



Luis Ayala, AIA RID LEED AP BD+C

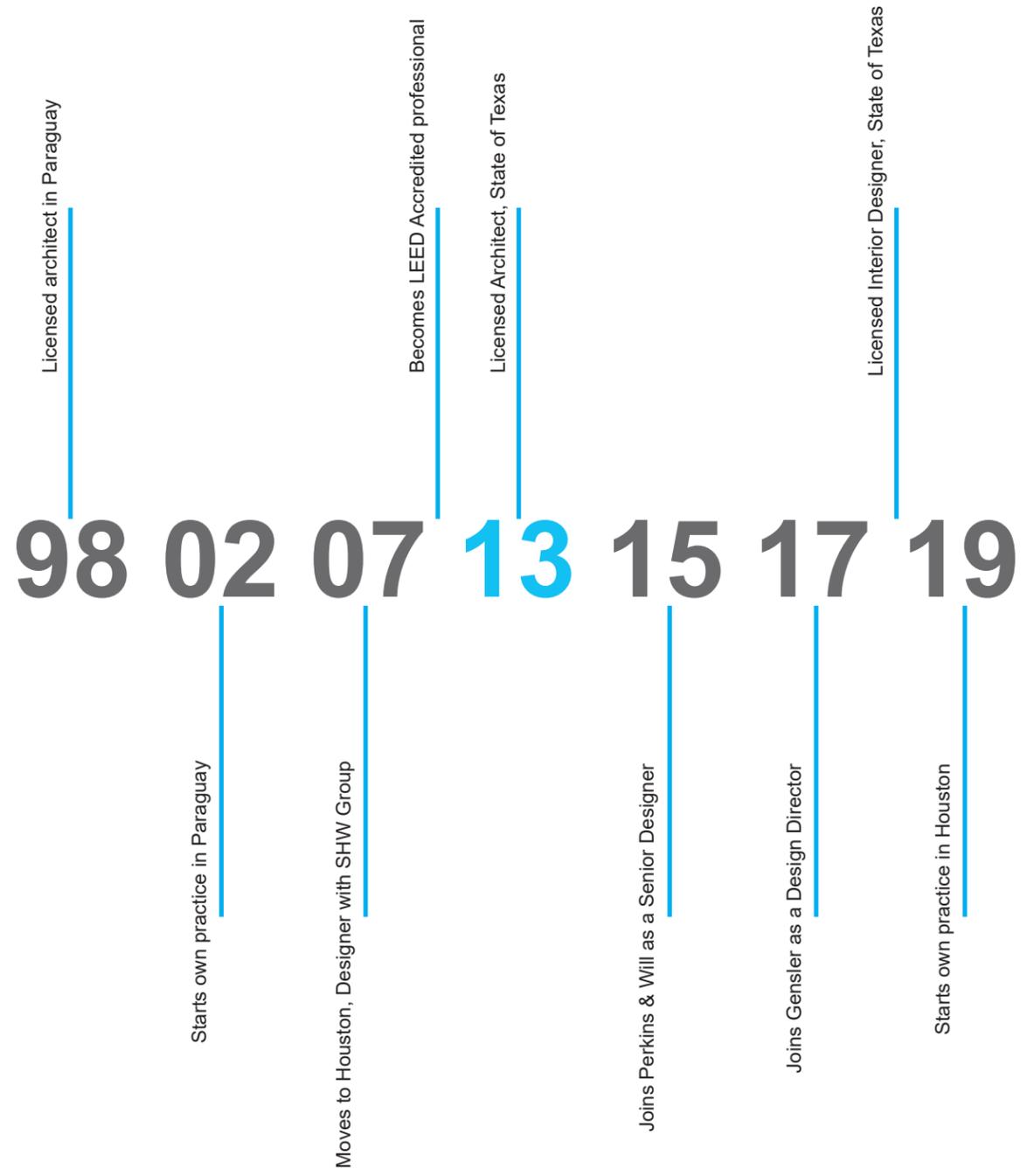
For the past twelve years, Luis has focused solely on the design of education facilities for higher education institutions and K-12 schools. His expertise includes campus design, master planning, programming, and facility design.

Luis has many other skills that complement his abilities as a designer and architect. Sustainability is one of Luis's stronger interests, and many of his projects have received design awards recognizing his innovation in green design. Luis is also an avid architectural photographer, recognized in 2017 by the Texas Society of Architects with the Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Architecture Through the Media.

Luis fluently speaks Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and English. In 2016, Luis was distinguished by YAF Houston as a part Emerging Voices Exhibition and later the same year by AIA National as an Emerging Professional featuring his work at the AIA headquarters in Washington D.C.



University of Kansas Integrated Sciences Building



What's inside

09	Community
17	Architecture
119	Photography
137	Awards

01 Community



Taryn Kinney, DLR Group	Kimberly Hickson, Perkins+Will
Kirk Madison, DLR Group	Diego Rozo, Perkins+Will
Stuart Campbell, IBI Group	
Raul Pinol, Stantec	Jorge Tiscareno, PBK Architects
Laura Sachtleben, Stantec	Jody Henry, Kirksey Architecture
Kelly Frank, Stantec	
Michael Martinez, Pfluger	Fernando Brave, Brave Architecture
Megan Williams, Gensler	Christian Sheridan, Brave Architecture
Michael Ufer, Gensler	
Juli Cash, Gensler	Farrah Sabouni, Autoarch Architects
Emily Massaro, Gensler	
Allison Marshall, Gensler	Bayardo Selva, Cre8 Architects
Konrad Judd, Huckabee	
Greg Louviere, Huckabee	

AIA Houston School Safety Committee members, 12 School Design firms that Luis invited to join efforts with the goal of creating safer schools through design.



Luis is an active member of the **AIA Houston Latinos in Architecture** committee, bringing awareness of Latino culture through architecture, art, cuisine, music, and language. Luis participates with two sub-committees:

1. Mentoring, Grant, Scholarship programs to local colleges
2. Mentor program for foreign Architects to pursue licensure



Luis is a mentor and fundraiser with the **AIA Houston Michael G Meyers** design competition, helping high school students to understand architecture and to document their ideas. The winners of this program receive a collective \$15,000 college scholarship.



Mariella and Luis Ayala offered a hands-on, three-day **Architectural Photography Workshop** in 2019 with **AIA Houston**. Fourteen participants of diverse backgrounds participated. 100% percent of the proceeds from this sold-out workshop were donated to the ArCH Rebuild campaign. Due to the success of the seminar, the AIA will offer it again in September of 2020.

Every year that Luis visits his home country of Paraguay, he talks to architecture students of **Universidad Catolica de Asuncion**, his alma-mater, about diverse design subjects or projects he's currently working on.





Luis volunteers with **Citizen Schools** on a ten-week program, teaching architecture to low-income/high-risk middle school students and works to give kids a chance at a brighter future.



Every year, Luis volunteers at **career-fairs** with Spring Branch ISD or Katy ISD to teach elementary school students about architecture. Here at Rummel Creek Elementary School.

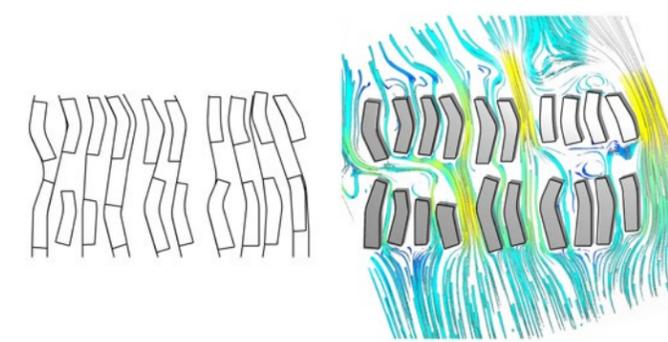
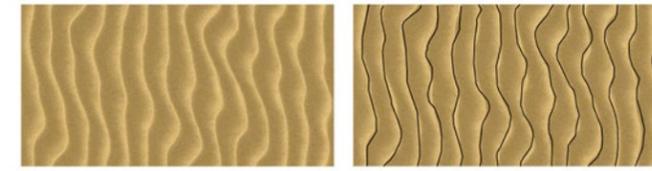
In 2014 Luis is invited to lecture at the **Universidad Tecnica Federico Santa Maria** in Valparaiso, Chile, to talk about the subject "Libraries of the Future".



In 2018 Mariella and Luis Ayala, Peter Molick and Casey Dunn were invited to speak at the **TXA Places Conference** in Fort Worth, TX, about Architectural Photography.



02 Architecture



Misk Schools

Authors
Gensler
Luis Ayala, AIA

Role
Design Director

Area
365,000 SqFt

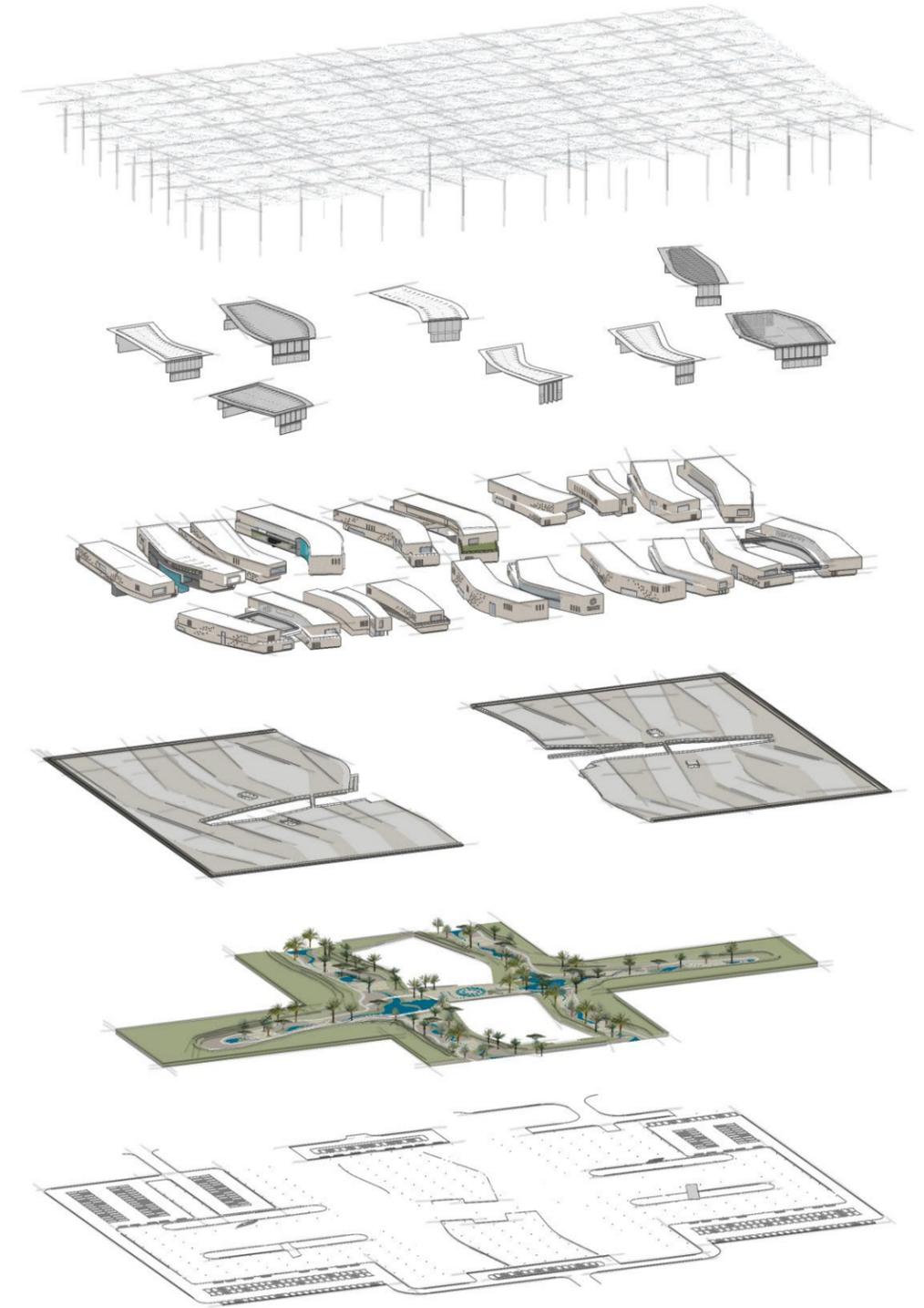
Date
2019

Location
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

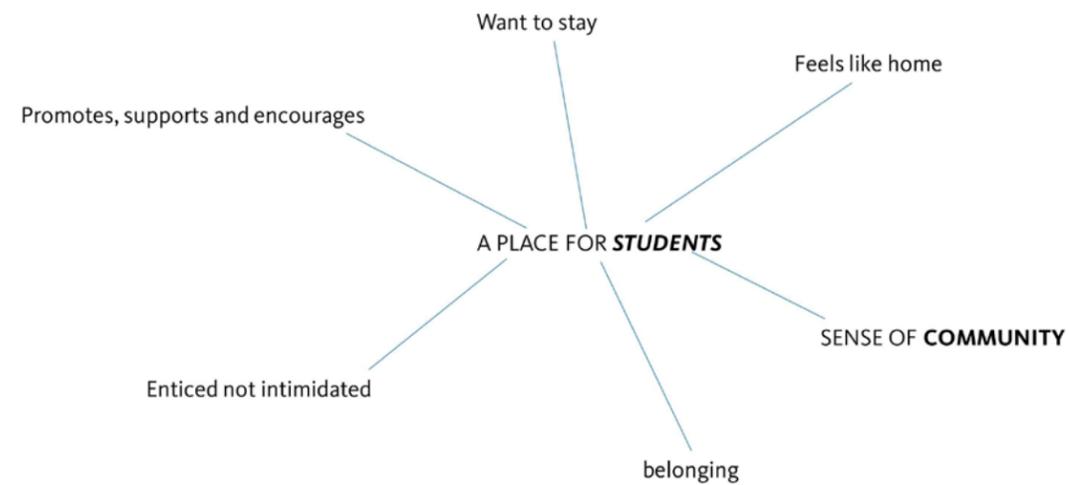
Awards
AIA Orange County,
2019 Design Award

The overarching architectural part of this concept is to address two major environmental challenges specific to the project's site within Riyadh. The impact of the sun and wind on the human experience led the design team to a holistic design solution which addresses both conditions through innovative Architectural, Landscape, and Engineering strategies.

