Over the years, the Marble Institute of America’s Annual Awards Luncheon has recognized excellence in a number of areas, including stone projects entered in the Pinnacle Awards competition, the Natural Stone Scholarship Award, the Craftsman of the Year Award and the Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement. The MIA also presents the Grande Pinnacle Award which recognizes the best overall project among the Pinnacle Award winners. The awards luncheon is one of the highlights of the year for the MIA.

I am pleased that each year our signature Pinnacle Awards competition grows in stature around the world, especially with the addition of the Grande Pinnacle Award. In 2012, MIA received a near record number of entries and presented 17 awards of excellence and merit. Many of the entries were from the international community, further evidence of the award program’s growing appeal on the world stage.

Because of the broad reach of the internet and the ability to post segments of the awards presentation on the MIA website, recipients of the various awards receive a tremendous amount of publicity beyond what was possible only a handful of years ago.

In this brochure, you will find all the winners of the various competitions. It may also serve as a stimulus for you to enter the Pinnacle Awards competition next year.

I know you will join me in congratulating all of the winners and thanking our generous sponsors: Marmomacc for the Grande Pinnacle Award and Polycor and the Artisan Group for the MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year Award.

Michael A. Twiss
2012 MIA President
Marble Institute of America
The Marble Institute of America’s prestigious Pinnacle Awards honor stone companies around the world for projects that stand out above the rest.

Again this year, the award’s sponsor, Marmomacc, will present a Grande Pinnacle Award to an architect from the firm involved with the winning project. In addition, that architect will win a trip to Marmomacc to attend Veronafiere’s week-long continuing education program on designing with natural stone.

Also again this year, all Pinnacle Award of Excellence and Award of Merit winners now have the opportunity to invite an architect from the firm involved in their winning project to StonExpo 2013. With the generous support of Hanley Wood Exhibitions, these award-winning architects will receive 3 nights lodging in Las Vegas and will be invited to a VIP reception. Marmomacc will invite the winning architects to take part in a full-day educational program held during StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas.

Judging the numerous entries was a challenging task. The final selection was for the coveted Grande Pinnacle Award, which honors the top overall project. This award is sponsored by Marmomacc, held in Verona, Italy.

Again this year, the MIA sought to identify and award a project that demonstrates environmental responsiveness and successful resolution of sustainability goals.

Thanks to our Grande Pinnacle Award sponsor:

Marmomacc

2012 Pinnacle Awards Judges:

Christian R. Pongratz
Pongratz Perbellini Architects
VRooomSTUDIO
Via d.a. tridentina 9
37057 s.g.l. Verona, Italy

Carter Quina, AIA
Quina Grundhoefer Architects
400 West Romana Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

Mac Walcott
Walcott Adams
Verneuille Architects
One South School Street
Fairhope, AL 36532

Gasper (G.K.) Naquin
Immediate MIA Past President
Stone Interiors
P.O. Box 693
Loxley, AL 36551

Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement

The Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement was established in 2003 to recognize an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the natural stone industry and the Marble Institute of America. The award is named for MIA’s long-time technical director, the late Vincent R. Migliore, who was the first recipient. The 2012 award winner was chosen by the MIA Board of Directors from nominations submitted by the MIA membership.

Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year

The Marble Institute of America established the MIA Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year Award in 2009, adding a new dimension to its recognition programs. While it has long presented awards to top stone projects in its highly publicized Pinnacle Awards competition, the new award is designed to recognize the skilled individuals who actually craft and install stone and train the young people who are the future of the natural stone industry. There is nothing more important than excellence in craftsmanship to get the most out of nature’s finest and most beautiful building material.

The 2012 award winner was chosen by a panel of six MIA past presidents.

Thanks to our sponsors:

Natural Stone Scholarship Award

The MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award was established by the Marble Institute of America to provide educational opportunities for aspiring fabricators, installers, or administrative apprentices interested in furthering their careers within the natural stone industry.

The scholarship covers travel and registration costs to StonExpo/Marmomacc Americas and the MIA Annual Meeting. Scholarship winners have the opportunity to gain valuable technical and practical knowledge, meet and network with leading stone professionals, and explore potential for future leadership.

Funds are made possible through the generous donations of MIA members worldwide.
MIA Member Company:
Grazzini Brothers & Company
Eagan, Minnesota
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:
Lakewood Cemetery
Client

HGA Architects
Architect/Designer

M.A. Mortenson Construction
General Contractor

Santucci Armando s.r.l. (MIA Member Company)
Terrazzo & Marble Supply Co. (MIA Member Company)
Cold Spring Granite (MIA Member Company)

Stone Suppliers
Santucci Armando s.r.l. (MIA Member Company)

Stone Fabricator
Santucci Armando s.r.l. (MIA Member Company)

Stone:
Green Onyx, Honey Onyx, Pink Onyx,
Alabama White, Nero Marquina

Judges Comments:
“...a thoroughly integrated design that provides a restrained, respectful memorial environment.”
“...fabulously designed ceiling gives flowing feel with stone white walls and earth-tone floor.”
“...respectful – maintains the appropriate setting, well researched.”

