

2015 Architecture Business Plan Competition Winners Announced

For Immediate Release

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(Des Moines, IA) Charrette Venture Group announced the winners of the 2015 Architecture Business Plan Competition during the National AIA Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. More than 100 small architecture firms competed for the \$10,000 grand prize presented at the awards reception held at the Ellis Hotel the evening of May 14th. Four "jurors" reviewed all entries and selected five finalists based on the quality of their executive summaries. Each finalist received funding for travel to Atlanta and presented their full business plan in person. "Selecting the five finalists was a very difficult process," said juror Mark LePage, owner of Entrepreneur Architect. "The quality of the entrants just re-enforces the fact there are many innovative and forward thinking architects out there," said LePage.

The five finalists were DELV Architecture in Indianapolis, Indiana, Boiled Architecture in San Francisco, California, Slash Projects in Brooklyn, New York, PAD Architecture in Chicago, Illinois and Manypenny Murphy Architecture in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Each of the finalists were given 20 minutes to present their full business plan to the jurors, and 20 minutes for questions and discussion. "The whole process was extremely valuable," said Alyssa Murphy, partner at Manypenny Murphy Architecture. "The competition forced us to invest the time and attention to planning for our business, which was exactly what we needed to be doing," said Murphy.

After each of the finalists presented their plans on May 13th, the jurors deliberated. "We were very impressed with each firm," said Rena Klein, FAIA, owner of RM Klein Consulting. "They each brought new ideas forward and clearly invested a great deal of time preparing their plans," said Klein. The following evening involved a special reception where finalists, jurors and others gathered to hear the announcement. Matt Ostanik, CEO of Charrette Venture Group described each of the finalists and announced the winners. Boiled Architecture took home the trophy and \$2,500 prize for Honorable Mention for Best Business Strategy. Slash Projects took home another \$2,500 prize for Honorable Mention for Most Innovative Plan. The grand prize winner was DELV Design, capturing the \$10,000 check. "We were blown away," said Amanda Welu, partner at DELV Design. "The whole experience has been a major boost to our growing firm," said Welu.

Charrette Venture Group was founded in 2014 by Matt Ostanik and is focused on supporting and enabling entrepreneurial architects and designers through various investment models. The 2016 Architecture Business Plan Competition will be open for entries later this year. For more information, contact Todd Reding, COO and Vice President for Investments at todd@charrettevg.com.