

2024 Decorative Concrete Council Award Winners

The Decorative Concrete Council (DCC) of the American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC), St. Louis, MO, USA, announced the winners of its 15th Annual Decorative Concrete International Awards competition at ASCC's annual conference in September 2024, in Kansas City, MO.

The DCC's WOW! Award was presented to T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc., San Diego, CA, USA, for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Vista Point in Encinitas, CA. The project was a collaboration between the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and the U.S. Department of Transportation to develop decorative concrete finishes for the I-5 Vista Point portion of the Build (North Coast Corridor) NCC project. This overlook, shaped like a jellyfish, is located just south of Birmingham Drive, offers a view of San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, and is the newest connector segment of the North Coast Bike Trail.

The overlook features walkways made of integrally colored Lithocrete®, embedded with a mixture of crushed seashells and a vibrant 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) river rock aggregate, featuring hues of orange, gold, white, and red. This unique blend of aggregate and seashells meanders along the walkway, leading to the "Jellyfish Head," officially known as Vista Point Plaza.

At Vista Point Plaza, the integrally colored Lithocrete finish incorporates a 3/8 in. (9.5 mm) river rock aggregate of the same colorful variety. Additionally, it includes a 1-1/2 in.

(38 mm) Earthtone river rock aggregate, featuring hues of gray, green, and purple. The rest of the overlook is comprised of gravel mulch, cobble mulch, and boulders, enhancing the natural aesthetic of the area.

The Vista Point parking lot sidewalk leading to the overlook also features integrally colored Lithocrete, fully seeded with the same vibrant 3/8 in. river rock aggregate used at the plaza. The same finish was installed at the nearby San Elijo Activity Hub Park & Ride trailhead node. Integrally colored Lithocrete Quarried Stone finish was also placed around the node. In total, 19,220 ft² (1786 m²) of Lithocrete was placed on the project and sealed with a penetrating sealer to maintain its natural aesthetic.

First-place winners in their respective categories include:

Architectural Cast-in-Place Concrete Structures Over 5000 ft²

T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc., San Diego, CA, for Directors Place, San Diego, CA

Directors Place is a 150,000 ft² (13,935 m²), five-story warm shell research and laboratory building that features dramatic views of the Sorrento Valley area toward the Pacific Ocean and Torrey Pines estuary. The building includes a nearly 50/50 split of life sciences research labs and office space.

The building's architectural features and interior lobby design were inspired by the nearby coastal cliffs of the Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve. A two-story high Lithocrete sedimentary wall anchors the double-height lobby space. The colors and textures of the wall were carefully selected to mimic the striations of the Torrey Pines cliffside. The flooring was designed to create a line in the sand—a metaphorical juxtaposition in the space. One side resembles the cliffs, and the other picks up on the ocean's movements.

Creamy white terrazzo flooring with flecks of sediment neighbors the sedimentary wall, representing untouched sand. This flooring carries up a cantilevered staircase and across the Level 2 mezzanine. On the opposite side, dark blue, almost charcoal-colored terrazzo flooring represents sand that has been touched by the ocean waters, acting as a landing point for a wood-clad soffit and columns, reminiscent of a pier. Both the sedimentary wall and terrazzo flooring carry to the exterior of the building, further enhancing the concept.



I-5 Vista Point



Directors Place



Paul Derda Recreation Center Revitalization

T.B. Penick & Sons worked closely with Delawie, the project architect, and GroundLevel Landscape Architecture, Inc., the landscape architect, to bring their vision to life and proposed the Lithocrete sedimentary wall system as the best way to simulate the striations and layers of the nearby cliffs. They also assisted in the development and installation of the interior terrazzo and exterior Lithocrete paving.

Placing the 30 ft (9 m) tall sedimentary wall was a challenge. A hole had to be cut in the ceiling to boom pump the concrete in. Also, because of the variety of integral colors, multiple concrete pumps and concrete trucks for each color had to be used, which was logistically challenging due to the site restrictions. The wall featuring eight distinct alternating layers made up of different combinations of etch and color required a lot of attention to detail. The exterior Lithocrete paving was done using white cement and had a very fine crushed mirror glass embedded on the surface with a light etch.

Architectural Cast-in-Place Concrete Structures Under 5000 ft²

Colorado Hardscapes, Inc., Greenwood Village, CO, USA, for Paul Derda Recreation Center Revitalization, Broomfield, CO

Colorado Hardscapes served as the design-build contractor for the Paul Derda Recreation Center. The project focused on replacing the center's aging rockwork, necessitating both aesthetic enhancements and functional upgrades.

