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AIA New York and Center for Architecture to Honor Design Leaders at Heritage Ball

The Center for Architecture’s largest fundraiser will celebrate three honorees on October 24.

NEW YORK, NY, September 23, 2019 — On October 24, professionals from the architecture, engineering, construction, and real estate industries will gather at Chelsea Piers’ Pier 60 in NYC at the 2019 Heritage Ball. Heritage Ball, Center for Architecture’s annual benefit, is an exciting event that honors the rich architectural heritage of New York City and celebrates those who continue the city’s tradition of design excellence. This year, AIANY and the Center for Architecture are proud to honor Steven Holl Architects; Phyllis Lambert, FRAIC, Hon. FAIA, Hon. FRIBA; and Sharon Prince and Grace Farms.

The Heritage Ball serves as the single largest funding source for the Center for Architecture, allowing the organization to fulfill its mission to educate the public about the value of architecture and design alongside its partner, AIA New York. The gala takes place during Archtober, NYC’s Architecture and Design Month.

ABOUT THE HONOREES

President’s Award: Steven Holl Architects

Steven Holl was born in 1947 in Bremerton, Washington. He graduated from the University of Washington and pursued architecture studies in Rome in 1970. In 1976, he joined the Architectural Association in London and in 1977 established Steven Holl Architects. Considered one of America’s most influential architects, he is recognized for his ability to blend space and light with great contextual sensitivity and to utilize the unique qualities of each project to create a concept-driven design. He specializes in seamlessly integrating new projects into contexts with particular cultural and historic importance.

Steven Holl has realized projects both in the United States and internationally, including the Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art in Helsinki, Finland (1998); Simmons Hall at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2002); the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri (2007); the Horizontal Skyscraper in Shenzhen, China (2009); the Linked Hybrid in Beijing, China (2009); the University of Iowa,
Visual Arts Building (2016); Maggie’s Centre Barts in London, UK (2017); and the Institute for Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University (2018).

Holl has been recognized with architecture’s most prestigious awards and prizes, most notably the 2016 VELUX Daylight Award in Architecture, the 2014 Praemium Imperiale International Arts Award for Architecture, the 2012 AIA Gold Medal, the 2010 RIBA Jencks Award, and the first ever Arts Award of the BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Awards in 2009.

Holl is a tenured Professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture and Planning. He has also taught at the University of Washington, the Pratt Institute, and the University of Pennsylvania.

**Center for Architecture Award: Phyllis Lambert, FRAIC, Hon. FAIA, Hon. FRIBA**

For Phyllis Lambert, architecture is a public concern. Architect, author, scholar, curator, conservationist, activist, and critic of architecture and urbanism, she is Founding Director Emeritus of the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA), which she founded in 1979 as an international research center and museum.

In June 1954, prior to proposing Mies van der Rohe as architect for the Seagram Building, Lambert wrote to the president, her father: "Your building is not only for the people of your companies who work there, but for all who pass by, for the area it is in, for New York City and for the rest of the world." Her book *Building Seagram* is a cultural history of architecture, art, urban regulations, and real estate, as well as of conservation and stewardship in New York City.

In 1963 she earned her Master of Architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. In 1975 she founded Heritage Montreal and was instrumental in establishing the largest and most vital non-profit cooperative housing renovation project in North America. Lambert has continued to pursue social housing through the Fonds d’Investissement de Montreal, the only such investment fund in Canada.

A Fellow of the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada and recipient of its Gold Medal, as well as an honorary Fellow of the AIA and the Royal Institute of British Architecture, Lambert was immensely pleased to receive the Golden Lion of Venice Architecture Biennale in honor of her life’s work.

**NYC Visionary Award: Sharon Prince and Grace Farms**

Sharon Prince is the President and Founder of Grace Farms Foundation, a private foundation established in 2009 to advance good through engagement with nature, arts, justice, community, and faith.

Prince spear-headed the vision for Grace Farms, a new kind of public space that seamlessly blends architecture, art, and nature into a platform for people across sectors to convene and activate the Foundation’s initiatives. In 2010, she commissioned the Pritzker Prize-winning firm SANAA to design its accompanying River building.

Since opening in October 2015, Grace Farms, a place of grace and peace for all, has garnered numerous awards for contributions to architecture, environmental sustainability, and social good, including the AIA National 2017 Architecture Honor Award, *Fast Company’s* 2016 Innovation by Design Award for Social Good, and the Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize from the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Prince has fought to disrupt contemporary slavery and violence against women on a local and global scale. In 2016, she co-hosted a convening with the United Nations University entitled Fighting Human Trafficking in Conflict, which resulted in a published report to the United Nations Security Council and advocacy for UN Resolution 2331. In 2017, she received NOMI Network’s Abolitionist Award and Auburn Seminary’s Lives of Commitment Award. She holds a BS/BA and MBA from the University of Tulsa.

Prince spearheads an effort to illuminate the permanent imprint of slavery in building material supply chains. Grace Farms Foundation Architecture Construction Working Group convenes industry leaders and principals to address slavery in the built environment and create actionable outcomes.
SCHOLARSHIPS

In appreciation of their significant contributions towards design excellence, AIA New York and Center for Architecture will invite each award recipient to select an academic program to receive scholarships for one of its students:

- Steven Holl Architects: **Helmuth Rosales**, The Cooper Union
- Sharon Prince and Grace Farms: **Isabel Campillo Valencia**, Pratt Institute, School of Architecture
- Phyllis Lambert: **Andrew Keung**, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

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List as of September 19, 2019

About the AIA New York
AIA New York is the oldest and largest chapter of the American Institute of Architects with nearly 5,700 architect, allied professional, student, and public members. AIANY is dedicated to three goals: design excellence, public outreach and professional development. www.aiany.org

About the Center for Architecture
The Center for Architecture is the premier cultural venue for architecture and the built environment in New York City, informed by the complexity of the City’s urban fabric and in dialogue with the global community. The Center shares a home with the AIA New York Chapter and has the unique advantage of drawing upon the ideas and experiences of practicing architects to produce thought-provoking exhibitions, informative public programs, and quality design education experiences for K-12 students. It also leads New York City’s annual month-long architecture and design festival, Archtober. The Center for Architecture’s aim is to further public knowledge about New York City architecture and architects, foster exchange and collaboration among members of the design, development, building, scholarly, and policy
sectors, and inspire new ideas about the role of design in communities by presenting contemporary and practical issues in architecture and urbanism to a general audience. [www.centerforarchitecture.org](http://www.centerforarchitecture.org)