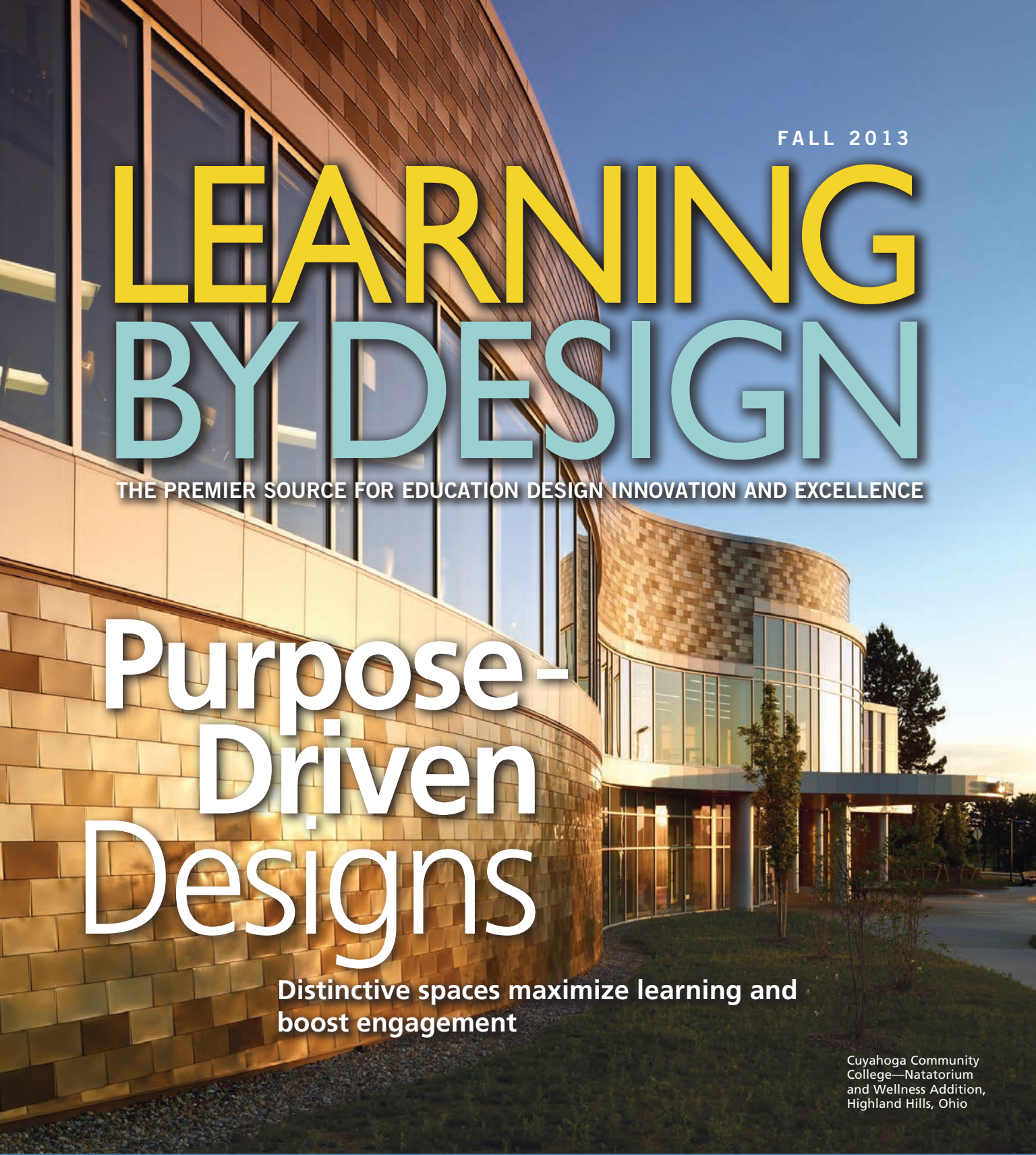

FALL 2013

LEARNING BY DESIGN

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Purpose-Driven Designs

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Cuyahoga Community College—Natatorium and Wellness Addition, Highland Hills, Ohio

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- Strategies for Tech-Rich Spaces
- Design by the Numbers

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY—ARMAND HAMMER ALUMNI-STUDENT CENTER
TULSA, OK

New Heights for **Higher Learning**

Two Honorable Mention honorees ease the transition to college life with attractive, functional spaces

By Whitney Redding

The college experience encompasses more than academics. It also marks a period of transition to adulthood and independence in all its manifestation—physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and economic.

