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Architecture Awards honor Nine Virginians, Two Firms and One Structure

RICHMOND, VA Nov. 17, 2017 — AIA Virginia is pleased to announce its presentation of 2017 Honors awards to nine Virginians, two Virginia organizations and one structure. The AIA Virginia Honors program recognizes the best efforts of Virginians who, by profession or avocation, have made creating, preserving, and enhancing Virginia's communities an important life commitment.

Chief Executive of Hanbury, in Norfolk, Jane Cady Rathbone, FAIA, has received the William C. Noland Medal. This is the highest award bestowed on a member architect and honors a distinguished body of accomplishments, sustained over time, that spans a broad spectrum of the profession and transcends the scope of normal professional activities. Colleague and nominator Nicholas Vlatkas, AIA, says “She has caused universities to recognize that intentional planning of the collegiate residential experience results in significant out-of-the-classroom learning and fosters sustained emotional attachment to place.” The influence of Rathbone and her firm is now felt on more than 150 campuses in the U.S. and abroad. Rathbone seeks opportunities to motivate good design, leads the firm’s learning culture and organizes programs to stimulate thinking, discussion and personal growth. She has served on the board of the Design Futures Council and served on the board of the Virginia Foundation for Architecture as its home was established at The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design.

C. Richard Bierce, AIA, principal of his namesake firm, Kathleen Galvin, AIA, of Galvin Architects and Dr. Paula Loomis, FAIA, deputy director of facilities for the U.S. Coast Guard, were honored with the Award for Distinguished Achievement. Bierce is an architect and preservation consultant. He served as Alexandria’s historic resources director and as architect for the properties and director of technical services with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, before opening his own consultancy. He is known for documenting and preserving historic buildings and protecting entire neighborhoods. His public service includes the Peace Corps and numerous preservation organizations. Galvin is in her second term on the Charlottesville City Council where she has often acted as a citizen architect championing urban design and infrastructure improving projects, multi-modal street standards, sustainable building design and transformative community revitalization. She initiated the city’s Strategic Investment Area which is now being implemented. Galvin is also an adjunct faculty member in the University of Virginia, Department of Planning. In private practice, Galvin is known for smart growth management, equitable redevelopment and creative place-making. Her urban design projects have benefited Charlottesville and many nearby areas. Throughout her career as a military and civilian public architect, Dr. Loomis has emphasized the value of quality design in public buildings and places. As Hampton Roads AIA president, Loomis encouraged successful redevelopment of Norfolk’s Granby Street and initiated efforts to enhance public transportation. As Langley Air Force Base architect, she developed standards that returned Langley to its Tudor-Gothic
roots. She created standards for all Air Combat Command bases and other commands, recently adding sustainability requirements. Her work on the national AIA Resiliency Committee led to her involvement in the Hampton Roads Sea Level Rise Preparedness and Resilience Intergovernmental Planning Pilot Project. She is now helping re-start the Virginia Resilience Task Force and has served on AIA’s Federal Acquisition Task Group.

Architectural historian Calder C. Loth has been recognized with the Architecture Medal for Virginia Service. This is AIA Virginia’s most prestigious public award, honoring an individual or organization for an unusually significant contribution to Virginia’s built environment or to the public’s understanding and awareness of the built environment. Known as a tireless teacher and prolific author, Loth was honored for efforts to preserve Virginia’s architectural legacy. He spent 40 years at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources as an advocate, educator and historian. Even after his 2009 retirement, this University of Virginia alumnus is still consulted for his expertise by private owners, historic site managers, universities and international forums. Former Branch Museum Director Dr. Craig Reynolds says Loth “shielded buildings from the wrecking ball, championed historic tax credits, made preservation easements the standard and helped develop excitement for our historic places among new generations.” His former Historic Resources colleague Kathleen Kilpatrick calls Loth an ego-free rock star.

