

2014 MIA PINNACLE AWARDS

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PINNACLE**



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Every year applications from around the globe are submitted for the Pinnacle and Grande Pinnacle Awards, the Natural Stone Scholarship Award, the Craftsman of the Year Award, and the Migliore Lifetime Achievement Award. The size, scope, ingenuity and creative use of stone in the Pinnacle projects is truly a remarkable effort in collaboration between MIA members and the design community. I applaud both for pushing the envelope of what can be fashioned with natural stone. As mankind looks to connect with his/her environment, more structures will be created using natural stone. It is the only product that is 100% recycled, tested by time, and is completely created by the Earth.

Today we celebrate those people who want to give service to this industry, have dedicated their lives to the industry, the companies that uphold our proud traditions of quality with the Accreditation seal, and those who create the wondrous works in stone that inspire awe in mankind.

We thank all of the companies who submitted projects this year and remind all of our members that right now Mother Nature is creating more stones for you to use in the crafting of timeless structures and places to inspire the soul.

None of these awards would be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. A big thank you goes out to the following sponsors: **Marmomacc** for the Grande Pinnacle Award, **Mapei** for the Pinnacle Commercial Awards, **Blanco** for the Pinnacle Residential Awards, **Coldspring** for the Pinnacle Renovation/Restoration Awards, **Polycor** and **TexaStone Quarries** for the Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year Award, and **Coldspring** for the Natural Stone Scholarship Award.

I would like to congratulate all of the award winners, members of the Accreditation Class of 2014, and thank all of our members for making this a great year for the MIA.



Tony Malisani
MIA President 2014

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Thank You to Our Pinnacle Award Sponsors:



Pinnacle Awards

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

Again this year, 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 Veronafiore's week-long continuing education program on designing with natural stone.

Also again this year, all Pinnacle Award of Excellence and Award of Merit winners were given the opportunity to invite an architect from the firm involved in their winning project to StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas 2015. With the generous support of Hanley Wood Exhibitions, these award-winning architects receive three nights lodging in Las Vegas. Marmomacc also invites 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, held in Verona, Italy.

Thank You to Our Sponsors:

Commercial Awards



Residential Awards



Renovation/Restoration Awards



Grande Pinnacle Award



2014 Pinnacle Awards Judges:

Mr. Daniel Lobitz, Partner
Robert A.M. Stern Architects, LLP
460 West 34th Street
New York, New York 10001

Hana Kassem, AIA, LEED, AP
Director
Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates PC
11 West 42nd Street
New York, NY 10036

Christian Pongratz
Pongratz Perbellini Architects
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Jonathan Zanger
Immediate Past President,
MIA
Walker Zanger
1050 Amboy Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Chuck Muehlbauer
Technical Director
MIA



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 MIA. The award is named for MIA's long-time technical director, the late Vincent R. Migliore, who was the first recipient. The 2014 award winner was chosen by the MIA Board of Directors and two past presidents from nominations submitted by the MIA membership.

Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year



The MIA 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 Natural Stone Craftsman 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 2014 award winner was chosen by the MIA Board of Directors and two past presidents.

Thanks to our sponsors:



Natural Stone Scholarship Award



The MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award was established by the MIA 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.

Thanks to our sponsor:



Grande Pinnacle Award

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"Beautiful combination of three types of stone and pleasing variation in finishes."

"A gorgeous, juxtaposition of materials..."

Award of Excellence/Grande Pinnacle Award: Residential Interior/Exterior



MIA Member Company:

**Stones and Roses
International Co. Ltd.**
Samutprakarn, Thailand
Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator
Installer

**Other Project
Team Members:**

**Architects49
House Design Limited**
Architect

**Teamvis
Construction Co. Ltd.**
General Contractor

Stone:

Thai Travertine
Cream Limestone
Grey Basalt



Residence Navathani

Bangkok, Thailand

Traditional Thai homes are usually built as a cluster of physically separated rooms arranged around a large central terrace. Interpreting the traditional typology of the Thai houses, the Residence Navathani consists in two parallel wings, separated by a large garden and a swimming pool. The objective of the stone architecture is to give a sense of unity and blend the building with trees, plants and other natural landscape. Trees are often allowed to grow in the central area of the traditional Thai house with plants always featured prominently to create a strong relationship with nature.