Lakewood Cemetery Garden Mausoleum
Minneapolis, Minnesota

With the existing mausoleum nearing capacity, Lakewood developed a plan for a new 24,500 sq. ft. mausoleum that includes burial space for more than 10,000, a chapel, reception center and new landscaping on four acres.

Challenged with adding a large structure to a much-beloved place, a strategy was developed that protected and enhanced the cemetery's historic landscape. Two-thirds of the building is tucked into a hillside to minimize the massing at street level. A green roof planted over the lower level extends the cemetery's lawn while angled grass mounds articulate skylights for the building's subterranean spaces.

At the mausoleum's entry, an intricately patterned white mosaic rendered in infinite loops across white billowing surfaces reimagines the historic 1910 Lakewood Chapel's colorful mosaic interiors. The interior committal space is clad with Alabama White marble walls. Horizontal bands of split-faced gray granite tie the structure to the earth. Bronze doors usher visitors into a serene space of mahogany walls, marble floors and abundant daylight.

A generously-scaled stair draws visitors from the entry to the lower garden level. Stretching east, a single hallway strings together alternating bays of columbarium and crypt rooms. While geometrically similar, each chamber is distinguished by subtle “soft muted grey veining.” Inset floors of luminous onyx alternate between honey yellow, jade green, coral pink and accents of Nero Marquina. Window and skylight orientations rotate and shift between rooms, variously framing views to near and distant horizons or up to the tree canopy and clear sky.

Throughout, the contrast of textures—light and dark, rough and smooth, rustic and refined—calls upon both visual and tactile senses to offer a peaceful place for contemplation and remembrance. At this cherished haven within the city, architectural progress meets history with grace and a newfound vitality.
Lakewood Cemetery Garden Mausoleum
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Lakewood's new garden mausoleum is a modern work of art with a contemporary design in a peaceful setting. Balancing stone and light, the rough-textured granite and mosaic marble mausoleum displays the relationship between the spiritual and the earth. The mausoleum, which opened in January 2012, was designed by Joan M. Soranno, FAIA, Design Principal, and John Cook, FAIA, Project Manager, from the Minneapolis office of HGA. Soranno chose a combination of Cold Spring Granite’s Academy Black® and Charcoal Black® granites for the rough split face vencer. Using the two shades gives the building just the right hint of sparkle. Representing the imperfection of life, Soranno preferred a coarse exterior to the structure.

The granite was installed with extensive lippage, intentionally creating irregularities. Soranno explained that the sought-after effect produces complex shadows. Only one-third of the structure is above ground: the granite façade blending with the surrounding landscape. It was important to Soranno that the building design and materials worked intimately with nature, providing a final serenity.

The area is complemented by granite benches, a pool and paved walkways in Cold Spring Granite’s subdued Diamond Pink® granite, invoking a sense of peaceful paths and quiet resting places leading to the mausoleum.
Commercial Exterior | Award of Excellence

National September 11 Memorial
New York, New York

Building the National September 11 Memorial was one of international significance, especially since Port Morris had worked on the original Twin Towers. Port Morris installed both of the 200 ft. north and south fountains, which have honed Jet Mist Granite, from A. Lacroix Granit in Canada, installed on the interior walls. Each piece weighs approximately 300 pounds and there were 3,500 pieces (63,000 sq. ft.) of this granite used.

The flamed granite pavers and cobblestones, installed over the entire concourse, were also part of this project. Port Morris installed 115,000 sq. ft. of cut-to-size Verde Fontaine granite pavers and 65,000 sq. ft. of Verde Fontaine cobblestones throughout the plaza along with over one hundred benches and steps in the same material.

There were major milestones that needed to be hit in order to stay on track for the Memorial opening date 9/11/2012, the 10th anniversary of the attacks. Completing the walls on schedule was crucial to ensure all water tests, bronze plating and other items were also completed in time. Both fountains with running water were completed by the 10th anniversary, along with 90,000 sq. ft. of pavers and cobblestones on the plaza.

MIA Member Company:
Port Morris Tile & Marble
Bronx, New York
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:
A. Lacroix Granit, Canada
(MIA Member Company)
Stone Supplier
Michael Arad
Peter Walker
Architects

Stone:
Jet Mist Granite
Verde Fontaine

Judges Comments:
“A good choice of materials and the layout of the public plaza support the excellence of design idea of surface and void.”

“Stone and water once again give life to one of our most important memorials.”

“Speaks to permanence of the natural stone and the flow of life (water) and death.”
Residential Interior/Exterior | Award of Excellence

MIA Member Company:
Picasso Tile & Stonework
Tempe, Arizona
Fabricator & Installer

Other Project Team Members:
Wendell Burnette Architects
Architect
The Construction Zone
General Contractor
Puccio
Stone Supplier

Stone:
Onyx

Judges Comments:
“All the finishes in the bath zones are of exquisite materials and the thoughtful application of onyx and other natural stones make for an opulent but stylish interior.”

“WOW! A theater of light, shadows and textures.”

“Mysterious quality. Transparency in stone panels. ‘Moving wall’ yet permanent materials.”

