Since 1989, the Brick in Architecture Awards have been one of the most prestigious national architectural award programs featuring clay brick. Architecture firms from around North America enter their best projects to be judged by a jury of their peers.

This year, a diverse panel of architects independently reviewed and scored each of the entries. Based on the technical and creative use of brick in meeting the aesthetic and functional design challenges, the Brick Industry Association is pleased to showcase the following projects, which were chosen as the Best in Class in their respective categories.
Fort Mill Welcome Center
Fort Mill, SC

Open 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, interstate welcome centers are the epitome of the high abuse building. Their ability to withstand heavy circulation—yet function as a low-maintenance state building—plays a central role in the selection of materials. At the same time, welcome centers allow states the opportunity to express the beauty and cultural identity of the region as well as provide respite from mind-numbing vehicle traffic.

The state challenged the design team to create a new facility to serve as the state’s front porch, welcoming visitors to sit and stay awhile. As a durable, low-maintenance material with great design potential, brick was a natural choice for this South Carolina welcome center. The brick-clad support program bars solidly nestle the lobby to create a chamber-like space. The solid brick volumes are strategically broken to guide visitors inside. As the roof extends over the welcome center’s literal front porch, it provides a gathering space for picnics, events, fresh air, and a relaxing swing.

Brick also served as an expression of South Carolina’s heritage. The Catawba Indian tribes from this region are known for exquisite pottery that comes from the local clay soil—just like the brick. The Catawba pottery is neither decorated nor adorned in color or pattern. To explore patterns of color, the design team used an algorithmic modeling program. Three colors of brick were used to create striations of color on the mass walls, which were inspired by the Catawba pottery.
Dr. Nettie Stevens Science Center, Westfield State University

As the first new building on Westfield State University’s campus in 40 years, a lot was riding on its new Science and Innovation Center. For starters, the center signals a revival of the long-neglected, mid-century brick campus. Moreover, the design team was given an imposing challenge: to create, with limited funds, a dramatic gateway to an inward-looking campus, a signature building whose new brick façade would present monumental windows to the adjacent neighborhood and Western Avenue.

There was no sidestepping the project’s limited budget. The building had to not only be built economically, but it also had to deliver a lifetime of low maintenance. The design team chose a durable face brick as a façade material ideal for a state college with limited resources for cleaning, repair, and operations. Brick also allowed the new building to relate closely to its architectural context, including the adjacent Wilson Hall, also renovated as part of the project. The project team reviewed dozens of brick options and worked on mock-ups with apprentices at the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers in Boston. Vineyard Blend was selected for its similarity in tone to the original campus buildings’ masonry.

A LEED® Silver building, the project includes technologically advanced laboratory equipment, sustainable building ventilation, and energy saving exterior wall construction. The façade features high-performance glazing with a ceramic frit pattern and automated shades cutting solar gain. The brick rainscreen façade makes possible substantial energy savings due to a thermally-efficient envelope with continuous exterior insulation.

Architect: CambridgeSeven
Landscape Architect: Shadley Associates
Builder: Walsh Brothers
Manufacturer: Glen-Gery Corporation
Distributor: Spaulding Brick Company, Inc.
Mason Contractor: Cantarella & Son, Inc.
Photographer: Anton Grassl/Esto

Credits appear as submitted in entry form
Robert J. Richardson Middle School
Chicago, IL

Chicago’s new Robert J. Richardson Middle School delivers a pop of color to its West Lawn neighborhood. The 135,000-square-foot LEED® Gold school holds 1,500 5th- through 8th-grade students in a building that, though facing spartan budgetary restrictions, still manages to deliver a visually exciting design using brick’s infinite shape and color possibilities.

Beloved for its cheerful, colorful, and inviting exterior, the large school building is clad almost entirely in white base brick. Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple accent brick panels punctuate the clean, white masonry walls like colorful paint strokes on a canvas. Multi-hued light fixtures along exterior walkways correspond with these accent panels, building continuity between the building and landscaping.