The naturally occurring formations resulting from the aeolian process of desert winds served as the starting point of a conceptual part for the proposed design of the flagship MiSK Schools campus. Through sketching, massing and wind modeling, we arrive at land and building forms optimized to calm winds while providing opportunities to capitalize on natural ventilation strategies during optimal climactic conditions. We then introduce an overarching and site-unifying shade canopy which serves to reduce heat gain, filter and reduce the intensity of the strongest daylight conditions and provide an ideal platform for a vast photovoltaic array providing incredible energy-generation potential. At the pedestrian level, the site is organized around a network of MiSK Wadis which establish a sense of harmony and connection with the local geography and provides unique learning opportunities infused by local flora such as the date palm and a wealth of naturalized landscape palettes. Together, the land and building forms, canopy and landscaping synergistically unite in a passive scheme which provides the basis for creating unique micro-climates, leading-edge energy performance, and a world-class learning environment.







Authors
 Gensler
 Alan Colyer
 Paul Wilhelms, AIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Nicole Barrios, AIA
 Tom Bett, AIA
 Juli Cash, IIDA
 Stephanie Wherry
 Ryley Poblete
 Paulina Abella
 Zein Atout
 Nina Schwach, AIA

Role
 Design Director

Area
 285,000 SqFt

Date
 2019

Location
 Corpus Christi, TX

Awards
 2019 AIA Houston Design Award
 2019 AIA Corpus Christi Design Award

Del Mar Community College South Campus

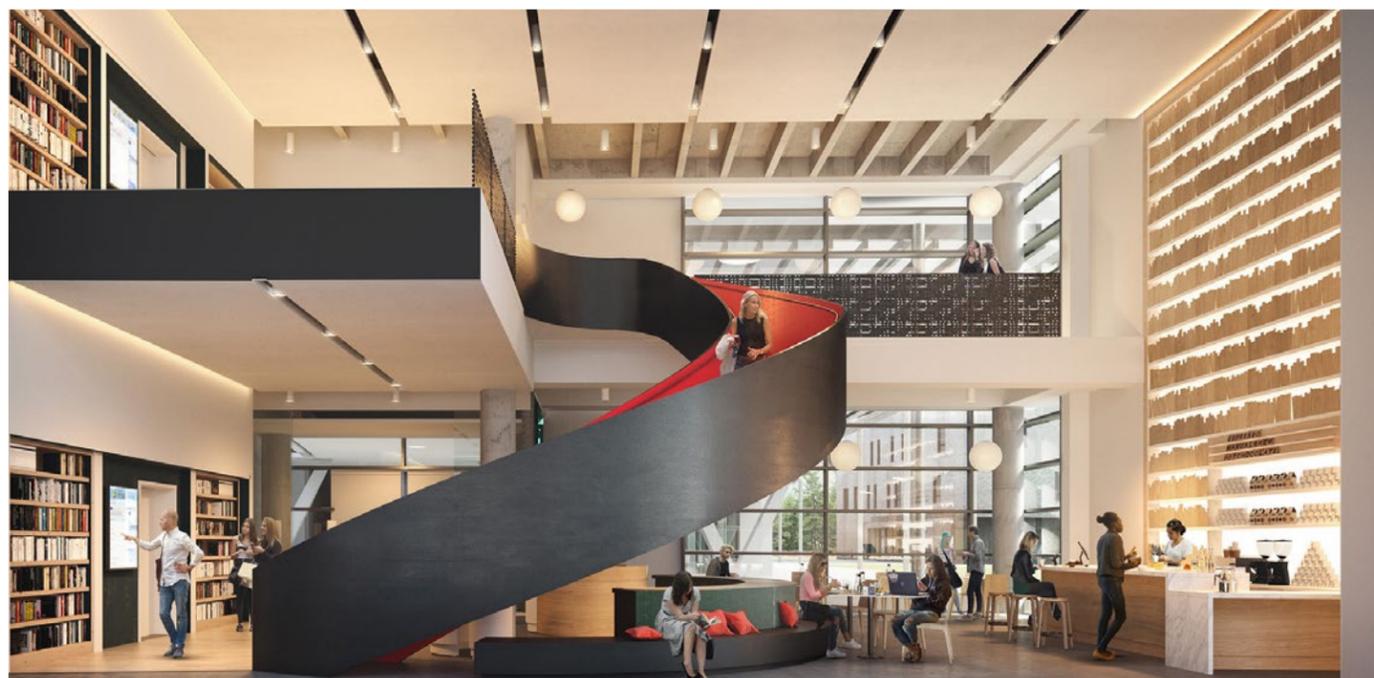
Located 15 miles southeast of downtown Corpus Christi, the South Campus of Del Mar Community College provides a state-of-the-art learning environment for a rapidly growing southside community, introducing opportunities for employment, learning, and community building.

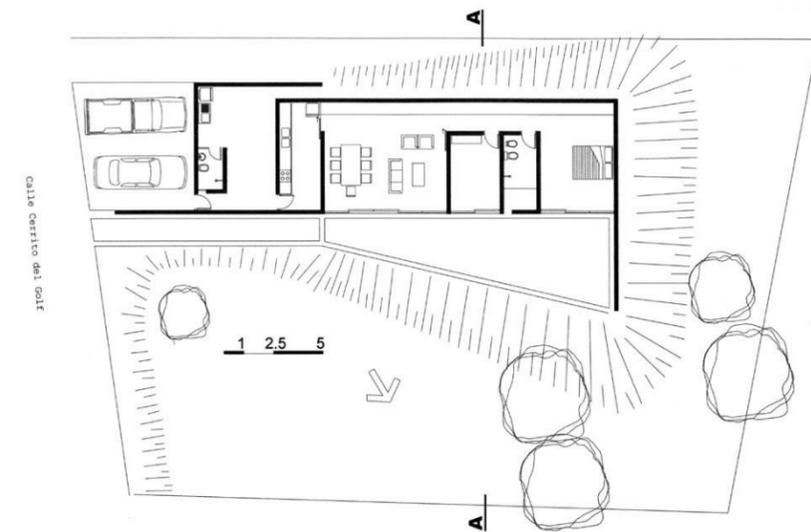
The best way to achieve a balance of interests for all stakeholders is to encourage participants to share unique perspectives, ideas and aspirations for the new campus and come to a consensus on direction. After several workshop sessions, the client envisioned a space that feels like home and offers a sense of community. The design was created to entice, promote and support the surrounding Corpus Christi community.

The design team strived to make the space feel unique to Corpus Christi and began studying how to incorporate elements found within the community into the design, such as the local beaches and windmills. When winds interact with a body of water, a recognizable pattern is created in the form of waves. Similar patterns can also be found in studying sand at the beach. This understanding that a body of water and sand are comprised of millions of smaller elements that all move in unison when a major force acts upon them served as a major inspiration to the design team.

By comparing each individual within a community to a grain of sand or a drop of water, and education to the wind as the major force that allows us to better ourselves, collectively, we are moving in unison, creating the same inspirational patterns found within the waves and sand. This is the story of Del Mar, an institution working with the community providing a clear vision of bettering its individuals and improving their city: a sum of all parts.







Casa de Luna & Alon

Authors
Luis Ayala, AIA

Role
Architect
Owner's husband
Builder

Area
1,022 SqFt

Date
2001

Location
Lambare, Paraguay

Photography
Luis Ayala, AIA

The house sits within a private master-planned golf community with lush vegetation and beautiful scenery. The masterplan restricted the construction of demising walls between lots, so everyone could have access to the golf course. This presented a problem of privacy and intimacy. Most neighboring houses had windows always blocked by blinds, negating the idea of living in such a beautiful natural setting.

The year average climate in Lambare, Paraguay, consists of 360 days of heat followed by 5 days of even more heat, topped off with an average relative humidity north of 80%... just like Houston.

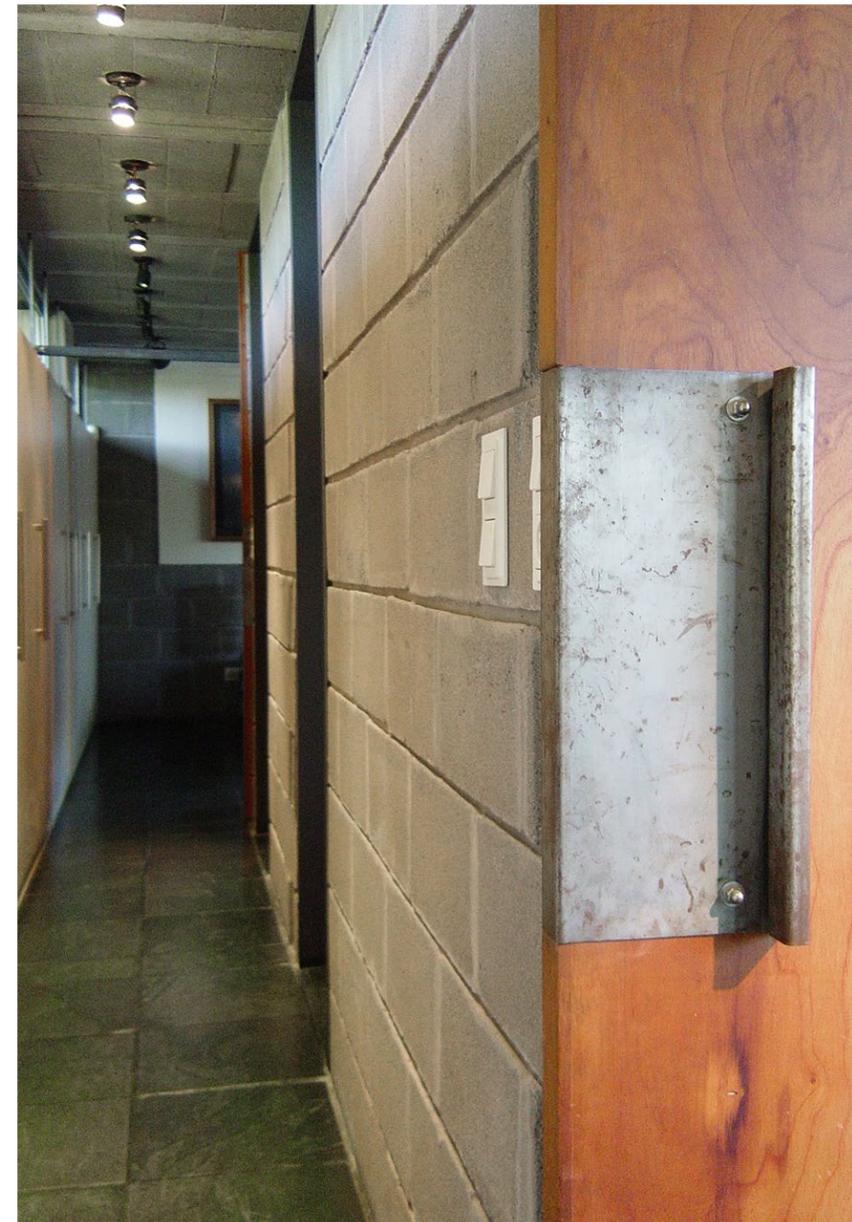
In the days before LEED, it just made sense to build sustainably to try to mitigate solar heat gain. So, the main idea of this project was to bury it, protecting western orientations from the sun, and to roof it with a shallow mass of water, which will reflect sunray exposure.

The site at which this 95 square meter house is located has a 3-meter rise from the street to the back of the lot. Massive earth movement allowed the building to sit at street level while developing toward its depth, giving the impression of it emerging from the earth. A user promenade lets spaces to be slowly discovered. An intimate sunken garden is revealed by this movement, with all interior spaces opening towards its direction, entirely secluded from neighboring views. The garden focal point is celebrated with two grown-up native trees known as "ybyrapyta," recognized by their deep redwood and yellow flowers in spring.



Raw-unfinished infrastructure defines interior spaces.

The Miesian inspired load-bearing concrete-masonry-unit folded wall planes support the concrete roof slab, shaped like a water pond, thus creating a thermal barrier and a wet playground.



Interior spaces are bound by a 15-meter-long wooden closet that neatly stores everything from books, utensils, clothes, linen, and even food. The material palette was kept to a minimum, consisting of concrete, stone, wood, and glass.

Modest investment and small clean spaces, with ample interaction with nature, is all this young family of four needed to nurture their love and support their happiness.



