

2011 PINNACLE AWARDS



MARBLE
INSTITUTE
of America

GRANDE PINNACLE ★ EXCELLENCE ★ MERIT ★ MIGLIORE ★ CRAFTSMANSHIP ★ SCHOLARSHIP



Thank you to our sponsors

MARMOMACC



Letter from the President



One of the most exciting events of the year for the Marble Institute of America is the annual Awards Luncheon held during StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas in Las Vegas. It's at the Awards Luncheon that we honor the winners of the MIA Pinnacle Awards, a worldwide competition to select the year's best stone projects in commercial, residential, restoration/renovation and sustainability. One of those category winners is then chosen to receive the Grande Pinnacle Award for the best overall project. Also recognized are the winners of the Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year, and the winner of the MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award.

Introduced three years ago, the Grande Pinnacle Award honors the winning MIA company representative with a trophy and a trip to the Veronafiere in Verona, Italy. New this year, a Grande Pinnacle Award and a trip to the Veronafiere will be presented to a representative from the architectural firm that designed the award-winning project.

Another addition to the 2011 awards program allows all winners of Pinnacle Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit to invite an architect from the award-winning firm to StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas 2012 in Las Vegas. Through the generous support of Hanley Wood Exhibitions, these award-winning architects will attend StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas to take part in the Designing with Natural Stone Day.

In this brochure, you'll find all of the winners of the various competitions. It may also serve as a stimulus for you to enter the awards competition next year.

I know you will join me in congratulating all of the winners and thanking our sponsors, Marmomacc for the Grande Pinnacle Award and Campolonghi Italia for its sponsorship of the MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year Award.

G.K. Naquin
2011 MIA President
Marble Institute of America

Award	Page
Grande Pinnacle Award.....	4-5
Pinnacle Awards of Excellence	6-7
Pinnacle Awards of Merit	8-11
Special Pinnacle Awards of Merit for Sustainability	11-12
MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award	12
MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year	13
Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement.....	14
Judges Comments	15

Thank you to our sponsors

MARMOMACC



Pinnacle Awards

The Marble Institute of America's prestigious Pinnacle Awards honor stone companies around the world for projects that stand out above the rest.



For the first time in 2011, the award's sponsor Marmomacc, will present a Grande Pinnacle Award to an architect from the firm involved with the winning project. In addition, that architect will win a trip to Marmomacc to attend Veronafiere's week-long continuing education program on designing with natural stone.

Also new this year, all Pinnacle Award of Excellence and Award of Merit winners now have the opportunity to invite an architect from the firm involved in their winning project to StonExpo 2012. With the generous support of Hanley Wood Exhibitions, these award-winning architects will receive 3 nights lodging in Las Vegas and will be invited to a VIP reception. Marmomacc will invite the winning architects

to take part in a full-day educational program held during StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas.

Judging the numerous entries was a challenging task. The final selection was for the coveted Grande Pinnacle Award, which honors the top overall project. This award is sponsored by Marmomacc, the world's most important stone show, held in Verona, Italy.

Again this year the MIA sought to identify and award a project, in one of the categories, that demonstrates environmental responsiveness and successful resolution of sustainability goals.

Thanks to our Grande Pinnacle Award sponsor:

MARMOMACC



2011 Pinnacle Awards Judges:

Ron Fiegenschuh

Lehman Smith McLeish (LSM)
1212 Banks N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

James McCrery

McCrery Architects
900 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Christian R. Pongratz

Pongratz Perbellini Architects
VRooMSTUDIO
Via d.a. tridentina 9
37057 s.g.l. Verona, Italy

Brett Rugo

Immediate MIA Past President
Rugo Stone LLC
7953 Angleton Court
Lorton, VA 22079



Grande Pinnacle Award

Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement



The Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement was established in 2003 to recognize an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the natural stone industry and the Marble Institute of America. The award is named for MIA's long-time Technical Director, the late Vincent R. Migliore, who was the first recipient. The 2011 award winner was chosen by the MIA Board of Directors from nominations submitted by the MIA membership.

Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year



The Marble Institute of America established the MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year Award in 2009, adding a new dimension to its recognition programs. While it has long presented awards to top stone projects in its highly publicized Pinnacle Awards competition, the new award is designed to recognize the skilled individuals who actually craft and install stone and train the young people who are the future of the natural stone industry. There is nothing more important than excellence in craftsmanship to get the most out of nature's finest and most beautiful building material.

The 2011 award winner was chosen by a panel of six MIA past presidents.

Thanks to our sponsor:



Natural Stone Scholarship Award



The MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award was established by the Marble Institute of America to provide educational opportunities for aspiring fabricators, installers, or administrative apprentices interested in furthering their careers within the natural stone industry.

