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Phipps Receives ENR Global Best Project Award for Center for Sustainable Landscapes

Pittsburgh public garden receives international recognition for landmark green building achievement.

Pittsburgh, Pa. — [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#) is pleased to announce that it has received the 2014 Global Best Project Award in the Green Project category from [Engineering News-Record \(ENR\)](#) for the [Center for Sustainable Landscapes \(CSL\)](#). This competition was established to honor and identify project teams behind outstanding design and construction efforts across the globe, and the CSL is one of only 20 such projects worldwide, and one of only two in the U.S., to win an award.

Starting with an ambitious campus expansion effort that has resulted in the first LEED® visitor center in a public garden; its landmark energy-efficient Tropical Forest Conservatory; and the first-ever LEED Platinum greenhouses, Phipps has most recently raised the bar with the CSL, a net-zero energy and net-zero water facility that has been designed to meet the progressive Living Building Challenge™. Already a recipient of LEED Platinum and Four Stars SITES™ certification for landscapes, the highest certifications available from both the U.S. Green Building Council and Sustainable Sites Initiative™ respectively, it is also expected to be the first building anywhere to achieve all three of these rigorous standards. The Global Best Project Award acknowledges the ingenuity behind this structure with the highest honors.

“The CSL was created to serve as a global model for how people everywhere can work together with nature to make our communities healthier, safer and more supportive of all life,” says Richard V. Piacentini, the visionary behind Phipps’ green transformation. “We are honored to be counted among the winners of these prestigious awards and to have this great opportunity to offer a glimpse of the sustainable, more vibrant future within our reach.”

Judged by an independent jury of industry professionals with extensive global experience, Phipps was chosen to receive a Global Best Project Award based on a set of criteria that included safety, innovation, contribution to the global community, and aesthetic quality and workmanship. The Global Best Projects Awards will be presented at the *ENR* 2014 Global Construction Summit on May 13 and 14 in New York City, and a special awards dinner will be held on May 13. A full list of recipients can be found [here](#).

About Phipps: Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Learn more: phipps.conservatory.org.

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