



## News Release

### Green Roofs For Healthy Cities Awards of Excellence Winners Announced! *Annual awards feature edible green walls and floating green roofs!*

TORONTO, ON - May 27 2009 – Green Roofs for Healthy Cities (GRHC), the rapidly growing not-for-profit industry association of green roof and wall experts in North America, is pleased to announce the winners of its 2009 *Green Roof Awards of Excellence!*

Steven W. Peck, GRHC President and Founder, announced the winners in the lead-up to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual International green roof and wall conference, 'Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities' taking place June 3 – 5 in Atlanta GA. Said Peck, "Since 2003, it has been our honor to grant *Awards of Excellence* to leaders in the growing field of living architecture. With the economic and environmental benefits of holistic design practices becoming more and more evident, this year's winning projects display outstanding characteristics that lead the way in the development of healthy and restorative buildings".

Jeffrey Bruce, President Jeffrey L. Bruce & Co. Landscape Architects and one of six green roof industry leaders who adjudicated the 2009 Awards, commented, "Each award recipient should be proud of the accomplishment because of the outstanding quality and number of submissions entered this year. The awards this year attest to the coming of age of green roofs for solving environmental concerns in a wide range of projects. It is extremely gratifying being a part of the judging process and witnessing the excellent execution of these challenging projects by the industry's leading designers".

Awards will be presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities' Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta GA, on Friday June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Awards Luncheon. Projects will be showcased in the summer issue of the quarterly GRHC publication Living Architecture Monitor. Visit [www.greenroofs.org](http://www.greenroofs.org) for more information about GRHC awards (including photos and background materials), conference and event registration and media accreditation.

### 2009 GREEN ROOFS FOR HEALTHY CITIES AWARDS WINNERS

#### Green Walls

Project: Urban Farming Food Chain (Los Angeles, CA)

Award Recipient: Green Living Technologies, LLC (Designer / Manufacturer / Implementation / Education)

This urban agriculture pilot project produces fresh produce grown on green walls located in and around downtown Los Angeles. The 'food chain' consists of 750 square feet of edible food-producing Green Living™ Walls mounted on buildings, concrete walls, freestanding or in parking areas, and a portion of the food grown onsite is contributed to the community. The project has encouraged collaboration and social interaction, bringing economically disadvantaged people into a more intimate relationship with fruits and vegetables they grow and consume.

#### Green Roof - Intensive Industrial/Commercial

Project: Broadway Tech Centre (Vancouver, BC)

Award Recipient: Sharp & Diamond Landscape Architecture Inc. (Landscape Architect)

This large-scale project with a complex environment contains a diverse collection of attractive and active spaces, and the corridor-based design ensures that employees working in the surrounding buildings as well as inviting local foot traffic will use these spaces. An outstanding example of the intensive green roof's potential to create an accessible oasis in the heart of a busy urban environment.

#### Green Roof - Extensive Institutional

Project: Burnside Gorge Community Centre (Victoria, BC)

Award Recipient: Sharp & Diamond Landscape Architecture Inc. (Landscape Architect)

This extensive green roof replaced 90-95% of the green space lost to building development with a strong emphasis on aesthetics, accessibility, impressive water preservation policies and a community focus.

Socially and ecologically, the architecture and landscape at Burnside Gorge Community Centre combine to quietly illustrate a profound underpinning of sustainability - good design is good citizenship.

#### Green Roof - Extensive Residential

Project: Big Sur (Big Sur, CA)

Award Recipient: Fred Ballerini (Project Biologist, Green Roof Designer and Installer)

Located within 200 yards of the Pacific Ocean, this living roof covering a garage and guest house supports fragile habitat, limits the building's ecological impacts, integrates site-sensitive architecture, and reuses native plant communities to recreate local flora and fauna habitats. The Garrapata project is a superior example of a green roof that minimizes the impact of building by attempting to heal the ecological disruption that its construction caused.

#### Green Roof - Intensive Institutional

Project: Gary Comer Youth Center (Chicago IL)

Award Recipient: John Ronan (Architect)

Located on a shining new youth center in one of Chicago's poorest neighborhoods, the garden is a safe, inspiring and beautiful education space where children learn about the seed-to-harvest cycle, environmental concerns, the green roof, botany, cooking, and the processes of nurturing growth in a garden. The center is not only practical and accessible, it is also elegant and attractive – a superlative example of an institutional application for an intensive green roof.

