IIDA ANNOUNCES 2012 BEST OF COMPETITION WINNER OF THE 39TH ANNUAL INTERIOR DESIGN COMPETITION

June 20, 2012, Chicago, IL – The International Interior Design Association announced the Best of Competition Winner for the 39th Annual Interior Design Competition. The award was presented to Olson Kundig Architects in Seattle, Washington for their project The Pierre in San Juan Islands, Washington. The announcement was made at the IIDA NeoCon COOL Gala, on June 10 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Chicago.

“This project is the essence of a perfectly seamless union between the interior and exterior elements. The home tells a very personal Design story - a unique collection set against substantial architecture - somewhat medieval as well as very contemporary,” said IIDA International President Jim Williamson, IIDA, LEED AP. “The selection of furnishings and the display of artwork were captivating, drawing the eye into the photograph to admire each piece and how they spoke to one another. Both nature and Design blend harmoniously to offer the client a sanctuary in a breathtaking locale.”

In addition to the Best of Competition Winner, there were six winners chosen that showcased the remarkable breadth of project types that Design can impact. The award winners represent the highest caliber of Interior Design and were selected from over 350 projects submitted from across the globe. The winners are as follows:

Firm: APARICIO+DONAIRE in Madrid, Spain
Project: DOMUSae, Spaces for Culture, Madrid, Spain

Firm: Beijing Newsdays Architectural Design Co., Ltd. in Beijing, China
Project: Yushe, The Village, Vanke Shanghai, China

Firm: De-Spec in New York, NY
Project: Xocolatti, New York, NY

Firm: Olson Kundig Architects in Seattle, WA
Project: The Pierre, San Juan Islands, WA

Firm: Perkins+Will in Toronto, ON
Project: The Instructional Centre at the University of Toronto, Mississauga, ON

Firm: SmithGroupJJR in Detroit, MI
Project: Cranbrook Art Museum Collections Building Addition, Bloomfield Hills, MI
 Judges for the distinguished competition included Harry Allen, President of Harry Allen Design; Gino Castaño, President of Gino Castaño; Michael Green, Principal at mgb ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN and Dina Griffin, President of IDEA Architects.

All winning projects not previously published were featured in the NeoCon issue of *Interior Design* magazine, the publishing partner for the competitions and are posted on the IIDA website. For more information, visit www.iida.org.

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**About International Interior Design Association**

The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) is a professional networking and educational association with more than 12,000 Members practicing worldwide in more than 50 countries. IIDA is committed to enhancing the quality of life through excellence in Interior Design and advancing Interior Design through knowledge, value and community. IIDA advocates for Interior Design excellence; nurtures a global Interior Design community; maintains high educational standards; and supports its Members and the Profession with visionary leadership. For more than 38 years, IIDA has helped reveal new Design talent through a variety of education initiatives and Interior Design/Architecture competitions honoring local talent, including the Interior Design Competition, Global Excellence Awards and Sustainable Leadership Awards. www.iida.org.