University of Kansas Integrated Sciences Building

Authors

Perkins&Will
Ed Cordes, AIA
Ryan Bussard, AIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
John Stultz, AIA
Mike Binnick, AIA
Derek Blumer

Role

Senior Designer

Area

284,000 SqFt

Date

2018

Location

Lawrence, KS

Photography

Michael Robinson
James Steinkamp

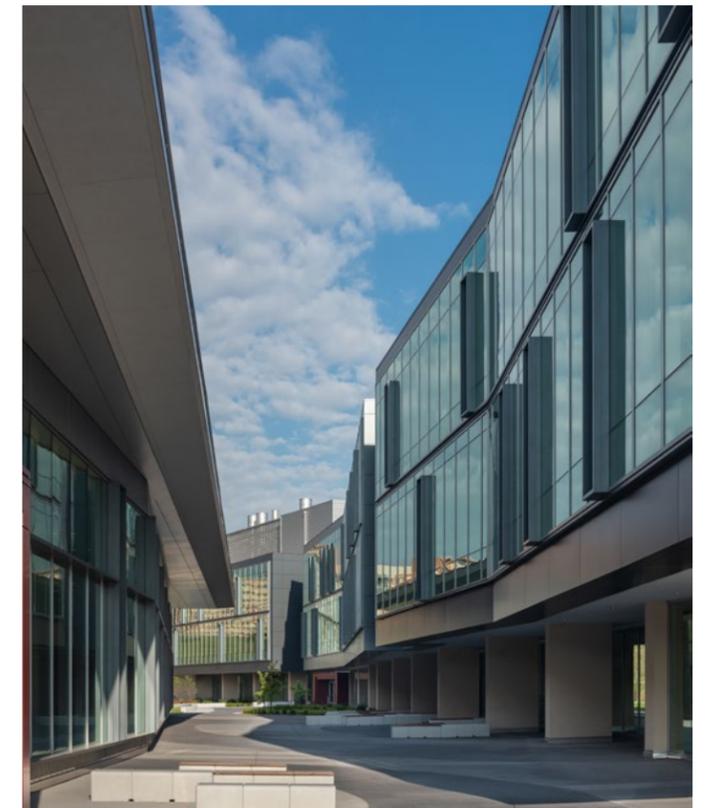
Science on Display

This building represents a paradigm shift in science education and research. When the University of Kansas decided to create a new facility, they needed a platform for a modernized educational culture. Our design is a harmonious mixture of research laboratories and social spaces linked together to maximize undergraduate engagement with faculty and researchers.

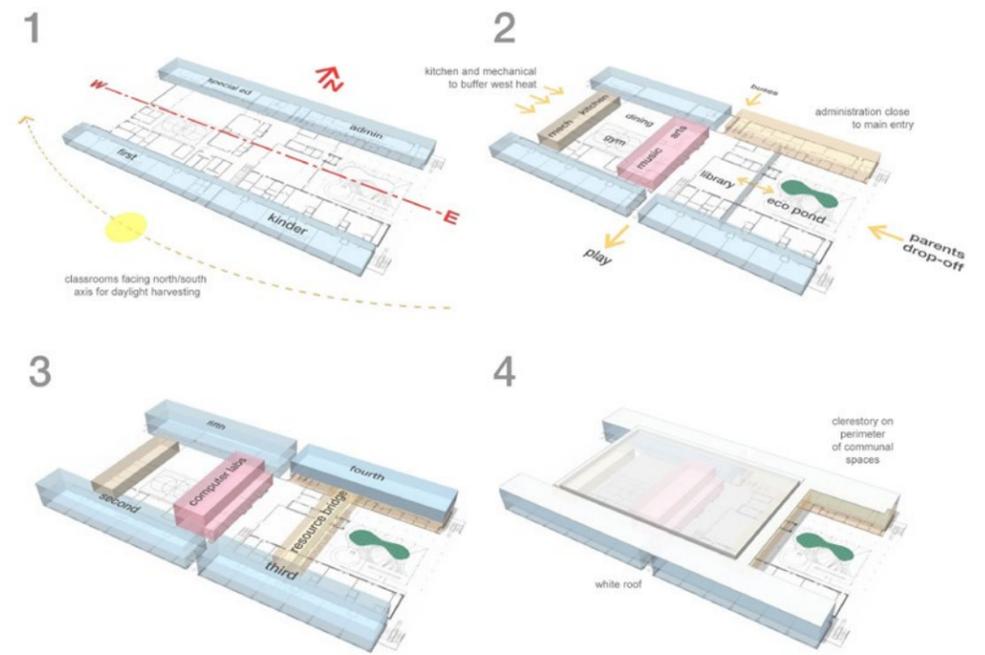
We worked closely with KU to create a continuation of a new standard that upholds the rich history of the campus, while creating an evocative and forward-thinking atmosphere. Our design solution aspires to be both literally and figuratively transparent by inviting students into the building, and blurring the lines between building and landscape.

Well-Being

Dedication to the traditions of KU and a commitment to well-being spurred the incorporation of the Jayhawk Trail, a pedestrian pathway running through the entire KU campus. The trail was incorporated into the plan of the complex and creates a strong link tying the campus, students, faculty, and staff together..







Gloria Marshall Elementary School

Authors

SHW Group
 Mark Lam, AIA
 Tracy Eich, AIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Jody Henry, AIA
 Matt Gvist, AIA
 Eddie Blanco, AIA

Role

Lead Designer

Area

106,000 SqFt

Date

2010

Location

Spring, TX

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA

Awards

2011 AIA Design Award
 2011 TASA TASB Caudill
 2011 USGBC Green School

What initially began as a “repeat” school design resulted in one of the greenest elementary schools in the state of Texas without adding any costs to the district’s capital budget. When SHW Group and Spring ISD first began exploring the goals for the new school, conversations quickly turned to daylighting, energy efficiency and water conservation. This led to an original sustainable, high-performance school designed as a teaching tool that will educate generations of students about resource conservation.

Pacesetting sustainability

The school was designed to achieve LEED Gold certification. In addition, SHW Group designed the school to meet criteria for Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), the nation’s first green building rating program especially designed for K-12 schools. The building is the first school in Houston to use geothermal heating and cooling, which saves around 35 percent in energy consumption over the current code.

The school is a two-story rectangular building oriented with long sides facing north and south. Each classroom has natural light and the south-facing classrooms take advantage of daylight harvesting. In addition, the building was designed to have lights off in the classrooms 75 percent of the time, so each room will have sensors that turns the lights on and off based on levels of natural light.



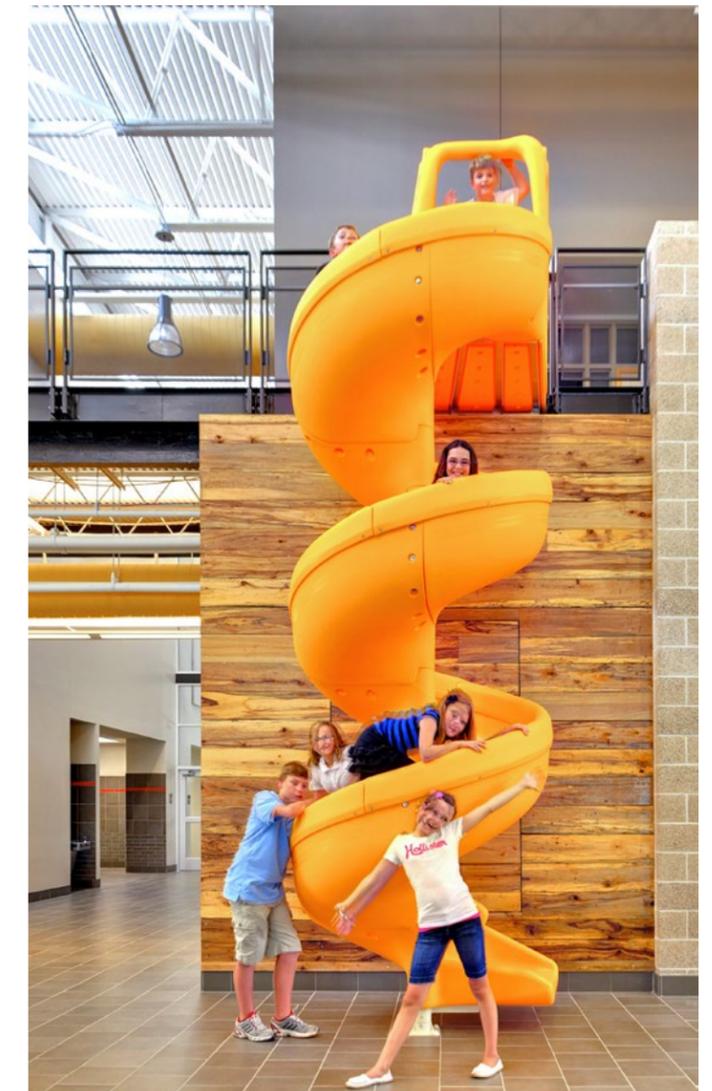
Teaching tool

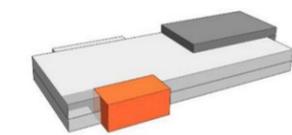
The building is designed to use an environment-focused, project-based curriculum. This will ensure that the entire school and its sustainable elements are teaching tools.

For example, the entry to the building is alongside a science garden and eco-pond that includes an above-ground cistern and a water trough. These can be used to teach children integrated concepts about math and science that allow for real-world experiences. Under the parking lot and playgrounds is a geothermal well field that houses a system of tubes and valves that take hot and cold water in and out of the building. Through the use of a web-based learning tool, students are able to interact with the building systems and know the temperature of the water as it leaves the building and when it returns from deep in the earth.

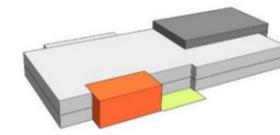
Additional green features include:

- A highly reflective white-colored roof
- An on-site wind turbine, 10,000-kilowatts of roof-mounted photovoltaic cells which will convert sunlight directly into electricity
- A butterfly garden along a walking trail
- An underground cistern that collects rainwater from the roof and is used to flush toilets and urinals
- Trees from the existing site were reused in the building as desks, benches and conference room tables
- Many of the materials used for its construction are made with recycled content or made of rapidly renewable resources
- The school also uses less water by having no irrigation

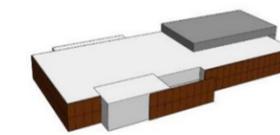




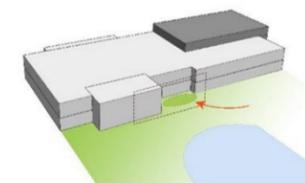
MACHINE BLOCK + LOBBY EXPRESSION



COURTYARD



CONTEXTUAL REFERENCE



LANDSCAPE MIGRATES IN

Texas A&M Biocontainment Research Facility

Authors

Perkins&Will
 Ron Stelmarski, AIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Jason Chan, AIA
 Alex Clinton, AIA
 LeaAnne Leatherwood, AIA
 Matt Richardson
 Sanja Zilic

Role

Senior Designer

Area

107,000 SqFt

Date

2019

Location

College Station, TX

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA

When Texas A&M University determined that they had a critical need for a new facility, the expectations were big. The building would be conducting high consequence research on infectious agents and diseases in plants, animals, and humans. Not only did it need to provide space for these specialized research components, but also offer an unparalleled opportunity to expand their teaching, training, and outreach.

Our answer to this highly-technical need was a one of a kind campus that would house high-design containment facilities for research. Together, with Texas A&M University, we're invested in educating and preparing the next generation of health and science professionals. Students and faculty have a new home that has risen to meet emerging public health challenges head on.

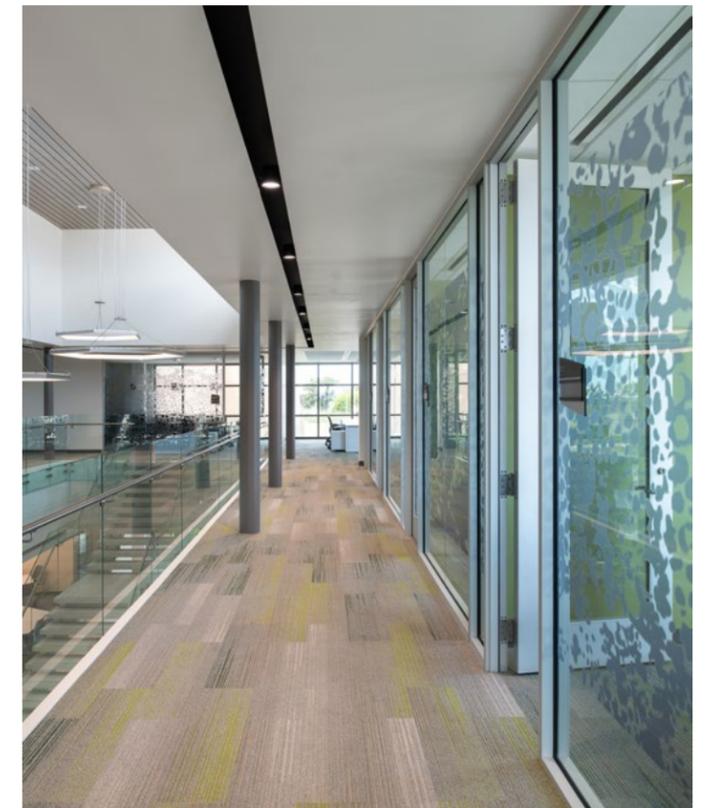


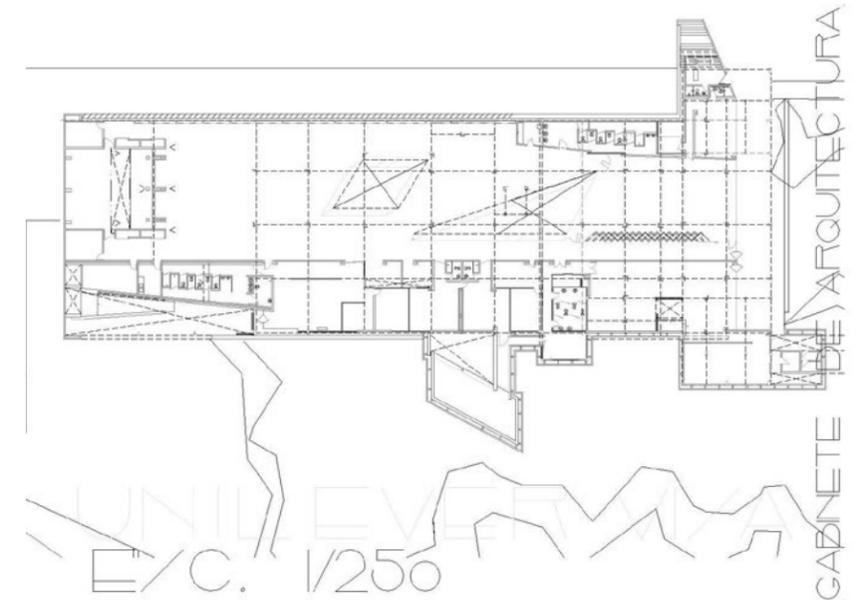
WHAT IT IS

A modern, cutting-edge containment facility to study high consequence infectious agents and diseases.