The project included dismantling the existing rock structure, forming and installing new rock features, and adding finishing touches such as painting the rockwork. The company's best artisan rock builders hand-painted the rocks to seamlessly match and update the old rockwork, ensuring a cohesive look.

To prevent rust, galvanized reinforcing bar and structural steel were used, complemented with a Tnemec coating due to the rockwork's proximity to water. The work was done meticulously to protect existing slides and the pool. Ventilation and dust control were prioritized to safeguard the team's health. With adherence to a tight schedule, the pool was

reopened in mid-March 2024, just in time for spring break.

Through innovative solutions and dedicated teamwork, the revitalization of the Paul Derda Recreation Center has transformed it into a vibrant and welcoming destination for the community.

Cast-in-Place Special Finishes Over 5000 ft²

Colorado Hardscapes, Inc., Greenwood Village, CO, for Adams County Veterans Memorial, Brighton, CO

At Riverdale Regional Park, the Adams County Veterans Memorial stands as a testament to the bravery and sacrifice of those who have served the United States. The project was a collaborative effort involving DHM Design; ECI Site Construction Management, Inc.; the Veterans Advisory Committee, County Commissioners; and local veterans. The memorial includes multiple monuments, such as the recreation of the USS Colorado battleship, with decorative concrete elements featured prominently throughout.

Decorative concrete elements incorporated on this project include:

- A 230 ft² (21 m²) curved concrete mural (Story Wall) featuring a three-dimensional (3-D) illusion of grayscale photographs, letters, and telegrams installed using a computer numerical control (CNC)-produced form liner from Scott System;
- 19,694 ft² (1830 m²) of integrally colored sandscape in five different colors;
- 2212 ft² (206 m²) of sandscape refined double-mirror glass for extra sparkle;
- 6538 ft² (607 m²) of imprinted concrete in a running bond Belgian Block texture, 6 in. (152 mm) boardwalk texture, and a sandstone texture;
- 695 ft² (65 m²) map of Adams County, which includes integral color, Micro-Top XT, embedded stainless steel logo and text, and embedded tiles;
- Custom-formed sandscape medicine wheel;
- Sandblasted and painted text on precast acid-etched panels;



Adams County Veteran's Memorial



Myers Memorial Columbarium Garden

- Board-formed and smooth-troweled seat walls; and
- Custom-formed turret bases with embeds for the ship's gun barrels.

The biggest innovation on this project was in the creation of the Story Wall, which required a new approach to cast-in-place installation. The use of a specialty concrete mixture and precise form liner resulted in a stunning, clear image.

Working around Mann-Nyholt Lake necessitated careful planning and the use of cofferdams. Concrete was sourced locally, contributing to sustainability.

Cast-in-Place Special Finishes Under 5000 ft²

Carolina Bomanite Corporation, Charlotte, NC, USA, for Myers Memorial Columbarium Garden, Gastonia, NC

In spring of 2019, Carolina Bomanite was asked to pursue a design for a columbarium at a Methodist church in Gastonia, NC. It took months to determine a location and style for the columbarium that would enhance the church. Due to COVID-19, an online zoning variance was needed to locate the columbarium on a 3000 ft² (279 m²) patch of church property. After fundraising and a final design by Landscape Architect Ronald S. Cutlip, construction started in February 2023.

The custom-built niches took more than 6 months to build. In the meantime, cast-in-place walls, footers, drainage, and more than 200 tons (181 tonnes) of stone infill continued in the compact space. The walls were covered in Tennessee stone veneers. The pergola footers were designed to be part of the paving band design. This isolated potential cracking and worked as intended.

Constructing a columbarium required building for a 100+ year life cycle. Each product and function was over-designed and installed per this criterion. Composite reinforcing bar was used as much as possible to prevent corrosion.

The flatwork is an exposed, custom finish with white sparkle. The paving provides a comfortable walking surface that will require very little maintenance. The black banding

was placed using an integral color with black sparkle and later sealed for enhancement. The company's jointing technique (hidden expansion) using slip dowels, precision saw cutting, and sealant were key to a lasting project.

A custom pre-sloped channel drain was installed around the center landscape bed. Custom precast panels surround the niches. The fencing and gates are handmade of steel and powder coated. The cross, backlit with LED lights, was forged from copper, stainless, bronze, and Corten steel. A slate textured sidewalk leads up to a gated entry unveiling a place of solace.

Cementitious Overlays Under 5000 ft²

Cano Architectural Concrete Repair, Ontario, CA, for The W Hotel Hollywood Grand Staircase, Hollywood, CA

The project required a staircase that needed to seamlessly combine metal stud-framed cement board with existing metal-panned concrete stairs that tied into newly formed and placed concrete stairs and curved planter walls, all covered with a cement coating for durability and functionality.