The scholarship covers travel and registration costs to StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas and the MIA Annual Meeting. Scholarship winners have the opportunity to gain valuable technical and practical knowledge, meet and network with leading stone professionals, and explore potential for future leadership.

Funds are made possible through the generous donations of MIA members worldwide.



GRANDE PINNACLE AWARD



MIA Member Company:

Britishstoneworks

Lakewood, Ohio

Stone Installer/Stone Carver

Other Project

Team Members:

Santa Barbara Courthouse

Legacy Foundation

Client

Robert Ooley, AIA

Architect

Satellite Models

Styrofoam Model

Stoneyard Building Materials

Stone Supplier

Scansite

3D On-site Scanning

Hunt Studios

Stone Carver

Stone:

Santa Barbara Sandstone



Restoration/Renovation



The Spirit of the Ocean Fountain Santa Barbara, California

The newly replaced Spirit of the Ocean Fountain stands outside of the Santa Barbara County Courthouse, a National Historic Landmark.

Sadly, the original Spirit of the Ocean Fountain, first created in 1927 decayed and fell apart over decades, due to natural deterioration and human neglect.

Five blocks of Santa Barbara Sandstone were cut from boulders in a nearby location. The challenge of replicating the original fountain was met by using old photos and a Styrofoam replica of the original fountain.

A 3-D scan was taken of the original fountain and a CNC machine created the Styrofoam model. The artists had to mold clay and plaster to the Styrofoam sculpture, using early photos of the original fountain as their model, to correct the decayed parts of the original fountain. Using chisels with tips custom shaped to match the original chisels used, the artist's goal was to get as close to the original fountain as possible, without losing a single detail.

The stone was crained onto the lawn of the courthouse, and a 40 x 40 foot carving studio was set up, opening the project to public viewing for the project's seven month duration. This encouraged and inspired questions and comments from the public. Britishstoneworks's goal in replacing the Spirit of the Ocean Fountain was to preserve as much history as possible. It was also incredibly important not to leave their artistic handprints on the fountain, but to preserve the original artist's work.



AWARD of EXCELLENCE



MIA Member Company:

KEPCO+

Salt Lake City, Utah

Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:

The Irvine Company

Client/Owner

LPA Architects

Architect

McCarthy Construction

General Contractor

Corsi & Nicolai

Stone Fabricator

Stone Supplier

Stone:

Roman Classico Travertine

Turkish Brown Travertine



Irvine Spectrum Lot 111

Irvine, California

Located in the heart of Irvine, California is one of the world's largest centers for research, technology, and commerce – the 5,000-acre Irvine Spectrum Center. In 2008, 225,000 square feet of travertine was installed on the exterior of two identical 15-story towers in this prestigious development. Natural stone was selected for the exterior of these twin structures to reflect the quality and luxury synonymous with the developer's brand. Each 15-story tower is clad with over 14,963 pieces of unfilled, honed Roman Classico Travertine and 726 pieces of Turkish Brown Travertine, which was used as banding at the 3rd, 13th, and 15th floor reveals; LED lighting also illuminates the highest reveal. The entrance canopies were handset while the towers utilize 1,860 Cygnus Panels per building. The project schedule only allowed six months from the time the project was awarded until the first shipment of fabricated stone was to arrive at the installer's panel fabrication facility. Utilizing the Cygnus Panel System to install the stone not only allowed the project schedule to be achieved, but it also increased the quality of the façade. This light-weight system is particularly beneficial in high seismic zones, such as California, since the earthquake loads on the structure are greatly reduced. The completed Irvine Spectrum Lot 111 buildings reflect a modern elegance and beauty only achievable through the use of natural stone, and despite this tough economy, the buildings enjoy an 80% leasing rate.



AWARD of EXCELLENCE



MIA Member Companies:

KEPCO+

Salt Lake City, Utah

Stone Installer

Bestview International

Wood Dale, Illinois

Stone Fabricator

Other Project

Team Members:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Client/Owner

Abbarch Architecture

GSBS Architects

Architects

Dominion Fairmile

General Contractor

Sabadini – Victoria, Brazil

Stone Supplier

Stone:

Bronco Siena Granite

Commercial Exterior



LDS Vancouver Temple Langley, British Columbia

As with all of its Temples, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints wanted the Vancouver Temple to be an inspiration to all who viewed it. The temple is clad with almost 30,000 SF of pristine Bronco Siena Granite and features intricate architectural detailing at the corners, windows, and doors. Constructed on the highest elevation in Langley Township, the Vancouver Temple stands as an impressive example of the elegance and permanence achievable with natural stone. Yet, the success of this beautiful edifice was dependent on the collaboration that began more than 12 months before the first stone was installed. Great care was taken during the preconstruction phase to ensure the project's stone goals would be achieved. Designed as a gravity-stacked masonry project, the average stone thickness was an impressive (and hefty) 75 mm. The window surrounds for each of the 18 full height windows feature a multi-level stepped pattern. Additionally, the pilaster columns of the building are accented by a design engraved into the cubic stones. The tops of the columns feature a dental motif. The majority of the exterior stone is river washed, while the stones on the corners and window surrounds are honed. A total of 4,450 individual stone pieces were installed on the building in approximately nine months. The temple is truly a beautiful example of what can be accomplished with collaboration and teamwork.

