

Contest Recognizes Energy-Efficient Brick Designs



[Potomac Valley Brick](#), a masonry supplier in the Mid-Atlantic region, recently announced the winners of its first international sustainable architecture competition, which was designed to showcase brick in sustainable designs.

The “Brick-Stainable” competition, which received 95 entries from 17 countries, challenged entrants to design a guest house for international dignitaries visiting the Nation’s Capital. The designers were to “explore the potential of brick construction in the creation of an energy-efficient building and ... to maximize the physical characteristics of this construction in the creation of integrated design solutions.”

The winners, honored in a ceremony at the National Building Museum in Washington Jan. 27, comprised:

TECHNICAL DESIGN

Flora Bougiatioti, Maria Eftychi, Aimilios Michael (Cyprus)

Kenfield Griffith (United States)

Rizal Muslimin (United States)

WHOLE BUILDING DESIGN

Arindam Bose, Minali Singh (Qatar)

Héctor Alejandro Módica de Caso, Lourdes Ivonne Del Río Suárez (Mexico)

Eric Haskins, Gary Vincent (United States)

For more information on the competition and the entry process for next year’s contest, visit www.brick-stainable.com.

Tags: [building materials](#), [green building](#)

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This winning design from Héctor Alejandro Módica de Caso and Lourdes Ivonne Del Río Suárez of Mexico included four houses with eight suites for dignitaries, all attached to a central courtyard with common space on the main level, conference rooms underneath, and a green roof atop vaulted brick ceilings. The suite shown here combines sleeping and living areas, while the kitchen and bath are cordoned off. Dual orientation provides for natural illumination, with a private patio on one end and a sweeping view of the forest at the other.