

# COLLEGE

## Planning & Management

FACILITIES • SECURITY • TECHNOLOGY • BUSINESS

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### Education

# design 14

### Showcase

ANNUAL AWARDS FOR  
**DESIGN +**  
ARCHITECTURE

**BASEMENT EVOLUTIONS**  
OPTIMIZE UNDERGROUND  
SPACES TO FULL FUNCTIONALITY

**FIRE SAFETY MESSAGING**  
EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION  
TECHNIQUES

**OUTDOOR LIGHTING AND SYSTEMS**  
ATTRACTIVE, ADAPTIVE AND  
ENERGY-EFFICIENT OPTIONS





# COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY GRAND PRIZE WINNER

OUTSTANDING DESIGN + ARCHITECTURE IN EDUCATION

## HORT WOODS CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND LAB SCHOOL

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STATE COLLEGE, PENN.



### **THIS FINE PROJECT BRINGS THE MEANING OF “PLAYHOUSE” TO A NEW LEVEL.**

The incorporation of natural elements inside and out of the facility produces a fine experience for kids in nature that rarely exists any more. – Martin Sharpless

### **MUCH CARE IS SHOWN IN THIS PROJECT.**

Members of the design team were strong advocates for developing this particular site to protect woodlands. This shows the role the design team plays in the delivery of a building; from the master plan to a child’s perspective, they delivered. – Tom Fernandez

### **THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THIS BUILDING THAT IS TIMELESS.**

There is an Arts & Crafts aesthetic to it. They stuck to their principles and didn’t take the easy way out. A very nice project. – Susan Monroe

### **ARCHITECT**

**studioMLA Architects**

BILL MENSINGER

MIKE LINDSTROM

617.608.1551

### **PROJECT SHOWCASE**

**see page 61**



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**T**HE DESIGN TEAM WAS ASKED TO “HEAL” THE EDGE OF A HERITAGE grove of trees, reconnect children with nature and create a strong campus gateway building. Benefitting from a ‘perfect storm’ of project circumstances, Penn State University built a LEED Platinum early learning center that demonstrates the explicit connections between design, education, biophilia and the environment; creates a new, sustainable woodland edge; and significantly enhances an important campus entry. The project showcases how sustainable design can have a direct impact on students.

Challenges included an extremely constrained site containing old-growth trees and the need to create an appropriate architectural expression for the campus and children. Leveraging the micro-climates and natural resources of the site, the resulting design creates a multi-level learning experience, spatially and in terms of the natural environment and green strategies. Children and teachers benefit, as the tangible sustainable components are integrated into the curriculum. Children’s learning is enhanced through their exploration of a sensory-rich environment created with a palette of natural materials and interactive natural ventilation and rainwater-harvesting systems. Finally, students in education and the broader university community benefit from a new educational paradigm that values biophilia and a strong relationship to the environment. **EDS**

**ARCHITECT****studioMLA Architects**

BILL MENSINGER

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**PROJECT INFORMATION**

CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR N/A

COMPLETION DATE July 2011

GROSS AREA 21,150 sq. ft.

PER STUDENT 42 sq. ft.

SITE SIZE 2 acres

CURRENT ENROLLMENT 170 students

CAPACITY 170 students

COST PER STUDENT \$53,824

COST PER SQ. FT. \$433

TOTAL COST \$9,150,000

**JUDGES’ COMMENTS** (also see pg. 45)

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