The choice of Thai travertine as the main stone for the building stems from the following objectives: first, the stone must display a strong natural character with contrasting color hues and crystalline veins, which contribute to blending the architecture into the landscape. Second, the design of the stone provides a sense of unity to the building. The façade of each wing displays an array of columns of various widths and spacings and there is an alignment of the columns between the two wings. The texture is rough on the outside face of the columns and honed on the sides as it continues through the window to the inside of the house. The two wings are connected by a long screen wall that separates the drop-off area from the private areas. This wall is pierced with square openings which helps to show a relationship between the two areas. The façade facing the entrance features stone in contrasting but related ways: the right hand wing is clad with honed stone on top of a large window, while the opposite wing displays a chiseled stone wall on the bottom with a large window on top. The architecture extends to the outside of the right-hand wing with a private theater of a modern contemporary design. The stone featured on the façade changes to a minimalist grey basalt while continuing the column concept with the alternate textures grooved on the facing and honed on the sides.





MIA Member Company:

Las Vegas Rock Inc.
Jean, Nevada
Stone Supplier

**Other Project
Team Members:**

**Antero Resources
Corporation**
Client

McPherson Architecture
Architect/Designer

MATT Construction
General Contractor

**YK Stone Center
(MIA Member Company)**
Stone Fabricator and Installer

Stone:

Metaquartzite

*"Beautiful design.
The selection of stone
was critical to success."*

*"Simple, elegant design
and well executed."*

Award of Excellence: Commercial Interior



Antero Resources Corporation Denver, Colorado

Antero Resources Corporation is an independent exploration and production company engaged in the exploration, development and acquisition of natural gas and oil properties located in the Appalachian Basin. The company relocated its offices to One Union Station, the new five-story 110,000 sq. ft. office building adjacent to historic Union Station. The offices, designed by McPherson Architecture anchor the south end of Union Station Plaza, the centerpiece in the Union Station Redevelopment Project.

To highlight the focus of the company, McPherson Architecture was tasked with creating a geological theme that spoke to the Earth, its strata, and the valuable resources within. The design team created an atrium with spiral stairs to connect four levels of office space and facilitate communication between departments.

McPherson Architecture specified Las Vegas Rock's Metaquartzite stone, quarried in the Nevada desert near Jean, NV. The Metaquartzite stone is very durable. There is a geologic patent for it because it is a bit of a geological anomaly. It is pure silica bonded by quartz making it a "glass grade silica sand" that has confounded geologists, but in a good way. It is the only specific deposit of this type of stone known of on the planet. The material has a high threshold for resistance to wear and has an extraordinarily high slip resistance in the polished finish. The stone was selected because it was dramatic and emotional, but not lavish. The organic feeling of the stone set the tone for the office design, and people connected to the stone's rich, bold colors and natural characteristics. The stone is often mistaken for petrified wood.

Award of Excellence: Commercial Exterior



Photo commissioned by Nick Merrick of Hedrick Blessing. Photography by ZGF Architects.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Headquarters

Agoura Hills, California

Environmental stewardship, preserving the integrity of the surrounding environment, and crafting a sustainable, peaceful workplace were among the primary goals in creating a new headquarters for the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. A four-phased master plan was envisioned by ZGF Architects for the selected site in Agoura Hills, CA. Phase 1, a 22,240 sq. ft. two-story office building which was recently completed, is net-zero energy and LEED-Platinum registered.

The split-face stone cladding manufactured by Las Vegas Rock, enhances the synergy between nature and technology by echoing the texture and color of the surrounding local stone. The rectangular building clad in strips of auburn, burnt orange, and deep-yellow Metaquartzite, pay homage to the area's vivid landscapes and tile roofs. The exterior façade and landscape are juxtaposed with a neutral interior color palette and materials. Las Vegas Rock Metaquartzite is one of a kind. It is the only Silver Cradle to Cradle certified natural stone in the world. Cradle to Cradle Certification provides a means to tangibly and credibly measure achievement in environmentally-intelligent design and helps customers purchase and specify products that are pursuing a broader definition of quality. This means using environmentally safe and healthy materials; design for material reutilization, such as recycling; the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency; efficient use of water, and maximum water quality associated with production; as well as instituting strategies for social responsibility.

Las Vegas Rock practices ecologically-conscious manufacturing. There is zero waste in production and 100% of the Las Vegas Rock by-product is repurposed. Due to the sustainability initiatives associated with the production of the Metaquartzite stone Las Vegas Rock provided for this project, there were several points awarded towards the LEED Platinum registration with Regional Materials and Innovation in Design credits.



Photo commissioned by Nick Merrick of Hedrick Blessing. Photography by ZGF Architects.



MIA Member Company:

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

**Other Project
Team Members:**

ZGF Architects
Architect

MATT Construction
General Contractor

**Italian Marble
& Tile Company**
Stone Installer

Stone:
Metaquartzite

"Las Vegas metaquartzite stone fuses seamlessly into the sleek modern design and metal."