Commercial Exterior



LDS Church History Library Salt Lake City, Utah

The LDS Church History Library is the newest structure on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints campus in downtown Salt Lake City. The honed Uinta Gold Granite comprising the majority of the exterior emanates strength and significance, while the building's conservative design evokes respect suitable for the historic artifacts housed within. Polished Wyndom Grey Granite was used as an accent around the windows, while honed Turkish White Limestone was used to clad the seven full columns located at the entrance of the building as well as the twenty partial columns spanning from the 3rd floor to the roof line at the fourth floor windows. Approximately 55% of the 53,500 square feet of natural stone exterior was hand set, while the remaining 45% was installed utilizing a panel system. Panels ranged in size from 3' x 8' to 8-1/2' x 30' and typical stones were 3' x 6'. Building corners and the polished stones surrounding the windows are cubic to give the façade the look of thicker stone, while the large vault area of the building is accented with rock-finished granite banding. The honed limestone columns located at the building entrance are clad on both the exterior and the interior of the building to create a look of solid stone columns. The new archive library design projects the strength and historical significance desired by the owner and provides a state of the art facility to preserve the delicate documents and artifacts.

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Companies:

KEPCO+, Salt Lake City, Utah
Stone Installer

Bestview International

Wood Dale, Illinois
Stone Supplier/Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:

**The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-Day Saints**

Client

MHTN Architects, Architects

**Jacobsen Swinerton
Joint Venture**

General Contractor

**Coldspring Granite
(MIA Member Company)**

Stone Supplier/Fabricator

Stone:

Uinta Gold Granite
Wyndom Grey Granite
Turkish White Limestone

Commercial Interior



Sahra Spa at the Cosmopolitan Las Vegas, Nevada

The Sahra Spa at the Cosmopolitan was derived from the conceptual idea of having an experience of being in the crevasse of a canyon. The designers met with Las Vegas Rock (LVR) to produce a material that was unifying and could accurately depict nature's sculptural motion throughout the space. LVR was able to provide a "windswept" finish to their stone to emulate winds dramatic affect on natural landscapes. To provide an overall unification to the spa, a beautiful Meta-Quartzite stone was utilized in several different applications to the walls, stairs, ceilings, terrazzo flooring, pool coping, a decorative sink, and the large belly slab in the Hammam, which is heated for an experience like no other.

LVR provided a number coded, colored mapping system with AutoCad® to help aid in the installation of the panels. With the mapping system, LVR was able to quarry and cut to size stone for the project on time. The wall system consisted of 2" to 4" undulating panels that LVR kerfed in house to assist the mechanical fastening that was utilized due to weight restrictions. LVR hand chiseled and sandblasted the panels to portray the overall aesthetic that the designers had conceptualized.

From the conceptual renderings of the designer, to the final installation, the overall feeling when experiencing the Sahra Spa is one that is a unique stone experience!

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company:

Las Vegas Rock, Inc.
Jean, Nevada
*Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator*

Other Project Team Members:

United/Klai Juba
Architect

W. A. Richardson
General Contractor

Cadillac Stone Works
Stone Installer

Stone:

Meta-Quartzite

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company: SMG Stone Company, Inc.

Sun Valley, California
Stone Installer
Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:

Langdon Wilson Architects
Architect

Snyder Langston
General Contractor

Morgan Italia S.R.L.
Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator

Stone:

Antiqued Turkish Classic Travertine
Sunset Beige Granite
Impala Black Granite
Black Absolute Granite

Commercial Interior



District Attorney's Office Building Riverside, California

This 9-story District Attorney's Office Building is the first high rise to be built in downtown Riverside in over twenty years. The six stone columns feature mechanically attached Antiqued Turkish Classic Travertine. The pieces ranged from 3' to almost 7' high to create one column from floor to ceiling. A combination of Sunset Beige Granite and Impala Black Granite was used for the interior floor paving with sizes ranging from 3' to 6' and 1-1/4" thick. The rotunda pavers are on a radius design using the same granite as the interior floor. The solid round corner pieces incorporated with the elevator lobby walls are of Antiqued Turkish Classic Travertine.

