

MHD

MAINE HOME + DESIGN

JUNE 2024

2024 AIA MAINE DESIGN AWARDS

19 WINNING PROJECTS SHOWCASING
INNOVATIVE AND INSPIRING ARCHITECTURE

**NET-ZERO NEST:
AN ARCHITECT'S DREAM HOME
ON WESTPORT ISLAND**



**INSIDE A LODGE-INSPIRED
SEBAGO LAKE RETREAT**

2024 AIA Maine Design Awards

As Maine's definitive design authority, *MH+D* is thrilled to showcase the winners of the state's prestigious Design Awards distributed by the Maine chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Maine). The awards, which recognize the incredible talents of Maine-based architects and firms for projects completed both here and away, serve as a fundamental record of the evolution of contemporary architecture in the state. "The design work that Maine architects have submitted this year continues the trend of excellence in our awards program," said Paul Lewandowski, founder of Paul Designs Project and chair of the awards committee. "Each year, we see more work that is thoughtfully conceived and espouses sustainability, energy efficiency, and water conservation."

For the 2024 program, AIA Maine received 46 submissions from 31 applicants in the categories of commercial, single-family residential, renovations and adaptive reuse, and small projects with budgets under \$350,000. In the past, the awards committee has selected a jury of peers from Iceland, Montreal, and Wyoming to review the entries; this year's jury hailed from Connecticut. "We work very hard to keep the sanctity of the jury pure and allow our jurors to select the best of the best," says Lewandowski. "They decide on the number of award recipients; we don't have a formula for them to determine the number of winners." The total of 19 winning projects grace the following pages, though all entries in the Design Awards program are displayed at the recognition reception. "This helps us to achieve our goal of celebrating design in Maine; even if a project isn't awarded, it is on display for all to see," adds Lewandowski.

AIA Maine introduced the Architrave Award this year to recognize excellence in traditional design. "In our mission to showcase all of the excellent design work happening in Maine, we felt the addition of a traditional design award would celebrate design even further," Lewandowski explains. A separate jury was selected to review the Architrave entries and select winners based on the thoughtful adaptation of tradition to address twenty-first-century needs.

The "unbuilt" category, which is the only area that extends to both professional architects and students from Maine (as well as those studying architecture in the state), offers an opportunity to recognize projects that were fully conceived but never constructed. "There is so much excellent work that is on the drawing boards of Maine architects that never gets to see the light of day," says Lewandowski, adding that the student work coming from the architecture program at the University of Maine in Augusta "is an indicator that Maine will have some very strong 'homegrown' architects soon."

MH+D is honored to present the winners of the 2024 AIA Maine Design Awards.



PHOTO: JEFF ROBERTS

Winners at a Glance

Honor Awards

The Paula Crane Lunder House,
Jane Powers House, Carol Swann-
Daniels House & Jacqueline
Núñez House

50 Exchange

A House in Three Parts

The Overlook

Juniper I

Lowell Makerspace

Merit Awards

USM Portland Commons Residence
Hall & McGoldrick Center for Career
& Student Success

West End Apartments

Sweatt-Winter Child Care and Early
Education Center

Pine Cove

Somes Sound House

Harbor Residence

Bridging the Gap

Citation Awards

Husson University College of Business

Gable Archipelago

Studio 84

Spring Street

YMCA Summer Camp

Architrave Award

Little Hen House



A House in Three Parts, Midcoast Maine Winkelman Architecture

Honor Award for Excellence in Architecture

Architects: Joanna Shaw, AIA;
Will Winkelman, AIA

Structural Engineer: Albert Putnam Associates

Landscape Architect: Richardson & Associates

Environmental Consultant: Albert
Frick Associates

General Contractor: Hewn Builders,
High Seas Builders

Photographer: Jeff Roberts

From the Jury:

There is consistency in the consideration of detail that weaves through all structures. The expression of the roof framing is very compelling. The structure is effortlessly integrated into the site. All the jurors agree that this is a place we'd like to spend time. It has a scale that is very inviting.

From the Architect:

Carefully designed within the 35-acre site, this house is pulled apart into a series of spaces dispersed into the woods with compact, precise insertions. This design choreographs openness, views, and relationships, prioritizing the experiences between built forms and within the wild natural environment. The house was designed for a young family that dreamt of a place to inspire adventure for their kids: summer camp and the comfort of home crafted into one.

Beginning with arrival, the entry tower marks a transition into this home. Its first floor provides a mudroom for shedding gear, bikes, and skis; this space welcomes adventures with friends and family. Above the mudroom, a bunk-tower with loft platforms climbs into the tree canopy, hosting guests and children. A metal ladder and wooden climbing holds playfully connect these vertical layers.

The entry and kitchen are partners in the landscape, lightly linked together with a covered boardwalk. The kitchen provides a social space with cooking, dining, and gathering in the heart of the site. Embraced by topography, its form wraps around a granite ledge, and its roof canopy floats beyond the pavilion's enclosure, sweeping the groundscape below. Easterly windows welcome light for morning rituals and the first meal together each day. The ebb and flow of stepping apart and coming together inspired this home's composition.

Our clients desired shared spaces fostering social connection as well as personal retreats. A bedroom cabin for parents and young children connects to the kitchen via a wood boardwalk slicing thinly through the landscape. The parents' sleeping space pairs with a loft, which opens to an ocean view. As the children grow and seek adventure in the bunk-tower, the loft will become a retreat for meditation.

The interior palette of each space is consistent, simple, and raw, with regionally harvested timbers, granular concrete, and softly textured plaster. Shifting sunlight and views—woods, water, wildlife—are the elements that give these spaces life.