



BIOGRAPHY

Recipient of the 2011 AIA National Firm Award, BNIM is guided by a core purpose to "...create beautiful, integrated, living environments that inspire change and enhance the human condition." Established in 1970, the firm emerged as a pioneer of sustainable design in the 1980s and served a founding role in the USGBC, LEED rating system, and Living Building concept. BNIM's work continues to push industry standards toward a more sustainable future. The firm's portfolio includes the world's first LEED Platinum certified Living Building, 11 COTE Top Ten Projects, and a new net-zero energy school in Kenya, among other transformational projects.

STATEMENT

The work of BNIM lends a new perspective to the phrase "Human Nature." We use a John Muir quote frequently in our firm: "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe." This understanding - that everything is integrated - is at the very root of our work. It is what we call Human-Purposed Integrated Design, or HPID, and it has become the single most impactful concept that guides and shapes our projects. HPID is not about form. It is about creating spaces where humans, nature, context, materials, craft, technology, and client mission intersect. It is a process that makes us hold in constant balance the aspects of function, impact, experience, and performance. It makes us ask questions that yield a unique aesthetic and form for each project. Through HPID, we are working to heal the holistic relationship humans share with nature.



1970-2020

BENCHMARKING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND LEADERSHIP

No other firm has shaped the sustainable design industry as significantly as BNIM. Not only was the Living Building concept born at BNIM, but our portfolio includes the world's first LEED Platinum certified Living Building. The firm was also instrumental in the creation of LEED and the USGBC. We have received 11 COTE Top Ten Projects awards from the USGBC. And BNIM is ranked No. 1 in Sustainability in 2019's Architect 50 rankings. Indeed, our team is inextricably linked to the pioneering edge of sustainable design. We like to say that for every new project we take on, we start from a place of net zero. As a result, our portfolio is full of projects that celebrate light, water, materials, and landscape. They use the air and sun and rain as resources. They promote human health. They engage the senses and elevate the human experience. They blend cutting edge innovation with ancient vernacular design principles and solutions.



1984

 Work with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) on systems-based design approach

1989

 Firm helps author "Critical Planet Rescue" (CPR) resolution, leading to AIA COTE

1990

- Casey Cassias chairs AIA/CSR Regional Conference on Sustainable Design, "Architects of a New Era"
- Berkebile is founding chairman of the AIA Committee on the Environment



1991

• Zoo team authors Sustainable Design Guidelines that predate and **inform LEED**

1992

 Berkebile represents the AIA as a delegate to the Earth Summit

1993

- Sustainable design consultants on CK Choi Center for Asian Study at the University of British Columbia, an early AIA/COTE Top Ten Award winner
- The Living Building Concept conceived during on MSU EPICenter (pilot for LEED v1.0 and contributor of 500 mile material radius)
- Berkebile hosts first national meeting about formation of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) at the AIA



1994

 Participation in national sustainable initiatives such as the Greening of the White House, Greening of the Pentagon and Greening of the National Parks System

1995

 Deramus is complete and an early AIA/ COTE Top Ten Award winner 1

1999

 Creation of Baseline Green computer tool that evaluates the environmental and economic impacts of design options

2000

 CK Choi Center for Asian Studies (in association with Matsuzaki Wright Architects) receives an AIA COTE Top Ten award 2

200

- Packard Foundation Sustainability Report
 Matrix
- Selected for Metropolitan Kansas City
 Performing Arts Center with Moshe Safdie

2004

 Sustainable Leadership Award for Design and Development from CoreNet Global, AIA and IIDA

2005

• Berkebile wins USGBC Leadership Award

2006

- LEED Platinum Lewis & Clark State Office Building is completed
- Firm wins Autodesk Green Building Leadership Award
- School of Nursing and Student Community Center wins AIA COTE Top Ten Award 3

2007

- BNIM wins first Living Building Competition for the Omega Center for Sustainable Living in Rhinebeck, NY
- Chosen by Brad Pitt's Make it Right Foundation for NOLA Lower Ninth Ward Sustainable Redevelopment
- Heifer International earns AIA COTE Top Ten Award 4

 Selected by Greensburg, KS to develop the City's sustainable comprehensive master plan



2008

- Berkebile sits on Clinton Climate Initiative's Climate+Programs Advisory Council
- Internal Revenue Service Kansas City
 Campus earns AIA COTE Top Ten Award 5

2009

 The Omega Center for Sustainable Living (OCSL) is first ever building to achieve LEED Platinum and Living Building status



 Berkebile receives Heinz Award from Theresa Heinz & Heinz Family Foundation

2010

- Engaged by the USGBC to help them define LEED beyond Platinum
- BNIM wins 2011 AIA National Firm Award



