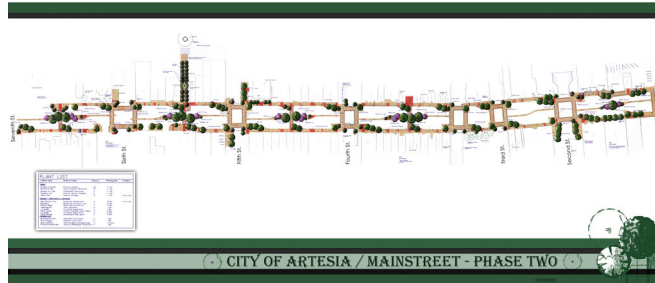




Main Street Project and the Streetscapes Prototypes Project both win Honor Awards from the New Mexico Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.



New Mexico ASLA Design Contest Award Winners Announced

Award winners in the 2006 New Mexico Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects Design Awards Program represent the best in local landscape design with an eye toward the profession's new watchwords: sustainability, collaboration, and public participation.

Categories in the contest included constructed projects, unrealized projects, planning and analysis, and student projects.

Awards were given December 9, 2006, and awards in each category were given at two levels: Awards of Excellence (the highest, determined by a unanimous vote of the jury) and Honors Awards. Criteria for each category included creativity and visual interest, environmental sustainability, response to site, cultural sensitivity and whether the project created a sense of place.

The only Award of Excellence was given to Sites Southwest for the High Desert Water Harvesting Garden and Storm Water Pond in Albuquerque, NM. Designed in the form of a large traditional Pueblo kiva, the project is a water detention facility and an adjacent garden for the residents of High Desert Communities. Working together with a larger team of artists, engineers, and an environmentally engaged client, the project's designers created a symbolic celebration of the pulse of storm water in the Bear Canyon area. "The creative collaboration reshaped a traditional water infrastructure project and created a sense of place," one juror stated

Tiguex Park in Old Town, Albuquerque, another project designed by Sites Southwest, won an Honor Award in the Constructed Projects category, along with Resource Technology's Los Candelarias Village Center Streetscape in the North Valley. Other Honor Award Winners included the Artesia Main Street Project, and the Streetscapes Prototypes project, both designed by Morrow Reardon Wilkinson Miller, Ltd.

In the planning and analysis category, Honor Award winners included: Sites Southwest for the Las Cruces Downtown Revitalization, and Design Workshop for Lobo Ranch in Cibola County.

Overall, in the built category, the winners were all conscious of water conservation, and made imaginative use of plantings, paving and other sustainable materials. Many of the projects incorporated public input and several were built around cultural and community roots.

A distinguished jury of planners, architects, graphics designers, and educators from New Mexico, Texas and Kansas judged the entries at an all-day session Saturday Oct. 21.

Members of the jury were: Sue Mortier, ASLA, UNM Facilities Planner, Tony Barnes, FASLA, Professor at Kansas State University, Jonathan Siegel, AIA, Siegel Design Architects, Suzanne Busch, P.E., City of Albuquerque, Debbie Stover, ASLA, Advance Planning, City of Albuquerque, Ingrid Biel, AIA, Architectural Research Consulting, Inc., Ed Boles, Historic Preservation Planner, City of Albuquerque, Dr. Alon Kvashny, FASLA, Texas Tech University, and Jamie Jett Walker, environmental graphics designer, Jettwalker, Inc.

The New Mexico chapter of the ASLA represents approximately 85 members of the landscape architecture profession throughout the state. Landscape architects are trained in comprehensive land use planning, design and management, with specializations in site design, urban planning, park and recreation planning, historic preservation and reclamation.