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**American Institute of Architects Flint Chapter Announces “Revisioning the Municipal Center” International Design Award winners**

Flint, Michigan – The Flint Chapter of The American Institute of Architects announced and unveiled its 2022 International Design Competition winners as part of the Greater Flint Arts Council monthly 2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAY ART WALK in downtown Flint last week. The design competition was for the REVISIONing of the City of Flint Municipal Center (including City Hall) into a vibrant mixed use development. The purpose of the competition was to come up with a design solution that would demonstrate how a city's municipal center can be supported and maintained with the revenues generated through creating a vibrant live / work / entertainment. The architectural design program that needed to be incorporated was an entertainment venue, municipal offices, welcome center, residential, business space and retail venues for shopping. With the use of Architectural Design, AIA-Flint challenged competition designers to VISION a state-of-the-art municipal/living/working/shopping/entertaining experience for the future in the heart of downtown Flint.

A panel of judges including local architect John Costa, Former Flint Institute of Arts Director John Henry, Bryan Boyer, Director of the Urban Technology at Taubman College of Architecture and local business owner and downtown activist, Dr. Bobby Mukkamala juried the submittals and selected 3 projects worthy of cash prizes from AIA-Flint. Additionally, the jury selected two projects to receive an Honorable Mention Award. All projects submitted are in the Greater Flint Arts Council Gallery in downtown Flint on display for public viewing until the September 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Art walk.

“This is a really exciting time for Flint and the projects selected creatively REvisioned City Hall and the Municipal Center campus and are a great symbol of rebirth and the tenacity and FUTURE of this town,” commented Shannon Easter White, AIA, NCARB and the event committee member. “Each of the projects feature great architectural design, innovation of mixed-use ideas, creative thinking and are game-changers for the face of public spaces and our built environment. If executed, these designs would change downtown Flint for the better, forever” adds Competition Chair, Josh Steere.

AWARDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

**1<sup>st</sup> place \$4,000– Sanjit Roy with Roy & Partners, New Jersey.** The judges commented the project design “maintains historical status by keeping the existing buildings,” “very practical and creates a new public square!”

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$2,000– Martin Gold with Martin Gold Architects, Florida.** Judges commented this project design expresses “Big picture thinking that addresses all of Downtown and arranges the buildings to create an interior promenade.”

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$1,000 – Wu Hao (RMIT University) & Li Tai Chen (University of Melbourne) from Victoria Australia.** Judges commented, “The proposed buildings use the same DNA as the existing buildings.”

**Honorable Mention** – Wenyi Zhu from Beijing, China who was recognized by the judging team as the “Most provocative and Most unique.”

**Honorable Mention** – Natsuki Mori & K2LAB (Waseda University) from Tokyo, Japan who was recognized by the judges as having developed an “awesome model with an interesting concept.”

If you'd like to review the other projects, follow the link below to access the digital submissions.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11NwsBbyVPLDJgz2LuQKRB-SCxVBDk7Ji?usp=sharing>

If you'd like to see photos of the awards ceremony (and the Kid Architect design competition also on display thru mid-September at GFAC) check out this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zNRgPb3yO7wzMJ-cP16y0DF8RpPDvPR3?usp=sharing>

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