Research Hub

Researchers here are dedicated to discovering innovative methods for monitoring, detecting, and preventing disease. The facility includes labs classified as BSL-2, ABSL-2, BSL-3, and BSL-3Ag which recognize A&M's ability to educate and prepare the next generation of public, animal, environmental health and science professionals to meet these emerging public health challenges.





Unilever Headquarters Paraguay

Authors
 Gabinete de Arquitectura
 Solano Benitez, FAIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Alberto Marinoni
 Adriana Sbetlier
 Silvia Ortiz

Role
 Designer

Area
 44,132 SqFt

Date
 2001

Location
 Villa Elisa, Paraguay

Photography
 Enrico Cano
 Leonardo Finotti

PARALLEL CHRONICLES... OF CONTEMPORARY HEROES

The stories, those we tell or we are told – for a magical metamorphosis - become ours when we are able to remember them. Remembering allows a possession and a belonging to all that has happened and has been captured by our volatile interest. In a memorable story of the Paraguayan folklore lives a character called Peru Rimá Caso. It is told that in 1983, when the immigrant and ubiquitous Peru travelled to New York for psychotherapeutical reasons, he was lucky enough to have met and have as a chronicler of his misfortunes as a world citizen the famous Woody Allen. The American filmmaker portrayed him in the most trustworthy way possible - maintaining him in a meticulously anonymity - in a documentary film entitled Zelig: The Human Chameleon. Zelig achieves fame by being endowed with unique characteristics, developing a physical capacity of ubiquity that transmutes the human chameleon as a poetic metaphor into a descriptive statement. He reaches the remarkable awareness that the best strategy for adapting is always, the use of this very resource.

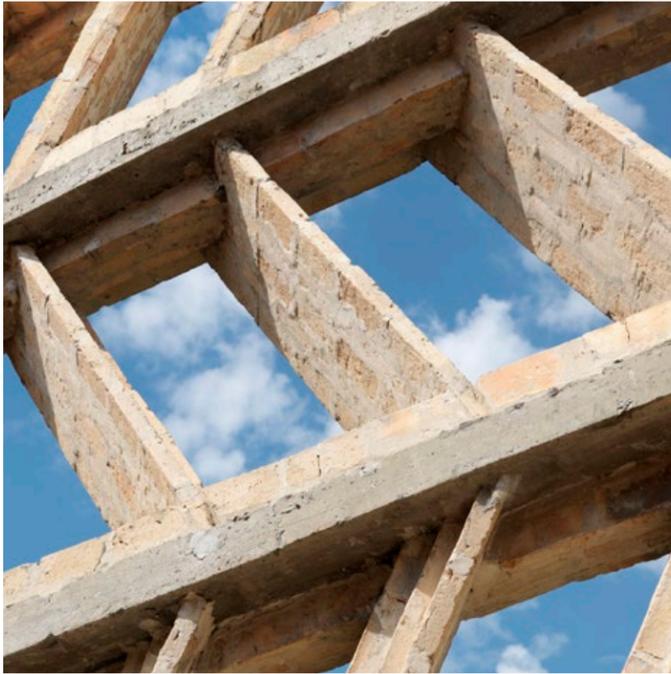
The multinational enterprise Lever is one of the representative companies of this way of thinking, as different trade markets are infiltrated with the presentation of varied products. Rehearsing in different places, with specific products and new alternatives that are at the same time competitors, the continuity or disappearance of any one of them depends on how much the product adapts to foster a market.

Research for its headquarters centered on this idea of changeability and how to produce façade panels at an economical price. The project grew out of an architecture competition based on the criteria of project and price for the rehabilitation of a section of a derelict factory as the corporation headquarters.

Given the heat in Paraguay with 45 to 47 °C daily at this latitude, creating shade is a big issue, and to do this with the traditional techniques of brick building would have made the proposal unfeasible. So we had to develop a system of prefabricated ceramic panels, using the ground and gravity as allies. Once we got the panels, we devised a sequence in which they were to be installed, with the same logic used for building bridges, making each part once erected support the next.

This approach, looking at the materials as matter, enabled us to image new forms with the parts we already had, regardless of standard protocols. It ensured the new techniques will be able to respond to new stresses never achieved before in traditional building.







University of Dallas Cardinal Farrell Hall Building

Authors

Perkins&Will
Richard Miller, FAIA
Ron Stelmarski, AIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Tony Schmitz, AIA

Role

Senior Designer

Area

38,610 SqFt

Date

2017

Location

Dallas, TX

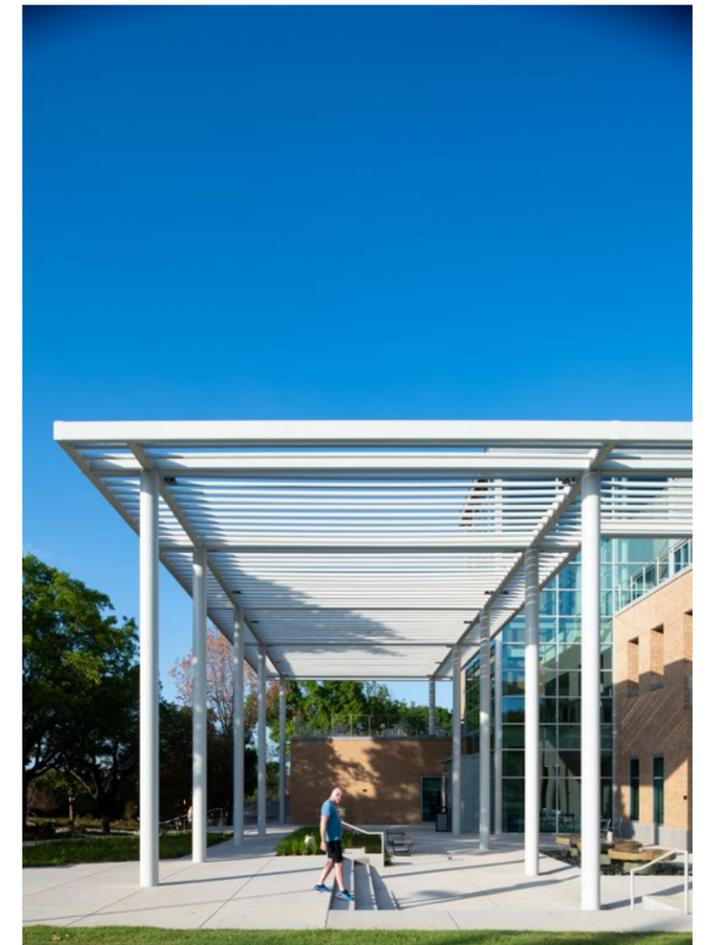
Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA

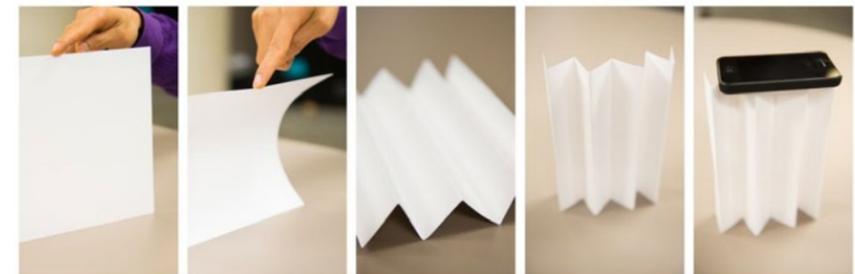
Oriented towards views of the University of Dallas' iconic bell tower, active pedestrian mall and well-manicured landscape grounds, the new Administration Building consolidates several student service needs and administrative offices under one roof. The building creates opportunities for exceptional student services and administrative leadership and outreach to reflect the university's vision for its future.

The new Administration Building is intended to be part of a larger vision for the future of the University of Dallas. It serves to emphasize the value UD places on its students by providing a truly student centered experience; the building provides a state-of-the-art "one-stop-shop" for student service needs offering exceptional service to its students and assisting with recruiting and retention. The building also provides efficient administrative offices where administrators are accessible to current and future students, alumni, faculty, staff, visitors and parents. Flooded with natural daylight and views to the outside and intuitive way-finding that draws visitors to this important campus destination.

The building encourages social interaction among students, administration, and staff with a variety of formal and informal gathering spaces placed strategically throughout the building. External plazas encourages casual interaction among members of the university community.







Country Day School, Costa Rica

Authors

SHW Group
Trey Laird, AIA
Taryn Kinney, AIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Raul Piñol, AIA

Role

Project Director,
Lead Designer

Area

228,119 SqFt

Date

2016

Location

San Jose, Costa Rica

Photography

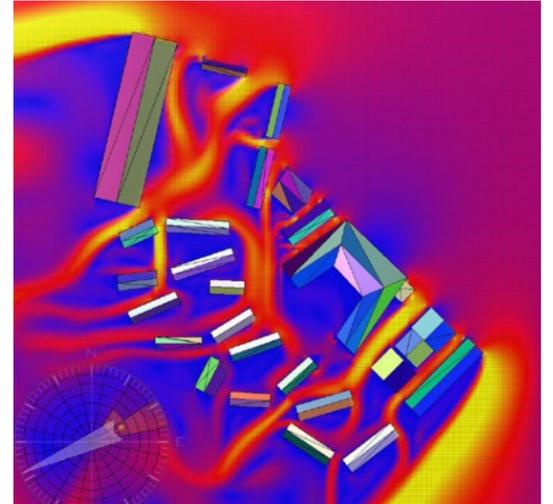
Luis Ayala, AIA

The COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL, founded in 1963, is a private, English-language, PK-12 school. The purpose and standards are comparable to selective U.S. independent and college-preparatory schools. Outdated, under-sized facilities and site limitations were the impetus to create a new campus in Alajuela, just outside of San Jose, Costa Rica.

New facilities offer great opportunity for learning yet at the risk of losing authenticity and community ties that had developed over the last fifty years. Parents and school administrators mandated that we not only respect the Costa Rica climate but also the CDS community values.

Observing nation-wide goals of being the first carbon-neutral country by 2020, the school design was conceived as a Net-Zero Ready building from the initial design stages.

The project is based on taking advantage of Costa Rica's benevolent weather, allowing all rooms to open directly to the exterior, utilizing passive ventilation, and extending learning opportunities to generous outdoor, covered spaces. A central quad provides a school-wide campus identity non-existent in their current campus and organizes all of the smaller communities. Four different houses—Early Childhood, Elementary School, Middle School and High School—are placed on the site respecting topography, vegetation, day lighting and cross ventilation patterns. Each house embraces its own courtyard which becomes the central forum for the community and activities within



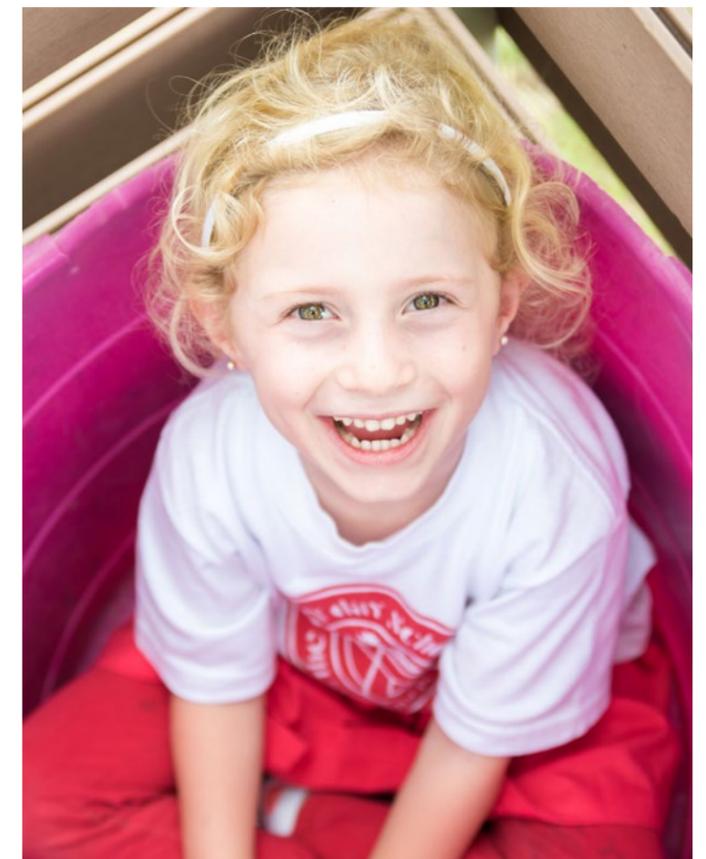
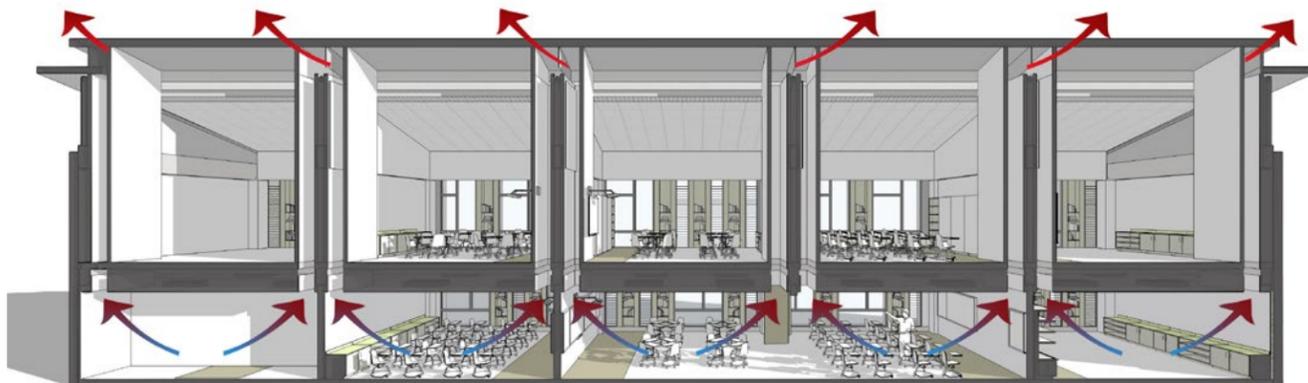
Wind tunnel studies revealed the preferred rotation of buildings. This information combined with topography and existing trees location informed final position of classrooms on site.