These two Honorable Mention honorees are projects that are modest in scope: an elegant landscape architecture solution on a New York campus, and a particularly fun student center interior in Oklahoma. And yet, for newly independent students who are learning to engage with the world around them on their own terms, these are the types of projects that can be memorable for the supportive campus culture they engender.

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY, ARMAND HAMMER ALUMNI-STUDENT CENTER

KSQ Architects, PC

As a place to go for food, fellowship, and entertainment, the new Armand Hammer Alumni-Student Center at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, OK, offers all the makings for a vibrant scene. "It seems like a space that students would enjoy," said the judges.

The interiors, in particular, drew the judges' attention. They commented on the range of activities available, the variety and interrelationship of spaces, the choice of contemporary furnishings, and the youthful colors. In addition to quiet living room areas, the first floor features various activity zones for shooting pool, playing video games, hanging out at the Internet café, or watching a movie on a 12-foot-by-21-foot video screen. The second floor is dedicated to alumni relations and events.

Although the first floor was designed purely as a student center, the judges appreciated the potential for students to adapt the space for all sorts of needs, including collaboration and study. "We felt that the spaces that are created offer a wonderful opportunity for learning even though that did not seem to be their prime purpose or use," said the judges.

The layout is such that students can read in lounge chairs while other students play a game in the Wii gaming area. Friends might study side by side at a long counter while watching fellow students engage in a video game tournament on the huge video wall. "It's the kind of relatively loose connections and relationships between spaces that I think are what kids like," said one judge.

SUNY CANTON COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, PEDESTRIAN FOOT BRIDGES

C&S Companies

Since at least the mid-1960s, students of SUNY Canton College of Technology who wish to walk into the village of Canton, NY,

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT CANTON COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NY

or who live in off-campus housing in Canton, have relied on a footpath with two footbridges to carry them over the Grasse River and a small island.

When the time came to replace the footbridges, C&S Companies designed two covered footbridges, which the judges praised for offering what they called a "unique" and "memorable" gateway experience to the university campus that "will stand the test of time."

The two new bridges at either end of the island footpath are 108 feet and 204 feet long, and consist of burr arch trusses with glue-laminated timber covered with standing seam metal roofs. The campus side bridge is 8 feet wide and allows for light-duty truck loads for maintenance and plowing. The village side remains 6 feet wide. In addition, the island path has been updated to meet ADA standards and to reduce the frequency of closures from high water during spring ice jams on the river. The lighting and blue-light emergency communications systems also were upgraded and movable bollards were installed to prevent unauthorized vehicle access.

The judges commended each bridge's design as keeping "very much in character" with what it is connecting. "It didn't do more than it had to do, it didn't force the issue. It's a very simple solution, but elegant," said the judges. "The experience of traveling that route and that path would be lovely, and in all seasons. It connects you with the river, [and all of the] trees." ■

HONORABLE MENTION AWARDS, FALL 2013

State University of New York at Canton College of Technology

Canton, NY

RENOVATION/ ADAPTIVE REUSE/ RESTORATION

Landscape Architecture

C&S COMPANIES

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DESIGN TEAM

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Ghaith Makhlouf, PE, Managing Engineer

Jenny Schumaker, LEED AP, Project Manager, Construction

Robert Hamilin Jr., PE, Structural Engineer

Thomas C. Klukiewicz, Electrical Engineer

OWNER/CLIENT

State University Construction Fund
Albany, NY

James Shaughnessy, PE, Project Coordinator
518/320-1724

KEY STATS

Grades Served: Post-secondary
Capacity: 600 students
Size of Site: 5.2 acres
Building Area: 3,120 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: $1,833
Square Foot Cost: $352
Construction Cost: $1.1 million
Total Project Cost: $1.1 million
Completed: Oct. 2012

The SUNY Canton College of Technology connects to the Village of Canton via a path that crosses the Grasse River and an island, providing a short, safe route between campus and off-campus housing. The original bridges, constructed in the mid 1960s, were rehabilitated in the 1990s but had reached the end of their life spans.

The design team evaluated the existing abutments and determined they were adequate to support new bridges after some modification. New veneer stone was added to the abutment approach walls. The two new bridges—a two-span 108-foot bridge and a three-span 204-foot bridge—are burr arch trusses with glue-laminated timber covered with standing seam metal roofs. The campus-side bridge is eight feet wide and designed for H-5 light-duty truck loads for access for maintenance and plowing. The village-side bridge remains six feet wide. Removable, lockable bollards at the approaches for each bridge preclude vehicle traffic.

The island path was regraded, paved, and raised to meet ADA standards and to reduce the frequency of closures from high water during spring ice jams on the river.

The lighting system was replaced with an energy-efficient LED system, and the existing blue light emergency communications system was also upgraded. ■