

Coral Gables Museum Wins People's Choice Competition

Orlando – The Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects and the Florida Foundation for Architecture announced at the 2020-2021 AIA Florida/Caribbean Region Design & Honor Awards on July 17 that the Coral Gables Museum won the annual People's Choice Competition.

This year, the contest explored adaptive reuse, meaning each of the 10 buildings was built for one use and then redesigned to fit another. In the case of the museum, it was built as a Works Progress Administration fire and police station for Coral Gables and now serves the city as a museum.

“The Coral Gables Museum is a perfect example of the themes of adaptive reuse and transformation,” said AIA Florida President Ignacio J. Reyes, AIA. “The reimagining of this great space pays homage to its past and looks forward to a long life of serving the people of Coral Gables.”

The People's Choice Competition is sponsored by the Florida Foundation for Architecture. The foundation promotes the value of architecture to the public through programs like the People's Choice Competition and Architecture in Education.

People's Choice is open to any and everyone to vote. Millions of people have weighed in from around the world over the years via the website floridapeopleschoice.com.

Other nominated buildings in 2021 included:

- The Historic Hampton House, Miami.
- The Collaboratory, Fort Myers.
- The Lincoln Theatre, Miami Beach.
- The Edison, Tallahassee.
- Lynora's Market and Deli, West Palm Beach
- The Sunset Lounge, West Palm Beach.

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- Grandview Public Market, West Palm Beach.
- Armature Works, Tampa.
- Hotel Haya, Tampa.

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The Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects, headquartered in Tallahassee, represents the interests of more than 3,900 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.

The Florida Foundation for Architecture is a nonprofit organization that exists to advocate the value of architecture to audiences beyond the profession. This is accomplished through Foundation events, publications and grants for programs that feature architecture and are open and available to the general public and related professions, as well as architects.