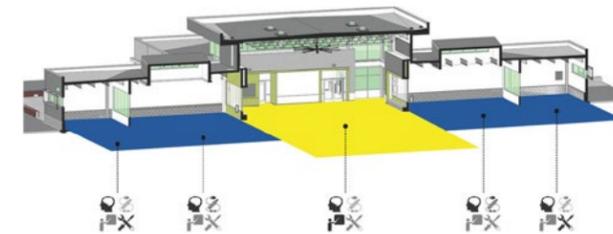
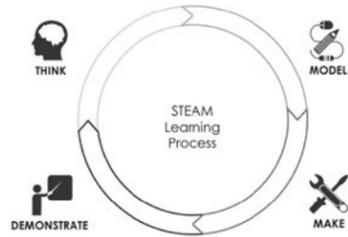




Passive natural ventilation systems include a continuous air monitor on the roof that extracts hot air from the top of the 2nd floor classrooms.

For the classrooms on the 1st floor, a series of vertical extraction chimneys are strategically located taking air from a vent panel on the first floor ceiling and exhausting into the air monitor at the top of the roof.





Robert R Shaw STEAM Center

Authors

SHW Group
 Tracy Eich, AIA
 Jennifer Henrickson, AIA
 Taryn Kinney, AIA
 Laura Sachtleben, AIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Raul Piñol, AIA
 Matt Gvist, AIA
 Rachael Schneider
 Michael Todd

Role

Lead Designer

Area

25,000 SqFt

Date

2015

Location

Katy, TX

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA

Awards

2015 TASA TASB Caudill

Remember the movie Real Steel, where a cute kid and his boxer dad, built a robot that fights imitating human moves? This project is designed to host this activity. Well, sort of...

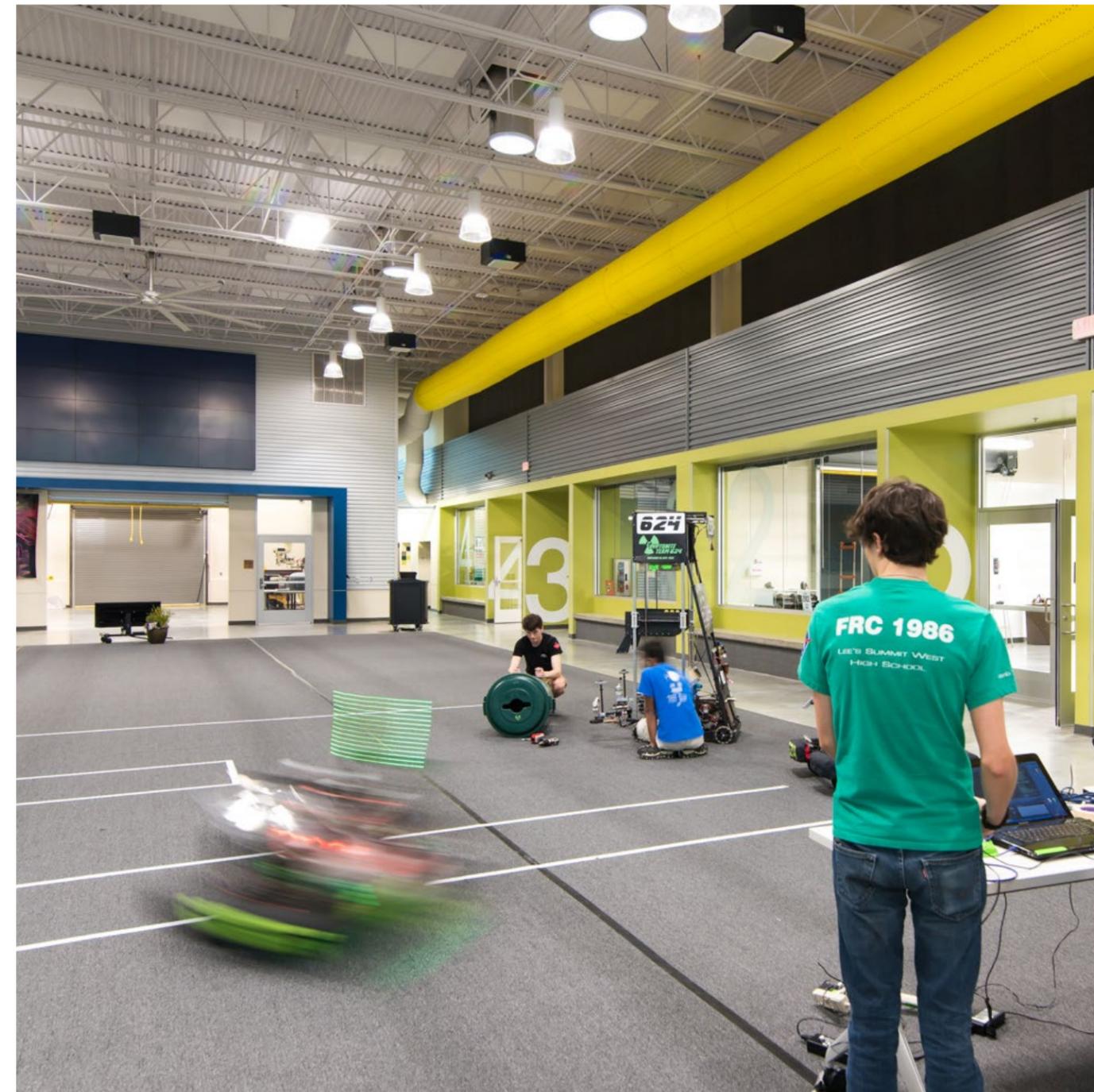
Katy independent school district in Houston suburbia, has one of the highest growing rates in the nation. One of their specialty programs is robotics, where students design, build and compete with their robots on national and even world championships.

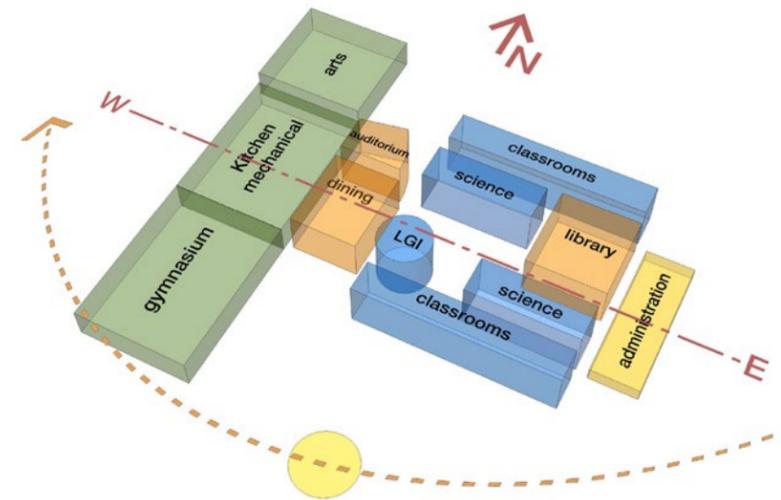
Robots are designed to perform different tasks, remotely commanded by its creators, they are to throw discs or balls to specific targets, competing against time and their opponents in the arena. Game rules and robots change every year, hence the building design had to be flexible and utilitarian.

A very simple plan, with individual workshops for different teams, pivoting around a central high-bay-arena area, where robots compete and train.

Time and tight budget constraints influenced design and tectonics decisions, taking cues from suburbia workshops on building methods and materiality but providing ample daylight and a ludic space character, appropriate for learning teenagers.

A small and simple building but with great aspirations to form careers through play and curiosity.





Salyards Middle School

Authors

SHW Group
 Tracy Eich, AIA
 Rayce Boyter, AIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Jon Pippert, AIA
 Matt Gvist, AIA

Role

Lead Designer

Area

247,466 SqFt

Date

2010

Location

Cypress, TX

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA

In early 2009 the district decided that they were ready for a new middle school prototype. Our challenge was to provide the district with a prototype that; offers the flexibility for re-site, incorporates a smaller footprint, increases daylighting in classrooms, and provides a 21st century learning environment for today's digital generation.

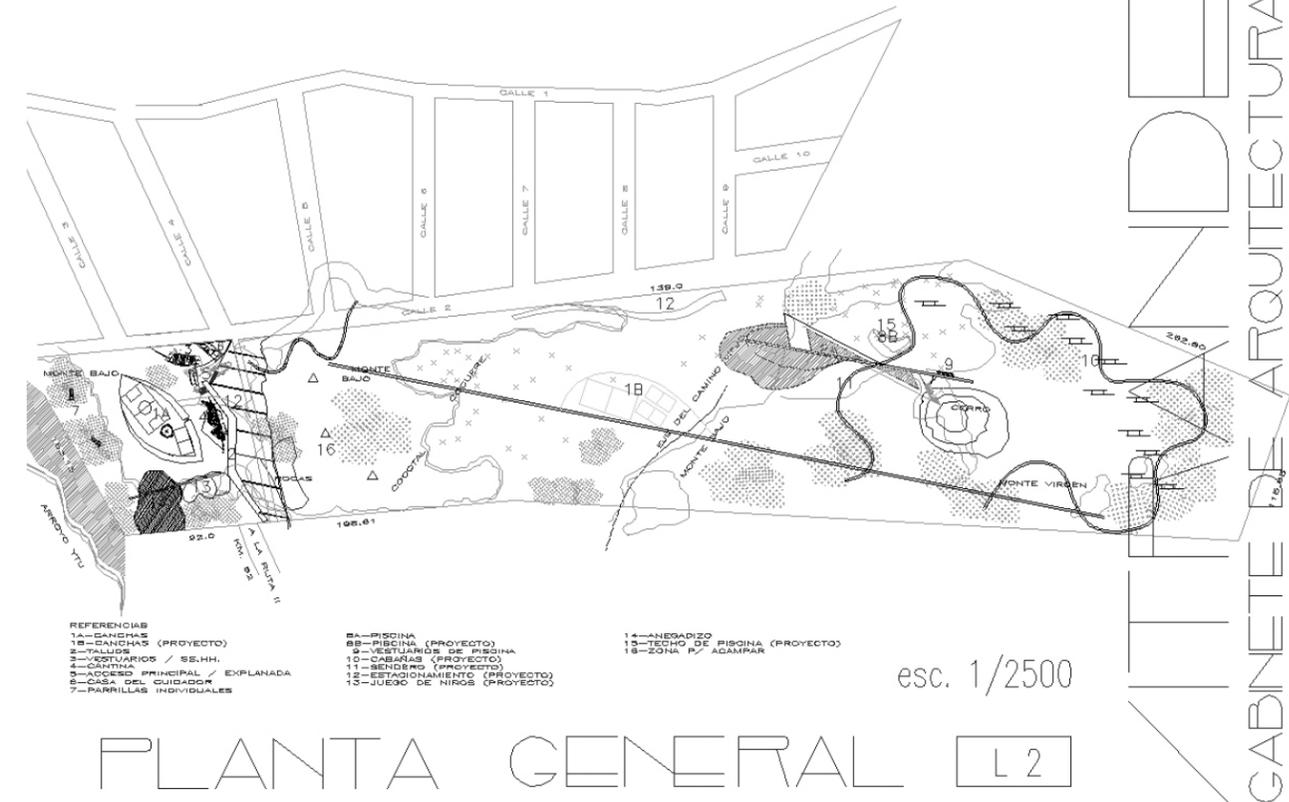
Salyards Middle School is a three-story facility that emulates a Rubix Cube with corner entries and multiple fronts that can be re-sited based on the site orientation and school floor traffic. The footprint of this new prototype is 35% smaller of the district's existing middle school prototype and the number of classrooms with daylighting has been increased from 30% to 95%.

The typical halls and walls have been transformed into an open design concept that includes; glass walls between the classrooms and the main corridor provide a window into learning environments, interactive flex spaces promote self-directed learning and project-based team collaboration, and a courtyard in the center of the building visually connects the three floors.

This collegiate style environment also incorporates technology to raise the quality of the facility to meet the needs of today's students. A wireless overlay is available for network and internet access and each classroom includes a Smart Board, two video projection walls, and network hard drops







Sitrade Vacacional Complex

Authors
Gabinete de Arquitectura
Solano Benitez, FAIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Alberto Marinoni

Role
Designer

Area
58,680 SqFt

Date
1998

Location
Ytu, Paraguay

Photography
Luis Ayala, AIA

Awards
Finalist of Mies Van der Rohe
Award in Barcelona, Spain

Tras la revolución de febrero de 1989 , se otorga a los trabajadores de los monopolios estatales, el derecho de integrar sociedades sindicales.