"Great use of materials that enhance and complement each other. Well crafted and carefully articulated."



MIA Member Company:

**Kenneth Castellucci
& Associates Inc.**

Lincoln, Rhode Island
Stone Installer

**Other Project
Team Members:**

**Division of
Capital Asset Management**

Client/Project Owner

**Perry Dean Rogers
Partners Architects**

Architect

W.T. Rich Company, Inc.

General Contractor

**A. Grebelsky & Son
(MIA Member Company)**

Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator

Stone:

Ramon Grey Limestone

*"An elegant and
well-articulated design."*

*"The use of stone enhances
and contributes significantly
to the overall design."*

Award of Excellence: Commercial Exterior



Massachusetts Maritime Academy Bourne, Massachusetts

Among the many aspirations for the ABS Information Commons was to fill an existing surface parking area with a building that would knit the campus together in a thoughtful way. Massachusetts Maritime knew they wanted a building that would be special and different, but they also asked for a solution that would be contextually sensitive. This became a challenge for the building form given a series of site constraints that included an existing wind turbine. The proposed building needed to be directly in-line with the primary wind direction for the turbine. Early wind studies showed a significant efficiency loss when utilizing a flat roof. A wind study determined that the roof should be asymmetrically tipped to create a more aerodynamic form, thereby increasing wind speed and reducing power loss. The combination of the tipped roof plane and a non-orthogonal plan resulted in a form unlike any other building on campus.

This atypical shape made choosing the exterior material a key component in blending old and new. The solution for the new building was to combine an iron spot brick and gray limestone panel. The iron spot brick compliments the existing brown brick and the variegated grey limestone compliments the existing precast concrete. The typical 2 ft. x 7 ft. stone panel size is a nice counterpoint to the smaller brick unit and is far more sympathetic in scale to the existing concrete. The stone panels run vertically with each panel being supported on its own relieving angle creating a solution that is specific to the building shape. The angle at the top of each panel is derived from the slope of the roof on that respective orientation. Seen as a whole, this detail helps make sense of an otherwise foreign geometry and provides a thoughtful solution to a difficult problem.



Award of Merit: Commercial Interior



Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) Headquarters Washington, D.C.

The Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) is the new headquarters for one of the leading think tanks in Washington, D.C. This project has achieved LEED Platinum certification. The building was designed to be fully occupied by the owner.

The interior space is completely clad and paved in elegant marbles. The walls are clad in Tennessee Pink marble with a sand blasted finish. The design allowed for the same appearance of the exterior stone finish to pass through into the interior space at all the curtain wall intersections. This helped create the appearance of a floating glass wall. The interior public space is open from the garden basement level, through the 1st floor, and open to the ceiling of the 3rd floor. This open space is completely clad with Tennessee Pink marble, fabricated by the Tennessee Marble Company, which created a very warm and uniform background. The Tennessee Pink marble is used on all nine levels of the interior.

The interior floor was fabricated in Statuario Venato honed marble in large format parallelograms with accents of a soft warm grey Fior Di Bosco. The interior paving stone was fabricated in Carrara, Italy by Santucci Armando. The lobby desk and numerous fireplaces utilize sawn small strips, laid with tight joints, to create a very unique modern appearance. The interior space is considered one of the most elegant in the Washington, D.C. market.



MIA Member Company:

Rugo Stone, LLC

Lorton, Virginia

Stone Supplier, Fabricator
and Installer

Other Project Team Members:

Hickok Cole Architects
Architect

Hitt Contracting Inc.
General Contractor

Santucci Armando, Srl
(MIA Member Company)

Structural Stone LLC
(MIA Member Company)

Stone Fabricators

Tennessee Marble Company
(MIA Member Company)

Stone Supplier and Fabricator

Stone:

Tennessee Pink Marble
Statuario Venato Marble
Fior Di Bosco Marble

*"Perfect execution. Stone supports
and enhances the architecture."*

Award of Merit: Commercial Interior



Petersburg Public Library Medallion Petersburg, Virginia

The overall goal of the library medallion is to provide the city of Petersburg, VA with a long lasting decorative focal point that represents the city's rich history and bright future. This project was designed by the architects at Enteros Design and handmade by mosaicists at Appomattox Tile Art. Both companies are located just a few blocks from the Petersburg library. The image incorporates forty eight of the city's landmark buildings, stylized books, trees and sky, railroad lines, the river, and historic scenes. The design was produced using 100% Post-Industrial Bohemian Style marble, granite, limestone and onyx. All 138,000 pieces of organically shaped tesserae trimmings were sorted by color to provide a cost effective product. The twenty-one foot diameter medallion is located in the rotunda at the front entrance to the library, which opened in 2014.