Desert Courtyard
Scottsdale, Arizona

This private residence in Arizona has 22 exquisite slabs of onyx in the master bathroom. The overall goal of this project was to create a museum experience for the homeowners, yet have it remain comfortable and livable. The master bathroom contains an 18 ft. long x 10 ft. tall backlit shower wall that opens to a private outdoor space.

Walls within the 440 sq. ft. master bath were floated square and plumb, waterproofed and clad with the direct adhered method per the MIA installation standard for wet areas-stone slab residential showers. The onyx slabs were sized, templated for random colors, cut and fabricated with a 1/16” chamfer to create a jeweled edge. Hidden in these walls were backlit medicine cabinets, trash bins, and accent panels. Each panel was highlighted with a stainless muntz bar on all sides. The custom backlit trough sinks were fabricated to contain a slot drain and functioning drawers.

The entire master bath floor was treated as a wet area with a suspended shower floor. A secondary shower floor underneath, pitched water to the drain system below.
Saint John the Apostle Catholic Church
Leesburg, Virginia

The new Roman Catholic Church dedicated to Saint John the Apostle is located in the historic town of Leesburg, Virginia. This project is an example of salvaging sacramental elements and incorporating them into a new church’s design. Rugo Stone was hired to dismantle the altar from a church in Newark, NJ and relocate the altar to Leesburg. The dismantle period lasted four weeks. Working 14 hours per day, 7 days a week, Rugo successfully dismantled the rear altar which rose 35 ft. off the floor. In May 2012, the Rugo installation team erected an overhead crane system designed to lift and install the massive marble elements. Rugo’s marble masons and riggers erected the entire rear altar over a 10 week period.

Rugo also restored and fabricated various replacement pieces, installed five side shrines, the main altar, the pulpit and three restored baptismal fonts. In addition, Rugo was commissioned to carve two sculptures; Saint Mother Teresa and Pope John Paul II, along with two small bas-relief carvings of Saint Peter and Saint Teresa.

The work was completed on August 2, 2012 and the church was dedicated on schedule, August 3, 2012.
MIA Member Companies:
Camarata Masonry Systems, Ltd.
Houston, Texas
Stone Contractor
Tennessee Marble Company
Friendsville, Tennessee
Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:
Harris County
Owner
PGAL
Architect
Architexas
Preservation Architect
Vaughn Construction
General Contractor/Client

Stone:
Georgia Pearl Gray

Judges Comments:
“Lots of expertise was necessary to correctly match the original stone design.”
“Quality of craftsmanship shows not only in appearance but in detail.”
“Challenging restoration in technical accomplishment.”
“An intense, thorough, resourceful re-creation of an amazing place.”

1910 Harris County Courthouse Restoration
Houston, Texas

Completed in 1910, the fifth Harris County Courthouse was designed by the Dallas firm of Lang and Witchell in a Beaux Arts or Classical Revival style, with a requisite dome and Corinthian Columns. In 1953 updates to modernize the style of the building and increase its usable interior space resulted in massive architectural degradations, particularly in the building’s interior.

All of that changed for the Palace of Justice in 2003, when an enormous effort was begun to restore the elaborate interior elements involving plaster, metal, glass, wood and stone ornamentation to its original glory.

Camarata Masonry Systems, Ltd’s scope of work included the removal, cataloging, cleaning, restoration and installation of the Georgia “Pearl” stone. The salvaged stone was reinstalled along side the new stone, such that the new is nearly undetectable from the old; a result of the cleaning and restoration of all interior stone. Tennessee Marble Company was tasked with supplying stone that matched the 100 year old stone to the exact color and veining characteristics of the existing marble. This included the book matching and diamond matching in the atrium that was uniquely challenging, but breathtaking in result. In all cases with the stone and ceramic tile, Camarata’s restoration work involved many tedious tasks of matching ceramic tile, mosaics and stone in the 160,000 square foot interior spaces. The result was a well executed, highly ornate stone and mosaic tile project.
Muang Thong Thani Residence
Nonthaburi, Thailand

The primary concept was inspired by the idea of Asian privacy: nature, peace and solitude. The sandstone walls accentuated with teak wood flooring give the feeling of a balance of natural elements within the house. Each of the feature walls successfully devise a natural partition against less positive surroundings. This allowed the architect to create a tranquil confines for the owner to reside.

The secondary concept stems from the owner’s individuality. The feature walls put an emphasis on elements of space, time and ambiance created by natural light, beams, a skylight, shadows and texture of materials as the sun moves, producing continual changes of various dimensions. This design is purely driven by the needs of the owner coupled with the composed ideals of the architect.

