



NEW JERSEY

PRESS RELEASE

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US Green Building Council New Jersey Chapter Announces Gala Honoree & Award Winners: *Building a Future of Sustainability*

Morristown, N.J. (November 3, 2016) The U.S. Green Building Council New Jersey Chapter (USGBC NJ) has announced the honoree and award winners of its Annual Awards Gala: *Building a Future of Sustainability*. The Gala will take place on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at the Palace at Somerset Park, Somerset, NJ. Each year, USGBC NJ recognizes and presents these distinguished awards to companies and individuals that have demonstrated outstanding achievement and best practices in green building and sustainability.

“Our annual Gala is a great networking event, an important fundraiser, and a terrific celebration of achievements in our state,” stated USGBC NJ Board Chair Faith Taylor, SVP Corporate Social Responsibility at Wyndham Worldwide. “The highlight of the evening will be to honor the winners of these juried awards. We are extremely proud to be casting a spotlight on these innovative projects. They are helping to transform New Jersey into a more sustainable state.”

USGBC NJ is proud to congratulate the following:

THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY HONOREE: AeroFarms and RBH Group

AWARD WINNERS:

- Union Hill Phase I and II - LEED Innovation Project of the Year: Residential Urban
- Habitat for Humanity, Oradell NJ - LEED Innovation Project of the Year: Residential Suburban
- Prudential Tower - LEED Innovation Project of the Year: Commercial
- College Avenue Redevelopment Initiative – Innovative School Project of the Year
- Suez North America NJ Headquarters - LEED Innovation Project of the Year: Interiors

US Green Building Council New Jersey Chapter

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HONORABLE MENTIONS:

- Bijou Properties – The Vine and Park and Garden
- William Paterson University – University Hall
- Teacher's Village

This year's honorees, AeroFarms and RBH Group, have finished the first phase of construction of AeroFarms' 9th and newest indoor vertical farm - set to be the world's most productive, in a converted steel factory in Newark, NJ. When completed, AeroFarms will have the capacity to grow up to 2 million pounds per year of baby leafy greens and herbs in an environmentally controlled, safe, and sanitary facility, providing healthy, great tasting foods to the local community. As one of the founding members of the Ellen MacArthur Circular Economy 100, AeroFarms is a model for successful, sustainable farming, offering 130 times more productivity per square foot annually than a traditional field farm with 95% less water and zero pesticides.

[Descriptions of the award winning projects are available online.](#)

Previous award honorees include: LG Electronics USA; Colgate Global Technology Center; PNC Bank; NJ Economic Development Authority; Newark's Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District; Jersey Shore University Medical Center; Hampshire Real Estate Companies; L'Oréal USA Research & Innovation; Bayer HealthCare U.S. Headquarters; Paterson Habitat for Humanity; MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper; Wyndham Worldwide; Panasonic Corporation; PGIM Real Estate; BASF Corporation; Rockefeller Group; Senator Cory Booker; Stevens Institute of Technology's SURE HOUSE; Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association; Duke Farms; Homeless Solutions; Johnson & Johnson; The Willow School; Bank of America; Sustainable Jersey; New Jersey Meadowlands Commission; and the NJ School Boards Association and NJ Department of Education - New Jersey Green Program of Study. [See the full list.](#)

The Chapter is pleased to welcome **Gala Keynote [Dennis Bone](#), Inaugural Director, Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship, Former President and CEO, Verizon-NJ.** The Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship is located in the Feliciano School of Business at Montclair State University. The Center facilitates real-life entrepreneurial experiences for students of any major at the University. The Center has created an entrepreneurial ecosystem (entrepreneurs, investors, professional services) which will be leveraged to support the entrepreneurial education model.

USGBC NJ is delighted to welcome back **Master of Ceremonies [Ed Walsh](#)**, Principal and Managing Director of Project Management Services, Avison Young.

USGBC NJ will round out 2016 with their *Annual Holiday Party and Meet the Board Candidates Night on December 7, 2016 at the Olde Mill Inn, Basking Ridge.* This year, the Holiday Party will feature a **silent auction** to give attendees a fun way to help support USGBC NJ's mission. Items will be displayed on the [USGBC NJ website](#) prior to the event. Those who wish to donate to the auction should contact Caitlin Nagel at Caitlin.Nagel@wyn.com. The Holiday Party will also feature a VIP reception for Gold and Silver event sponsors.

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USGBC NJ is also **currently recruiting sponsors** for the Holiday Party and the Chapter. Sponsor contributions provide program and operating support for all of the chapter's education programs, events, tours, research programs and advocacy initiatives and provide start-up funds for new green building programs and resources. "When you become a USGBC NJ Sponsor, you make a public commitment to supporting transformative programming, outreach, research and advocacy that shape a more sustainable future for New Jersey," Taylor added. For more information on sponsorships, [click here](#) or contact Mary Ellen Garrigus at coordinator@usgbcnj.org.

Registration is available for the [Holiday Party](#) and for the [Gala](#).

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About the U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a non-profit that is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. USGBC works toward its mission of market transformation through its LEED green building program, robust educational offerings, a nationwide network of chapters and affiliates, the annual Greenbuild International Conference & Expo, the Center for Green Schools, and advocacy in support of public policy that encourages and enables green buildings and communities. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

More About the U.S. Green Building Council New Jersey Chapter

The USGBC NJ is a non-profit organization focused solely on advancing green building and sustainable communities. The mission of USGBC NJ is to transform NJ's built environment to become ecologically sustainable, profitable, and healthy. We accomplish our mission through education, advocacy, and collaboration. As New Jersey's green building advocate and education resource, USGBC NJ provides over 150 educational programs, events, green building tours, research studies, and advocacy initiatives each year, through its three-branch, state-wide network.

For over 14 years USGBC NJ has served as the meeting ground, catalyst, and propeller for sustainability-minded individuals in building-related professions. Through the NJ Chapter, LEED® and green building in general, have found fertile ground in New Jersey. The New Jersey Chapter's 1,500+ members represent the entire spectrum of New Jersey's green building community.

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