MIA Member Company:

Appomattox Tile Art Co.

Petersburg, Virginia

Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:

Petersburg Public Library
Client

Enteros Design, PC
Architect

EDC
General Contractor

Travis Cobb
Stone Installer

Stone:
Marble, Granite
Limestone, Onyx

*"Beautiful handwork and
mosaic in the medallion."*

*"Whimsical design meets
serious craftsmanship in
this superb mosaic."*



MIA Member Company:

Amalfi Stone & Masonry, Inc.
Sun Valley, California
Stone Installer
Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:

B+A
Architect

Alain Hirsch Construction
General Contractor
Owner Supplied
Stone Supplier

Stone:

Roman Travertine
Fire Red Onyx, Jade Onyx
Brown Wood Onyx

*"Stone provides striking accents to the upscale space."
"Elegant use of onyx and quartzite. Simple vein matching."*

Award of Merit: Commercial Interior



Celine Beverly Hills, California

Celine, a high-end fashion company, opened its new 3,100 sq. ft. luxury boutique in April 2013. It is a showcase of stone work on the world-famous Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, CA.

The materials for the project were chosen by lead Celine designer, Phoebe Philo. Samples were reviewed prior to selection by the design team in France and purchased by the owner.

Mechanically attached 5 ft. x 6 ft. panels of Turquoise Blue quartzite were chosen for the store's exterior cladding, which wrap into the interior entryway. The store interior has 3 in. thick cross-cut Roman travertine walls and matching display shelves. Fire Red onyx is used as an accent material on the shelves, while Brown Wood onyx is used for the honeycomb door panels. The store's feature wall is beautifully book-matched Jade onyx, which continues around to clad the changing room door panels in a honeycomb system. The wall is 14 ft. tall, with piece sizes measuring 4 ft. 2 in. x 6 ft.

Throughout the process, the team from Amalfi Stone & Masonry faced and overcame several challenges. One obstacle was the City of Beverly Hill's tough construction constraints. Delivery of the large pieces of Turquoise Blue quartzite and Green onyx was difficult as Amalfi Stone & Masonry had limited sidewalk space to mobilize and lift the pieces to the height of the store front for installation. Also with no on-site storage, Amalfi Stone & Masonry had to make multiple trips for delivery of the stone. Lastly, the brand was eager to unveil the store, which called for a tight fabrication and installation schedule to meet the grand opening deadline.



MIA Member Company:

Carnevale & Lohr, Inc.
Bell Gardens, California
Stone Supplier
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:

Packard Humanities Institute
Client

B.A.R. Architects
Architect

Trade International, Inc.
(MIA Member Company)
Consultant

Morley Construction Company
General Contractor

Stone:

Trani Biancone Belmonte
Trani Fondola, Pietra Serena
Carrara White Marble

*"Monumental!... in keeping with the 'Hollywood' theme."
"Top quality materials and craftsmanship."*

Award of Merit: Commercial Exterior



Film Archive and Preservation Center Santa Clarita, California

The new building for the Film Archive and Preservation Center, inspired by the ancient Greek Stoa of Attalos with its two story colonnades and classical pediments, consists of nearly 105,000 sq. ft. of handset honed Biancone marble. Along the colonnades of the building are 64 fluted columns 14 ft. tall and 58 fluted columns 10 ft. tall. They are installed over the buildings structural columns with 62 intricately carved lattice handrails set in between.

Dividing the floors of the colonnade is a 5 ft. tall entablature with massive 8 ft. x 2 ft. beams at its bottom, metope and triglyph carvings in its center, and 800 pound moldings at its top. Crowning the colonnade is a 4 ft. tall cornice consisting of 8 ft. long beams below five courses of moldings which are 4 ft. long. On four elevations of the building are classical Greek pediments comprised of cubic stone. Over 70,000 sq. ft. of wall cladding covers the building, all mounted with stainless steel clips attached to stainless steel framing.

Surrounding the building is 11,000 sq. ft. of honed Biancone paving, 6,000 sq. ft. of 6" thick honed Biancone cubic stair treads, and 6,600 sq. ft. of 3 in. thick tumbled Fondola limestone paving in random modules (the largest being 36 in. x 30 in.). A special tumbling machine was manufactured to achieve such large tumbled modules. Lining the bottom of the building is 5,000 sq. ft. of natural roughback Fondola limestone.

Set at a five degree angle, it replicates the look of a stacked block foundation like those found in many structures from antiquity.

