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Multnomah Building Green Roof receives People's Choice award from ASLA

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The 2004 Design Awards were handed out April 17 by the Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

A People's Choice award went to the Multnomah Building Green Roof.

Designed by landscape architects Macdonald Environmental Planning, the project transformed an existing fifth floor flat roof on Multnomah County's Multnomah Building into Portland's first public green roof demonstration garden. The 12,000-square-foot garden, completed in July 2003, includes a six-inch layer of soil, diverse mix of vegetation, and an accessible public plaza.

Multnomah County chose to construct a green roof to reduce energy costs, mitigate heat island effects, reduce rainwater runoff and lower stormwater temperature, and reduce air and noise pollution.

Since the green roof garden is intended to educate visitors, the rooftop plaza adjacent to the green roof will be open to the public and accessible. The area provides views and seating, as well as a variety of interpretive signs to educate users about the project, process, and overall benefits of green roofs.

The roof will also serve as a laboratory for green roof development with experiments that will be conducted by various agencies, including Portland State University and the Bureau of Environmental Services.

Project members for the Multnomah Building Green Roof project include: Landscape architecture by Macdonald Environmental Planning; architecture by Carleton-Hart Architecture; green roof consultant Marie-Anne Boivin; engineering by Interface Engineering and KPFF Consulting Engineers; and general contracting by Anderson Roofing.

The Oregon Chapter of ASLA People's Choice Award was handed out at the April 17 awards soiree held at Bullseye Glass Co. Gallery in Northwest Portland. Thirty entries were accepted for the 2004 Design Awards and all entries were displayed at the Pioneer Place Rotunda where the public could vote for the People's Choice Award from April 4 to April 14.

This year's award-winning entries ranged from projects in sustainable design and stormwater management to a focus on increasing access to natural resources. Eight projects were judged as outstanding and received honors in three categories from the Oregon Chapter of the ASLA.

Compiled by Daily Journal of Commerce staff.

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