MIA Member Company:
Stones and Roses International Co. Ltd.
Samutprakam, Thailand
Stone Supplier
Stone Fabricator
Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:
Mr. Yangyong Prathuagwong
Client
Pattapon Prathuangwong
Architect
UPT Group United
General Contractor

Stone:
Buff Sandstone, Beige Sandstone, Cream Limestone, White Limestone, Black Slate

Judges Comments:
“... a very modern design which achieves an elegant and luxurious interior. The beige and cream sandstone complement well with the warm teakwood finishes and make for a classic atmosphere.”
“A disciplined, restrained approach yields a very livable environment.”
“Well executed concept involving peace and tranquility within a living space.”
St. Regis Spa  Miami Beach, Florida

MIA Member Company:
Twin Stone Designs & Installations, Inc.
Hollywood, Florida
Stone Supplier, Stone Fabricator, Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:
Starwood Hotels & Resorts
Client
Yabu Pushelberg
Architect/Designer
Coastal Constructions
General Contractor

Stone:
Navona Travertine
Spring Creek Marble

Judges Comment:
“Travertine stone is used in an elegant combination of complementary materials and colors. In particular, the choice to emphasize the veins of the natural stone and to play out deliberately the book matching of slabs gives strong characteristics to the interior spaces.”

The comfort of the St. Regis Spa, with interiors designed by Yabu Pushelberg, showcases a modern style with custom furnishings and finishes. The Remède Spa is an extension and perfect complement to the St. Regis Resort located at Bal Harbour in South Florida. A palette of soothing colors with striking chartreuse accents, beautiful marble floors and walls, and luxurious spaces invite guests to feel one with nature and to delight in discovering the sea-inspired themes throughout. The high-end selections of natural stone allowed the achievement of an elegant and inspirational atmosphere. All floors and walls are clad with the highest quality Italian Navona Travertine and the reception desk with the stunning Spring Creek has transformed this 12,000 sq. ft. spa into a sanctuary of tranquility. Twin Stone achieved the main goals of fine workmanship and top quality materials at the St. Regis Spa.

Ocean Financial Centre  Singapore

MIA Member Company:
M&G CONTRACTS (S) PTE LTD
Singapore
Stone Supplier, Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:
Ocean Properties LLP
Client
Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects
Design Architect
Architects 61
Local Architect

Stone:
Travertino Chiaro
(Light Classico Travertine)

Judges Comments:
“Designed to reflect a “carved-from quarry” image.”
“... impresses with a warm and elegant interior underlined by the choice of using a vein cut travertine.”
“Uniformity of veining and excellent implementation.”

M&G Contracts was tasked to fabricate and supply Travertino Chiaro from Italy for the feature wall of this prominent project. The stones were carried along a continuous layout from the main lift lobby interior to the external walls, measuring 50 ft. high with a combined length of more than 656 feet. The challenge was to follow the design intent of having vein-cut travertine presented in a continuous and seamless manner, so that it appears as though the walls were carved out directly from the quarry. Blocks were pre-selected and inspected at the quarry to ensure that the size, color and veining were suitable for the project. Fabrication was thoroughly planned, with each bundle of slabs from individual blocks marked and assigned to a specific ‘layer’ of each elevation according to their veining character, before further processing in a slab-matched sequence to ensure the continuous flow of the veins. Finally, all the cut panels for each elevation were dry laid for approval, adjusted as required, and marked accordingly for installation.
Commercial Interior | Award of Merit

The Smith Center for Performing Arts Las Vegas, Nevada

MIA Member Companies:
- **Intertile Natural Stone Surfaces**
  San Leandro, California, Stone Supplier
- **Superior Tile and Stone**
  San Leandro, California, Stone Installer

Other Project Team Members:
- **David M. Schwarz Architects**
  Architectural Design
- **Whiting Turner**
  General Contractor

Stone:
- Fior di Pesco
  Rosso Asiago

Judges Comments:
“The choice of stone materials with large amounts of Rosso Asiago marks a colorful crescendo in reds on all interior surfaces from walls to floors. With this addition, the architecture in Las Vegas is certainly enriched in its already widespread citations of historical languages.”

Commercial Interior | Award of Merit

El Paso Energy Building Houston, Texas

MIA Member Company:
- **Camarata Masonry Systems, Ltd.**
  Houston, Texas
  Stone Contractor

Other Project Team Members:
- **Epec Realty, Inc., Owner**
- **Gensler Architects, Architect**
- **Gilbane Building Company, General Contractor/Client**
- **Savema Cold Spring Granite Company**
  (MIA Member Company)
  Stone Fabricators

Stone:
- Sunset Red Granite, Victoria White Granite, Black Granite, Calacatta Gold Marble, Impala Black Granite

Judges Comments:
“... beautifully lit interiors where the daylight floods the expansive areas of granite and enhances its colors.”
“A restrained installation that allows the natural veining to sing.”
“Use of classic material in simple design.”

All 32 stories of the El Paso Energy Building received a renovation while the building remained fully occupied. A major feature of the redesign is the hanging radius glass walls that stretched over two floors surrounded by Calacatta Gold marble on the inside and Impala Black granite and Victorian White granite at the basement level and exterior.