• The Omega Center for Sustainable Living earns a 2010 AIA COTE Top Ten award 6

2011

 Greensburg Kiowa County Schools earns 2011 AIA COTE Top Ten award 7

2012

 Iowa Utilities Board/Office of Consumer Advocate wins AIA COTE Top Ten Award 8

2014

- Iowa Utilities Board/Office of Consumer Advocate earns 2014 AIA COTE + award
- Sustainability Treehouse at Summit 8
- Bechtel Scout Reserve earns 2014 AIA COTE Top Ten award
- Bob Berkebile receives the 2014 Hanley Award for Vision and Leadership in Sustainability

2016

 BNIM featured in AIA COTE Top Ten Lessons From The Leading Edge, with foreword from Bob Berkebile



2019

- Asilong Christian High School wins 2019
 AIA COTE Top Ten award 10
- Laura Lesniewski is on the Strategic
 Council and part of AIA's Climate Action
 Plan Task Force. BNIM is playing a
 significant role in Climate Action Kansas
 City, redefining a nine-county region's
 commitment to the *Drawdown* strategies
 at all levels of human activity.
- Architect 50 ranks BNIM as #1 in Sustainabiliity in the US, #2 in Design and #2 Overall.



THE 11th ANNUAL ARCHITECT 50

2020

• BNIM enters its 50th year of practice.











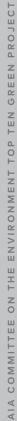


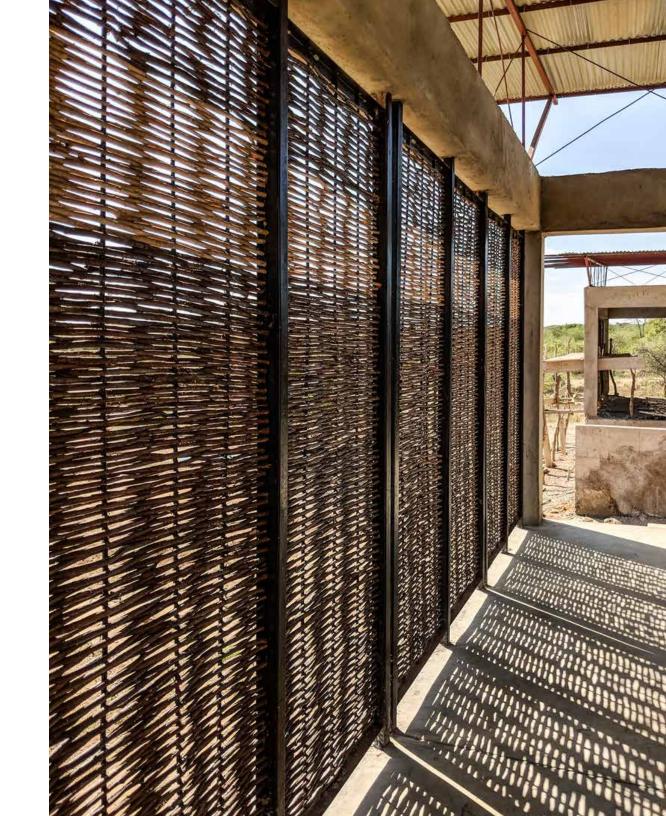












10 PROJECTS

01	OMEGA CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING
02	GREENSBURG CITY HALL
03	TODD BOLENDER CENTER
0 4	IOWA UTILITIES BOARD - OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
05	LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HOPE-ANKENY
06	FINE ARTS AND DESIGN STUDIOS
07	MAKERS QUARTER BLOCK D
08	PACIFIC CENTER CAMPUS
0 9	RAVINE RESIDENCE
10	ASILONG CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL



THE OMEGA CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING RHINEBECK, NEW YORK

A WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY THAT DOUBLES AS A YOGA STUDIO

IMPACT

World's first building to achieve both LEED Platinum and Living Building certifications

INNOVATION

Eco-machine™ technology mimics a natural ecosystem and purifies 5 million gallons of wastewater annually without chemicals using plants and natural methods



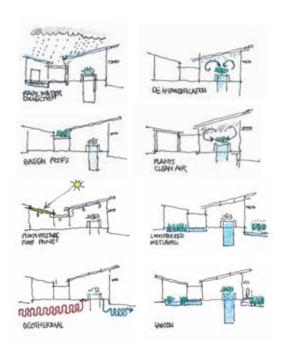


The Omega Center for Sustainable Living (OCSL) is perhaps the only biological wastewater filtration facility in the world that combines the task of wastewater treatment with open classrooms featuring yoga classes and education about the importance of water conservation and reuse — all in the same facility.

The primary goal for this project was to overhaul the wastewater disposal system for the Omega Institute's 195-acre campus by using sustainable methods of treatment. Using Eco-machine™ technology, which mimics a natural ecosystem, the OCSL purifies 5 million gallons of wastewater annually without chemicals using plants and natural methods.