This cementitious overlay by FirmeCrete Floor & Wall Coatings needed to have an exposed sand finish—an ultra-white aluminum oxide sand finish. To achieve this, the Cano Architecture Concrete Repair Crew needed a collaborative team. The general contractor Build Group, Inc., led the construction and installed the framing and cement board structure. Pacific Structures, Inc., formed and placed the concrete sub-slabs and planter walls. This project required meticulous detail ensuring that the curves looked clean and sharp on the multi-layered planter walls to the precise lines on the 2 in. (50 mm) light channels while making sure every substrate was prepped to ensure proper adhesion.

The complexity went beyond the intricate design and custom-blended material. The execution was required within a tight time frame, all while the hotel remained open for business. As a result, a cohesive multi-tiered masterpiece was created, where walls, floors, and steps become one.



The W Hotel Hollywood Grand Staircase

The transformation of the W Hollywood Hotel grand staircase is a testament to the skill and collaboration of the team involved. From the installation of the surfaces to the flawless application of the FirmeCrete® finish, every detail was carefully considered. The end result is a stunning example of modern design.

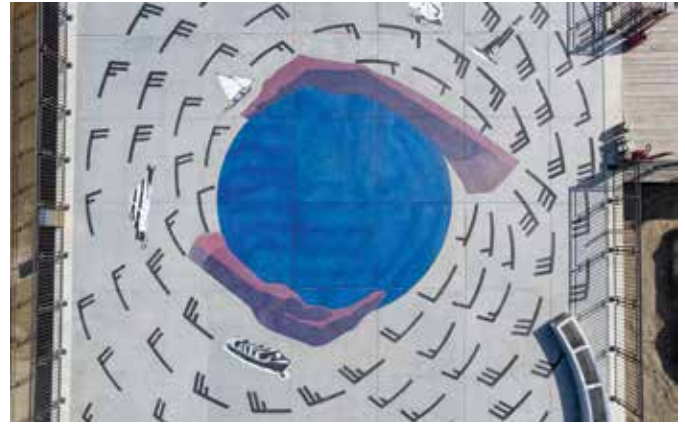
Concrete Artistry Over 5000 ft²

T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc., San Diego, CA, for 900 Innes India Basin Park, San Francisco, CA

In 2014, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (SFRPD) acquired the 900 Innes property at India Basin in San Francisco's Bay View Hunters Point (BVHP) neighborhood. With its scenic views, waterfront access, and rich natural resources, this site stands as the Department's only San Francisco Bay-front property. In collaboration with the BVHP community, the Trust for Public Land, the San Francisco Parks Alliance, and the A. Philip Randolph Institute, SFRPD planned to transform the post-industrial brownfield into a twenty-first century legacy park. The development plan created a 10 acre (4 ha) waterfront park that bridges a critical gap in the San Francisco Bay Trail.

The goals for the 900 Innes project included creating a highly visible work of art on the pier to establish a destination point and attract visitors to the waterfront. To achieve this, the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC) held a competition, shortlisting four local artists and giving them 2 months to develop site-specific works for the new pier and park.

The artistic vision of winning artist Raylene Gorum was brought to life using the Lithocrete® system. T.B. Penick & Sons provided her with samples for the competition submission, and after her selection, collaborated with her, the architectural and engineering team, and other stakeholders to further develop the artistic and technical details of her piece, titled "Lady Bayview." According to Gorum, "Lady Bayview is an image of a female guardian figure whose hands encircle a glittering, circular universe. She is dressed in a swarm of shifting wind barbs and ships that describe the site's layered history of innovation, perseverance, and community. The figure is intended as a talisman that reflects the community's



900 Innes India Basin Park

history and the legacy of the Bayview Five, a group of strong female African American leaders in the community who successfully advocated for better housing, health and labor issues, a local theater, and more."

To create the design for Lady Bayview's head, face, and hand, Lithocrete embedded with a blend of 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) lavender and purple colored glass, accented with red glass highlights, was placed. The pattern was then saw cut and stained using custom water-based stains made to match Gorum's chosen Pantone colors. For the sparkling universe, Lithocrete seeded with fine crushed mirror glass was placed and stained with a custom water-based blue stain, achieving a dazzling effect. On the rest of the pier, Lithocrete seeded with fine crushed mirror glass was placed, and the wind barbs and ships were sand blasted and stained. In total, 13,580 ft² (1262 m²) of Lithocrete was placed and 157 wind barbs and 15 ships were sandblasted and stained.