A challenge included the polished Black Absolute Granite 30 foot reception desk and base which followed the radius of the lobby. SMG matched the joints on the face of the reception desk to the joints on the pavers. The lobby benches are composed of polished Black Absolute Granite and the custom made display pedestals are Polished Absolute Black Granite. Other challenges include design change and a tight construction schedule. SMG was able to meet and exceed every need of the General Contractor and the client; from assisting the architect with the details of design through accurate shop drawing and cut lists which allowed the material to be ordered and installed effectively.

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company: Marmol Export, U.S.A.

Miami, Florida
Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:

KM-Plaza
Construction Services
General Contractor
Client

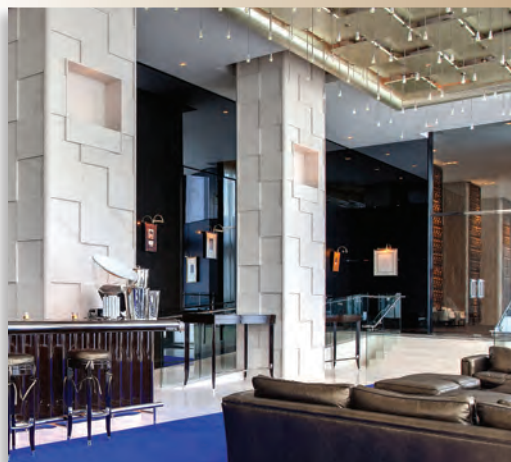
Flex Design Inc.
Lor, PA
Architects

M Chow Design Group
Design

Stone:

Crema Beida Limestone

Commercial Interior



Mr. Chow South Beach, Florida

The Mr. Chow restaurant project involved using only one type of material; a light-cream-colored limestone. Crema Beida Limestone from Spain was chosen and had to be special ordered from the quarry to fulfill the specifications of the owners.

The design of the location had to observe the rules of Feng Shui. The tiles used for the floor and columns had to be special ordered to the dimensions required to satisfy both Good Fortune and a balance of Ying and Yang in Chinese Numerology. The floor tiles were cut to measure exactly 26" x 26"; as the sound of the number 26, in Chinese; translate to "easily profitable." The column tiles were cut to 17" x 17" in order to accommodate the request that the columns be split to show three rows running up and down. The numbers 1, 3, and 7 represent Unity, Growth, and Certainty, respectively. It was noticed that the summation of the numbers in the tiles, 2+6 and 1+7, equal 8, which is considered the most powerful lucky number.

Another unique aspect of the project was the design for the columns; the tiles were laid to create a monochromatic checkerboard pattern with every other tile raised to create a relief effect. Also, the edges of the columns were covered with a rounded edge so as to eliminate all corners. Both the relief effect and rounded edges are a way to keep Good Energy (Chi) from leaving or dispersing; they force it to bounce back and flow continuously.

Residential Interior/Exterior



Private Residence

The clients were committed to creating an expression of the art of living by way of the thoughtful design of their ultimate home. The relationship between owner, architect and designer was a shared and genuine search for the most perfect solutions. Exterior walls of Old Spruce Mountain Stone flow seamlessly to enrich the interior. The interior stone floors consist mainly of Cara Grande Marble with selected use of complementary stone where special patterns have been used to dramatize certain architectural spaces.

An irregular kitchen island countertop consists of Azul Aran Granite with a triple laminate reverse bevel edge. The guest level powder room, referred to as "The Jewel Box," consists of multi color Persian Onyx and Red Jasper Marble arranged in angular patterns that connect across the floor, extending up the four walls and across the ceiling. Two additional guest bathrooms feature piano key stone floor patterns that turn up the wall. The custom wine room tabletop features Tiger Eye Blue, a hand-inlay of semi-precious stones. The master bathroom features a 12 foot elliptical floor medallion consisting of Bianco Laso Marble, with angular and circular pieces. In all, the interior utilizes 27 species of stone, mainly from the Verona region of Italy.

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company:
Connecticut Stone Supplies, Inc.
 Milford, Connecticut
 Stone Supplier

**Other Project
 Team Members:**

Swaback Partners PLLC
 Architect

Spencer and Associates
 Construction Managers

Studio V LLC
 Interior Design

Martany Tile
MJB Construction LLC
Cobuzzi Masonry
 Stone Installers

Stone:
 Cara Grande Marble, Persian Onyx
 Azul Bahia, Azul Aran Granite
 Red Jasper Marble, Sodalite
 Caravaggio, Giallo Sienna Marble
 Noir St. Laurent Marble

Residential Interior/Exterior



Private Residence Dallas, Texas

This private residence boasts of old-world masonry with Classic Italian Palladian Architecture. The architect designed this 6-1/4 acre creekside property around the 29,000 square-foot home. The estate incorporates a four-car garage inclusive of servants quarters, and a pool cabana/pavilion. Expansive areas of hardscape connect buildings on the property.