The project openly showcases the regenerative system in a building that houses both the primary treatment cells and a classroom/laboratory, resulting in a functional, beautiful, light-filled, and plant-filled space that serves as an experiential teaching tool for visitors and staff

A manifestation of the philosophy that "what a building does matters as much as how it looks," the Omega Center for Sustainable Living is the first building in the world to achieve both LEED Platinum certification and Living Building status.





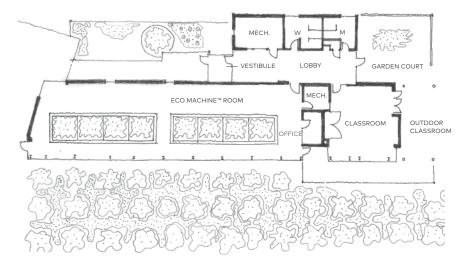


AWARDS

- 2011 IIDA Mid America Design Awards Gold Award Sustainable Category
- 2010 AIA Kansas City Merit Award
- 2010 AIA Kansas Merit Award
- 2010 AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) Top Ten Green Projects Award
- 2009 AIA Central States Region Merit Award
- 2007 USGBC and Cascadia Region On the Boards Award



FLOOR PLAN







GREENSBURG CITY HALL

A SYMBOL OF A RURAL TOWN'S REBIRTH AS A MODEL SUSTAINABLE CITY OF THE FUTURE.

IMPACT

First LEED Platinum City Hall in the United States

INNOVATION

Harnesses solar energy, collects and harvests stormwater for reuse on-site, and maximizes interior daylighting



Greensburg's City Hall serves as the symbol of this town's vitality and leadership in becoming a model sustainable community. Following the devastation of an EF-5 tornado that wiped out nearly every building in this rural community, the citizens of Greensburg, Kansas came together around a shared vision to rebuild the town as a sustainable city of the future. **Under the guidance of BNIM, Greensburg became the first city in the U.S. to require that all new City buildings achieve LEED Platinum certification.**

As the first LEED Platinum City Hall in the United States, this building embodies a commitment to deep sustainability – from reducing consumption at every level; to reusing, recycling, and cleaning its waste; and to generating clean power for the community. The building harnesses solar energy, collects and harvests stormwater for reuse on-site, and maximizes interior daylighting. A building that is truly of its place, it was constructed using materials like reclaimed brick cladding and reclaimed wood from an abandoned ammunition plant near town.

AWARDS

- 2011 AIA Kansas City Honor Award
- 2011 AIA Kansas Honor Award
- 2008 AIA Kansas Unbuilt/Commissioned Work, Honor Award

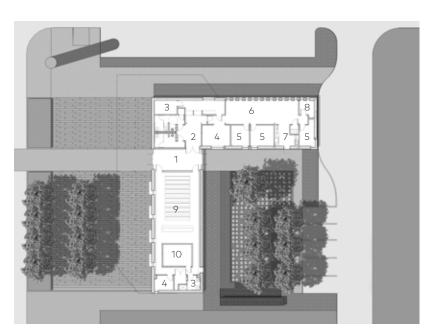






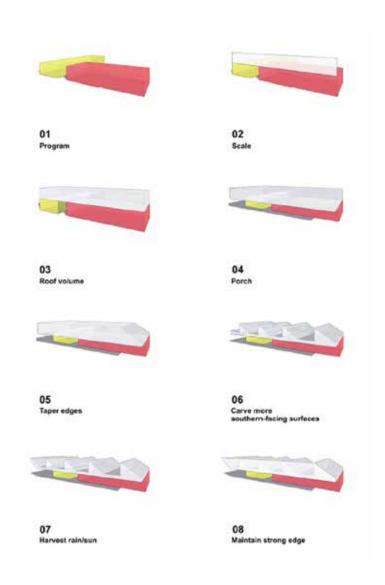
FLOOR PLAN

- 1 Lobby | Vestibule 2 Reception
- 3 Mechanical
- 4 Conference
- 5 Office
- 6 Open Office 7 Copy | Break
- 8 Storage | Safe 9 Council Chamber
- 10 Safe Room



















GREENSBURG - KANSAS

When the *New York Times* said, "the crows awoke on Sunday to an all but lifeless landscape in this farming town on the rolling plains..." it was only one day after an EF-5 tornado leveled nearly all of the buildings in Greensburg, Kansas, leaving its 1,400 residents with the seemingly impossible task of starting over.

BNIM was on the ground in Greensburg just days after the disaster, at the request of Governor Kathleen Sebelius, to lead a comprehensive disaster recovery effort. Since that time, Greensburg has become a model eco-community that is also redefining the future of rural America. The comprehensive sustainable planning effort, and the subsequent rebuilding effort, have garnered worldwide attention. Greensburg is 100% powered

by renewable energy and is the first city in the United States to commit to LEED Platinum certification for all cityowned buildings.