Award of Merit: Commercial Exterior



Spotlight on Broadway Map, Times Square, NYC

New York, New York

The Spotlight on Broadway Map is a key graphics element in a multi-year project undertaken for the renovation of the Times Square entertainment district in New York City. The "spotlight" map is located outdoors in the granite pavement in the triangular "Bow Tie" that forms the heart of the Broadway theater district.

The graphic is a stylized map of the 40 official Broadway theaters, showing the locations of "Amsterdam, Sondheim, Majestic, Ambassador... etc." and their main doors and locations in the district. The map depicts the area between 41st Street and 54th Street, centered on the intersection of 7th Avenue and Broadway. The color scheme is a light gray granite, with the darker gray of stainless steel lettering and black granite for the streets. The low key gray-black theme was developed by Snohetta Architects throughout the renovation area as a neutral palette to form a contrast to the extreme color and liveliness of Times Square.

One technical challenge involved the potential of the stainless steel to be a slip hazard. This was addressed by a stainless bead applied by hot weld to the stainless surface. The result is an attractive, permanent, non-slip finish. Also, attachment and inlay methods of stainless steel into the granite were engineered for the intense traffic and weather conditions. The granite blocks were cut to size and shape, and inlaid at the facilities of Creative Edge Master Shop in Iowa. Installation was completed by the employees of Tully Construction, the project's general contractor.



MIA Member Company:

**Creative Edge
Master Shop, Inc.**

Fairfield, Iowa
Waterjet Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:

Tully Construction
General Contractor

Snohetta Associates
Architect

Doyle Partners
Graphic Design

Dale Travis and Associates
Graphics Specification

Granicor, Inc.
(MIA Member Company)
Stone Supplier

Stone:

Stansted Gray Granite
Peribonka Black Granite

*"Clever design that pays homage
to timeless Times Square."*

Award of Merit: Residential Interior/Exterior



Residence Bangsen Chonburi, Thailand

This house sits along an array of lakes and canals which highlights the landscape of a golf course. A clear objective of the architecture is to focus on large openings to enjoy the view of the surrounding landscape. Serving the same purpose, the house has been set high on stilts, a clear reference to Thai traditional architecture. The house seems to float in the air. The large cantilevered openings are framed by the stone cladding. Another objective of the architecture is to blend itself seamlessly into the landscape. The two objectives of the stone work were to focus on the large framed openings and to blend into the landscape. The travertine chosen by the architect has a smooth and warm color which blends well with the wood cladding and landscape. It displays complex movements, crystalline veins, and color blends which accentuates its natural character. The challenge was to display this natural character, while ensuring a perfect continuity in the opening frames. The color and pattern of the stone had to continue seamlessly along the four sides of each frame, while still featuring the natural character of the stone. This required long drying times in our factory, and detailed piece-per-piece touch-up to smooth outstanding features of the stone.



MIA Member Company:

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

Samutprakarn, Thailand
Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:

Jon Somton
Architect

Lock-Build Group
General Contractor

Stone:

Thai Travertine

*"Elegant, modern composition...
a building where the Travertine
integrates well with the natural
wood and steel elements."*

*"Harmonious combination of
stone, wood and metal."*



MIA Member Company:

Picasso Tile & Stonework

Tempe, Arizona
Stone Fabricator
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:

David Michael Miller Associates

Designer

Desert Star Construction, Inc.

Client/Builder

Stone:

Blue Limestone
Cream Limestone
Gray Limestone

"A beautiful blend of materials. The subtle, yet visible veining in the natural stone provides the needed connection to the natural surroundings of the site."

Award of Merit: Residential Interior/Exterior



Hadstan Paradise Valley, Arizona

This contemporary 18,000 sq. ft. home in Paradise Valley, Arizona is a perfect mix of Gray limestone used on all horizontal surfaces and Cream, vein cut limestone on all vertical surfaces. The Gray limestone flooring was mud packed to meet 1.5 in. wood flooring areas using uncoupling membrane throughout. Numerous hours went into the layout to insure architectural detail lines were met. Oversized tiles were planned to ensure all layouts met crucial lines per the design. Blue limestone was used setting the path to the front entry. All pieces at the edges were mitered to appear to be thick, block stone. The veneer walls were alternated in size to reach the exact width at the top band of the walls. The edge detailing created interesting shadow play, both day and night, at interior and exterior locations. This detail is also noted on the fireplaces. Blue limestone hearths, which floated at all locations, used the same quirk mitered edges.

Five showers throughout the main house share the same veneer and flooring materials. Blue limestone slab benches were fabricated to rest on a stainless steel frame. The shower floors were mapped out to the exact dimensions so there were no cuts, but rather the same size pieces continually framing the space to the center drain.



