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ACI ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF ANNUAL EXCELLENCE IN CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION AWARDS



Palais d'Iéna, Restoration of the façades, Awarded 1st Prize, Category Repair and Restoration
Anastasis Church, Awarded 2nd Prize, Category Low Rise Building

Farmington Hills, Michigan, USA, (October, 30, 2019) - The American Concrete Institute (ACI) announced the winners of the 2019 Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards, who were honored during the Institute's Concrete Convention & Exposition, October 21, 2019 in Cincinnati, OH, USA.

The Restoration of the façades of the Palais d'Iéna, located in Paris, France, was awarded 1st place in the Repair and Restoration category. The ACI Paris Chapter submitted the project to ACI.

To restore the building's façades beyond a simple renovation, the causes of degradations and their consequences were analyzed. A specific protocol was developed, phasing the work to reproduce the existing hammered concrete finishes. Rust was removed from the soft iron reinforcing bars and decayed concrete eliminated beyond the reinforcement a little farther than usual to place the newly formulated concrete, with a few centimeters of extra thickness from the surface. After a few weeks, the concrete was hammered. For the raw concrete, specific formwork was used to reproduce the building's original board marks.

The ACI Paris Chapter selected this project as an iconic operation where scientific concrete knowledge, historical vision and technical care in workmanship have been jointly serving restoration of the outstanding value of architectural heritage.

Project Team Members jointly honored with this award are: Owner: Conseil Économique Social et Environnemental (CESE); Architectural Firm: Agence Arnaud de Saint-Jouan; Engineering Firm: Bureau Michel Bancon; General Contractor: Pierrenoël; Concrete Contractor: Freyssinet; technical and cultural advisor: Laboratoire de Recherche des Monuments Historiques (LRMH).

The Anastasis Church, located in Saint-Jacques de la Lande, Ille-et-Vilaine, France, was awarded 2nd place in the Low Rise Building category. The ACI Paris Chapter submitted the project to ACI.

The Anastasis Church is a sculptural building. Its concrete had to be white and uniform, so maturity monitoring was prescribed to allow strict control of stripping times. Also, walls were cast over their full heights, without horizontal joints. The vertical joints between casting phases were carefully positioned at the level of the vertical imprints of the formwork, and they disappear into the general layout. The high pressure of self-consolidating concrete in 12 m (39 ft) high forms led to the use of stiffer forms.

The ACI Paris Chapter selected the project as an example of careful and successful implementation of scientific and technical knowledge in rheology, early-age thermal effects, joint treatment and overall concrete execution technology having served a delicate and meaningful architectural vision.

Project Team Members jointly honored with this award are: Owner: Association Diocésaine de Rennes; Architectural Firm: Álvaro Siza; Associate Architect: Jean-Pierre Pranlas-Descours Agency; Engineering Firm: EVP Ingénierie; General and Concrete Contractor: Léon Grosse.

The ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards were created to honor the visions of the most creative projects in the concrete industry, while providing a platform to recognize concrete innovation, technology, and excellence across the globe. To be eligible for participation in the Excellence Awards, projects needed to be winners at a local ACI Chapter level and submitted by that Chapter, or chosen by one of ACI's International Partners.

An independent panel of esteemed industry professionals judged projects and selected winners based on architectural and engineering merit, creativity, innovative construction techniques or solutions, innovative use of materials, ingenuity, sustainability and resilience, and functionality.

The highest honor was presented to the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (ITHRA), Eastern Province, Saudi Arabia. This award is given to a project that demonstrates excellence in concrete innovation and technology, and stands out above all other entries.

All the winning projects were selected from among several possible categories, and included:

- Decorative Concrete
 - 1st Place: **Qatar National Library, Doha, Qatar.**
 - 2nd Place: **Metro State University of Denver–Aerospace & Engineering Building: Denver, Colorado, United States.**
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- High-Rise Buildings
 - 1st Place: **Generali Tower, Milano, Italy.**
 - 2nd Place: **Statue of Unity, Gujarat, India.**

- Infrastructure
 - 1st Place: **I-91 Brattleboro Bridge–Concrete Bridges to Nature: Brattleboro, Vermont, United States.**
 - 2nd Place: **Goethals Bridge Replacement Project: Elizabeth, New Jersey, United States.**

- Low-Rise Buildings
 - 1st Place: **Hamad Port Project–Design and Build of Visitors Centre, Doha Port, Doha, Qatar.**
 - 2nd Place: **Anastasis Church, Ille-et-Vilaine, France.**

- Mid-Rise Buildings
 - 1st Place: **King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (ITHRA), Eastern Province, Saudi Arabia.**
 - 2nd Place: **MGM National Harbor, Oxon Hill, Maryland, United States.**

- Repair & Restoration
 - 1st Place: **Palais d'Iéna (Restoration of the Façades), Paris, France.**
 - 2nd Place: **Lake Peachtree Spillway Replacement: Peachtree, Georgia, United States.**

The winning project details can be found at [ACIExcellence.org](https://www.concrete.org/CIExcellence). Entries for the 2020 Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards are being accepted now through April 6, 2020.

Visit [ACIExcellence.org](https://www.concrete.org/CIExcellence.org) for more information.

Photos available on request

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Always advancing – Founded in 1904 with a headquarters in Farmington Hills, MI, USA, and a regional office in Dubai, UAE, the American Concrete Institute is a leading authority and resource worldwide for the development, dissemination, and adoption of its consensus-based standards, technical resources, educational & training programs, certification programs, and proven expertise for individuals and organizations involved in concrete design, construction, and materials, who share a commitment to pursuing the best use of concrete. For additional information, visit www.concrete.org.

The ACI Paris Chapter has been created in 1994 under the auspices of the French Association for Civil Engineering (AFGC) as an « Embassy » for mutual benefit of increased mutual knowledge between French & European civil and construction engineers and the World of Concrete especially in North America. For additional information, visit <https://chaptireaciparis.com>.