This colorful design serves both aesthetic and economical purposes. The Chicago Public Schools required the project to maintain a cost-effective budget, which restricted the use of curtain walls and other more expensive materials. As a cost-cutting measure, the architects designed the building with uniformly sized punched window openings. The challenge of this approach was to make the façade visually exciting. As a solution, the architects chose a combination of white and multi-colored glazed utility-size brick to enliven the building’s exterior. By placing the colorful glazed brick panels in between the standard-sized windows, the design team created a lively and vibrant exterior on a limited budget.

Brick also played a major role in earning a LEED® Gold award by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Client:
Public Building Commission of Chicago

Architect:
STR Partners LLC

Landscape Architect:
Jacobs/Ryan Associates

Builder:
K.R. Miller Contractors

Manufacturer:
Glen-Gery Corporation

Mason Contractor:
ALL Masonry Construction Company, Inc.

Photographer:
Steve Hall

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Credits appear as submitted in entry form
The University of the District of Columbia (UDC) had one overriding goal for its new 83,000-square-foot student center: To create a state-of-the-art, thoughtful, and sustainable modern design that earned LEED® Platinum rating and satisfied their program requirements. Along with recycled brick pavers, the exterior design incorporates rainwater harvesting, bio-retention, layered planting, and native plantings and shade trees that were selected for adaptability.

The UDC Student Center creates a new hub of student activity with spaces for student gathering and recreational amenities. The master planning leaned heavily on landscape architecture—with clay brick pavers playing a leading design role—to make the new Student Center both a welcoming place for students to assemble as well as contributing to the LEED® Platinum rating. Throughout this green sanctuary, the design team snaked brick pavement to help soften the scale of the plaza. Indeed, the pavers serve as an essential visual design element of the Student Center. The entry plaza pavement incorporates a linear brick utilized for its fine texture and recycled content. The brick paver is repeated at the café terrace in a permeable application.

Today, the UDC Student Center is one of only two student unions to achieve a LEED® Platinum rating.
The Hine Project
Washington, D.C.

The Hine Project boasts a substantial 670,000-square-foot, mixed-use development on a 3.4-acre site in a historic district of Washington, D.C., adjacent to the historic Eastern Market. The project includes four new brick buildings (one office and three residential). Maintaining continuity with the existing Victorian historic district proved a design challenge that, ultimately, became part of the design solution.

The architects created varied textured brick masonry details for each building, and each building mirrored the existing land use across the streets. The Office Building, for example, employs Victorian red thin brick on precast—evoking the Victorian spirit of wit and whimsy by corbeling brick piers to appear to twist—on its main mass along Pennsylvania Avenue. Yet, an adjacent portion of the building employs gray brick with red accents. Another façade uses natural ironspot Norman brick. The affordable housing building uses a brick reminiscent of Arts & Crafts-style buildings of the 1920s.

Construction costs met the budget through the use of masonry (vs. curtain wall) and the project’s long-term maintenance is significantly reduced due to masonry’s weathering properties. By providing 3-inch semi-rigid insulation within a 4-inch cavity behind brick, all of the buildings’ wall insulation is outside of the vapor barrier—a significant gain in energy conservation and moisture control—a main functional requirement.
Several other projects were selected for Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards based on their scores totaling in the top percentages of their respective categories. The Gold, Silver, and Bronze award winners are:

**GOLD WINNERS**

**COMMERCIAL**

The Study at University City
Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Architect: DIGSAU
Landscape Architect: Bryan Hanes
Builder: P. Agnes
Manufacturer: Endicott Clay Products Company
Manufacturer: Glen-Gery Corporation
Mason Contractor: Universal Concrete Products

**EDUCATIONAL (Higher Education)**

Williams College Bookstore
Location: Williamstown, Massachusetts
Architect: CambridgeSeven
Builder: Engelberth Construction, Inc.
Manufacturer: Endicott Clay Products Company
Distributor: Spaulding Brick Company, Inc.
Mason Contractor: Cantarella & Sons, Inc.

**EDUCATIONAL (K-12)**

Millbrook School Dining Hall
Location: Millbrook, New York
Architect: Voith & Mactavish Architects LLP
Builder: Consigli Construction
Manufacturer: Watsontown Brick Company
Mason Contractor: James McGowan & Son Masonry, Inc.

