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DESIGN TRUST FOR PUBLIC SPACE RECEIVES THE CORPORATE & INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN THE 2017 NATIONAL DESIGN AWARDS

NEW YORK, NY (Friday, May 5, 2017) – The Design Trust for Public Space is honored to receive the Corporate & Institutional Achievement Award of the 2017 National Design Awards from the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. The Corporate & Institutional Achievement Award is given in recognition of a corporation or institution that uses design as a strategic tool as part of its mission, and has consistently exhibited ingenuity and insight in the relationship between design and quality of life.

The Design Trust for Public Space, the nonprofit organization that unlocks the potential of New York City's public space, was founded in 1995 by sculptor and philanthropist Andrea Woodner to bring design expertise and big-picture systems thinking into the public realm. The Design Trust is at the forefront of shaping New York City's shared civic spaces—streets, plazas and parks, transportation and housing developments. The Design Trust has brought forth [30 multi-year projects](#), working with over [40 city agencies and community groups](#) and over [90 fellows](#) to transform places where New Yorkers live, work, and play. The organization's projects [saved the High Line structure](#) and [the Garment District](#), jump-started New York City's first custom-built [Taxi of Tomorrow](#), pioneered a model [Community Design School](#) in Queens, and created the city's [Design Manual for 21st Century Parks](#) that was a precursor to OneNYC.

"We get things done! The Design Trust facilitates collaboration between city agencies, designers, artists and outside experts and knowledgeable community members to create change for a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable city. We challenge and transform the system, produce replicable models, and build a caring and dedicated constituency. We solve problems from the bottom up AND the top down to spark unexpected and lasting institutional change," said **Susan Chin**, FAIA, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director, Design Trust for Public Space. "We're thrilled and deeply grateful to Cooper Hewitt and the Awards jury for this prestigious recognition, and thank our founder and board members for making us pioneers of great design. There couldn't be a more meaningful time than now, when we've just unveiled the Design Trust's 2017 Call for Project Ideas – [Public for All: Rethinking Shared Space in NYC.](#)"

The Design Trust values state:

- The cultural and democratic life of the city depends on viable public space;
- Design excellence is the minimum requirement for all public space;
- Social justice and environmental sustainability must guide public space design;
- Rigorous engagement with all stakeholders plays a determining role in the quality of public space;
- Cross-sector partnership is vital to achieving and sustaining long-term change.

The award recipients will be honored at a gala dinner and ceremony Thursday, October 19, 2017, at the Arthur Ross Terrace and Garden at Cooper Hewitt. The National Design Awards are accompanied each year by National Design Week, which takes place this year October 14–22. Related Design Trust programs will be posted at designtrust.org/events.

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum

Founded in 1897, Cooper Hewitt is the only museum in the United States devoted exclusively to historic and contemporary design. Housed in the renovated and restored Carnegie Mansion, Cooper Hewitt showcases one of the most diverse and comprehensive collections of design works in existence. The museum's restoration, modernization and expansion has won numerous awards and honors, including a Lucy G. Moses Preservation Award from the New York Landmarks Conservancy, a Gold Pencil Award for Best in Responsive Environments and LEED Silver certification. Cooper Hewitt offers a full range of interactive capabilities and immersive creative experiences, including the Cooper Hewitt Pen that allows visitors to "collect" and "save" objects from around the galleries, the opportunity to explore the collection digitally on ultra-high-definition touch-screen tables, and draw and project their own wallpaper designs in the Immersion Room.

Cooper Hewitt is located at 2 East 91st Street at Fifth Avenue in New York City. Hours are Sunday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Arthur Ross Terrace and Garden and Tarallucci e Vino cafe open at 8 a.m., Monday through Friday, and are accessible without an admissions ticket through the East 90th Street entrance. The museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Public transit routes include the Lexington Avenue 4, 5 and 6 subways (86th or 96th Street stations), the Second Avenue Q subway (96th Street station), and the Fifth and Madison Avenue buses. Adult admission, \$16 in advance via tickets.cooperhewitt.org, \$18 at door; seniors, \$10 in advance via tickets.cooperhewitt.org, \$12 at door; students, \$7 in advance via tickets.cooperhewitt.org, \$9 at door. Cooper Hewitt members and children younger than age 18 are admitted free. Pay What You Wish every Saturday, 6 to 9 p.m. The museum is fully accessible.

For further information, call (212) 849-8400, visit Cooper Hewitt's website at www.cooperhewitt.org and follow the museum on twitter.com/cooperhewitt, facebook.com/cooperhewitt, and instagram.com/cooperhewitt.

#NationalDesignAwards

Design Trust for Public Space

The Design Trust for Public Space is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the future of public space in New York City. Our projects bring together city agencies, community groups and private sector experts to make a lasting impact—through design—on how New Yorkers live, work and play. Our work can be seen, felt and experienced throughout all five boroughs—from parks and plazas to streets and public buildings. The Design Trust [saved the High Line structure](#), jumpstarted NYC's first custom-built [Taxi of Tomorrow](#), developed the [Community Design School for Flushing Meadows Corona Park](#), and created the city's first comprehensive [sustainability guidelines](#) that became the precursor to Local Law 86 and PlaNYC, now OneNYC.

For further information on the Design Trust and our projects, visit our National Design Awards Gallery at ndagallery.cooperhewitt.org/designtrust, the Design Trust Channel at vimeo.com/channels/designtrust, Design Trust's website at www.designtrust.org, and follow us on twitter/designtrustnyc, facebook.com/designtrustnyc, and instagram/designtrustnyc.

#PublicForAll