MIA Member Company:

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

Houston, Texas
Designer

Other Project Team Members:

CBRE

Client

Western Waterproofing

General Contractor
Stone Installer

Mariotti, Carlo & Figli SpA.

Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator

Stone:

Roman Classic Travertine

"Very good technical execution of restoring travertine on the façade and floor."

"A commendable technical effort of restoration."

Award of Merit: Renovation/Restoration



Capital One Plaza Houston, Texas

Capital One Plaza is a 22-story building built in 1982 and located in Houston, Texas. The building exterior wall consists of ribbon windows and 3 cm thick travertine panels connected to precast concrete spandrel panels. The travertine panels are mechanically connected to the precast concrete panels with stainless steel wire loop anchors. The height of the travertine panels is approximately 4 ft. and the length of the panels vary between approximately 5 ft. and 7 ft.

The 30-year-old travertine exterior wall panels and plaza pavers at Capital One Plaza exhibited distresses such as cracking and spalling. A comprehensive evaluation was performed on the exterior wall and pavers at the building. It consisted of field observations, laboratory testing, structural calculations, and mockup repairs to understand the condition of the travertine exterior wall panels, design repairs, select replacement stone, and establish stone repair criteria required to maintain the building's original appearance.

The repairs consisted of removing and replacing approximately 250 exterior wall panels and 90 pavers along with in-place repairs of approximately 1,000 additional exterior wall panels. Repair anchors were designed and tested per current ASTM standards to determine the capacity of the anchors under a tension load. A custom made mortar mix was designed and implemented to parge the travertine panels and pavers to limit dirt accumulation within the voids in the stone and provide the building owner the desired clean appearance.

Special Pinnacle Award of Merit for Architectural Element: Commercial Interior



Nu Skin Innovation Center Provo, Utah

With its clean lines and modern décor, every aspect of the Nu Skin Innovation Center's atrium is designed to exude excellence and sophistication. One of the center's most impressive features is the massive, one-of-a-kind marble desk, which greets visitors upon their arrival. Shaped like the hull of a boat, the unique desk is 26 ft. long and 5 ft. wide at the thickest point. A feat of modern design and innovation, the desk curves in such a manner that only a strip of stone 8 ft. long and 3 in. wide makes contact with the floor. The desk was fabricated from two very large blocks of Carrara "Pencil Vein" marble. Because the shape of the desk was computer generated, the stone had to be shaped using a 5 axis CNC machine and then hand-cut to achieve the desired finish. The stones were dry set and only a small amount of hand finishing was necessary to fine-tune the shape of each stone to match the adjacent stone. The blocks were carefully oriented so that the veining was random. Installation of this unique feature also took great care and planning. Three layers of plywood were used to protect the atrium floor from receiving any damage during the desk's installation due to the significant weight of the stones (7,700 lbs. each) and the large forklift required to lift the stones into place. Special jigs were created out of steel to support the stone while it was being installed. The two end stones were connected via a stainless steel frame hidden beneath the matching stone countertop in the center of the desk. Three-quarter inch stainless steel anchors were used to attach the stone to the frame. Once adjusted, the frames were removed and the desk was free standing.



MIA Member Company:

KEPCO+

Salt Lake City, Utah
Stone Installer

**Other Project
Team Members:**

Nu Skin Enterprises
Client/Owner

Bohlin Cywinski Jackson
Architect

Okland Construction
General Contractor

Henraux Spa
(MIA Member Company)

Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator

Stone:

Carrara White
"Pencil Vein" Marble

*"A masterpiece of combining
sculpture with function."*

"One-of-a-kind sculptural form."

MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award



Stephen Beck
Assistant Project Manager

Connecticut Stone Company
Milford, Connecticut

Stephen Beck of Connecticut Stone Company in Milford, Connecticut, has parlayed a decade of experience in the home building field with a new appreciation of natural stone, and it has earned him the 2014 MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award.

The scholarship is awarded each year to an aspiring industry fabricator, installer, apprentice, marketing or administrative employee interested in furthering his or her career in the stone industry. Beck earned an all-expense paid trip to StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas in Las Vegas.

Beck joined Connecticut Stone about a year ago as an intern and was quickly promoted to assistant project manager. He will earn a degree in construction management from Central Connecticut State University this spring, cementing his career path in the industry.

Since joining the company, Beck said he has found a new appreciation for the beauty of natural stone. "My eyes have been opened to the vast applications of stone I never saw possible. While I have always had an interest in design and architecture, the stone industry has given me the opportunity to draft and design bathrooms, countertops, bar tops, accent walls, and backsplashes. I have mentored under a master draftsman that knows more about stone, its application, and its installation than almost anybody. I believe the opportunity to attend StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas will boost my knowledge of the industry to new levels. This knowledge will help me improve not only myself, but the company I work for."