CMS was responsible for the installation of 13,000 sq. ft. of flamed Sunset Red granite floors, 28,000 sq. ft. of flamed Victoria White granite floors and 2,000 sq. ft. of flamed Impala Black granite floors. The 1st and 2nd floors consisted of 22,000 sq. ft. of polished Calacatta Gold marble, 1,000 sq. ft. of polished Impala Black granite and 100 sq. ft. of polished Victoria White granite. The sub-basement and the tunnel area consisted of 17,500 sq. ft. of granite. CMS was also responsible for the procurement and installation of 8,000 sq. ft. of quarry floor tile, 40,000 sq. ft. of white glazed wall tile, 2,000 sq. ft. of grey porcelain floor tile, 1,000 sq. ft. of glass tile and 337 lavatory tops.

www.marble-institute.com/awards
Commercial Exterior | Award of Merit

Brickell World Plaza Miami, Florida

MIA Member Company: Titan Stone, LLC
Pompano Beach, Florida
Stone Contractor, Stone Installer

Stone:
Cappuccino Mocha Quartzitic Limestone
Black Pearl Granite, Silver Pearl Granite
Palladium Coral Limestone

Other Project Team Members:
Forum Group, Owner
RTKL Architects, Feature Wall Architect
Sasaki Associates, Exterior Plaza Designers
John Moriarity & Associates, General Contractor
Curtain Wall Design & Consulting (CDC), (MIA Member Company)
Stone Façade Engineering and Design
Pokarna (MIA Member Company)
Feature Wall & Granite Site Work Fabricator
Marmotech, Coral Stone Site Work Fabricator

Judges Comments:
“A careful selection of interventions from the façade to the plaza integrates beautiful geometry, greenery with water and natural stone.”
“The simplicity and richness of the hovering panels anchor the plaza below.”

The 600 Brickell includes a high-rise office tower and 30,000 sq. ft. Brickell World Plaza. The development’s feature wall was envisioned to create a monumental relationship between the tower and the public plaza below. Stone was selected to remain durable, yet elegant over time, but also needed to have enough veining and contrast to appear as stone when viewed from below. As such, visually-linear Cappuccino Mocha quartzitic limestone was selected as the primary stone with Black Pearl granite surrounds. Three primary sections, each 52’ tall by 25’ wide, extend 100’ above the plaza—with 4 sub-sections separated by granite reveals. Installing book-matched and end-matched stones, Titan had to exercise extreme care, and no breakage occurred. Also, all perimeter edges were epoxied together requiring “blind” anchorage, achieved with a system designed by Titan and CDC to allow for last minute adjustments in three-piece anchor assemblies. Flamed, brushed Silver Pearl granite provides a soft gray palette for the hard surfacing. With polished Silver Pearl for the cubic fountain weirs and planter copings, more dramatic color was exposed. The Black Pearl fountain flooring creates a visual link to the feature wall above.

Residential Interior/Exterior | Award of Merit

Masterpiece of Saddle River Upper Saddle River, New Jersey

MIA Member Company: Creative Edge Master Shop, Inc.
Fairfield, Iowa
Waterjet/Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:
Kevo Corp, Stone Installer, General Contractor
Levantina USA, Inc. (MIA Member Company)
Nasco Stone & Tile, Stone Suppliers
Aalto Design, Kevo Corp, Designers

Stone:
Crema Marfil, Emperador Dark, Jerusalem Gold, Indus Gold, Quetzel Green, French Vanilla

Judges Comments:
“A beautiful expression of craftsmanship in mosaics and floor tiling.”
“Beautiful decorative element using new technologies in stone cutting.”

Developer George Kevo collaborated with Creative Edge Master Shop, Inc., and Aalto Design to design and fabricate floors for a French chateau masterpiece home. A project of this nature requires meticulous care and excellent craftsmanship. Both developer George Kevo and Harri Aalto, President of Aalto Design, have discerning eyes and discriminating tastes. Working together, Harri Aalto was able to interpret and add his design style to George’s idea. Their collaboration yielded floors containing over 20 colors and over 2,200 ft. of stunning artistry. Some of the stones used in this project were Crema Marfil, Emperador Dark, Jerusalem Gold, Indus Gold, Quetzel Green and French Vanilla. Design and colors were carefully chosen following the developer’s interior decorations. After a month of designing and programming, Creative Edge Master Shop, Inc. fabricated and shipped over 40,000 pieces of preassembled stone flooring for installation.
Residential Interior/Exterior | Award of Merit

**Krungthep Kreetha Residence**  
Bangkok, Thailand

**MIA Member Company:**  
Stone and Roses International Co. Ltd.  
Samutprakam, Thailand  
Stone Supplier, Stone Fabricator  
Stone Installer

**Other Project Team Members:**  
Silm Furniture Co. Ltd.  
Client  
General Contractor  
Interior Architects 49 Limited  
Architect

**Stone:**  
Blue Grey Slate

**Judges Comments:**

“... superior stone workmanship, but also impressed with how the stone design becomes part of the larger interior concept of the living room. In particular, the wall cladding with its expressive geometry afforded finesse to master the complexity of its formal language.”

The design of the living room continues the non-orthogonal concept of the external architecture. The facets enhance the modernity and underline the light beams entering the room from the south west side. The stone color reacts and contrasts in relation to the angle and orientation to the main natural light source in an array of hues of greys, greens and blues. The continuation of the stone pattern from the outside to the inside emphasizes the flow of the light.