In addition to the City Hall project, BNIM worked closely with City leadership and citizens on the design of several other high-performance facilities. The new LEED Platinum Kiowa County Schools facility provides the town with a K-12 educational facility that showcases sustainable building strategies to educate future generations about the impacts of green design strategies. The firm also designed a new Business Incubator facility and a new retail facility, both of which meet the City's standards for building performance. And the BNIM-designed Main Street Streetscape often touted as "The Greenest Main Street in the United States."













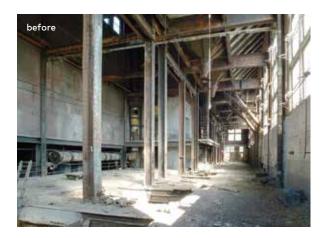


This project is all about transformation – converting the 52,000-square feet historic Power House at Kansas City's Union Station from a dormant 1914 coal-burning plant into a new, light-filled home for the Kansas City Ballet. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2004, the building sat abandoned on a prominent site in Kansas City from the 1970s until 2006.

Transforming the Power House, which had been lying fallow for so long, was a monumental task. The project team had the daunting charge of turning generator rooms into dance studios, coal bunkers into dressing rooms, and fire pits into useable space while carefully preserving and repairing precious historical building elements.

Everything was done right. The design team restored the Power House with the belief that anything done to bring this historic building back into reuse should maintain a sense of the building's original use. This building in its restored form is overwhelmingly historic. Even though the building clearly houses Kansas City Ballet, one could tour it today and, with a minimum of dialogue, understand its former use.

In its first year of operation in the new facility, Kansas City Ballet saw an increase of 70% in school enrollment, a 28% increase in ticket sales, and a 92% increase in overall season attendance.





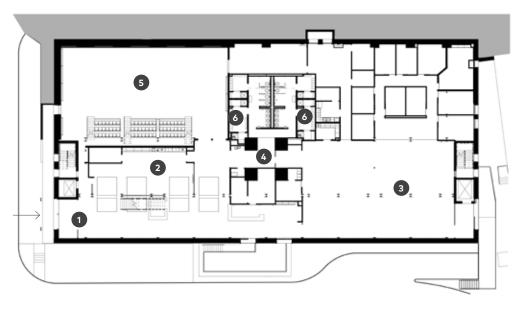






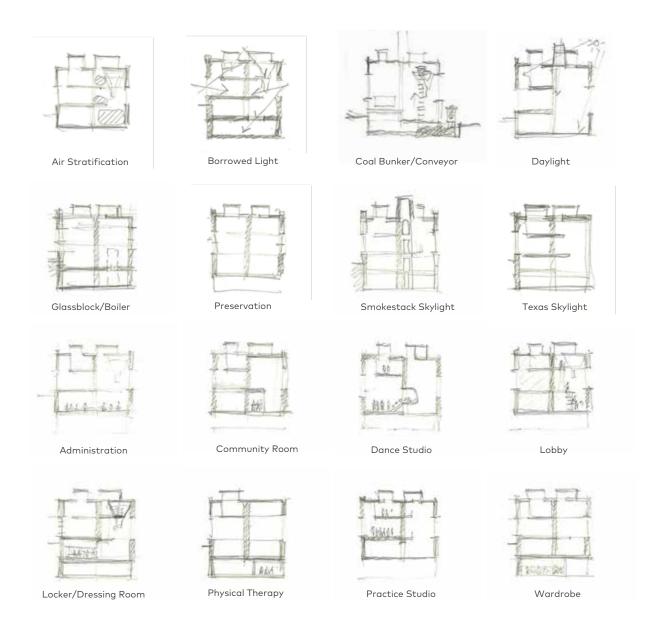
FLOOR PLAN

- 1 Entry Lobby
- 2 Multipurpose
- 3 Administration
- 4 Restroom
- 5 Dance Studio
- 6 Locker Room
- 7 Storage
- 8 Work Area











AWARDS

- 2013 Missouri Preservation Preserve Missouri Award
- 2013 IIDA Mid-America Design Awards - Best of Show
- 2013 IIDA Mid-America Design Awards - Gold Award, Renovation & Restoration
- 2013 Architizer A+ Award Finalist
- 2013 Architectural Record Good Design is Good Business
- 2013 National AIA Institute Honor Award for Interior Architecture
- 2012 National Trust for Historic Preservation National Preservation Honor Award
- 2012 ENR Midwest Best Projects, Best Renovation/Restoration Project, Award of Merit





This is Every Building. Every aspect of this building's process and design can serve as a starting point for the design of any other building.

This project was designed to integrate replicable sustainable strategies, and it was **intended to serve as a demonstration project for other government facilities and private enterprise**. As home to the State regulator of utilities, the IUB/OCA office building embodies a mission to lead by example for other building owners while educating the public about the benefits of energy efficiency for businesses, humans, and nature.

At the outset, IUB/OCA presented a fundamental goal: achieve an energy use equivalent to 60% energy savings beyond the energy code baseline. Currently operating at 81% below the national average, the IUB/OCA is a model case study demonstrating a successful high-performance integrated design process that can be replicated by other architectural teams to achieve similar goals.