The project faced multiple challenges. On cold days, accelerators had to be used in the concrete mixture, and strong winds complicated the finishing process, requiring finishing aids. Water control was also a challenge; the edge of the pier had to be blocked with sandbags and plastic, along with using GelMaxx, to prevent contaminants from entering the water. Lastly, staining the ships required meticulous attention to detail, especially when hand staining the white portions of the ships.

Polished Concrete & Overlays Over 5000 ft²

Hyde Concrete, Pasadena, MD, USA, for Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum and Welcome Center, St. Michaels, MD

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM), located on the Eastern shore of Maryland, has a mission to explore and preserve the history, environment, and culture of the entire Chesapeake Bay region, and make this resource accessible to all. CBMM's new 12,000 ft² (1115 m²) Welcome Center is part of ongoing campus upgrades to create engaging, immersive, and transformative experiences that educate and inspire.

Polished concrete was used to embrace the vision of the designer, meet the demands of the heavy museum traffic, and



Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum and Welcome Center

notably, to integrate a beautiful, large, stained, and polished concrete map of the Chesapeake Bay.

Early in the design process, CBMM and the designer reached out to Hyde Concrete with a vision of a concrete floor with a map of the Chesapeake Bay integrated into the flooring. They relied on Hyde Concrete's knowledge and skills in the decorative concrete industry to help bring the vision representing the largest estuary in the United States to life. After many conversations about the project's design, use, and budget, Hyde Concrete recommended a low-sheen, polished concrete finish throughout.

Upon entering the Welcome Center, visitors encounter a large, 20 x 30 ft (6 x 9 m) map of the Chesapeake Bay. After completing multiple mockups for sheen and color, the designer decided on a blue gray to reflect the color of the bay, and a low-sheen, matte polish for the surrounding areas. The map of the bay was achieved by intricately placing large, portioned stencils of the map and staining the design into the polished concrete. All parties are thrilled with the result, and many enjoy trying to locate and name the Chesapeake Bay's many rivers and surrounding cities.

Additional first-place winners included:

Cast-in-Place Stamped Concrete Over 5000 ft²

Indocrete, Malang City, Indonesia, for Sepaku Semoi Dam, East Kalimantan, Indonesia

Cast-in-Place Stamped Concrete Under 5000 ft²

Universal Creative, Orlando, FL, USA, for DreamWorks Land, Mama Lunas Feline Fiesta at Universal Orlando Resort, Orlando, FL

Cementitious Overlays Over 5000 ft²

Carolina Bomanite Corporation, Charlotte, NC, for Statesville Christian School, Statesville, NC

Concrete Artistry Under 5000 ft²

The Fisher Companies, Midland, MI, USA, for Decorative Concrete Resources (DCR) Showroom, Saginaw, MI

Countertops, Furniture, Firepits Over 5000 ft²

Bomanite Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia, for Waterside Residences, Penang, Malaysia

Countertops, Furniture, Firepits Under 5000 ft²

Hyde Concrete, LLC, Pasadena, MD, for Mi Vida, Washington DC, USA

Decorative Resinous Coatings Under 5000 ft²

Performance Concrete Solutions, Canton, OH, USA, for Kidron Fire Station, Kidron, OH

Multiple Applications Over 5000 ft²

T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc., San Diego, CA, for I-5 Vista Point, Encinitas, CA

Multiple Applications Under 5000 ft²

The Fisher Companies, Midland, MI, for DCR Showroom, Saginaw, MI

Polished Concrete & Overlays Under 5000 ft²

Texas Bomanite, Dallas, TX, USA, for Texas Bankers Association, Austin, TX

Project Video Over 5000 ft²

Carolina Bomanite Corporation, Charlotte, NC, for Statesville Christian School, Statesville, NC

Project Video Under 5000 ft²

Carolina Bomanite Corporation, Charlotte, NC, for Myers Memorial Columbarium Garden, Gastonia, NC

Stains and Dyes Over 5000 ft²

T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc., San Diego, CA, for 900 Innes India Basin Park Phase II, San Francisco, CA

Vertical & Façades Over 5000 ft²

Bomanite Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia, for Tzu Chi Jing Si Center, Malaysia

Vertical & Façades Under 5000 ft²

Universal Creative, Orlando, FL, for DreamWorks Land, Shrek's Cottage at Universal Orlando Resort, Orlando, FL

The American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the success of all professionals who build with concrete and providing them a unified voice in the construction industry. ASCC includes the Decorative Concrete Council and the Concrete Polishing Council and represents contractors across all concrete disciplines, including general, structural, flatwork, tilt-up, decorative, and polishing concrete. For more information, visit www.asconline.org or call +1.866.788.2722.