownsville, Texas. Designed and built for Pan American pilot George Kraigher in 1937, the house is the only single-family home in Texas designed by Richard Neutra and the first International Style house built in the state. Threatened by neglect, fire, vandalism, and water penetration, the Kraigher House was the focus of nearly two decades of preservation efforts. Beginning in 2005, a unique partnership of community activists, city officials and, the University of Texas, Brownsville/Texas Southmost College came together to secure and restore the house. Instead of a team of architects and consultants, the restoration team was led by University professor and rehabilitation projects manager Lawrence V. Lof and assisted by his students. A Historic Rehabilitation Practicum evolved from this work and now provides students in the Industrial Technology Department hands-on experience with historic restoration construction. In selecting the project, the jury commented, “Restoration of the Kraigher House is a compelling story of the power of public and private partnerships. Beginning with the grassroots advocacy efforts of Ambrosio Villarreal, to the Kraigher House’s inclusion on Preservation Texas’ and the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s endangered lists, restoration of this rare and significant Neutra residence by the Brownsville community is a strong testament to the power of partnerships.”

Imagining the Modern: The Architecture and Urbanism of Postwar Pittsburgh

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Project Team: Chris Grimley, Michael Kubo, and Rami el Samahy with Ann Lui, Mark Pasnik, Cameron Longyear, Shannon McLean, Brett Pierson, Andrew Potter, Rebecca Rice, Valny Aolsteindottir, Silvia Colpani, Lindsay Dumont, and Victoria Pai - over,under (Architects-in-Residence), Martin Aurand – Carnegie Mellon University (Curatorial Consultant), Raymund Ryan (Heinz Architectural Center Curator), Alyssum Skjeie (Heinz Architectural Center Program Manager)

Client: Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh

The Survey/Inventory Award of Excellence is given to the *Imagining the Modern: The Architecture and Urbanism of Postwar Pittsburgh* exhibition. In 2015, the architecture and design firm over,under was selected by the Carnegie Museum of Art’s Heinz Architectural Center to design the inaugural exhibition of a new initiative known as HAC Lab. The firm curated, designed, fabricated, and

installed a nine-month exhibition with a series of programmed events and broadsheet publications (the results of this effort are currently being transformed into a book, to be published by the Monacelli Press in 2019). *Imagining the Modern* sought to untangle Pittsburgh's complicated relationship with modern architecture and planning and addressed both positive and negative impacts of the era by examining what took place during the city's urban renewal era, what was gained and lost, and what these histories might suggest for the city's future. Speaking about the project the jury noted, "This comprehensive and multi-dimensional project established a broad context to understand a cross section of modernism through multiple lenses in the context of a single city. The project team is recognized for this deeply researched and beautifully presented exhibition that encouraged participants to take a fresh look at the architecture and urbanism of postwar Pittsburgh."

Starship Chicago: A Film by Nathan Eddy

Location: Chicago, IL

Project Team: Nathan Eddy (Director)

The Advocacy Award of Excellence is given to *Starship Chicago: A Film by Nathan Eddy*. The 16-minute short film proactively seeks to bring attention to the controversial and threatened 1985 James R. Thompson Center designed by Helmet Jahn. In the film, Eddy chronicles the significance of the building and its contributions to the architectural history of Chicago by layering provocative interviews with key stakeholders including Helmut Jahn, Stanley Tigerman, preservation professionals and architectural critics with dramatic panoramic cinematography that flies and often floats over the design. The Docomomo US Board of Directors commented, "When most preservation efforts are reactionary, Nathan Eddy has taken a unique and proactive approach and sparked much needed conversation and action before a building faces demolition. *Starship Chicago* is thoughtful, beautiful, informative, and engaging and brings to light what a powerful medium film can be."