**PAVING & LANDSCAPING**

Founders Way Renovation
Location: Greenville, North Carolina
Landscape Architect: ColeJenest & Stone
Builder: Hudson Brothers Construction Company
Manufacturer: Pine Hall Brick Company, Inc.

**RESIDENTIAL – MULTI-FAMILY**

5 Franklin Place
Location: New York, New York
Architect: ODA New York
Distributor: Consolidated Brick & Bldg. Supply, Inc.
Mason Contractor: Robinson Restoration, LLC

**SILVER WINNERS**

**COMMERCIAL**

Bouhan Falligant
Location: Savannah, Georgia
Architect: Felder & Associates
Builder: West Construction Company
Manufacturer: Palmetto Brick Company
Distributor: Acme Brick Company
Mason Contractor: Cornerstone Masonry

**EDUCATIONAL (Higher Education)**

University of Richmond, Queally Admissions Center
Location: Richmond, Virginia
Architect: SMBW, PLLC
Landscape Architect: HG Design Studio
Builder: Hourigan Construction Company
Manufacturer: Glen-Gery Corporation
Distributor: Shade & Wise Brick Co, Inc.
Mason Contractor: Masonomics, Inc.

**EDUCATIONAL (K-12)**

Mansueto High School
Location: Chicago, Illinois
Architect: Wheeler Kearns Architects
Landscape Architect: Site Design Group
Builder: Bulley & Andrews
Mason Contractor: Larmco

**PAVING & LANDSCAPING**

Freedom Walkway
Location: Rock Hill, South Carolina
Architect: FPK Architects
Landscape Architect: groundworks studio
Builder: Concorde Corporation
Manufacturer: Pine Hall Brick Company, Inc.
Mason Contractor: Unit Paving Co. Inc.

**RESIDENTIAL – MULTI-FAMILY**

613 Baltic Street
Location: Brooklyn, New York
Architect: Stantec (Formerly VOA)
Builder: JDS Development
Manufacturer: The Belden Brick Company
Distributor: Belden Tri-State Building Materials
Mason Contractor: RSC Group

**BRONZE WINNERS**

**COMMERCIAL**

The Retail Center on Bryant Drive
Location: Tuscaloosa, Alabama
Architect: Herrington Architects
Builder: J. T. Harrison Construction Company, Inc.
Manufacturer: The Belden Brick Company
Distributor: Acme Brick Company
Mason Contractor: Burrows Masonry

**EDUCATIONAL (Higher Education)**

Veterinary Medical Center at The Ohio State University
Location: Columbus, Ohio
Design Architect: Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects LLP
Architect of Record: Perspectus Architecture
Landscape Architect: MKSK
Builder: Elford
Manufacturer: Glen-Gery Brick Corporation
Distributor: Columbus Coal & Lime Co.
Mason Contractor: Castle Masonry and Construction

**EDUCATIONAL (K-12)**

Glenbard West High School Expansion
Location: Glen Ellyn, Illinois
Architect: Legat Architects
Landscape Architect: David R. McCallum Associates
Builder: Walsh Group
Manufacturer: Bowerston Shale Company
Distributor: Illinois Brick Company
Mason Contractor: Iwanski Masonry & Builders

**RESIDENTIAL – MULTI-FAMILY**

Four51 Marlborough
Location: Boston, Massachusetts
Architect: Hacin + Associates
Builder: The Holland Companies
Manufacturer: Endicott Clay Products Company
Distributor: Spaulding Brick Company, Inc.
Mason Contractor: MP Masonry, Inc.

A Special "Thank You" to This Year's Judges:

Bill Bonstra, FAIA, LEED AP - Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS
John W. Bryant, AIA, LEED AP - Sweet Sparkman Architects
Ralph Cunningham, FAIA - Cunningham | Quill Architect PLLC

P. Justin Detwiler - John Milner Architects, Inc.
Charles Rose, FAIA - Charles Rose Architects
Gee-ghid Tse, AIA, LEED AP - Michael Maltzan Architecture, Inc.
Let the Brick Industry Association know about your firm’s projects that reflect excellence in design using clay brick. Submit your project to the 2019 Brick in Architecture Awards Competition at www.gobrick.com/awards.

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www.gobrick.com/education