The main exterior cladding is Texas Lueders Limestone. It was used for wall panels as well as plinths, window surrounds, balustrade assemblies, solid columns, and cornices. In a method of old-world construction, the limestone was fabricated to plus zero in tolerance to accommodate 1/8" lime-mortar joints. "Border stones" were utilized with the lime-mortar joints system to interlock the stone façade to the CMU wall behind.

Large stone column and window assemblies make up the east and west façades. These load-bearing elements support the pediment assemblies and structure above. The arches at the Pavilion were also designed as load-bearing, where pediment kneelers were cut from two separate carved pieces and epoxied together. Weighing 7,200 lbs each, the kneelers had to be set with a 180 ton crane in order to reach over two very large existing oak trees. The garage and pool cabana were constructed with the same stone cladding system, and with similar load-bearing elements.

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company:
Dee Brown, Inc.
 Garland, Texas
 Stone Installer

**Other Project
 Team Members:**

Larry E. Boerders Architects
 Architect

Sebastian & Associates
 General Contractor

Mezger Enterprises
Texas Quarries
 Stone Suppliers

Stone:
 Texas Lueders Limestone

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company:

**Stones and Roses
International Co. Ltd.**

Samutprakarn, Thailand

Stone Supplier

Stone Fabricator

Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:

Mr. Chumsri Arnold

Client

Era Studio Ltd.

Architect

Agora Co. Ltd.

Local Design

M.S.K.

General Contractor

Stone:

Cream Limestone

Grey Basalt

White Limestone

Brown Sandstone

Residential Interior/Exterior



Sukhumvit 22 Residence Bangkok, Thailand

The building was formed by the connection of 3 shop-houses. Typically shop-houses are designed vertically with a set of half story floor levels connected by a central staircase. The connection of the 3 shop-houses created a set of 3 staircases opened to a large central open space topped by a skylight glass roof. The stair steps and risers are paved with a light color limestone which provides the link connecting the set of stairs and corridors. The lightness of the limestone participated in creating luminosity in the large stairwell. The hand-rail molded in the same limestone, underlines the graphic layout of the staircases. Each level is designed as a living area with bedrooms and adjacent bathrooms. The bathrooms are paved and clad with 2 stones of contrasting colors: dark grey basalt and white limestone. The alternative use of these 2 colors throughout the set of bathrooms and the similarity in the stone pattern and details provide a sense of unity through all the levels. The detailed design, selection and arrangement of bathroom hardware, association of contrasting textures create a contemporary and distinctive atmosphere.

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company:

Polycor

Quebec, Canada

Stone Supplier

Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:

Owner

Client

**Holzman Moss Bottino
Architecture**

Architect/Designer

M.B. Kahn Construction Co.

General Contractor

Mac's Masonry, Inc.

Stone Installer

Stone:

White Cherokee Marble

Special Award: Sustainability



FMU Performing Arts Center Florence, South Carolina

Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture designed the Francis Marion University's Performing Arts Center, a \$32.8 M construction located in Florence, South Carolina. Hidden with the stone façade of the building is a 68,000 sq ft multi-purpose theater featuring 900 seats and a revolutionary acoustic technology center made of various recycled materials.

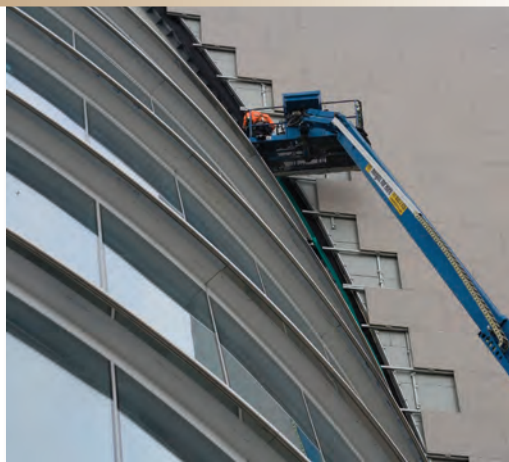
In keeping with the architect's commitment to sustainability, the design reinforces community pride and participation through the use of regional materials and symbolism. Remnant White Cherokee Marble is inset in the exterior walls to accentuate the building's depth, dimension and profile. The material also conveys memories since the pieces used are the same as Florence National Cemetery's headstones (veterans' memorials). These pieces also add depth to the façade as they are interspersed with split face marble pieces.

All White Cherokee Marble used at the site was post-production recycled material, integrated into the design to create visual interest. Sustainable elements also include the use of remnant granite for building cladding, as well as recycled content building materials such as terrazzo, marmoleum, tectum and other materials containing renewable resources such as wool carpeting, linoleum flooring and OSB millwork.

