



For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Julie Du Brow, 310-922-1301

Julie@dubrowworks.com

USGBC-LA's 20th Municipal Green Building Conference & Expo Presents Annual Civic Awards, with UCLA and Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas Taking Top Honors

Interactive EcoMapLA Features Awarded Buildings

LOS ANGELES (May 20, 2021) The [U.S. Green Building-Los Angeles Chapter's](#) (USGBC-LA) Civic Awards will be presented at the 20th Annual [Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo](#) (MGBCE) tomorrow, May 21st. The Civic Awards include both the Municipal Building Awards, recognizing exceptional efforts in sustainable buildings within city or county government, and Special Awards presented to top state and local officials or civic entities for their work on impactful policy.

This year's two-day MGBCE, May 21-22, 2021, embraces the theme "The Time is Now", a recognition that our actions to combat climate change, while strengthening our adaptive capacity, must be immediate, must be accelerated, and must be intersectional. (For Agenda, Speakers & Registration, please visit [mgbce.online](#).) The event will feature 21 [sessions and workshops](#), 6 [keynote](#) addresses, a Power Panel of C40 Mayors, a Green Jobs Fair, Youth-focused programming, and a LA100 Fireside Chat to close Friday and a surprise musical performance by [AY Young](#) - who powers his concerts with 100% renewable energy - to close Saturday. The event also welcomes over 60 businesses and community groups as exhibitors, several of which offer their own programming.

"The time is indeed now and we are thrilled with how the content came together for our 20th MGBCE to inspire us to take action now and in the decade ahead," says Ben Stapleton, USGBC-LA Executive Director. "We are proud in this unique moment to honor the City of LA's leadership to forge the trail to 100% renewable energy, the Clean Power Alliance's commitment to equity being at the heart of that discussion, and all the public buildings with the dedicated project teams who helped bring them into existence."

This year's Special Awards list:

- City of Los Angeles Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas (10th District) will be presented the **“Elected Official of the Year Award”** for his ongoing leadership on equity, environmental justice, and a career of public service.
- Clean Power Alliance will receive the **“Policy Leadership Award”** for their ongoing work in centering equity in the delivery of clean energy to customers across our region.
- The **“Municipal Innovation Award”** will be presented to both the City of Los Angeles and LADWP for their groundbreaking work on Los Angeles 100% Renewable Energy Study (LA100). Its results show that meeting LA's goal of reliable, 100% renewable electricity by 2045—or even 2035—is achievable and will entail rapid deployment of wind, solar, and storage technologies this decade.
- The new **“Municipal Project Award--LEED for Cities and Communities”** has two recipients:
 - **City of Costa Mesa - LEED Gold.** With the goal of being a leading sustainable, livable and inclusive city in Orange County, the City's six priority areas align with this certification, including: keeping communities safe, improving neighborhoods and quality of life, keeping the city fiscally sustainable to address the long-term obligations as well as immediate needs, addressing housing shortages and homelessness, improving mobility and parking, and good government and community engagement.
 - **City of Rancho Cucamonga - LEED Silver.** As an integral part of the Healthy Rancho Cucamonga initiative, launched in 2008 to promote a healthy and environmentally sustainable community, this certification further guides future sustainability efforts, helps prioritize measures, and fosters collaboration with key organizations to improve quality of life there.

The Municipal Buildings being awarded tomorrow are:

- **UCLA's Margo Leavin Graduate Art Studios, 2021 MGBCE “Project of the Year”** - LEED Gold. Located in Culver City's dynamic Hayden Tract, the 48,000 sq building creates an artists' neighborhood, with clusters of intimate, private studio spaces and communal, shared facilities and critique spaces. It is the studio home to the MFA students in the Department of Art in the School of the Arts and Architecture. The choice to rehabilitate and renovate the existing bowstring truss warehouse was at the core of the project. *Highlights of the project include:*
 - Welcoming courtyards with drought-tolerant plantings, water recapture, and efficient irrigation, saving 56% of water as compared to conventional landscapes.
 - WaterSense, low-flow, and hybrid plumbing fixtures achieved a water usage savings of 51.55%
 - Simple building volumes capitalize on ample daylighting and natural ventilation. Efficient lighting, equipment, and mechanical systems together outperform ASHRAE Standard 90.1 by 18%.
 - Healthy, low-VOC interiors, high ventilation rates, chemical containment and management systems and vacuum exhaust systems.

