

PROJECTS

Black Hills Wine Experience Centre highlights the best of the Okanagan.

With its grand opening this past summer, the new Wine Experience Centre at the Black Hills Estate Winery offers visitors a tantalizing taste of the Okanagan lifestyle. Designed by local architect Nick Bevanda, a partner with CEI Architecture, the new facility offers a bright space to sit down and learn more about the wine while enjoying expansive views of the Black Sage Bench, its vineyards and surrounding mountains. A pool offers guests a refuge from the hot climate of the South Okanagan. The new Wine Experience Centre adds to the strong heritage of the Black Hills Estate Winery, the only winery in Western Canada to win a major architectural design award, also designed by Bevanda. “As the name suggests, the Wine Experience Centre is about the enjoyment of the entire tasting experience,” explains Bevanda. “The wine is central to that, of course, but so is the social aspect, as well as the natural environment. It’s all part and parcel of what the Okanagan offers visitors.” The Centre highlights the unique character of its location in Oliver, British Columbia—the desert climate and picturesque views. It is constructed from the same palette of materials as the award-winning Black Hills Estate Winery building, with a steel structure supporting precast concrete panels. Interior spaces are softened by warm wood finishes and deep overhangs, and low-E2 glazing provides protection from the desert sun. Born and raised in the Okanagan, Bevanda is one of the most prolific winery designers in the region. His design of the Black Hills Estate Winery was awarded the Lieutenant-Governor of BC Award of Merit for Architecture in 2008, making Black Hills the only winery in Western Canada honoured with a major architectural award.

KPMB Architects design expansion of the Rotman School of Management.

The Rotman Expansion, the winning scheme in an invited design competition designed by Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects (KPMB), was officially opened in September. The Rotman School is part of the University of Toronto and according to a recent *Financial Times* survey of MBA programs, is ranked one of the top 10 business schools in the world for faculty research. The expansion project was conceived to create a vibrant global hub in which to evolve Rotman’s core mission to promote the power of creativity, innovation and integrative thinking in 21st-century business education. The nine-storey-high project is seamlessly



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integrated with and doubles the size of the Rotman School’s home on the University of Toronto’s downtown campus. It is also connected to an existing Victorian residence. KPMB conceived a vertical campus to fit the varied program of tiered classrooms, study rooms, research centres, study lounges, and dedicated student spaces on a tight urban site. The project features many spaces for gathering, including the event hall and a state-of-the-art teaching and meeting space. The 500-seat event hall is the centrepiece of the project, its large elevated glass box facing out on to St. George Street to broadcast the vibrancy of Rotman’s programs to students of U of T and the city. The multi-level south atrium features a large-scale serpentine staircase with a hot pink accent which simultaneously reduces reliance on elevators and increases interaction between students and faculty. Marianne McKenna, partner in charge for KPMB of the Rotman expansion, says that the design process was inspired by Rotman’s Integrative Thinking™ program: “the design is a direct reflection of broad thinking, flexibility and teamwork involving the input of Rotman and the University of Toronto.” Targeting LEED Silver certification, the project exemplifies sustainable design principles and prioritizes the well-being of students, faculty, staff and visitors. The interior is filled with natural light, fresh air, and spectacular views of the university’s campus. Terraces with green roofs and a courtyard provide access to the outdoors. In scale and massing, the KPMB design responds to the surrounding context, between the residential scale of the historic 19th-century residence and the massive Brutalist architecture of the Robarts Library across the street. It is sited to respect views and minimize shadow impact on Massey College to the east.

ABOVE THE NEW WINE EXPERIENCE CENTRE BY NICK BEVANDA OF CEI ARCHITECTURE COMPLEMENTS THE PREVIOUSLY BUILT AWARD-WINNING BLACK HILLS ESTATE WINERY IN OLIVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

AWARDS

Winners of the 2012 ARIDO Awards announced.

The Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) recently announced the winners of its annual Awards program. One of the most highly regarded honours in the industry, the ARIDO Awards recognize excellence, innovation and creativity in interior design. This year’s winners include a Project of the Year, two Awards of Excellence and 19 Awards of Merit, including one Award of Merit for Sustainable Design. Johnson Chou of the Toronto-based firm Johnson Chou Inc. received the coveted Project of the Year Award for Sixty Colborne, a condominium presentation centre located in downtown Toronto. Two Awards of Excellence went to the Telus Generation 2 Store by Chris Wright and Andrew Gallici of figure3, and to the Polar Securities Office Renovation by Chen Cohen of MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects. Eighteen Awards of Merit were given to: 150_W Residence by Neal Prabhu of nkArchitect; Pied-à-Terre by Michel Arcand and Don Parker of IN8 Design Inc.; McLaren/Pfaff Tuning by George Papadatos and Steve Cascone of Mayhew; The Metrick System by Cheryl Krismer of Crayon Design Co.; Optimus | SBR by Jacqueline Claassen and Donna Wood of Bullock Associates Design Consultants Inc.; DRAFTFCB by Inger Bartlett and Lynn Nguyen of Bartlett & Associates; FMC Law by Peter Heys of the IBI Group; Teva Cafeteria by Michelle Sta. Ana-Ascenzi of