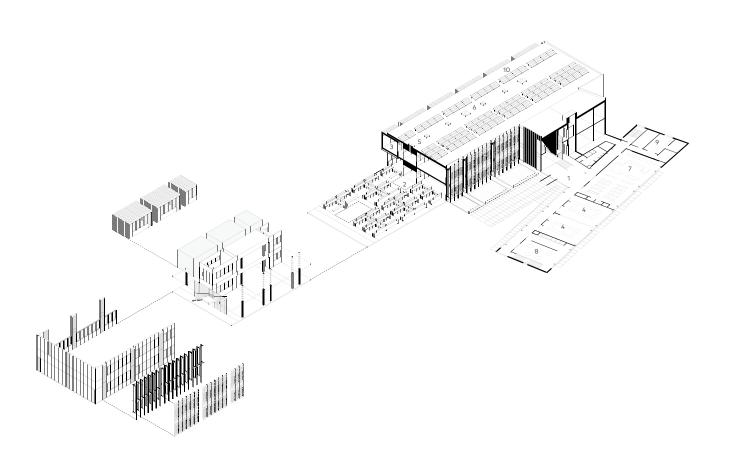






AXONOMETRIC

- Lobby Open Office 2
- Enclosed Office
- Meeting Room Light Tube
- Cool Roof
- Hearing Room Break Room
- 8
- Receiving
- Photovoltaic Panels



- 2014 AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) Top Ten Plus Award
- 2013 IIDA Mid-America Design Awards Silver Award, Civic & Government
- 2013 ASHRAE Iowa Chapter Technology Awards First Place
- 2013 Architectural Record Good Design is Good Business
- 2012 CoreNet Global Innovator's Award Nominee
- 2012 AIA Iowa Merit Award of Excellence
- 2012 AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) Top Ten Award
- 2011 Center on Sustainable Communities (COSC) Environmental Impact Awards - Commercial Winner, Built Environment Category
- 2011 AIA Kansas City Merit Award
- 2011 AIA Kansas Merit Award
- 2011 AIA Central States Region Merit Award



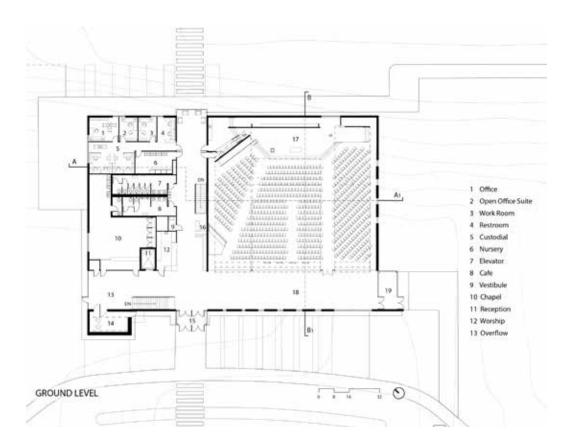


05 **LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HOPE** ANKENY, IOWA USING DESIGN TO CREATE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN SPIRITUALITY AND NATURE IMPACT Porosity that creates visual and emotional connections between spirituality and nature INNOVATION Site manages stormwater of the neighboring suburban context

Lutheran Church of Hope is the suburban satellite campus of a large Evangelical Lutheran Church in the heart of lowa. The church is a place of sanctuary and connection within a rapidly expanding contextual environment composed of mixed-use development along an arterial street connecting multiple neighborhoods. The simple, white precast concrete form sits in stark contrast to the earth tone sided and shingled environment of the surrounding suburb.

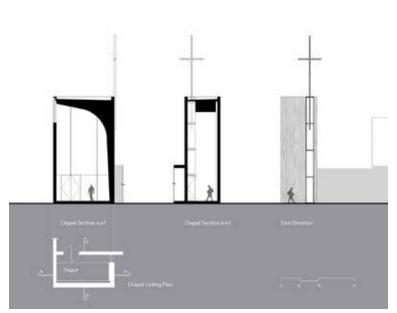
The twenty-acre site is developed with low-maintenance native vegetation and a pond to manage stormwater for the larger series of residential and commercial lots surrounding it. Over time, a prayer walk and a memorial grove of trees will surround the pond.

The 24/7 chapel anchors the structure to the site, reaching upward with a symbolic cross, and reaching outward with a wall that forms the southern face of the main gathering space. The gathering wall, which grows from the chapel form, gradually increases in porosity to provide views to and from the worship environment. These porous walls will always remain the primary focus, serving as an organizing device to inform facility growth over time. The volumes of the church are contained within a simple rectangular footprint wrapped by smooth, white concrete walls. Within the worship space, white interior folded wall surfaces continue to wrap space and volume and culminate in a glass cross that is revealed through light.















