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# CITYSCAPES

A DAILY CHICAGO JOURNAL ABOUT THE BUILDINGS AND U  
BY BLAIR KAMIN

October 29, 2010

## Aqua leads parade of 2010 Design Excellence Award winners

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Aqua, the 82-story skyscraper with the spectacularly undulating facade, was named the world's best skyscraper on Friday night when Chicago architects take a break from being the top design achievements.

Designed by Chicago architect Jeanne Gang and her firm, Studio Gang, the tower at 225 N. Columbus Drive was named the world's best skyscraper by building data base Emporis.

Joining Aqua in receiving honor awards, the highest form of recognition in the category will be the new river walk along the south bank of the DuSable Harbor Building, by David Woodhouse Architects; Old Town Square residential complex, by architect and developer David Hovey; and a church (a continuation) in Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany, designed by

One juror had the following to say about the chapel: "Before I saw another building made out of sticks. But I saw a great one here

Also among the distinguished building honor award winners: the new building which houses the embassies of Sweden and Iceland. It was designed by Tomas Hansen, with Chicago-based VOA Associates serving as



The Design Excellence Awards, now in their 55th year, are sponsored by the Institute of Architects. The ceremonies will be held at Navy Pier. Juries of distinguished architects selected 38 award-winning designs in the building category and three others: interior architecture, unbuilt architecture and a specific aspect of a project.

Three firms — Dirk Denison Architects, Gensler and Skidmore,



Perkins & Will will receive three awards.

For a complete listing of the winners, check the next post on m

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