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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS

IALD

NBCUNIVERSAL LOBBY AND MEZZANINE RESTORATION WINS IALD AWARD OF MERIT + SUSTAINABILITY LIGHTING DESIGN BY COOLEY MONATO STUDIO

SAN DIEGO, CA USA, 28 APRIL | Luminaries of the lighting profession gathered at the San Diego Air and Space Museum on 27 April to honor the winners of the 33rd Annual International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) International Lighting Design Awards. Seventeen projects from eight countries were on display – including religious spaces, memorials, façades, and even a gas station. Taken together, the winners represent some of the most innovative and inspiring work found anywhere in the world of architectural lighting design.



The **NBCUniversal Lobby and Mezzanine Restoration** in New York, NY USA, with lighting design by Cooley Monato Studio, took home an IALD Award of Merit – and an additional award for Sustainability.

NBCUNIVERSAL LOBBY AND MEZZANINE RESTORATION, NEW YORK, NY USA | LIGHTING DESIGN BY COOLEY MONATO STUDIO | PHOTO © PAUL WARCHOL

The NBCUniversal Lobby and Mezzanine Restoration captures the essence of the original 1930s art deco design while renewing the space with contemporary technology. Because the building is a historical listing, the designers were exempt from code compliance, but still delivered a lighting power density of 0.6W/sf for the architectural features, half of the ASHRAE 90.1-2007 allowance for a “lobby” space.

A new custom chandelier of bronze concentric rings is the focal point of the mezzanine, and recessed LEDs highlight the green marble walls. The chandelier’s uplight and perimeter wall lighting create a feeling of lift despite low ceilings and dark finishes.

“The detailing of the main light feature and the illuminated coffers together with the general lighting restores the space’s interior to its previous glory,” one judge wrote.

Multiple circular coves enhance the majestic feel of the rotunda. Linear and curving coves underscore the dominant architectural forms, creating floating planes that transition from rotunda to lounge. The glossy metal leaf ceilings required careful detailing and aiming to prevent undesired reflections.

Recessed downlights, accents, and wall washers use the same LED module, easing future maintenance. This consistency of source also ensures matching light colors throughout the space. Wherever possible decorative features were designed to provide sufficient illumination without the need for additional fixtures.

“This is a sensitive lighting restoration,” praised one judge. “A successful re-interpretation of period chandeliers that contributes significantly to the building’s overall feel.”

Every space in the scheme is connected to a dimming system, with scenes triggered by a timeclock. Day and night light levels are balanced and tuned for the right ambience in a space totally devoid of daylight – and to reduce energy consumption.

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At the entrance to 6th Ave, a gold cove reflects soft uplight, providing comfortable light levels and lending a moment of calm for people entering from the busy street. The restoration's centerpiece, the rotunda and grand stair, achieve the goal of bringing the glory of the past to the experience of the present.

The IALD Lighting Design Awards program, established in 1983, honors lighting projects that display high aesthetic achievement backed by technical expertise. Additionally, projects can also be submitted for consideration in the sustainable design award category, which means the project undergoes an additional round of judging keyed solely to the fulfillment of sustainable design principles. A panel of award-winning lighting designers, architects and interior designers review the projects.

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

The International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), established in 1969, is an international organization supporting a network of more than 1,250 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.

33RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS AWARDS PROJECT CREDITS

NBCUNIVERSAL LOBBY AND MEZZANINE RESTORATION
NEW YORK, NY USA

LIGHTING DESIGN

Renée Cooley, IALD
Adam Kroll
Natalia Lesniak
Cooley Monato Studio

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

ARCHITECTURE
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PHOTOGRAPHY

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