MFTA Architecture Associate Braden Field, AIA, Spectrum Design Senior Associate Nathan Harper, AIA, and 3north Project Architect Maggie Shubert, AIA, have received the Emerging Professional Award. This award recognizes the accomplishments of emerging leaders in Virginia for their contributions to the profession in one or more of the following categories: design, research, education or discourse; service to the profession; mentorship; or service to the community. Northern Virginia-based Field’s nomination notes he “ardently believes in architecture’s capacity for change, and he actively engages every project as an opportunity to learn, teach and pursue great design.” He is known for finding mentorship and service opportunities for others since he believes he owes his success to such experiences in his early career. Field is chair of the AIA Northern Virginia Young Architects Forum and director on AIA Northern Virginia’s Board. Harper has been with the Roanoke firm Spectrum Design for more than a decade. He is a designer of some of the firm’s most successful projects and is known for engaging clients in discussions that his nominator says “have led to designs of greater vision than the client’s original expectation.” He has demonstrated ability in the business of architecture including marketing, construction documents and construction administration — along with mentorship of the firm’s young professionals in architecture and engineering. Harper has voluntarily advised the Roanoke Arts Commission, The Square Society which serves Center in the Square and Roanoke’s new children’s museum. Richmond-area based Schubert’s work has contributed to advancing the profession and architectural education. She is known for her service and mentorship to the next generation of architects. Her nomination notes, “She fills an important role in the profession through her focus on professional and community engagement, as well as finding the bridge between the two.” In AIA Richmond she has served as a director, co-chair of the Young Architects and Interns Forum and chair for Richmond Women in Design. Shubert is a regional representative on the national AIA Small Firm Exchange and chair of AIA Virginia’s Art of Practice conference.

Richmond steel fabricators Liphart Steel Company received AIA Virginia Honors. This award may go to non-member individuals or organizations that have inspired, influenced or complemented the architecture profession in Virginia through an allied profession, research, education, planning, legislation, architectural writing, the arts or crafts. Liphart Steel has served Virginia architects for nearly 80 years by turning their designs in structural and ornamental iron and steel into reality. The company’s four chief executives have each built on the reputation earned by his predecessors, recognizing the value of their relationships with design professionals, attention to detail, thorough execution and fine craftsmanship. Liphart has been fully employee-owned since 1969 and is believed to be the first Virginia company to have an employee stock ownership plan available to all employees. Liphart’s Virginia projects include the historic train shed renovation at Richmond’s Main Street Station, the Science Museum of Virginia’s new 18,000 square-foot Dewey-Gottwald Center and Virginia Tech’s indoor athletic facility.

Frazier Associates has received the T. David Fitz-Gibbon Virginia Architecture Firm Award. This is the highest honor bestowed by AIA Virginia to a Virginia-based architecture firm for consistently producing distinguished architecture for at least 10 years. The core principle at Staunton-based Frazier is to help preserve, sustain and creatively revitalize Virginia’s communities and institutions through historic preservation and contextual design. In its 31 years, Frazier has done almost 3,000 projects in architecture, historic preservation, adaptive reuse and revitalization. In addition the firm has drafted more than 50 sets of design guidelines and pattern books for historic downtowns, neighborhoods, corridors
and rural villages throughout the Southeast. As design specialists for the statewide Main Street program, Frazier provides design training and workshops for communities as well as façade design services for property owners.

The Virginia Eye Institute, designed by 3north principal Sanford Bond, FAIA, has received AIA Virginia’s Test of Time award. The award recognizes a structure not less than 25 years or more than 50 years from the date of initial construction; the project should still carry out the original program in a substantial manner and must be standing as originally designed in appearance and in good condition. The Virginia Eye Institute is located along the Kanawha Canal at the north end of Richmond’s Huguenot Bridge where it can take advantage of the site’s natural beauty and provide an environment that encourages patient comfort and healing. Completed in 1987, the building, known for its strong lines, light industrial aesthetic and use of concrete and steel, has become a well-loved local landmark. The architect sought to create a place that fit into the landscape while creating a facility conducive to both employee efficiency and patient experience. The site — below the flood plain — has a deep pile-driven foundation and the building is supported by piers. Raising the structure enabled creation of an industrial wharf aesthetic. The Virginia Eye Institute remains a place for patients to receive care in a beautiful setting.

Virginia Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects Executive Director Kathleen R. Nosbisch has become an Honorary Member of AIA Virginia. An endorser says she “has a clear understanding of the needs of the professions she helps regulate and the ability of the state and her office to work effectively with the diverse elements of each professional community. As a dedicated patron of architecture across Virginia, Kate listens, thinks and delivers.” She was honored for her commitment to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all Virginians. She informs the public through seminars and advises the profession at many outreach opportunities, at each AIA Virginia local component and at each of the accredited architecture programs at Virginia universities.

The 2017 Honors awards were presented at the Visions for Architecture gala on Friday, Nov. 3, at the Hotel John Marshall.

**About AIA Virginia**
AIA Virginia is a society of the American Institute of Architects and represents nearly 2,500 architects throughout Virginia. Founded by five architects in 1914, AIA Virginia is the voice of the architecture profession in the Commonwealth, dedicated to serving its members, advancing their value, and improving the quality of the built environment. For more information, contact AIA Virginia at **(804) 644-3041** or visit [www.aiava.org](http://www.aiava.org).

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