Special Award: Sustainability



Photo © Peter Barrow Photographers



Convention Centre Dublin Dublin, Ireland

Designed by Pritzker Prize winning Irish-born architect Kevin Roche, the Convention Centre Dublin (The CCD) is located in Spencer Dock in Dublin City and, at 475,000 square feet, is the largest single-use building constructed in Ireland for decades.

The CCD has a strong commitment to sustainability which includes recycling, using sustainable energy and an integrated building automated system. For example, the Centre has a thermal wheel heat recovery system and an ice storage thermal unit ISTU which chills water overnight to form large ice blocks that melt during the day to provide air conditioning for the entire building. Not only has the design team produced a stunning, state of the art International Convention Centre but it is the first in the world to be recognized as carbon neutral.

The 75,000 square foot external natural stone façade was an important element in this performance. Eclad's fully integrated thermally broken ESW system incorporates high performance insulated panels behind 30mm (1-1/4") thick Rosa Porriño and Negro Angola granites to achieve the highest level of thermal insulation across the façade. The system was independently tested to meet the most stringent ASTM and International testing criteria and has obtained "CE" marking status for use throughout Europe.

AWARD of MERIT



MIA Member Company:

Eclad Limited

Dublin, Ireland

Natural Stone Wall Cladding Systems

Other Project Team Members:

Spencer

Dock Development Co.
Client

**Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo
and Associates, LLC**

Architect

CMP/John Sisk & Son

General Contractor

Eiregramco, Ltd

Stone Installer

Ganitos Ibericos, S.A.

Stone Supplier

Stone Fabricator

Stone:

Rosa Porriño Granite

Negro Angola Granite

MIA Scholarship Award



This year's winner is Eddie Mendoza, a service technician with All American Stone and Tile Care of Victorville, California.

There is no doubt the future of the natural stone industry is dependent on our ability to attract and keep the best and brightest young talent. Mendoza's selection was based on a 500 word essay explaining his commitment to the natural stone industry. Mendoza writes in his opening sentence, "the lyrics from the classic Queen Song 'We Will, We Will, Rock You' now have a new meaning in my life. I had no idea coming into the stone industry the unlimited design and installation possibilities natural stone provides. After just one year in the industry, my intent is to be a valuable craftsman. One of the greatest things about working with stone is the challenges I face everyday, which requires patience and intuition," said Mendoza. "Attending StonExpo would give me an opportunity to excel to the next level of my career. The potential knowledge I could receive from an event like this would maximize my skill and value to my employer. It would be my honor to be the first person to receive this award, representing the renovation/restoration segment of this industry. I am very grateful to have been given this opportunity."

In a letter of recommendation, David B. Walton, president of the company, said, "Eddie has shown a good mechanical aptitude and is self-motivated. He has been a steady learner and enjoys the craft he is developing. He is entering the phase of his development where he understands what the project at hand should look like in the end and has a good feel for varying techniques to achieve that result. We look forward to him continuing his development into the craftsman he has the ability to become."

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Eddie Mendoza

Service Technician

**All American Stone
and Tile Care**

Victorville, California

The Natural Stone Scholarship Award was established by the Marble Institute of America to provide educational opportunities for aspiring fabricators, installers or administrative apprentices interested in furthering their careers in the natural stone industry.



NATURAL STONE CRAFTSMAN of the Year AWARD



Daniel Catania
Superintendent

Miller Druck
Specialty Contracting, Inc.
New York, New York

This award is designed to recognize the skilled individuals who actually craft and install stone and train the young people who are the future of the natural stone industry.



Sponsored by:



MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year



Daniel (Danny) Catania began his career shortly after graduating from college in 1978. Not sure what he wanted to do, his uncle who happened to be in the stone business, asked him if he wanted a job, which, of course, he did. He began first as a helper, then an apprentice setter, but his capability and diversity of skills soon graduated him to full mechanic and eventually to the top tradesperson. In 1979, with only one year's experience as a member of the Marble Carvers Cutters and Setters Union, Catania joined the Miller Druck Specialty Contracting Company. Danny said, "This kind of business is very gratifying because the work you do is seen all the time. It's not buried in the ceiling or behind a wall or something like that. It's out there to be seen and enjoyed. You do a good job, it's very nice. If there are mistakes, it shows as well."

Danny Catania's first project was an office lobby cladding and paving job. He was an apprentice and worked under what he now calls the "old timer" mechanics who are now retired. He was recognized early for his attention to detail, quality workmanship and pride in his completed work. Since that first job, he has worked on a plethora of small and large, residential and commercial projects using marble, granite, limestone, onyx and slate in every configuration imaginable. Barbara Cohen, president of Miller Druck Specialty Contracting said, "Danny has worked worldwide and is creative to solve every installation detail; always able to adapt to the local requirements and availability of tools and equipment. He thinks ahead to solve fabrication and installation details for a long term solution. He uses his vast experience to rig equipment to safely, and gently handles marble and stone, and always finds the most economical, practical and appropriate detail to insure the integrity of the architect's design." On each project that Danny worked on he learned and grew in his skill and experience. He is a natural leader on the jobsite. Two of his greatest qualities are his ability to teach what he knows to others and second, leading by example.