In supporting Beck's scholarship application, Tyra Dellacroce, Connecticut Stone vice president, said, "Stephen Beck has a very bright future in the stone industry. He is talented, passionate and hard working. Stephen is very coachable and he is interested in growing and developing. It is very exciting to work with a passionate young professional who is at the beginning of what I believe will be a very successful career in the stone industry."



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MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year



Stefano Follega
Foreman

Grazzini Brothers & Company
Eagan, Minnesota

If you are learning the stone business from the ground up, there's probably no better place in the world than Rome, Italy, with its wonderfully historic and inspiring structures.

From his teens until he turned 30, Stefano Follega soaked it all up. Under the watchful eyes of his father and his uncle, Stefano worked for the top architects and designers of homes and businesses in the most famous historical part of Rome; Piazza di Spagna, Campo de' Fiori, Via Condotti, among others. His clients included the well-known Italian film and television personalities Robert Benigni, Febrizio Frizzi, and Rita Dalla Chiese and the flagship boutiques of Versace, Furla, and Ralph Lauren. He developed such a passion for stone that after two years of studying economics in college, he gave it all up to work with his hands in the stone business.

Along the way, Stefano met Cara Michelle Quinn of Minneapolis, who was taking a year off from school to tour Europe and visit Rome. The two eventually married, had a son, and after six years, decided to move to her hometown. Stefano applied for a job at Grazzini Brothers, one of the country's most successful stone companies, and it was the right place at the right time.

"Stefano walked into our office and spoke about 10 words of English," remembers Guido Gliori, chief operations officer at Grazzini Brothers. "He showed up with his interpreter, who happened to be his wife. You knew immediately that he was a good man. He had the credentials and he was very literate in telling how he got where he was and why he was sitting in our office. The rest is history."

Two weeks after arriving in the U.S., he was on the job doing a variety of stone work for Grazzini Brothers. For three years, he spent one day every two weeks at a union apprentice school, learning the U.S. way of doing things. He eventually returned and taught classes.

But the basis of the knowledge that won him the 2014 MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year Award came from working with his father and uncle and prominent architects in Rome.

The fundamental message was to be simple, don't be afraid to ask questions, be respectful, and always be ready to do your job.

Stefano acknowledges that he is a perfectionist and has a fervent passion for stone. "I like seeing a piece of stone, a rock, or something change. It becomes something. I always envision the finished product before I start."

As a foreman, he has a simple philosophy when working with others. "I like to introduce myself and explain what I want from them," he says. "I delegate to people, because I can't be everywhere. It is important that I have people I can trust."

That's the way he approached the Lakewood Mausoleum project in Minneapolis, which won the 2012 MIA Grande Pinnacle Award for Grazzini Brothers.

"There are a lot of craftspeople that are very good working with their hands and Stefano is absolutely good working with his hands," said Architect John Cook. John and his partner, Joan Soranno, worked closely with Stefano on the recently completed Lakewood Cemetery Garden Mausoleum in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He added "Stefano embraces the beauty of Lakewood and delivered the very best of his talent for this project. He has an exceptional 'feel' for the raw material and a vision for how to organize, blend and install stone. What you sense is much like the way we designed it, from the heart. He was building it from the heart. He has a rare talent that sets him apart from others because of his passion for the industry."

Guido Gliori echoes Cook's sentiments. "There are a lot of men out there that are good tradesmen and are craftsmen. I have seen a lot of them. But there is a little something that separates a craftsman, an artisan, from being number one in the field. That requires the ability to plan ahead; the ability to see a finished product, and the ability to lead people, to educate people coming up, so that the work being done by everyone else is up to the level of quality that Stefano himself would put into the project."

In addition to Stefano's work on the Lakewood Cemetery Garden Mausoleum, he has worked on numerous noteworthy projects over the years (too many to name them all) including the marble restoration in Minneapolis City Hall project, the interior limestone and granite lobby of the 8200 Tower in Bloomington, Minnesota, a large stone paved plaza with granite planters for Ecel Energy in St. Paul, Minnesota, and a residential 4,000 sq. ft. Italian Botticino marble floor in Edina, Minnesota for architect Ralph Rapson.

Grazzini Brothers has awarded Stefano a number of awards including the Stone Craftsperson of the Year in 2003, Foreman of the Year in 2006, and most recently the 2013 Stone Craftsperson of the Year.

