

**2006
CITATION AWARD**



Photo by J. K. Lawrence Photography of Bozeman, Montana

**Archie Bray Foundation
Resident Artist Studio**

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The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects is pleased to announce Mosaic Architecture is the recipient of the 2007 Excellence in Design Citation Award. Mosaic Architecture will now be able to compete at the Regional level in 2007.

The design for the new Resident Artist Studio Complex, including the location and siting of the structure, depicts the initial effort of balancing the Core Design Principles described in the project's Master Plan. Each element of the design is ultimately defined and explained by these principles.

The complex is comprised of four primary parts; the studio building, the indoor kiln building, the kitchen/lounge building and the outdoor wood kiln area. Elements surrounding the complex include the courtyard development, circulation paths and ramps, development of a works garden along with potential storm water retention systems. The primary buildings work in close proximity to one another in order to enhance the circulation and function of the process of ceramic art making. A continuous 'porch' roof constructed with translucent panels covers most of the walks. The porch is one of many social gather places on the campus.

The studio building provides eight private studio spaces including a large studio for the Director and one of the visiting artists. The west end of the building is a large open room to provide at least four additional studio spaces. The central spine is a 16 foot wide space with storage and displays on either side as well as common sinks. The roof shape and building form plays a critical roll in defining how natural light is optimized for use in the studios. The east — west orientation of the building provides a north and south exposure for the studios. The natural light is controlled through awnings, screening and soffits in order to optimize the lighting and minimize direct south light.

The indoor kiln building is comprised of a large open room equipped with gas and electric kilns. The gas kilns extend along the outside wall to provide the required venting. This building also includes ancillary spaces such as the glaze room, plaster room, photo shop and storage rooms. An overhead door between the studio building and the kiln area provides access for large pieces and a pallet jack. This access is part of an enclosed passage that connects these two buildings and leads to the library/lounge and the outdoor wood kiln area.

The kitchen/lounge is a simple arrangement of spaces but more refined in its detail than the more utilitarian studio and kiln buildings. It includes the kitchen, a lounge or dining area, the library, and the restrooms. This building functions as a gathering place for artists and staff and includes an outdoor patio space.

The new studio complex for the Archie Bray campus is an exciting testament to the collaborative work of the campus with the Master Plan. Starting with function, circulation and program the design strives to meet and exceed the expectations set forth in the design guideline in the Master Plan. The consensus of the Board of Directors during the initial design charrette was that this new complex should 'disappear' into the campus of the Bray. Towards that goal, the new facilities exhibit a character of industrial qualities, subtle detailing, and inspired placement of elements to express the continuity and history of the Archie Bray program. Ten years from now, the architecture will merely be a backdrop to the uniqueness of the ceramics and history of the place.

The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects is located in Billings, Montana. For more information, visit www.aia-mt.org or call 406-259-7300.