Early in his career, Danny became the top mechanic and setter for the Wintergarden project, part of the famed Battery Park City, a circular stair of treads and risers, with paving and granite cladding of 220,000 square feet. His layout abilities were immediately recognized by all the trades, and they learned they could depend on him to help layout their work, mostly because of his precision. Don Smith, partner of Skidmore Owings and Merrill, insisted on Danny being the person to come to St. Croix to install and supervise the interior of his home.

When Miller Druck Specialty Contracting Company was awarded the Canary Wharf Project in London, it was intended that local labor would be used. However, as the job began, it became apparent that the skill for the type of quality and precision demanded was not available in the local market place. Danny traveled on a moment's notice to London where he became the master mechanic and was known as the "stone king" for the entire Canary Wharf Commercial Center. He immediately developed a rapport with all the existing contractors, taught all their workers how to properly set stone, guided them on how to read the drawings, and ended up building a team of 200 workers to complete the entire project. Danny stayed in London for over five years and was cherished by the guys he taught and led.

Similar to the Canary Wharf project, Danny was called to Barcelona to work and rescue the Villa Olympica project. When Miller Druck was awarded the Bahamas Atlantis Hotel project, the client knew Danny from the Canary Wharf project and insisted that he head up the team. The project included supplying and installing some 250,000 square feet of interior and exterior lobby floors, wall claddings, fountains, bathrooms, restaurants, and exterior paving. Once again, Danny assembled a team, including many local mechanics, that needed a helping hand and Danny provided the guidance they needed.

As he traveled to many different locales, he always sought out the personal talent in each of the workers whether it be as expert mechanic, a helper, the forklift driver or the person to mix the sand and cement. He treated each and every one equally with respect, recognizing and appreciating the contribution that each person made to the team. After four years in the Bahamas, Danny returned to New York to manage the JFK International Arrivals Terminal project. It involved installation of over 400,000 square feet of granite. Danny supervised the entire project which often had 30 to 40 teams on the job at the same time, and he insured that all stone was precisely laid out to plan.

It doesn't matter how big or small the project, Danny sets his mind to the task and gives his all. Barbara Cohen will tell you, "Danny is our best salesperson because in doing his job so well, insuring that the jobs are beautiful, precise, accurate, timely and harmonious, he promotes our company. He brings out the best in stone, and in his way, he is the flagship of our industry." Stephen Sommer, veteran construction manager who worked with Danny at Canary Wharf and other major projects, says of Catania's work: "He does it professionally, with integrity, with patience, and all the while achieving a work product that is second to none, without question the best quality in the industry."

"Danny has this amazing ability to get along with everybody and to make them feel part of his team, no matter where they come from because he has the basic respect of talent," says Barbara Cohen, who nominated Catania as MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year for 2011. "Besides his accomplishments, Danny is hardworking, sincere, dedicated, honest, straightforward, witty, clever and a kind human being."

When he is not working, what does he do? Danny will tell you, "I inherited a guitar from my grandfather when he passed away. I picked it up and took lessons. I learned about the guitar and I've been playing it every since."

MIA Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement



The year was 1951, in Knoxville, Tennessee: a young Ronald Allen Busse was fresh out of high school looking for his first job. His first step was answering a classified ad for an entry-level position at the Tennessee Marble Company. Busse was interviewed and started his lifelong career in the natural stone industry the next day. The folks at Tennessee Marble obviously saw a bright future for the young man. Time would prove them right, as he would assemble a magnificent career for himself that would ultimately bring him to Las Vegas to stand and receive MIA's highest personal award; the Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Busse recalls his first days in our industry, "When I started at Tennessee Marble, I was about as low as you can get in the business; I did a little janitorial work. I was what they called a mill clerk. I was mainly a runner from the main office to the mill office. And, then as things progressed, I got into shipping and a lot of other things."

Wherever they sent Busse, he had tremendous eagerness, curiosity, and a large capacity for learning. He learned the rudiments of drafting, which he more fully developed when Tennessee Marble sent him to night school at the University of Tennessee to learn architectural drafting.

Eventually promoted to plant superintendent, Busse stayed with Tennessee Marble, which had been acquired by the Georgia Marble Company until 1962. He then joined the Ultra Marble Company (now New Mexico Travertine, Inc.) which is just outside of Albuquerque, NM. From 1967 to 1970 he worked for Vermont Marble in Texas, as well as Vermont, and in 1970 he joined McHarg Tile and Marble; a Fort Worth fabricator where he continued to learn and grow as a stone expert. In 1975, Busse started his own fabricating company, Busse Marble Company, in Smithfield, Texas. Beginning with just two guys in the shop, Busse Marble eventually grew into a firm of 75 fabricators and installers.