Stones and Roses International (SRI) started this challenging piece of work from a general elevation. The first step consisted in building a 3d model in particle board. Then SRI followed through with the 3d Auto-CAD drawing of the stone wall. Folding the stone along the facets, involved the drawing of more than 40 sections which were later assembled at precise angles. The last step consisted in calculating the size and angle of each slab for production. SRI also designed and manufactured the steel structure which was erected parallel and recessed from the stone wall in order to receive the dry fixing anchors for the installation of the stone slabs.

Restoration/Renovation | Award of Merit

**Cleveland Museum of Art**  
Cleveland, Ohio

**MIA Member Company:**  
Polycor  
Quebec, Canada  
Stone Supplier, Stone Fabricator

**Other Project Team Members:**  
Rafael Vinoly Architects  
Architect/Designer  
Cleveland Marble Mosaic Co.  
(MIA Member Company)  
Stone Installer  
Panzica Construction Company  
General Contractor

**Stone:**  
White Cherokee Marble  
Newton Brown Granite

**Judges Comments:**

“A beautiful synthesis between the classicist building and a new addition where stone takes the role of the mediator of styles.”

“Amazing project combining a historic restoration and a new cultural building.”

Museums may be rooted in time, but growth calls for contemporary transitions. In 1999, New York-based firm Rafael Vinoly Architects took on the challenge to expand and renovate the Cleveland Museum of Art, while keeping in mind the historic significance of the museum’s existing design.

A strict adherence to the team’s preservation goals resulted in Polycor providing the building’s original marble, White Cherokee, from its quarry in Tate, Georgia. Once quarried, the fabrication and finishing of pieces required acute attention to detail to maintain the integrity of the original design, including following the original specifications of the project from 1916. The team relied on existing structures, in addition to the building’s original drawings and photographs from that era, to ensure accuracy in recreating molding and intricate details through the project. Central to the expansion project was the use of original materials specified in 1916. White Cherokee was therefore complemented by Newton Brown granite from Quebec, Canada. The final product is considered to be the largest cultural project in all of Ohio.
Craftsmanship | Special Award of Merit

The Annunciation at Ave Maria University
Ave Maria, Florida

MIA Member Company:
Titan Stone, LLC
Pompano Beach, Florida
Stone Contractor

Other Project Team Members:
Marton Varo
Annunciation Sculptor
Ave Maria University
General Contractor
Curtain Wall Design & Consulting (CDC)
(MIA Member Company)
Stone Façade Engineering and Design

Stone:
Carrara Marble

Judges Comments:
“This is one of a kind sculptural work, which sustains with merit a strong trade of exceptional craftsmanship.”
“The ability to “see” sculpture (art) in a natural block of marble and execute that vision is to be acknowledged.”
“Great artistic design and implementation.”

Ave Maria University staged a world-wide competition to solicit a work of art for the main entry niche of its existing stone-clad Oratory. Carrara-based sculptor Marton Varo submitted a design of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to be carved from White Carrara Marble quarried from the still-active Cave Michelangelo, from which the marble for St. Peter’s famous Pieta was extracted. To create this sculpture, Varo required over 120 tons of raw Carrara Marble blocks, which he selected from the quarry himself.

The configuration of the existing façade surround, projecting well beyond the face of the Oratory substrate, made it impossible to utilize a traditional crane configuration to hoist the sculpture. As such, Titan Stone and CDC devised a counter-balanced beam trolley projecting from below the end of the crane outward so that the 7 feet wide by 7-1/2 feet tall pieces once hoisted to level could then be moved horizontally into place under the overhanging stone. Titan was also forced to provide a great deal of perimeter field cutting to achieve proper alignment within these difficult constraints.

Sustainability | Special Award of Merit

MDA Expansion Tucson, Arizona

MIA Member Company:
Las Vegas Rock Inc.
Jean, Nevada
Stone Supplier, Stone Fabricator

Other Project Team Members:
Carpenter Sellars
Architect/Designer
Sundt
General Contractor
Muscular Dystrophy Association
Client
Diversified
Stone Installer

Stone:
Meta-Quartzite

Judges Comments:
“This is a project that can be appreciated by the architect and the stone contractor, but also noticed by the lay person. Excellent craftsmanship and design elements. Classic blend of materials and stone. Great attention to detail.”

The Rachel Ann Perkinson Center is a two story, 15,000 sq. ft. expansion of MDA’s national headquarters building and was built to the highest standards of “green” design and energy efficiency. It was designed to fit into its natural desert surroundings and complement, rather than mimic, the bold architecture of the original building. The LEED® project achieved Gold-level certification.

The exterior and interior include polished desert stone cladding. The stone acted as a unifying element between the natural surroundings and the architecture of the building. The natural stone was a large contributor to the LEED Gold Certification. The use of this indigenous resource and its proximity of 500 miles to the job site reduced the environmental implications which typically result from the transportation involved on a project. Las Vegas Rock is the only Silver Cradle-to-Cradle natural stone in the world. There is zero waste in production – 100% of the Las Vegas Rock by-product is re-purposed. These attributes along with the cradle-to-cradle certification allowed for another point in the LEED rating system for the Innovation in Design Credit.
MIA Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement

50-Year Career in Stone Industry Leads to Migliore Award

In early 2013, Paul Vigna celebrates his 50th anniversary in the stone business as one of the most celebrated men in the natural stone industry — winner of the 2012 MIA Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement. Few MIA members can boast such a long and admirable record of expert and ethical business practices.