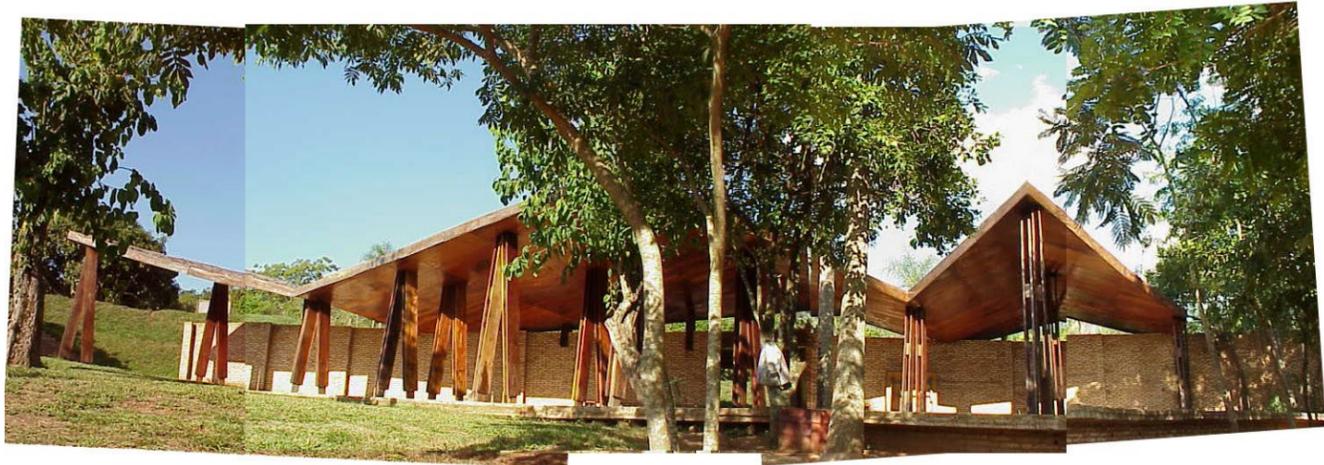
Resultamos ganadores de un concurso organizado por este sindicato, que integra en plantilla de funcionarios , desde encargados de aseo hasta las complejas gerencias técnicas, y que operan en plantas de escenarios muy distintos, asentadas en capital y hasta en periféricas y diminutas comunidades rurales.

El sitio del proyecto , Ytú , se encuentra en el departamento de cordillera , a 50 km. de la ciudad de Asunción.

Serranías, monte y un arroyo integran las 10 has. del conjunto; sobrevivientes de los parcelamientos de lotes de especulación inmobiliaria en los que se hallan inscriptas.

Un proyecto extensible y transformable nos es encargado.

La propuesta es sólo una estrategia de intervención. Marcas fundacionales que se le hacen al sitio. Signos que omitiendo palabras son creados en la necesidad de nombrar el lugar. El proyecto habrá de rehacerse repitiendo el gesto en cada parte.





The Church at Woodforest

Authors

Gensler
Allison Marshall, AIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Jonathan Shelledy, AIA
Emily Massaro, AIA

Role

Senior Designer

Area

28,000 SqFt

Date

2019

Location

Montgomery, TX

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA







Spring Branch Education Center

Authors

SHW Group
Tracy Eich, AIA
Jennifer Henrickson, AIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Raul Piñol, AIA
Matt Gvist, AIA

Role

Lead Designer

Area

148,000 SqFt

Date

2016

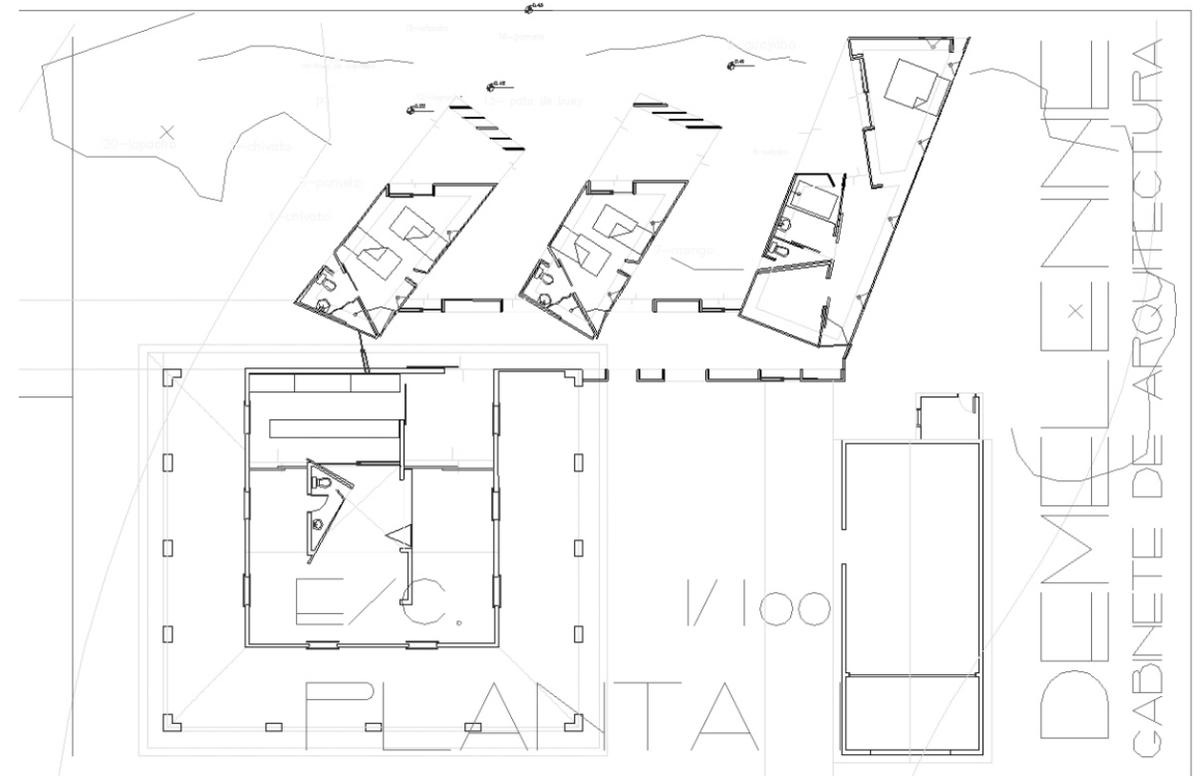
Location

Houston, TX

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA





Demelenne House

Authors
Gabinete de Arquitectura
Solano Benitez, FAIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Alberto Marinoni

Role
Designer

Area
2,050 SqFt

Date
1999

Location
Aregua, Paraguay

Photography
Luis Ayala, AIA

Call now!

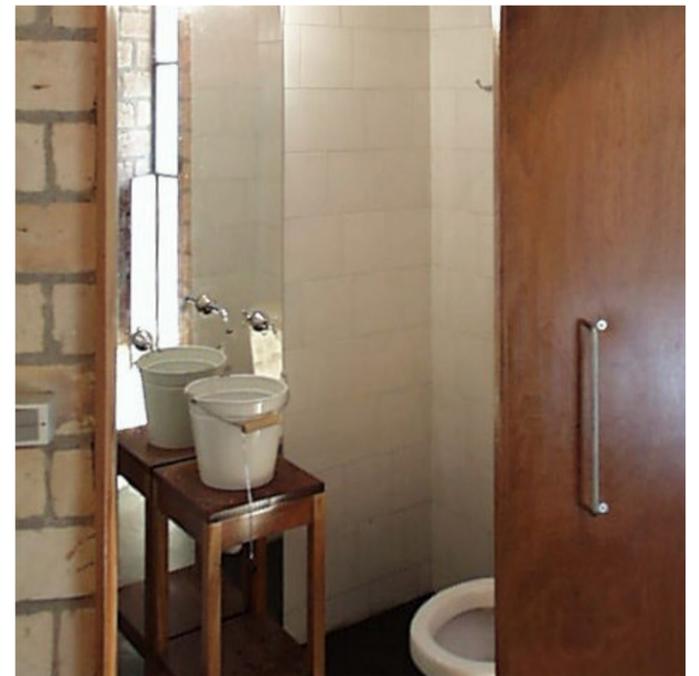
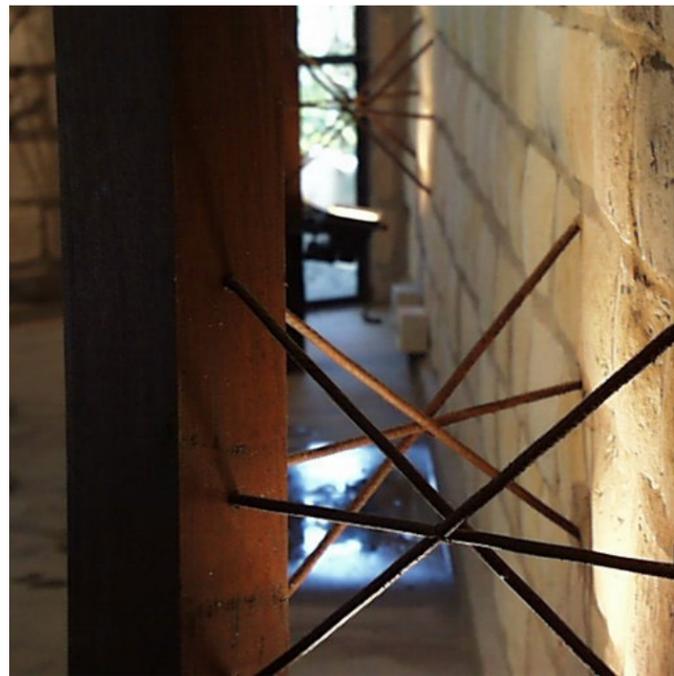
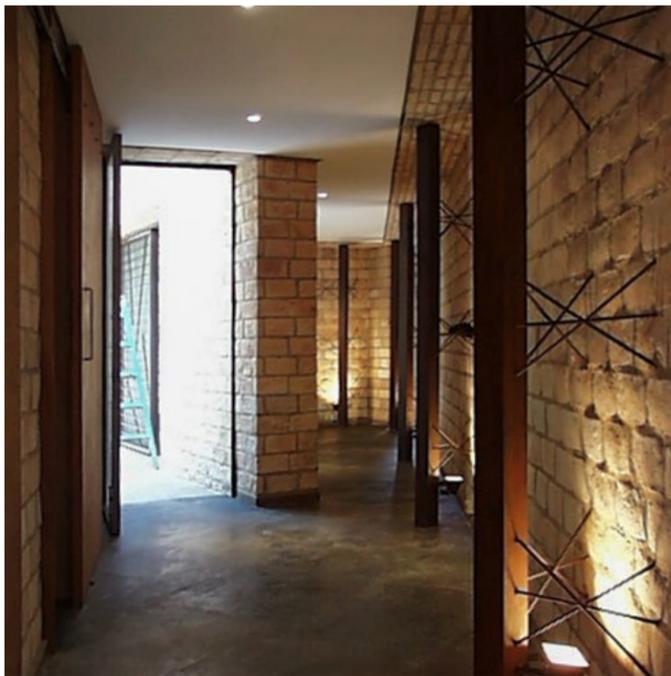
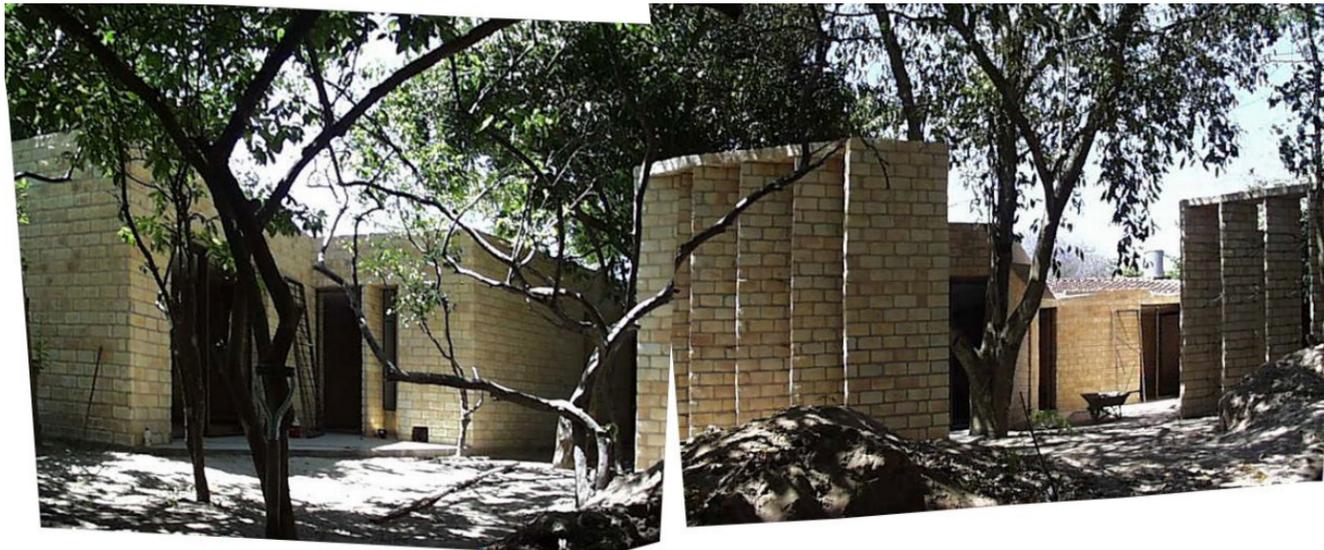
A Belgian consultant buys a house via phone from Europe in Aregua, Paraguay. It turns out a weekend structure, made by gallerias that surrounded a central nucleus and small service programs around it, with little quality nor clear function but built in a beautiful context.

