



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Ashley Katz
Communications Manager, USGBC
202.742.3738
akatz@usgbc.org
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U.S. Green Building Council's Rebecca Flora Honored with AIA Pittsburgh's 2009 Gold Medal

Washington, DC – (October 30, 2009) – The U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Senior Vice President of Education & Research, Rebecca Flora, has received the 2009 Gold Medal from the Pittsburgh chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The award, created by the AIA Pittsburgh Board of Directors, recognizes Flora's outstanding community leadership and significant contributions to the promotion of quality architectural design.

"Rebecca has been deeply involved in her local Pittsburgh community for many years, and has helped put the city on the map as a leader in green building and urban sustainability," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, USGBC. "We celebrate with Rebecca as she is honored with this prestigious Gold Medal."

In her role at USGBC, Flora furthers the educational mission of the Council through the development of relevant and engaging educational programming and expanding research initiatives. The extraordinary rise in green building in recent years has accelerated the need for innovative and high-quality LEED and green building knowledge resources and training, and under Flora's helm, USGBC is helping to meet these important needs.

The Gold Medal recognizes a community leader for his or her efforts in generating policy, raising public awareness, or leading a specific effort regarding quality architectural design in the Pittsburgh region. More than 200 people gathered at the annual Design Awards Ceremony held at the August Wilson Center for African American Culture in Pittsburg, Penn. on Oct. 22, 2009, to recognize and honor Flora for her outstanding leadership, ongoing commitment, and vigorous advocacy in support of sustainable design and green building.

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U.S. Green Building Council

The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings.

With a community comprising 78 local affiliates, more than 20,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 131,000 LEED Accredited Professionals, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013. USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students.

Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO2 emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs.

U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

2101 L St NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20037 · Phone 202 828-7422 · USGBC.org