#### Green Roof - Intensive Residential

Project: Macallen Building Condominiums (Boston, MA)

Award Recipient: Landworks Studio, Inc. (Landscape Architect)

The Macallen Building Condominium design used differing approaches to green roof technology to create unique environments at different tiers of the building. The project developed a close relationship with various landscape education programs including the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Students and anyone else passing through the neighborhood will be able to look up and see the progress of the exceptional highly visible sloping green roof.

#### Green Roof - Extensive Industrial / Commercial

Project: O'Hare Modernization Program, Building 607, New South Vault Building (Chicago, IL)

Award Recipient: Barrett Company (Waterproofing & Greenroof-Roofscape® supplier, Technical Consultant for Green Roof)

Incorporating native plants and a focus on reducing the urban heat island effect at the site, the O'Hare Green Roof project addressed the particular difficulties and benefits involved in getting a green roof built in an airport environment. Coordinating the concerns and requirements of the different agencies and stakeholder groups involved, the new green roofs at O'Hare airport will be seen by millions of travelers every year.

### Green Roof - Special Recognition

Project: Celebrity Solstice (Fort Lauderdale, FL)

Award Recipient: Green Roof Service LLC (System Design, Green Roof Expertise)

This year's Special recognition award winner is an authentic 15,000 square foot grass lawn that covers one quarter of the upper most deck of a 122,000 ton, 1,033 feet long cruise ship, providing vegetated recreational space to passengers in the middle of Ocean. One facet of an overall sustainability plan for the ship, this truly innovative industry-first green roof can also provide new insights into salt and wind tolerance for green roof vegetation and new models for recreational green roofs on conventional buildings.

### Research Award

Award Recipient: Dr. Timothy Carter, Professor, Odum School of Ecology and resident Urban Ecologist at the River Basin Center at the University of Georgia (Athens, GA)

Dr. Carter's research about stormwater runoff on vegetated buildings is used for hydrological modeling for stormwater mitigation programs, a process of increasing relevance given international precipitation patterns and challenges inherent in growing or aging urban regions.

### Policy Award (Individual / Civic)

Award Recipient: Kerry Ross (Calgary, AL, Canada)

Ms Ross's outstanding work developing a local green roof network Alberta EcoRoof Initiative (AEI) has resulted in a demonstration project that has received over 200 visitors and incorporates scientific research. Ross has contributed significantly to the knowledge around local best practices, by studying green roof infrastructure from around the world, and tailoring methods to fit with the local Alberta climate.

### Policy Award (Government / Institutional)

Award Recipient: Storm Water Infrastructure Matters (S.W.I.M.) Coalition New York

A New York City broad-based coalition with over 50 members which is working toward more swim-able waterways, S.W.I.M. played a crucial role in the development of NYC's tax abatement for green roofs, working toward their vision of a future in which green infrastructure becomes the standard.

### **DESIGN AWARD JUDGES:**

Ed Snodgrass (Green Roof Plants), Jeffery Bruce (Jeffery L. Bruce & Company), Michael F. Gibbons (Architectural Systems Inc.), Monica Kuhn (Monica Kuhn Architect), David Yocca (Conservation Design Forum) and Linda Velasquez (Greenroofs.com Publisher & Design Consultant)

### **MEDIA:**

Media are invited to participate at the 7<sup>th</sup> Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities Conference, Atlanta, GA June 2 – 5 2009. For media accreditation and detailed project descriptions about the award-winning designs including downloadable photos, visit [www.greenroofs.org](http://www.greenroofs.org)

### **CONTACT:**

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About Green Roofs for Healthy Cities: Green Roofs for Healthy Cities (GRHC) was founded in 1999 as a small network of public and private organizations. GRHC is now a rapidly growing not-for-profit industry association of green roof experts in North America. Our mission is to increase the awareness of the economic, social and environmental benefits of green roofs and green walls, and other forms of living architecture through education, advocacy, professionalism and celebrations of excellence.