- 2016 AIA Kansas Merit Award
- 2016 AIA Central States Region Honor Award
- 2015 AIA Kansas City Honor Award
- 2015 AIA Iowa Honor Award



06

FINE ARTS AND DESIGN STUDIOS
JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

CREATING A CROSS POLLINATION OF IDEAS AND CREATIVITY THROUGH DESIGN

IMPACT

The design is delivering on its goal to create a beautiful and inviting framework for collaboration, new synergies, and thoughtfully crafted connections for the creation and display of art

INNOVATION

included careful consideration of building envelope, energy use, occupant health and well-being, building systems and connection to the surrounding campus; anticipated total energy savings of about 25% over baseline

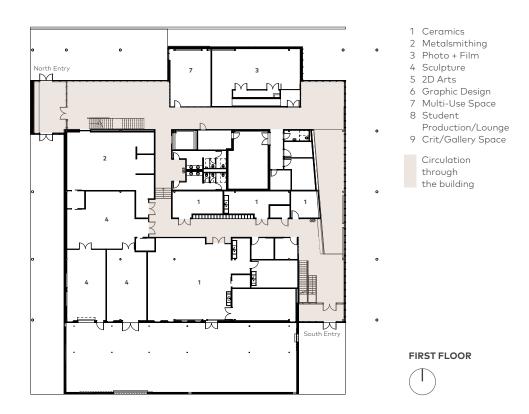




The new Fine Arts + Design Studios building at Johnson County Community College (JCCC) brings together related disciplines into a single, carefully crafted facility - graphic design, sculpture, ceramics, metals, painting, drawing, photography, and filmmaking. The **building and its spaces exemplify the vision of a cross pollination of ideas, providing a framework for new synergies and enhanced collaboration across disciplines** that are currently dispersed across campus.

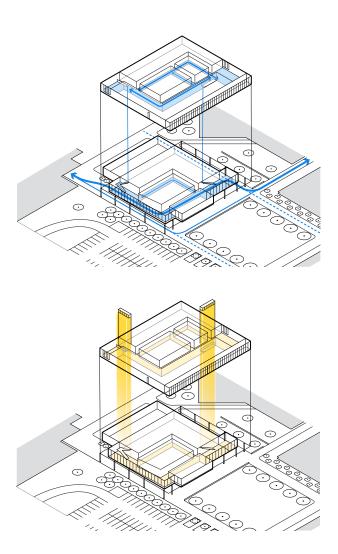
The design of the Fine Arts + Design Studios **project has included careful consideration of the building envelope, energy use, occupant health and wellbeing, building systems and connection to the surrounding campus.** The project is currently on target to achieve a LEED V4 Silver rating. It is anticipated that the building will achieve a total energy savings of about 25% over the baseline case.

In addition to providing flexible and vibrant interior studios, the **building is thoughtfully** sited to provide intimately scaled exterior spaces for the creation and display of art, to integrate and strengthen campus connections, and to provide strong human connections to nature.





Circulation through (top right) and within the building (bottom right)



- 2019 AIA Kansas Merit Award
- 2019 AIA Central States Region Honor Award



07

MAKERS QUARTER BLOCK D SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

UPENDING WORKPLACE CONVENTIONS

IMPACT

Anticipated to become the first commercial office building in downtown San Diego to achieve Net Zero Energy and LEED Platinum certification

INNOVATION

Exposed concrete frame integrates with the natural ventilation systems to utilize a night purge of thermal mass for passive cooling during the day. A high-performance facade utilizes active shading systems that enhance daylighting and enable users to customize daylighting levels within individual tenant spaces









As part of Makers Quarter—a new arts, culture, and innovation district in downtown San Diego's East Village—Block D has been designed to upend workplace conventions and establish high benchmarks for future development within the district. Providing more than 50,000 SF of office and retail space, Block D evolves current notions about the workplace.

The building redefines the workplace as a healthy, flexible environment for entrepreneurs and artists to create and innovate, while fostering a culture of community and synergy that extends beyond the building walls. A landmark project, Block D aims to be the first commercial office building in downtown San Diego to achieve Net Zero Energy and LEED Platinum certification. As the first office project within the five-block Makers Quarter development, Block D will serve as proof of concept for the remaining four blocks.

Block D is a product of research seeking to understand the relationship between human health and time spent in nature. Located in San Diego's mild climate—an intersection of perennial sunlight and ocean breezes—the building provides immersive access to nature by embracing daylight, ventilation, and views.

