



2019 ARCHITECTURAL GLASS STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

AGI and Jefferson partner for the third annual challenge.

By: Amanda Gibney Weko

SPOTLIGHT

2019 STUDENT WINNERS

First Place

Emily Potenza | Bringing Back the Falls

Second Place

Cevan Noell | Fractured

Third Place

Kaitlyn Cusumano | Hive

Honorable Mentions

Sal Armetta | Algal Bloom

Ronaldo Desiderio | Module Fabric

Dennis McWeeny | Urban Connection



From left: Prof. Jim Doerfler, Dean Barbara Klinkhammer, Emily Potenza, Cevan Noell, Kaitlyn Cusumano, and Stephanie Staub

THIRD ANNUAL COMPETITION

AGI sponsored its Third Annual Architectural Glass Student Design Competition in January. Third-year Jefferson University architecture and industrial design students participated as part of required coursework.

DESIGN CHALLENGE

Students were challenged to design a parking area screen for a new development at 1 Kelly Drive in East Falls. The design solution would incorporate architectural glass, metal panels, and lighting technology (including programmable lighting effects that could change over time). Approximately 200 feet long by 12 feet high, the street-facing screen needed to provide visual interest with controlled illumination, but had to consider nearby traffic and not create a distraction.

Intended to be a permanent structure, prefabricated off site before installation, the structure must be designed to survive weather conditions, withstand gravity, use low-maintenance materials, and be robust enough to take a reasonable amount of physical abuse at the ground level of a building in Philadelphia.

Students were encouraged to explore qualities of glass and metal panels, considering color, translucency, applied fritting, films, or graphic designs on the wall surfaces. They could also incorporate leading-edge products such as photochromic glass.

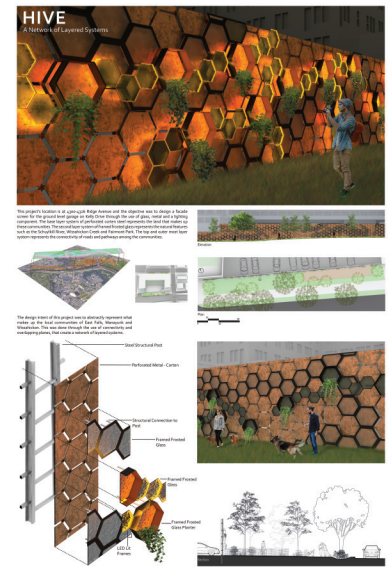
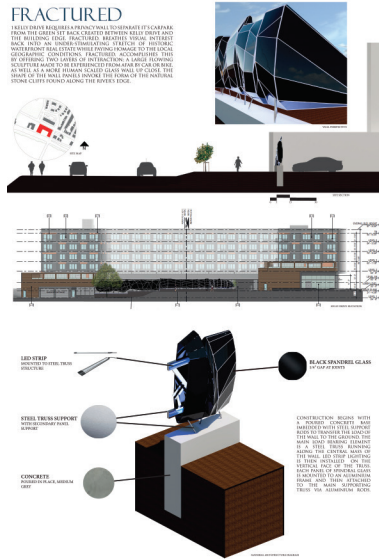
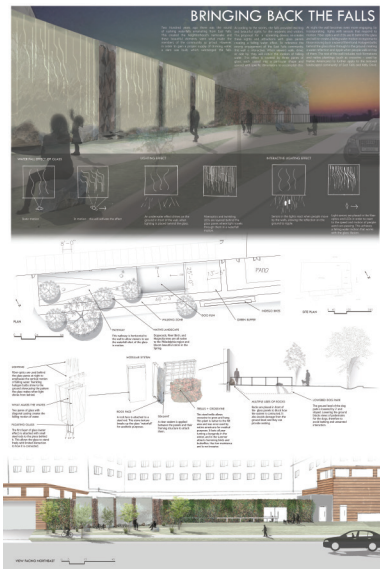
JUDGING

Submissions included brief narratives and detailed drawings presented on single 24-by-36-inch posters. Faculty reviewed and shortlisted finalists for presentations held Monday, 28 January. The jury of design and glazing professionals evaluated the proposals and awarded three winners and three honorable mentions.