Throughout his career, the technical side of the business fascinated Ron Busse. As he says, "It just evolved through trying to learn everything I could about the industry, and when I worked for all of these different companies, I ended up doing everything from quarrying to being an apprentice and even a bit of setting. As I was doing all this, I wanted to know more about the industry."

Ron Busse first became involved in MIA in 1960, and later in his career put the same passion into his work for the association as he did learning the business itself. Ron first became a member of the MIA Board of Directors in 1979, and served as secretary in 1980. In 1986, he was elected treasurer and in 1987 moved up to vice president. He assumed the position of MIA President in 1988. The following year as Immediate Past President, he was named chairman of the association's long-range planning committee.

In addition to dispensing valuable technical information to fellow members, architects, contractors and others, Busse was very involved in the creation and publication of both volumes of MIA's *Dimension Stones of the World*; a major association undertaking to organize, secure, test, photograph and then publish examples of available dimension stones. The reference books were made available to the stone industry, to architects, and others in the design community. The "color plate books" as they became known, are still being sold through the MIA Bookstore. By serving as an author and technical advisor, he played an important role in the updating of MIA's *Dimension Stone Design Manual*, Volume IV, which was recognized as the premier technical resource to the stone industry, the construction industry, and to the design community. He served the MIA in the additional capacity of Technical Director from 1990 to 1995, and when Vince Migliore, for whom MIA's lifetime achievement award is named, passed away suddenly in 2003, Ron Busse was pressed into service in January 2004 until a permanent replacement was hired.

In looking back at a career that spanned more than sixty years in the stone business, Busse, who lives in Keller, Texas, simply says, "I wanted to be better all the time."

MIGLIORE AWARD for LIFETIME ACHEIVEMENT



Ronald Allen Busse
Busse Marble Company
Smithfield, Texas

The Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement was established in 2003 to recognize an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the natural stone industry and the Marble Institute of America.



AWARD FOR
Lifetime Achievement

Judges Comments



"A fine, and all too rare, example of commitment to excellence in art and in fabrication. Fine art and exquisite craft meet in this unique effort. The project's quality and beauty accumulate to a wonderful result in a project meaningful to the broad population."



"Strong design continuity with precision fabrication and installation."

"Very well executed limestone work."

"Elegant array of beautiful stone."

"Mr. Chow's project gives beautiful attention to interior design wall – ceiling patterns integrating Spanish stone. Beautiful warm atmosphere."



"Seamless integration of materials throughout the project."

"The living spectrum project is a very clean looking building. Looking at it from afar there is a warm atmosphere and perfect façade styling, but on closer look the Roman Travertine is integrated with excellence."



"Excellent craftsmanship in the construction of the fountain and exterior walls."

"The project integrates a series of stone material finishes on its exterior façade. The rough split face granite plays out its natural look. The garden retaining walls and the exterior water features, all use same material and help the building blend well with the landscape."



"Very high marks for excellence in material and craftsmanship supporting a noble design."

"Just fantastic work."

"The Temple is really an excellent project with elegant usage of granite to perfection. Great attention to detail."



"Superior execution of classical detail – clearly a well-coordinated stone masonry effort."

"Excellent detail on carving and molded shapes."

"Precision execution of complex details."

"A scholarly execution of a Palladian villa."



"Beautifully executed details."

"High quality materials and execution throughout."

"Very well cut and set stone, very uniform warm color."

"...it shows overall superior integration of granite with nice looking details."



"Crisp clean design, precise installation. Well done."

"Nice mix of material scale and finish in a clean modern application."

"A good example of modern, classy interiors with excellent finishes. Proposes a good alternative to the historical interiors."



"I admired the experimental use of the local stone and the varied effects of different finishes."

"The Sahra Spa shows great strides in material variation with bowed surfaces and nicely modulated windswept finishes. Extra credit goes to using local stone."



"Awarded for the reuse and repurposing of several stone types from several sources. This yields unique combinations and effects, and the commitment to sustainability is well-noted."

"The reuse of existing cut stone is a great opportunity to minimize energy costs and create new buildings with old materials."



"Clean simple integration of suitable materials."

"Very clean installation."

"Crisp craftsmanship."

"The District Attorney's office is given the respective interior with clean, dark colors appropriate for the type of public building."



"Admirable integration of sustainable stone assembly within a carbon-neutral building."

"Very innovative design."

"Strong sustainable design concepts that were thoughtfully executed to create a carbon neutral building."



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