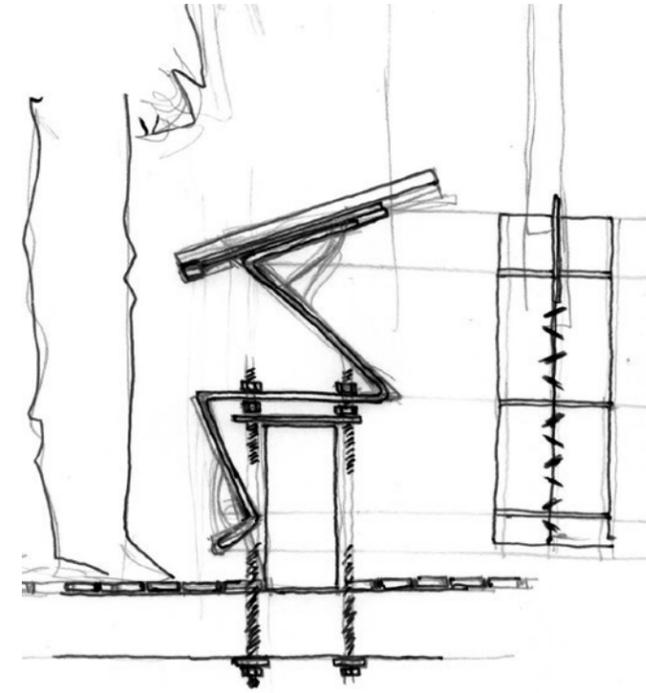
Ypacarai lake close presence and lush indigenous vegetation configures this place. An initial sketch suggests the possibility of linking, via a new galleria, the existing structures and additions being promoted.

This new L shaped galleria transforms itself several times along its path being in times an exterior space, interior space and/or something in between. A landscape of sun and shade follows it where it's decided to place the new additions. Every new volume of the proposal repeats the intention the L shaped galleria explores, when integrating to a heavily wooded area, spaces expand capturing its surroundings; walls, floors and trees creating an internal woodland and hammocks making exterior bedrooms

A constant economic crisis permanency in our society, impulse us to explore alternatives, sub-development does not imply lack of resources but the inability to discover them. Isolated by shade created under tree canopies, architecture is made with a thin brick skin of only 4cm thick supported by wood buttresses and ceramic slabs applying weight and compressing the structure.

Intervention on the existing structure, opens up to the sky the former most enclosed space, liberating it of its capturing walls, a new continuing space is offered sharing the path defined by the structuring gallerias.





Centro Electrico



Authors
 Gabinete de Arquitectura
 Solano Benitez, FAIA
 Luis Ayala, AIA
 Alberto Marinoni

Role
 Designer

Area
 750 SqFt

Date
 1998

Location
 Asuncion, Paraguay

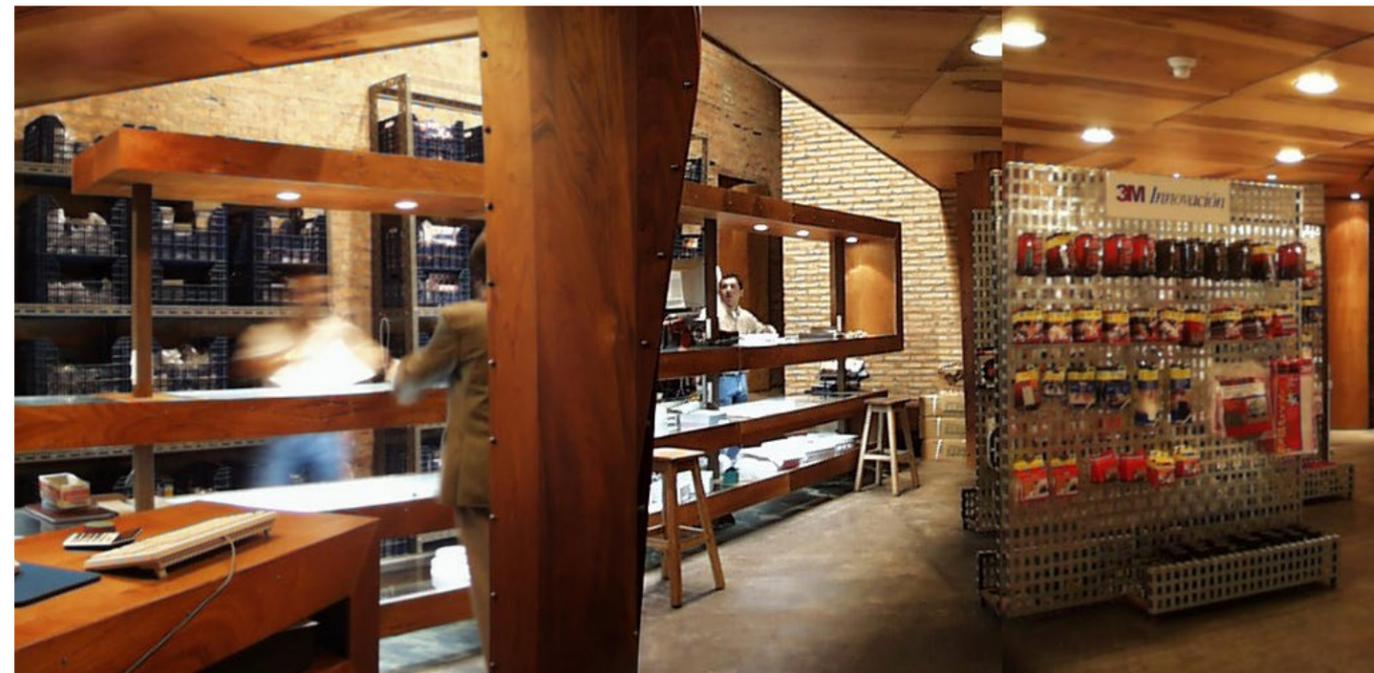
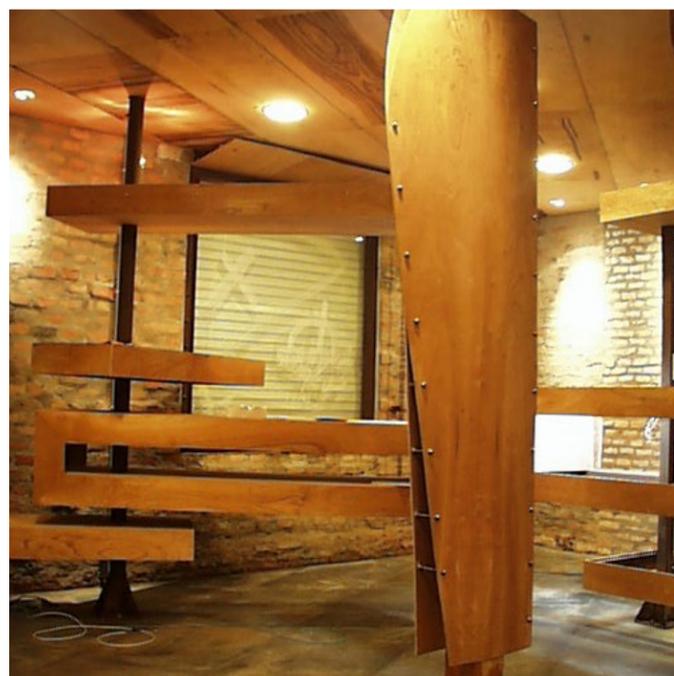
Photography
 Luis Ayala, AIA



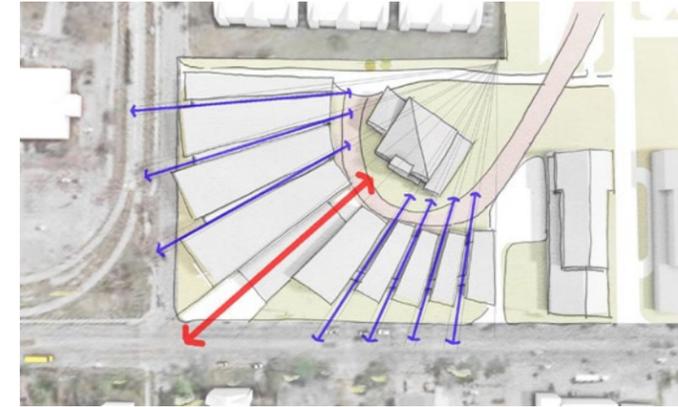
before



after



Jesus fell three times while carrying his cross, leading to his death and resurrection. The building elevation celebrates this notion by articulating its volumes leading to the cross.



Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church

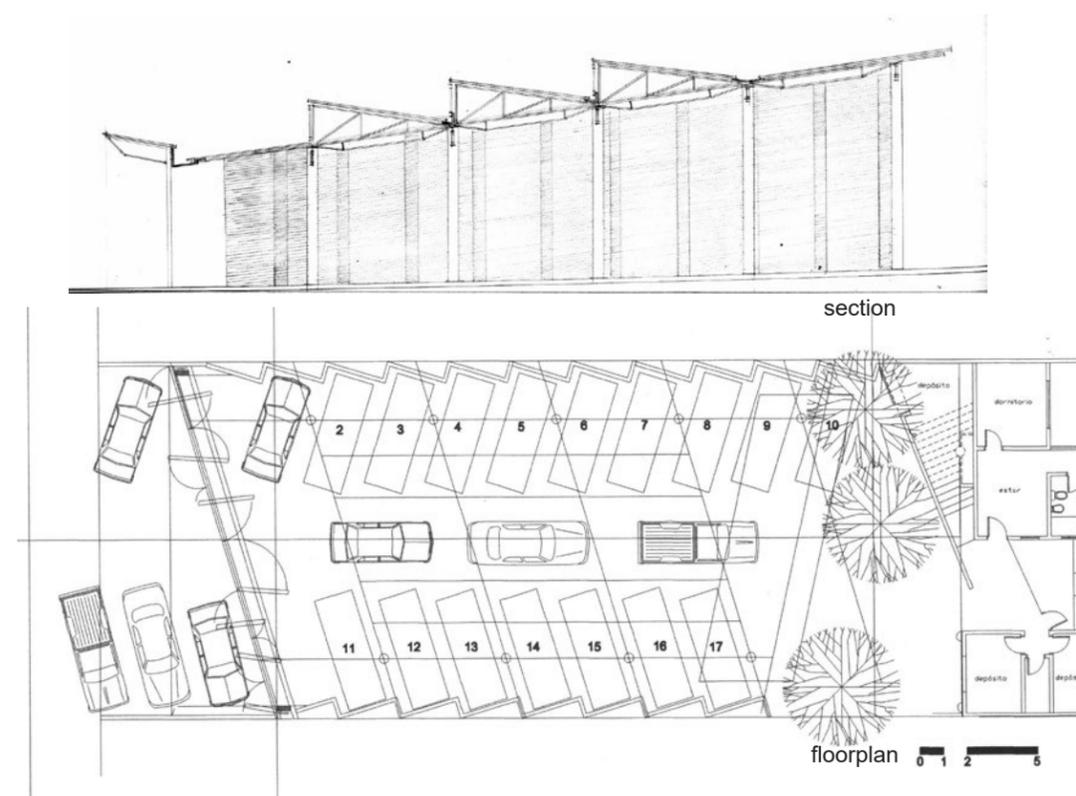
Authors
Perkins & Will
Phil Freelon, FAIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
John Stultz, AIA
Matt Richardson

Role
Senior Designer

Area
150,000 SqFt

Date
2017

Location
Houston, TX



Motor Mas mechanic shop

Authors

Gabinete de Arquitectura
Solano Benitez, FAIA
Luis Ayala, AIA
Alberto Marinoni

Role

Designer

Area

4,050 SqFt

Date

1999

Location

Asuncion, Paraguay

Photography

Luis Ayala, AIA

Pensar el taller no es sólo celebrar el encuentro con las máquinas. Su presencia se revela a través de los sonidos que provoca su trájín. El manejo de los mismos nos obliga a pensar sus límites, de forma tal que todo esté dispuesto en intención acústica, de manejo de rebote y propagación de la emisión producida por el trabajo de los motores.

Las paredes nunca establecen paralelas, los techos se abren en zig zags, portones administrativos y finalmente los mangos alejan los ruidos de los linderos y proyectan los sonidos a la calle y al cielo.

Los mampuestos de ladrillos de 15cm. de espesor siguen siendo en nuestro medio la alternativa más económica para encerrar los cerramientos de una obra. El pliegue de estos muros nos permite afrontar con mayor estabilidad el problema de la inercia de una pieza tan esbelta por su desarrollo en altura, sin recurrir al hormigón armado.

El tipo de mampuesto (aparejo inclinado según pendiente de los techos) fue bautizado por el cuerpo de albañiles como "pared tobogán"

La "pared tobogán" es un recurso visual importante, en una obra de sentimiento barroco, cada segmento de mampostería parece clavarse o emerger con decisión del suelo, según la perspectiva que lo muestre.

La pendiente de pisos y techos, el sesgo de la estructura de cobertura, su carácter en extremo cerrado al ingreso y abierto por demás de salida, completan la complejidad del enunciado barroco, a pesar de su definición en extremo utilitaria.

Las particiones de los portones de acceso referidos a esquemas de perspectiva se reducen acompañando esta bocina.

El quiebre de su plomo y sus mecanismos de pivót, los convierten en actores capaces de gesticular, extraer interiores, acompañar el egreso, etc.