Tom Little: Georgia Advocacy

Location: Atlanta, GA

The Advocacy Award of Excellence is given to long-standing Docomomo US/Georgia chapter president Tom Little. Tom quietly and persistently advocated for modern buildings in Georgia including the Constitution Building as well as the round Sun Trust Plaza branch bank building, which was recently added to the National Register of Historic Places after its near demolition for a mini-storage facility. Tom also sought to raise public awareness of the significance of the Atlanta Fulton County Central Library, designed by Marcel Breuer and completed in 1980. The Docomomo US Board of Directors commented, "As a result of Tom's dedication and advocacy, he has been instrumental in saving a number of significant buildings in the region. As the founding president of the Georgia chapter of Docomomo US, Tom continues to be a steadfast advocate for modern buildings and we acknowledge his dedication in sharing the organization's mission through local leadership and advocacy."

Special Award of Restoration Excellence

Unity Temple

Location:	Oak Park, IL
Original Architect:	Frank Lloyd Wright
Restoration Team:	Harboe Architects, PC (Restoration Architects), Project Management Advisors, Inc. (Project Management), Berglund Construction Company (Contractor)
Client:	UTP, LLC

A Special Award of Restoration Excellence is given for the restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple in Oak Park, Illinois. Originally completed in 1908, Unity Temple is one of Frank Lloyd Wright's greatest works. It is a National Historic Landmark and is included as one of the ten *Key Works of Modern Architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright* nominated to the World Heritage list. His concept for the building was to create a space for both the sacred and secular which resulted in two separate masses, Unity Temple and Unity House, connected by a lower foyer. As with many religious structures, the building suffered from decades of deferred maintenance. Its plight was recognized by being included on Landmarks Illinois' 2000 Most Endangered list and as one of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2009 America's Most Endangered Places. Unity Temple Restoration Foundation commissioned a *Preservation Master Plan* to outline the work that needed to be done in 2006. In 2013, the Alphawood Foundation pledged a \$10M lead gift towards the restoration and the project was begun. Harboe Architects, PC spent nearly a year conducting in-depth research and physical trial mock ups to determine the best ways to authentically restore and fully modernize this international treasure. Completed in 2017, construction took over two years and involved all aspects of the building. The restoration of Unity Temple not only returns this internationally significant work of architecture to its original appearance but gives new life to a building that will allow it to continue to successfully serve its original purpose as a house of worship for its congregation as well as a tourist destination for Frank Lloyd Wright enthusiasts from all over the world. The jury bestows this special award of restoration excellence for the high level of expertise and care that went into the restoration but also in recognition of the importance of the building to modernism that is without parallel. Speaking on behalf of the jury, architect Eric Keune commented, "This is a comprehensive restoration of one of the canonical and pioneering works of American modern architecture. It allows future generations to not only use, but learn from, and see this building as it was originally designed by Wright."

Citations of Merit

115, Geotronics Labs Building

Location: Dallas, TX

Original Architect: Printz and Brooks

Restoration team: DSGN Associates (Architecture), Constructive – Rick Fontenot

The jury awards a Citation of Merit for the restoration of the 115, Geotronics Labs Building in Dallas, Texas. Designed by the noted architectural firm of Prinz and Brooks in 1962 for a geosciences company, Geotronic Labs, Inc. was the sole occupant of the building until 2003 and it then sat vacant for the next eleven years until 2014, when it was acquired and renovated by the architectural firm DSGN Associates for its own offices. Speaking on behalf of the jury, Lizabeth Cohen stated, “It is important to call attention to a project that takes a typical, small company office building and revitalizes it as an example to others who may embark upon similar projects.” Jury member Meredith Bzdak added, “This is a well-executed restoration and a good model for the treatment of other modest mid-century buildings like this around the country.”

George Washington Bridge Bus Station

Location: New York, NY

Original Architect: Dr. Pier Luigi Nervi

Restoration team: The Port Authority of NY & NJ – Engineering Department, Architectural Unit STV, Inc.