Paul has a very unique work history, first starting in the field, and later moving into the office setting as an estimator, and eventually becoming the President of the Stone Division for Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey, Inc.

It started in 1963, when Paul was looking for work, his uncle told him there was a temporary job available at Everlasting Terrazzo, Tile and Marble in Trenton, New Jersey. He took the job. “I started as a helper in the field for a union contractor, became a setter and eventually worked my way into the office,” Vigna remembers.

Impressed with his work ethic, management sent him to night school to learn blueprint reading, and then promoted him to drafting. To further his education, he took architectural courses at Mercer County Community College and Princeton University.

After working with Paul on a few projects, a local architect offered him a position in the firm as a field inspector, but Paul decided to remain in the stone business.

After spending many years working in Trenton, Atlantic City and New York, Paul operated his own firm, Reynolds Tile, Terrazzo and Marble in Trenton for 14 years. In 1992, he joined Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey, Inc., which today is one of the largest commercial stone contractors in the state. Shortly after he joined the company, he was promoted to president of the firm’s Artisan Stone Division. Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey, Inc. is well known in the New York City and northern New Jersey market for expert installations of complex stone and tile projects, as evidenced by the 35 Golden Trowel awards that Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey, Inc. has received over the years.

“Paul is one of those unique, rare individuals who have knowledge beyond compare,” said John Sekora, chairman of Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey, Inc.. “He is a true craftsman and artisan. He knows his field. He works with general contractors, architects, and designers. His knowledge is so vast that everyone wants a little part of him. He is responsible for many of the Golden Trowel Awards that we have received. His name is well known in the industry.”

Along with having an outstanding career in the working part of the industry, Vigna has also given back to the stone industry after being elected to the MIA Board of Directors in 2000. He served as treasurer 2001 and moved through the ranks to become President of the Marble Institute of America in 2004. He is still one of the MIA’s greatest supporters. He also believes in the next generation and has spent countless hours mentoring newcomers to the industry. For several years, Paul has offered his services as a consultant to the stone industry and general public sharing his expertise and recommendations for stone related projects.

Vigna has a very simple business philosophy: “Surround yourself with people that are better than you. Always tell the truth. Communicate and never pull the wool over anybody’s eyes. Just try to be as straightforward as possible. Give the information they require and do the job you’re paid to do.”

Winning the Migliore Award is bitter sweet for Paul Vigna Jr. Paul and Vince Migliore, the man for whom the MIA Migliore Award for Lifetime Achievement was named, were close friends for decades. Paul said, “I find myself being very humbled with this award.”

“I’ve known two superstars in the stone industry in my life,” says John Sekora. “One of them is Mr. Migliore and the other is my Paul Vigna. He has given so much, not only to the industry and to Artisan Tile & Marble Company of New Jersey, Inc., but as a director and president of the MIA, has become a worldwide leader in the industry.”

Brett Rugo, who nominated Paul for this prestigious award added: “Paul was a very close friend of Vince Migliore, and I am sure Vince would be pleased to see Paul’s name as a recipient of his award. Paul’s commitment to his family, community, and professional life all speak to the well rounded life he has led.”

Paul and his wife, Judy, have been married for 51 years. They have three children, Christopher, Michael and Debbie and enjoy spending as much time as possible with their six grandchildren.
Passion for Stone Makes for Perfection

You only have to spend a few minutes with John Kunz, field operations manager for KEPCO+ of Salt Lake City, to feel the passion he has for the natural stone business. It is a combination of that passion, and an uncommon talent in working with stone, that have earned Kunz such a coveted award as the Marble Institute of America's Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year.

Few men have had more diverse experiences than the native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who has been in the stone business for 34 years. Kunz began working as an apprentice stone mason for a residential contractor doing interior walls, floors, and countertops, exterior walls and planters. Little did he know at that time, with each stone he set, he was laying the foundation for a career that would take him to 44 cities and allow him to work on stone projects totaling over 2.8 million square feet of stone, including several of the nation’s most impressive and historic projects.

From his first job, Kunz has displayed a work ethic that has been his hallmark ever since. Kunz said, “I owe a lot to my mom and dad, who really taught me what hard work was all about. My dad worked in a steel mill and he was my idol. By his example, he showed me what hard work was all about.”

After four years in the business, he became a full-fledged journeyman in Pittsburgh. Three years later, he earned an associates degree in construction engineering from Dean Technical Institute in Pennsylvania. In 1985, Kunz began working on his first large commercial stone project as a craftsman. Within two weeks, he was promoted to shop foreman and responsible for plant operations where he oversaw the project’s panel production for 18 months. Panels were completed and stockpiled ahead of schedule, and he was then sent to the job site to act as general foreman for panel installation. He was just 26 years old.