Eugene Grazzini, Jr., Chairman of the Board at Grazzini Brothers adds, "No project is beyond Stefano's ability. His layout, his attention to detail, and his creativity are superb. Throughout, his career at Grazzini Brothers, Stefano has shown us his talent for leadership. He is our on-site leader on every major stone project. By his example, Stefano is a mentor to many up and coming stone masons. Stefano is one of those people whose skill and dedication motivate those around him. We are proud to have him as part of our team."

Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement



Jeffrey Matthews

Owner

Trade International, Inc.

Atlanta, Georgia

A young Jeff Matthews had a pretty good idea of what his future career would look like when he graduated from Atlanta's Oglethorpe University in the early 1970's.

"I wanted to do something international and I wanted the opportunity to fly internationally," he remembers. He also knew hugely discounted tickets were among the perks of working for an airline, so he accepted a job with Eastern Airlines.

"Well, that didn't work out," he said. "Within a year, I was laid off and I had just gotten married. Within six months of being laid off, I went to work for Marvin Walker & Associates in Atlanta."

Walker was a large stone importing firm, and at 24 years of age, Matthews was hired and placed in business development and purchasing.

In a way, working for a major stone company in business development reconnected the Washington, D.C. native with one of his earlier joys; that of being a youngster in a military family where his father was a U.S. Air Force pilot who ferried the likes of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Matthews remembers, "One of the things I enjoyed doing at a very young age was collecting rocks. I loved collecting them and identifying the mineral content. I collected them for a few years, but since we kept moving around the country, my parents didn't want to move the rocks every time we moved, so I stopped my collection."

At Walker, Matthews said he was consumed with learning the stone business. "I asked how do I learn all there is to know about stone," he remembers. "I went everywhere, including libraries and universities trying to find information on stone. It was almost impossible. Since we didn't have computers or the internet in those days." A month later, he told Marvin Walker that the only way he was going to learn about stone was to travel. "First, I wanted to travel the United States to visit producers and quarries," Matthews added, "Then I wanted to travel to Italy and spend about a month visiting factories." Then he traveled to Spain, Portugal and many other countries, which sent him on his way to becoming one of the world's leading stone experts.

In 1986, he started Trade International Inc. with the goal to consult, market, write and study all issues of stone from sourcing, quarrying, fabricating, sales, quality control, testing and many other issues; all to help the stone industry. Matthews has visited over 30 countries, over 300 quarries, and inspected over 400 factories worldwide.

In 1979, Matthews turned his attention to the MIA. He commented, "I'd show up at board meetings, whether I was invited or not. I'd ask a lot of questions to learn what they were about." Late that year, he was asked to become a board member. Eventually he went through the chairs and in 1986, at the age of 37, Jeff became MIA's youngest president. Over the years, he and other officers were instrumental in revising the *Dimension Stone Design Manual (DSDM)*, producing the *MIA Stone Color Book*, and assisting with MIA becoming a more relevant organization. Once off the board, his involvement has continued. Jeff assisted in authoring the early version of the *Stone Selection & Stone Testing* technical bulletin, as well as helping to complete version 6 of DSDM, after MIA technical director Vincent Migliore passed away. Currently, he is diligently at work with other MIA volunteers on a new "supplier to buyer" *Stone Manual* which will debut in 2015.

Today, more than 41 years after taking his first job in the stone industry, Jeff Matthews is still consumed with learning about stone and helping others do a better job in selling and producing quality projects. Dr. Stefano Ghirardi, of Marmi Ghirardi in Carpenedolo, Italy says, "I have had the honor and pleasure of working with Jeff for many years and I have always found him dependable, efficient and unfailingly punctual. I have never worked with a person who gives as much attention to detail as he does. His willingness to take on difficult and challenging projects and see them to successful completion has repeatedly impressed me."

No one sums up the contributions Jeff Matthews continues to make to the industry, and the MIA, more eloquently than David Carnevale of Carnevale and Lohr of Bell Gardens, California. In a letter nominating him for the Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement, Carnevale wrote, "Today, Matthews works with architects, contractors, and producers as a consultant in the selecting, budgeting, estimating, procurement, and assisting with writing of their specifications. He stays educated on all the latest tools and materials coming into our market."

Carnevale continues, "Mr. Matthews has spent over 41 years in the stone industry and is knowledgeable in all its facets from quarrying through procurement to finished installation. The vast knowledge makes him a valuable asset to our industry. But more than that is his unwavering dedication to the betterment of our industry. He has been an active participant in the MIA, participating in the important discussions over standards and practice, and what would be the best for our trade association and our industry."

Jeff and his wife Sandy have been married for 41 years and have two children.

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