Client: The Port Authority of NY & NJ

The jury awards a Citation of Merit for the restoration of the George Washington Bridge (GWB) Bus Station. One of two buildings in the United States designed by Dr. Pier Luigi Nervi, the George Washington Bridge Bus Station opened in 1963 in conjunction with the lower level of the George Washington Bridge and the Trans-Manhattan Expressway. The facility’s architectural expression is a tour-de-force that incorporates concrete trusses and a unique butterfly-like roofscape above the West Building. After suffering from a certain degree of benign neglect, the building was identified in an Authority-wide study as a prime opportunity for revenue enhancement. In 2008, the Port Authority of NY & NJ selected a developer and STV, Inc. as the restoration architects. Although the GWB Bus Station is not a designated landmark, it was treated as such, and conceptual efforts were shared with the New York State Historic Preservation Office and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. Great attention was paid to developing a ‘modern intervention’ that is respectful of the historic structure, and in fact celebrates the structure, by its sensitive incorporation into the new program. The jury commented, “As bus stations continue to be lynchpins of modern urban transportation infrastructure, the restoration of the GWB Bus Station was thoughtfully executed and

serves as an important example of a government agency choosing to invest in the restoration of a significant modern resource instead of opting for new construction.”

Lurie House

Location: Pleasantville, NY

Original Architect: Kaneji Domoto

Restoration team: Lynnette Widder (Lead), Evita Yumul, Yaron Pardo Workshop – Yaron Pardo, Rockall Construction – Robert Boeschl, Transsolar – Erik Olsen, 475 Building Supply – Floris Buisman

The jury awards a Citation of Merit for the sensitive restoration of the Lurie House, designed by Japanese architect Kaneji Domoto. Designed in 1949, it is one of five houses completed by Domoto in Usonia, a suburb in Westchester, New York. The Lurie House was part of Domoto’s experimentation with ‘Japanese’ motifs couched in low-cost construction, landscape design and environmental responsiveness. Architect Lynette Widder and her team worked to sensitively restore the original building materials while finding creative solutions that brought the house’s heating and mechanical systems up to date but minimally impacted the original design. In selecting the project, the jury noted, “This is a beautiful and well-considered renovation done with extreme care and appreciation of environmental efforts as well as the Japanese-American architect’s cultural orientation.”

Banking on Beauty: Millard Sheets and Midcentury Commercial Architecture

Location: California

Project Team: Adam Arenson

The jury awards a Citation of Merit to Adam Arenson for his research, inventory, and subsequent book titled *Banking on Beauty* documenting the art and architecture of Millard Sheets. The Millard Sheets Studio is responsible for creating more than two hundred works of commercial art and architecture in California and across the country. Arenson was driven to document the work of Sheets in 2009 after reading a Millard Sheets mural had been painted over in a former Home Savings and Loan Branch. His body of research illuminates the history of corporate sponsorship of art and architecture in small commercial buildings, something that is often overlooked. The jury notes, “Arenson’s research has uncovered an extensive legacy of “every man modernism” that was largely unknown and underappreciated, and brings attention to main street architecture with real design value and the impact of individual grassroots efforts.”

UC San Diego Campus-wide Historic Context Statement and Historic Resource Survey

Location: San Diego, CA

Project Team: Architectural Resources Group – Katie E. Horak, Principal, Andrew Goodrich, Associate, Micaela Torres-Gill, Paul D. Turner, PhD
NeuCampus Planning – David Neuman
UC San Diego, Physical and Community Planning - Robert Clossin (AICP, Director), Catherine Presmyk (Assistant Director of Environmental Planning), Todd Pitman (Assistant Director and Campus Landscape Architect), Elyse Sanchez (Associate Planner)

