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# Press Release

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## **Local Architect Awarded Silver Medal**

**Tallahassee, FL** – Jacksonville resident, architect and community leader Melody S. Bishop, AIA has been awarded the Hilliard T. Smith Community Service Silver Medal by the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida). The Silver Medal recognizes an architect whose leadership in community activities and service has been a direct benefit to the profession or community.

In addition to being a practicing architect that has designed several public landmarks, Bishop has dedicated over 25 years to the greater Jacksonville civic and arts communities, including 15 years of mentoring a generation of architectural students while chairing the Jacksonville Studio Project with Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University and the University of Florida. More recently, Bishop was appointed to the City of Jacksonville Cultural Services Grants Commission, which is responsible for awarding \$2 million in annual City of Jacksonville cultural grants to various arts organizations throughout the city.

The awards jury unanimously recommended Bishop for the Silver medal, stating that they were “...impressed with the breadth of her community involvement in architectural endeavors as well as bringing art and music to public spaces in order to enhance everyday experiences. The longevity of her commitment to cultural, artistic and civic duties is a testament to her character and leadership capabilities.”

For more information about the 2012 AIA Florida Honor & Design Awards, including a full list of winners, visit [www.aiafla.org](http://www.aiafla.org).

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*The Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects, headquartered in Tallahassee, represents the interests of more than 3,200 members in Florida and the Caribbean. Members adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct that assures the client, the public, and colleagues of an AIA-member architect's dedication to the highest standards in professional practice.*