Kunz credits a lot of his management skills to a 62-year-old superintendent at Continental Marble and Granite who urged him to show up for work a half hour early every day so he could teach him the trade.

In 1992, Kunz began working for KEPCO+ as a seasoned journeyman setter and crew trainer. Within a few months he was elevated to foreman, and in 1998 he was promoted to General Superintendent. In 2004, he was promoted to his current role of Field Operations Manager. “John brings a wealth of resources from the field perspective,” says Knaphus. “He's probably the most professional field foreman who has come up through working with his hands that I've ever seen.”

Part of a team that has won nine MIA Pinnacle Awards in the past decade, Kunz has been the point man in the field for KEPCO+ for projects including: The Cottonwood Corporate Center in Salt Lake City, Utah; Eccles Egyptian Theater/Convention Center in Ogden, Utah; 24 story Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah; Nauvoo Temple Re-Creation in Nauvoo, Illinois; New York City’s 90 West Building Renovation; Utah State Capitol Expansion; Utah State Capitol Renovation; and the LDS Temple in British Columbia (Canada) to name just a few.

In addition to Kunz’s technical resume, those that work with him recognize his intuitive ability to manage his team. He has the ability to see problems before they start and works well with his partners. His understanding of the trade has earned the respect of general contractors, architects and owners. Kunz’s expertise is recognized by his clients, and he is often requested to be a part of the project when negotiating with the client.

Kunz always remembers the helping hands he received while growing up in the business and readily shares his knowledge with younger craftsmen. This is a major factor in his selection as Natural Stone Craftsman of the Year.

Kunz added, “I like to give back to the guys today, work with them, give them a chance to grow and give them the opportunity to learn in the field of stone masonry.”

In spite of all Kunz’s years of experience in the field, perhaps his best quality is his dedication to his wife and his two children. The definitive “Hockey Dad”, Kunz’s support and commitment to his family is second to none. Through the years, he has dedicated his home life to attending hockey events with his son and horseback riding with his daughter – horse, trailer, and all!
Jill Archambeau, sales/office manager for RockSolid Stone Works (RSW) of Cleveland, Ohio is the winner of the 2012 MIA Natural Stone Scholarship Award, presented annually to aspiring industry fabricators, installers, apprentices and administrative employees interested in furthering their careers in the stone industry. There is no doubt the future of the natural stone industry is dependent on our ability to attract and keep the best and brightest young talent, and help them develop a genuine passion for the industry as a whole.

Archambeau’s selection was based on a 500-word essay explaining her commitment to the natural stone industry. In her essay, Archambeau said, “I’ve always felt that training is the most important part of any job. I believe this scholarship is one resource that will give me the opportunity to learn, improve and master many new and existing skills. As with any learning opportunity that presents itself, I will share my experience with my co-workers and team. In today’s market place, knowledge and improvement of one’s self should be a goal for every employee and business owner.”

In a letter of recommendation, Kevin Thomas, general manager of RockSolid Stone Works said, “Jill’s personal mantra is ‘knowledge is power’. She is constantly looking for new or better ways to train her staff here at RSW. She has set up an in-depth training program for all newly hired staff, as well as directing our staff in ‘refresher’ training courses.” Thomas continues, “Jill’s drive and energy to meet and exceed the expectations of our customers on a daily basis is truly exemplary. She never ceases to amaze me with her desire to make sure our customers are completely satisfied with all aspects of their purchase – from initial product selection through installation. Most clients today purchase only one natural stone countertop in their lifetime, and Jill’s aspiration is to make this event a very pleasurable, fun and rewarding experience. It’s been my pleasure to work with Jill at two different locations and at both locations she has excelled.”

Since 1944, the Marble Institute of America (MIA) has served as the authoritative source of information on standards of natural stone workmanship and practice and the suitable application of natural stone products. MIA members include marble, granite, limestone, sandstone, and other natural stone producers and quarriers, fabricators, installers, distributors, and contractors around the world.

MIA is also a leading promoter of stone usage in the commercial and residential marketplaces. MIA produces a number of consumer education materials on the use of natural stone and its proper care and maintenance, and hosts an informative website for consumers and design and construction professionals at www.marble-institute.com.

Code of Ethics
The fabrication and installation of dimension-cut natural stone should meet MIA and other industry standards as articulated in the MIA Dimension Stone Design Manual and other technical publications, along with courteous and professional customer service. To achieve these goals, we pledge adherence to the following principles and policies:

- Our primary objective is a satisfied and happy customer, be it a homeowner, a building owner, or a design professional.
- We will maintain and conduct business in accordance with fair and honorable standards of competition.
- Honesty, integrity, quality, and professionalism guide our firm’s business philosophy.
- High standards of health, safety, and product quality will be incorporated into every installation.
- We shall deal fairly with customers, as well as with our employees, our subcontractors, and our suppliers.
- We encourage research to develop new materials, techniques, tools, and equipment, as well as improved methods of stone fabrication and installation.
- We pledge to assist in the education and product knowledge of our firm’s clients and customers (builders, kitchen & bath dealers, architects, designers, and homeowners) before, during, and after installation.
- We shall strive to promote a spirit of cooperation within the industry.