Client: UC San Diego

The jury awards a Citation of Merit for the UC San Diego Campus-wide Historic Context Statement and Historic Resource Survey. Between 2015 and 2017, Architectural Resources Group worked closely with UC San Diego’s campus planners to identify, inventory, document, and develop policies to preserve its wealth of modern resources. The campus’ early buildings were designed by some of the most renowned figures in Los Angeles and San Diego modernism at the time: William Pereira, A. Quincy Jones, Robert Mosher, and Lloyd Ruocco, and what resulted was a collection of buildings and landscapes were remarkably bold, and collectively stand as a showcase of Modernism in all of its forms. Ruocco’s Post-and-Beam style laboratory at Scripps (1963); Pereira’s imposing, Brutalist style Geisel Library (1970), and the collection of Brutalist style buildings comprising Muir College (1967-1971) are celebrated as some of San Diego’s very best examples of their respective modern architectural styles. For years, UC San Diego’s rich architectural history was well known but not well documented. The historic context statement and survey provide a level of nuance and detail that was not there before and generated an official inventory of historically and culturally significant sites on campus that will help guide future development in a manner that is sensitive to, and cognizant of, the campus’s historic character. In selecting the project, the jury commented, “This project is significant because of the ever-increasing pressures universities face in improving their campus building portfolios while maintaining significant architectural resources. The inventory will help better protect these resources and has the potential to educate this particular campus community and other college and university systems across the country.”

About the Juries

The design and survey jury was chaired by *Aaron Betsky*, President of the School of Architecture at Taliesin. A critic of art, architecture, and design, Mr. Betsky is the author of over a dozen books on those subjects, including a forthcoming survey of modernism in architecture and design. He writes a twice-weekly blog for *architectmagazine.com*, *Beyond Buildings*. Trained as an architect and in the humanities at Yale University, Mr. Betsky was previously Director of the Cincinnati Art Museum (2006-2014) and the Netherlands Architecture Institute (2001-2006), as well as Curator of Architecture and Design at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (1995-2001). In 2008, he also directed the 11th Venice International Biennale of Architecture.

Renowned scholars, architects, landscape architects, and educators also on the jury included:

Lizabeth Cohen is Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University and the Howard Mumford Jones Professor American Studies in the Department of History. She is the author of *Making a New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919-1939* (1990, new edition with new introduction 2008; Canto Classic 2015), winner of the Bancroft Prize and a finalist for the Pulitzer, and *A Consumers' Republic: The Politics of Mass Consumption in Postwar America* (2003). *Susan M. Rademacher*, is the Parks Curator for the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy since 2007. Previously, she was president of the Louisville Olmsted Parks Conservancy and assistant director of Louisville Metro Parks. Her published books include *Mellon Square: Rediscovering a Modern Masterpiece*, *Bold Romantic Gardens; Outdoor Living Spaces; and Garden Design: History, Principles, Elements, Practice*. Architect *Eric Keune* is a design director at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill in Chicago, and a trained architectural historian, author and artist. Eric's work has been published nationally and internationally, and he is the recipient of more than 40 design awards, including a 2017 Architizer A+ Award for SOM's proposed reuse of Bertrand Goldberg's Elgin Laundry Building. His most recent book, *100 Buildings*, was co-authored by Thom Mayne and Val Warke. *Meredith Arms Bzdak*, an architectural historian, is a Partner in the Princeton, New Jersey firm Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC. Meredith also serves on the Board of Directors of Docomomo US. *Theodore Prudon* is a leading expert on the preservation of modern architecture and a practicing architect in New York City and is the current President of Docomomo US.

The Advocacy prize jury was comprised of The Docomomo US Board of Directors.

About Docomomo US

Docomomo US is dedicated to the preservation of modern architecture, landscape and design. Through advocacy, education and documentation, we provide leadership and knowledge by demonstrating the importance of modern design principles including the social context, technical merits, aesthetics and settings of these important pieces of American history. Docomomo US (documentation and conservation of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the modern movement) was founded in 1995 and is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Nomination information for the 2019 *Modernism in America Awards* will be available this fall at www.docomomo-us.org

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