- 29 products provided Environmental Product Declarations and 27 products material ingredient disclosures.
- 93% of construction waste was diverted from landfill, 1,312 tons in all.
- 100% of energy use is offset or renewable, thanks in part to Southern California Edison's Green-e electric service through the Clean Power Alliance in Culver City.
- **Costa Mesa Lions Park Projects: Donald Dungan Library – Phase 1, Norma Hertzog Community Center – Phase 2 (Costa Mesa)** - LEED-NC v2009, Gold. *One highlight (Phase 1):* The new Donald Dungan Library project consisted of demolition of the existing 20,000 sq. ft. concrete Neighborhood Community Center. All of the concrete was pulverized and buried under the new 23,355 sq. ft., two-story LEED Gold certified Library. There was no concrete demolition exported from the site.
- **LAX Terminal 1.5 (LA)** - LEED-NC v2009, Silver. *One highlight:* The building will be utilizing a new recycled water system that is being installed around the Airport campus, which will work in concert with low flow faucets and flush valves that will make a dramatic reduction in the amount of potable water used by the building.
- **Robertson Recreation Center (LA)** - LEED-NC v2009, Gold. *One highlight:* Designed to be as self-sufficient as possible, the building's durable interior finish is exposed concrete block to preserve coolness, while its corrugated metal exterior and perimeter of trees provide a self-shading system to minimize the need for air conditioning.
- **Student Services Building, Santa Monica College (Santa Monica)** - LEED-NC v2009, Platinum. *One highlight:* With the design focused on energy efficiency, the building envelope design utilized high performance glazing, rainscreen wall construction, and shading devices to control building heat gain and loss.
- **UCLA**
 - **UCLA DeNeve Bakery + Kitchen Renovation (LA)** - LEED-CI v2009, Gold. *One highlight:* The bakery optimized kitchen design, reducing water use by over 40%, lighting power by more than 50%, and selected energy-saving appliances, with Energy Star-rated kitchen equipment used for over 76% of its plug load.
 - **UCLA Margo Leavin Graduate Art Studios (Culver City)** – LEED v4 BD+C: NC, Gold. *(see above)*
 - **UCLA Marion Anderson Hall (LA)** - LEED-NC v2009, Platinum. *One highlight:* Bright, cool, healthy interiors promote remarkable indoor air quality and focused places for study and meeting.
 - **UCLA Levering Terrace (LA)** - LEED-NC v2009, Gold. *One highlight:* Nestled into a densely packed neighborhood, the project's terracing returns 57% of the site as outdoor open space, with vegetated roof area and pedestrian-oriented hardscape.

USGBC-LA is relaunching the [EcoMapLA](#), which was launched at MGBCE in 2016 to be the go-to resource for all things sustainable in the greater Los Angeles region, with drop-down menus to filter the map for LA's green buildings, green businesses, iconic city landmarks,

and more. Each of the awarded buildings above - along with many, many more - can be viewed in full with photos and descriptions at EcoMapLA.

"UCLA is deeply honored by this recognition of our green building program and especially for the four extraordinary projects of the last year," shares Todd Lynch, Principal Project Planner for UCLA Capital Programs. "In all new construction projects, on- or off-campus, UCLA strives to tackle the daunting climate realities of our time while also creating enduring and enlivening places for people. The USGBC's LEED rating system, UC's Sustainability Policy, the unmatched ingenuity of our project teams, and the commitment of our campus community together have all inspired and driven these accomplishments. Many thanks to all those who have worked so hard over the years to help make UCLA a leader in sustainability, to reduce water, energy, and material consumption impacts, and to work toward a healthier, more resilient future for all of us."

The conference, which hosted over 1300 global attendees (online) in 2020, attracts a wide variety of those involved in the built environment, including municipalities, utilities, public agencies, architects, engineers, building owners, contractors, manufacturers, nonprofits, students/emerging professionals, and general public.

USGBC-LA thanks MGBCE Gold sponsors [SoCalGas](#), Silver sponsors [Howard Building Corporation](#) and [Southern California Edison](#), and Bronze sponsors [Clean Power Alliance](#), [Connect Homes](#), and [LADWP](#).

For MGBCE **schedule** and **general information**, please visit [mgbce.online](#) or contact Becky Feldman at becky@usgbc-la.org. For further USGBC-LA information, please contact Ben Stapleton at ben@usgbc-la.org.

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About U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles

USGBC-LA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to creating a prosperous and sustainable future within one generation. Our mission promotes sustainability in LA County's built environment by delivering access to knowledge, resources, recognition and networking. (www.usgbc-la.org)

About Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo (MGBCE)

Since its inception in 2001, MGBCE has become the longest-running and largest gathering of leading sustainability and green building advocates within both the public and private sectors in Southern California. This annual conference and trade show provides cutting-edge thought leadership, education, and networking opportunities to inform local government agencies, building industry professionals, and the general public about the principles, practices, and products associated with green building. (<https://usgbc-la.org/programs/mgbce/>)