

LEARNING BY DESIGN Announces 14 Best-in-Class Education Design Award Recipients for Fall 2016

Cleveland, Ohio – October 1, 2016 – LEARNING BY DESIGN has released its much-anticipated Fall 2016 edition, showcasing the nation’s best education design and construction projects, from pre-K to 12 to college and university facilities. Three outstanding design projects were awarded Grand Prize in the fall 2016 edition: **DLR Group** (Minneapolis, MN) for **Jordan Middle School** (Jordan, MN); **Fanning Howey** (Indianapolis, IN) and **Bryant Mitchell Architects** (Washington, DC) for **River Terrace Education Campus** (Washington, DC) and **Harley Ellis Devereaux** (Los Angeles, CA) for **Solana Ranch Elementary School** (San Diego, CA).

The distinguished panel of six architects and end-user’s reviewed all of the outstanding submissions and selected three Grand Prize Award-winning facilities that “do everything well.” These three projects combine all of the elements that make a learning environment successful—transparency, connectivity, safety, sustainability, great interiors, purposeful functional design, and sophistication.

LEARNING BY DESIGN commended DLR Group for its success in designing the Jordan Middle School, a sophisticated building that is beautifully and consistently detailed. The Jury commented that the project “truly represents a next generation learning environment with great diversity of spaces. Excellent design for flexible learning spaces.” The school exhibits an interdisciplinary push along with successful color and creative use of furnishings integration. The planning and design truly transformed an old building into a 21st Century learning environment while usefully integrating over 60,000 sq./ft. of new learning and community spaces.

Judges applauded Fanning Howey and Bryant Mitchell Architects for their design of River Terrace Education Campus. The Campus, a renovation and adaptive reuse of a former elementary school created a highly specialized environment to serve students with profound intellectual disabilities, medical complexities, visual or hearing impairment and autism. The Jury thought highly of this project especially pointing out “The conversion of a parking lot to an exterior courtyard as a very innovative solution. The classroom organization around it makes every classroom connected to the exterior. Overall a beautiful addition that reflects the needs of the learners”. In addition, design addressed the historic nature of the community’s relationship to the campus, while successfully integrating LEED Gold certification strategies and sustainable elements.

Jurors were extremely impressed by Harley Ellis Devereaux for its design of the Solana Ranch Elementary School. This school brings together a host of activities of daily student life including: recreation, collaboration spaces, access to nature, dining, and learning spaces for all disciplines in a well-coordinated design. Thoughtful use lighting, color, way finding, and scale was successfully incorporated providing for a bright, modern and attractive environment. The building has many exemplary sustainable traits, including a low environmental rigid steel frame clad in painted stucco and cement fiberboard, photovoltaic & crystalline arrays on metal roofs providing electricity, displaced ventilation, operable windows and low velocity fans. The Jury comments about this project included: “Inspiring interior and exterior learning environments. Design influenced by thorough research and performance studies. Excellent use of 21st century design, day lighting, and use of the outdoor spaces.”

LEARNING BY DESIGN Fall 2016: Citation of Excellence Awards (River Terrace Education Campus)