- 2019 The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design Green Good Design Award
- 2019 San Diego Green Building Council Merit Award LEED BD+C Category
- 2018 AIA San Diego Citation Award
- 2018 AIA Kansas City Merit Award, Architecture Large
- 2018 AIA Kansas Honor Award
- 2018 AIA Iowa Merit Award
- 2018 AIA Central States Region Citation Award





08

PACIFIC CENTER CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

A TECH CAMPUS THAT CONNECTS PEOPLE WITH NATURE TO INCREASE WORKPLACE WELLBEING

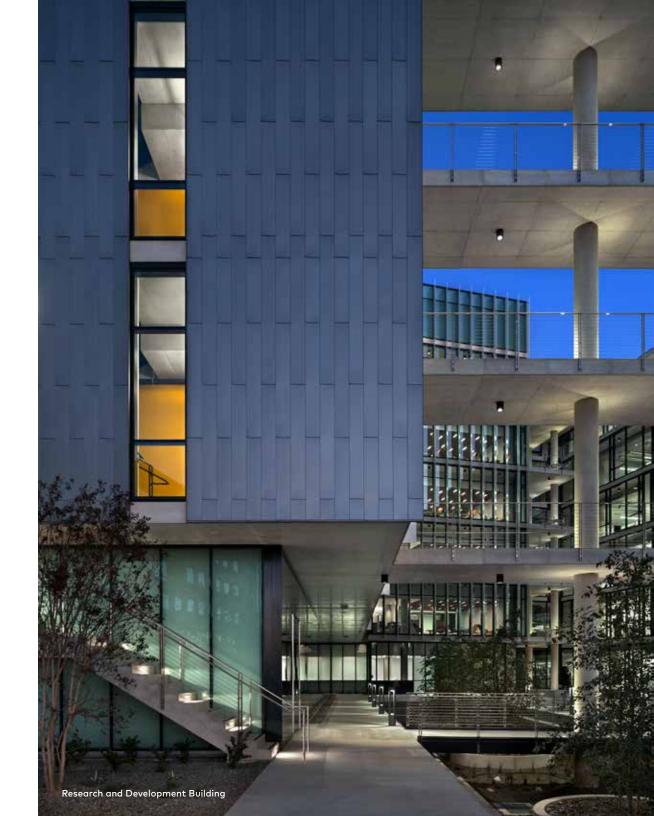
IMPACTS

Optimized passive design strategies achieve highperformance results and provide a high-quality interior workplace environment to boost employee productivity by 16-18%

INNOVATION

Beyond their overtly innovative sustainable design strategies for decreased energy and water usage and increased employee productivity, these buildings are designed to strongly emphasize a connection to nature, turning a vehicle-oriented corporate campus into a pedestrian-oriented environment that encourages humans engage with nature





The Pacific Center Campus Development (PCCD) is **designed around one notion: human nature.** The overall master plan for this San Diego tech campus turns a fundamentally vehicle-oriented campus into a pedestrian-focused one, with urban-scaled active, natural spaces and trails that extend the building into the site.

The Research + Development (R+D) Building includes all office and lab program spaces. **Employee surveys requesting natural light and ventilation drove design elements** such as an open, daylit stair with bold, colored graphics to encourage connections between floors.

The Amenities Building is a highly interactive, porous facility that promotes connection on multiple levels. The program was derived from a visioning process that identified employees' priorities and **combined** dining, training, exercise, and wellness services into a single building. The scaled outdoor spaces connect to Lopez Canyon beyond, coming alive through human interaction.



CAMPUS SITE PLAN

- 1 main courtyard
- 2 east courtyard
- 3 exterior meeting zones
- 4 interior courtyard
- 5 grand stair
- 6 exterior stair
- 7 bike storage
- 8 collaboration terrace
- 9 bioswale
- 10 modular wetlands
- 11 breakout meeting spaces
- 12 fountain
- 13 herb garden
- 14 north dining terrace
- 15 dining terrace
- 16 rooftop event space
- 17 green roof
- 18 athletic sports field
- 19 basketball court
- 20 campus composting station
- 21 urban garden
- 22 orchard
- 23 bocce court
- 24 central meadow
- 25 electric car charging station
- 26 tesla super charging stations
- 27 shuttle stop
- 28 trail
- 29 formal courtyard



- 2018 The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture American Architectural Award
- 2018 ASLA Southern California Honor, Landscape Design Awards
- 2018 AIA California Council Merit Award
- 2017 The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture & Design & The European Centre for Architecture Art Green Good Design Award
- 2017 IIDA Gold Mid-America Design Awards, Corporate-Large
- 2017 Architizer A+Awards Special Mention, Office Mid Rise
- 2016 ENR California Best Project, Southern California, Office/Retail/Mixed Use
- 2016 AIA San Diego Honor Award
- 2016 AIA Kansas City Merit Award
- 2016 AIA Kansas Merit Award
- 2016 AIA Iowa Merit Award













Amenities Building







- 2018 ASLA Southern California Landscape Design Honor Awards
- 2017 The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture & Design & The European Centre for Architecture Art American Architecture Award
- 2017 IIDA Gold, Mid-America Design Awards, Corporate-Large
- 2017 Architizer A+Awards Special Mention, Office-Mid Rise
- 2017 AIA Kansas City Merit Design Award
- 2017 AIA Kansas Merit Design Award
- 2017 AIA Iowa Honor Design Award
- 2017 AIA California Council Merit Design Award
- 2017 ENR California Best Project Southern California, Office/Retail/Mixed Use
- 2016 AIA Central States Region Merit Design Award