The jury included Joseph Bausano, Associate with architecture firm Foster + Partners; Matt Cleary, Territory Manager for SageGlass®, an advanced dynamic glass product of Saint-Gobain; Mike Dalicandro, Owner of AGI member contractor Twindows, Inc.; Erike DeVeyra, Assoc. AIA, Community Outreach and Programs Manager of the Center/Architecture+Design and AIA Philadelphia; and Ron Kudla, President of AGI member glazing contractor Advanced Glass & Metal, LLC.

From left:
presentation boards
by Emily Potenza,
Cevan Noell, and
Kaitlyn Cusumano

View all of the winning
and finalist boards at
<https://www.theagi.org/glass-worker-education.html>



"This competition pushes our students to gain knowledge of glazing systems and challenges them to create innovative designs," explained Professor and Director of Architecture Programs James Doerfler. "Opportunities like this are great for our students," added Studio Coordinator Jeff Kansler. "Any time they can connect to industry, engage with individuals in a client role, and work with real-world constraints, it adds an extra dimension to the academic experience and expands the range of learning outcomes in a typical academic studio."

Juror DeVeyra agreed. "As an alumna, it's mind blowing to know the university has come so far to truly connect with the industry as a whole," said DeVeyra. "To see the program and relationships that have evolved, it's truly fantastic to see how all of us connect in the creation of our built environment. I'm deeply appreciative of what you have given to our design community."

WINNERS

Emily Potenza took first place and earned a prize of \$500. Cevan Noell took second place and \$400. Kaitlyn Cusumano earned third place and \$300. Three honorable mentions were awarded to Ronaldo Desiderio, Dennis McWeeney, and Sal Armetta. Following are portions of each winner's design abstract:

FIRST PLACE: EMILY POTENZA | BRINGING BACK THE FALLS

Two hundred years ago there was the sound of rushing waterfalls emanating from East Falls. This created the neighborhood's namesake and these beautiful elements were what made the members of the community so proud. However, in order to gain a proper supply of drinking water, a dam was built, which submerged the falls. According to the stories, the falls provided exciting and beautiful sights for the residents and visitors. This proposal for a

screening device recreates these sights and attractions with glass panels creating a falling water effect. To reference the strong engagement of the East Falls community, the wall is interactive. When viewers walk, drive, or ride by, they will notice the motion of falling water. The effect is created by three panes of glass, each casted into a particular shape and spaced with specific dimensions to accomplish this. At night, the wall becomes even more engaging, by incorporating lights with sensors that respond to motion.... The rest of the wall includes rock formations and native planting (such as crossvine – used by Native Americans) to further apply to the beloved landscaped community of East Falls and Kelly Drive.

SECOND PLACE: CEVAN NOELL | FRACTURED

Fractured breathes visual interest back into an under-stimulating stretch of historic waterfront real estate while paying homage to the local geographic conditions. Fractured accomplishes this by offering two layers of interaction: a large, flowing sculpture made to be experienced from afar by car or bike [and] a more human-scaled glass wall up close. The shape of the wall panels invokes the form of the natural stone cliffs found along the river's edge.

THIRD PLACE: KAITLYN CUSUMANO | HIVE

The design intent of this project was to abstractly represent what makes up the local communities of East Falls, Manayunk, and Wissahickon. This was done through the use of connectivity and overlapping planes that creates a network of layered systems. The base layer system of perforated corten steel represents the land that makes up these communities. The second layer system of framed, frosted glass represents the natural features such as the Schuylkill River, Wissahickon Creek, and Fairmount Park. The top and outermost layer system represents the connectivity of roads and pathways among the communities.