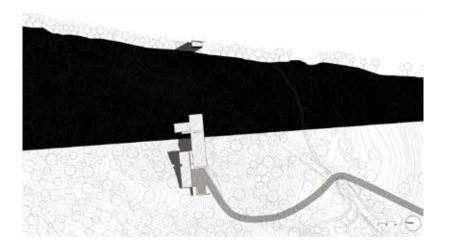




Located on acreage in rural lowa, the Ravine Residence creates an experience of living within the landscape. **The result is a building** that sits in perfect balance with nature and blurs the lines between indoor and outdoor.

The building's primary gesture, a transparent social space elevated in the tree canopy, spans the ravine below. This social space serves as the core of the house, connecting the entry sequence on the west to the bedrooms on the opposite bank, and strongly connecting humans within to the landscape.

As the house wraps through the site, it presents a collection of carefully curated experiences. Axial views intersect layers of nature and light, glass and wood. Fleeting reflections and expansive vistas blur the boundaries between interior and exterior. Rigorous detailing and a restrained material palette create a taught canvas for the play of light and shadow throughout the course of days and seasons. Through these designed experiences, a family engages in a mutable dialog between house and site.









AWARDS

- 2017 AIA Kansas City Merit Award, Architecture
- 2017 AIA Iowa Honor Award
- 2017 AIA Central States Region Merit Award











The project site is along the northwest edge of Kenya, along the Ugandan border, less than two degrees north of the equator. This part of West Pokot is sparsely populated, endures a harsh climate, and reduced access to clean water.



SITE PLAN

- 1 Admin
- 2 Classroom
- 3 Library/Computer
- 4 Lab
- 5 Composting Toilets
- 6 Dining Hall
- 7 Boys Dorm
- 8 Girls Dorm
- 9 Community Center
- 10 Ministry Center
- 11 Teachers' Housing
- 12 Maintenance
- 13 Gateway Stand
- 14 Production Garden
- 15 Livestock
- Nodes (community art project)





This is the story of a community imagining a different future for themselves and the path they took to realize it. It began with seeking peace in the region through access to clean water, then enhancing educational opportunities for their primary school graduates. Because of its remote location in northwest Kenya and within a community of subsistence farmers and pastoralists, true sustainability has been the driver for each design decision, including design integration of a severe environment, an engaged community, and local economics. The traditional pastoral lifestyle of the people in this region creates a population that is intimately connected to the land. This is evident in all aspects of their lives, including their traditional structures.

This new high school campus will accommodate 320 students upon full buildout. Structures include classrooms, offices, dormitories, and teacher housing.

From brickmaking to the gathering of materials, local labor is utilized throughout the construction process, positively impacting the local economy. On-site activities of agricultural best practices and livestock development provide educational opportunities for adults in the community while fulfilling basic food needs for student and faculty.

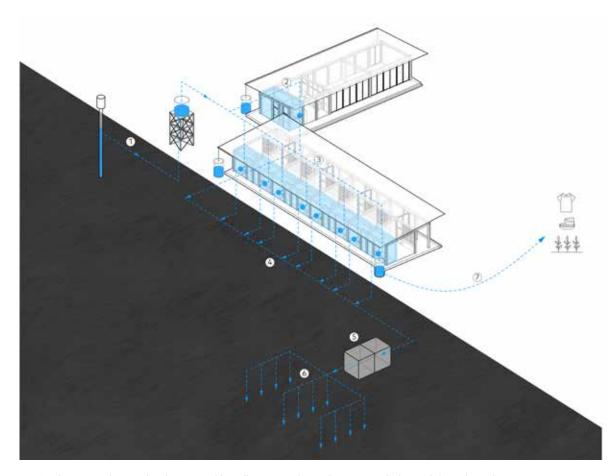
Design constraints and opportunities are dictated by the place but result in extraordinary, truly symbiotic relationship between nature and the human built environment: zero net energy, zero net water, emphasis on regional materials and local labor, and community engagement to ensure generational success.

AWARDS

- 2019 AIA Committee on the Environment Top Ten Project
- 2018 AIA Kansas City Honor Award







- 1. A solar powered pump distributes potable well water to elevated storage tanks located throughout the site
- 2. Potable water supplies the kitchen and bathroom in the living and dining building
- 3. Potable water supplies the bathrooms in each teacher housing unit
- 4. Wastewater is collected and sent to a septic tank
- 5. The anaerobic process separate the solids from the wastewater in the septic tank
- 6. Liquid effluent is discharged from septic tank; drainfields filter the water as it returns to water table
- 7. Harvested rainwater is used for laundry, dishes and irrigation
- 8. Diagram of 10 regional water wells; high school site shown for context