En los fondos una pequeña construcción pre-existente es transformada en oficinas. Los árboles de mango son la seña local de taller mecánico, su copiosa sombra, por generaciones dio abrigo a los quehaceres de este oficio.



03 Photography

“Luis has the extraordinary ability to translate three dimensional human experiences into two dimensional pieces of art. His vision enables the viewer to step into the story and experience a true sense of place. Through his work one is able to understand and view the individual beauty of architectural tectonics.”

Raffael Scasserra, AIA

Lone Star College, Center for Student Academic Engagement, Gensler



“Knowing that he would bring a special sensibility to the photo shoot, for the emblematic Houston Police Memorial Guard House we went straight to Luis Ayala”

Police Memorial Houston, Brave Architecture

Fernando Brave, FAIA



"Storytelling is at the heart of every photograph that Luis takes balancing light, building, and scale so naturally, all the while capturing the spirit of place"

Denise DeLeon , Lake Flato Architects

The MATCH Houston, Lake Flato Architects / Studio RED



"I've come to think of working with Luis to document a project as part of the project, not something that happens after its finished. Through his lens he helps me define and understand what has actually been accomplished."

Joy House, Kinney Morrow Architects

Michael Morrow, AIA



“As both architect and photographer, Luis’ talent and vision exposed the spirit of our architecture through the intangible moments one hopes for and rarely achieves.”

Natalye Appel, FAIA

Levy Park Houston, Appel Architects



“Luis always brings our projects to life in a brilliant way. His photography captures the emotional quality of the space in the learning environments we create.”

Sam Houston High School, Stantec Architecture

Tracy Eich , AIA



"Luis's photos are dynamic, with a sense of movement that brings our projects to life. As an architect, he intuitively understands and conveys our design concepts."

Bill Merriman, AIA

Crime Stoppers Houston, Merriman Holt Powell Architects



"Through his photography, Luis captures an individual spirit and character that creates a sense of clarity and frugal beauty. He does not just photograph the built form, but embraces its context, its inhabitants and the details that breathe in a sense of pleasure. During a photo shoot, I am able to walk away knowing that Luis will capture the true essence and simplicity of my work in a way that I would have never considered."

Brett Zamore, AIA

Arlington Pool House, Brett Zamore Design



“Luis Ayala captures the best in buildings. He can see spaces with an architect’s eye in order to help better convey buildings to others.”

Donna Kacmar, FAIA

Jungman Library, Donna Kacmar, FAIA, Natalye Appel, FAIA, Energy Architecture



“It is indeed a rare occurrence to find someone that not only dominates the technical aspect of photography, but that also has a deep understanding of architecture and how light and shadow play a predominant role in a building. Luis has an architect’s vision of how to photograph buildings. With his “architect’s eye”, he intuitively knows what the building’s best angles are.”

The George Hotel, Muñoz Albin Architects

Enrique Albin , AAIA



“Having collaborated with Luis on numerous photo shoots for our residential work, he brings a keen understanding of how to capture the projects through the eyes of both an architect and photographer. His captivating work allows the viewer to experience a moment in time which embodies the essence of the space.”

Shawn Gottschalk, AIA

Abbington Residence, Studio MET Architects





An art gallery in The Heights, Houston, asked Luis to showcase his work, **2thirds**.

A collection that explores the medium of drone photography using the rule of two thirds as a basic composition technique.

The work showcases natural and man made landscapes in diverse places throughout the globe showing its differences and similarities.





Winter

Weil am Rhein, Germany | 2018

Epson UltraChrome Pro Fine Art Premium Print On Hahnemühle handmade Paper

Rieslings of the Rhine valley are well known for their aromatic and fruity flavors but not so much for the elegance of its vineyards. The first snow of winter in Weil-am-Rhein covers up everything with a gentle white blanket. As all things German-engineered beauty is in the precision and efficiency of how these vines are laid.

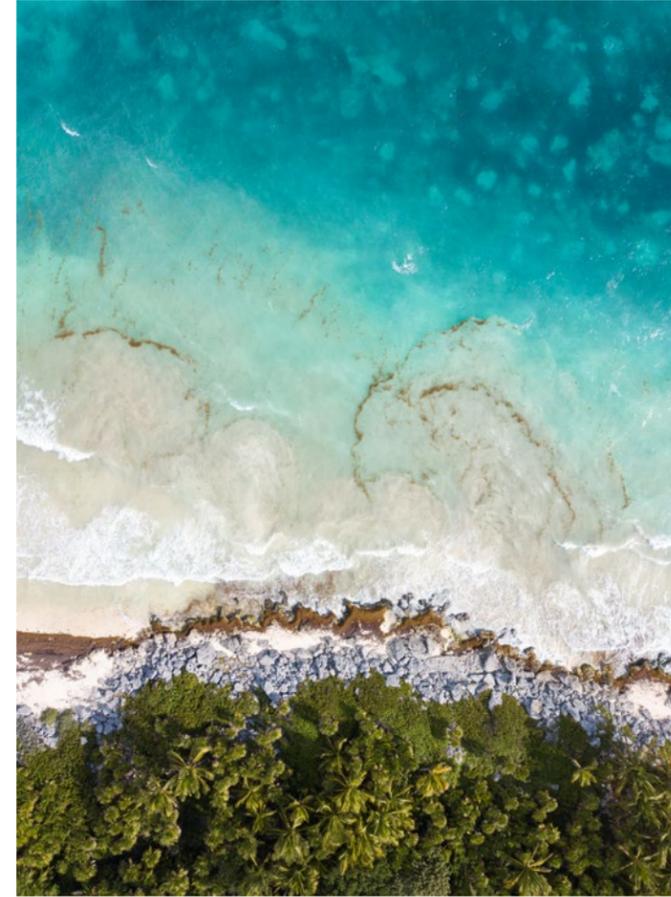


Spring

Brenham, Texas | 2018

Epson UltraChrome Pro Fine Art Premium Print On Hahnemühle handmade Paper

After a brutal winter, the prairie violently burst in colors announcing the spring arrival. Searching for a bluebonnets field, in Brenhan, I found this one instead. The aerial point of view revealed a tapestry of yellow wildflowers of Texas and green grasses weaving an intricate pattern. A cattle water-trough offers scale to the composition and hydration to the noble roamers of this land.

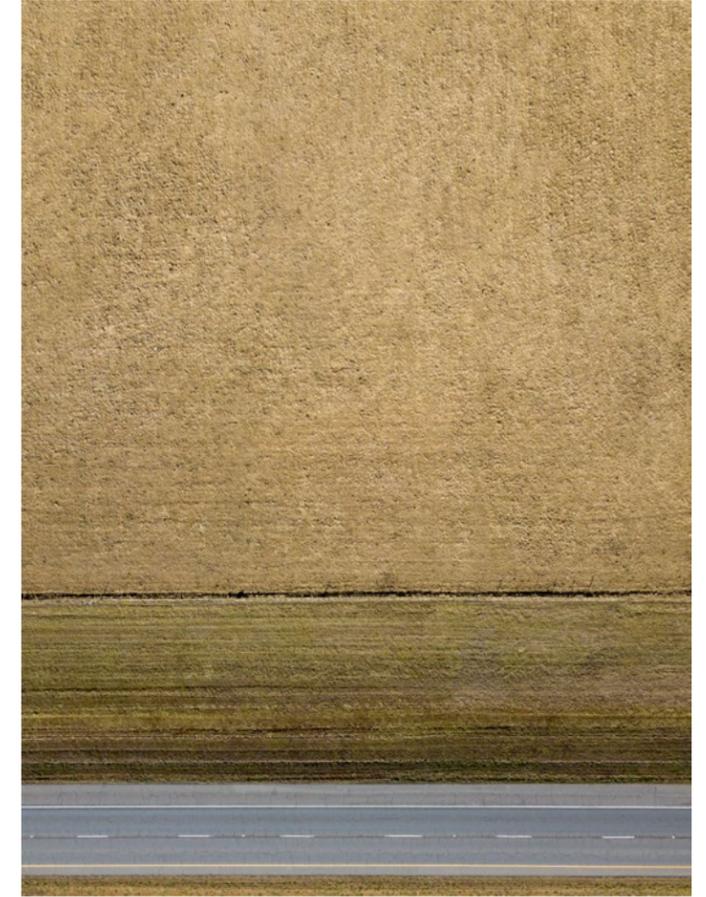


Summer

Playa del Carmen, Mexico | 2018

Epson UltraChrome Pro Fine Art Premium Print On Hahnemühle handmade Paper

Room with a view. Every time I visit the Riviera Maya I'm struck by the depth of their blues and turquoises. On our 20 years wedding anniversary in Playa del Carmen I took a four hour walk to get to this remote place away from tourists to capture the absolute beauty of these beaches. It seems like when God was painting the Riviera she used up all the blues of her prismacolor box.



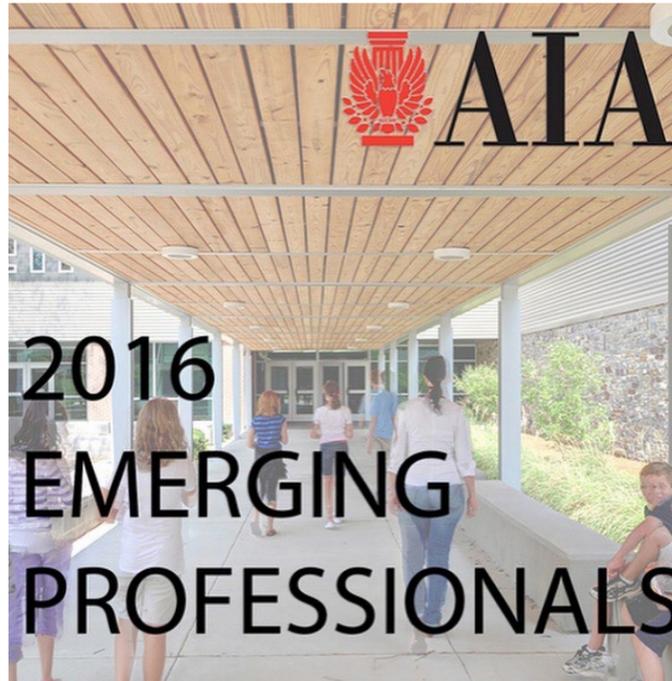
Fall

Colcord, Oklahoma | 2017

Epson UltraChrome Pro Fine Art Premium Print On Hahnemühle handmade Paper

This is the first image I took with the drone and the one that inspired me to do the 2thirds series, aptly titled Fall. When a photographer holds a camera to his eyes he/she uses the rule of two thirds for composition. Mechanically I used this rule although the camera was 400 feet away, when composing a simple road, a gradient green grass and a fence, road tripping through Oklahoma when driving to visit my daughter's university. An ordinary everyday sight takes a new dimension through the eyes of a bird.

04 Awards



In 2016 Luis was distinguished by AIA National as an Emerging Professional featuring his work at the AIA headquarters in Washington D.C



In 2016 Luis was distinguished by YAF Houston as a part Emerging Voices Exhibition

Awards

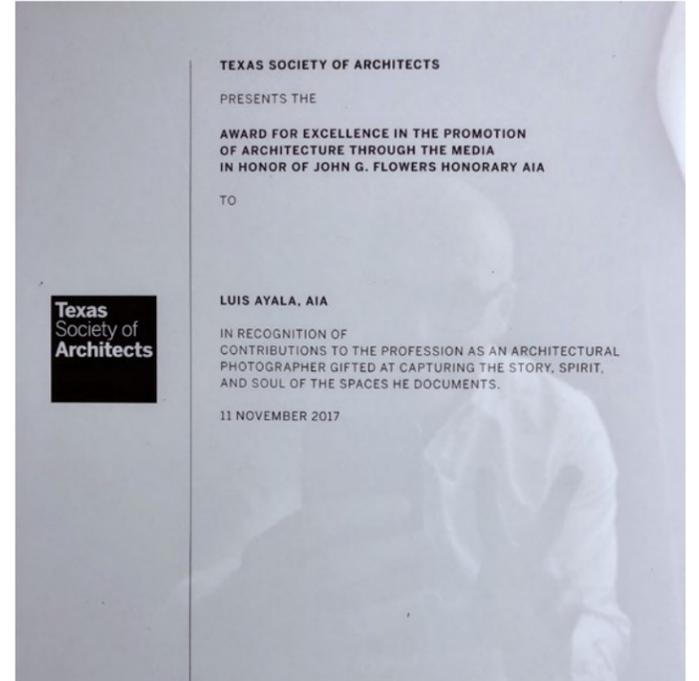
- 1998 Honorable mention, Paraguayan congress building competition
- 2000 Finalist of Mies Van der Rohe award, Barcelona, Spain, for Sitrande
- 2001 1st prize private competition, Unilever headquarters, Villa Elisa
- 2001 Honorable mention, Public competition, Philosophy faculty, Catholic University, Lambare
- 2002 1st prize, private competition, ASISMED hospital, Asuncion
- 2005 1st prize, public competition, High School prototypes for Education Ministry & BIRF, Paraguay
- 2006 1st prize, private competition, BAT (British American Tobacco) Headquarters, Asuncion
- 2008 Buffalo Bayou Charette, Rice Design Alliance, Houston, TX
- 2010 Willow Waterhole Park, Rice Design Alliance, Houston, TX
- 2011 AIA Design Award, for Gloria Marshall Elementary School, Houston, TX
- 2011 TASA TASB Caudill Award, Gloria Marshall Elementary School, Houston, TX
- 2011 USGBC Green School Award, Gloria Marshall Elementary, Houston, TX
- 2012 Rice University Photography competition Award winner, Houston, TX
- 2012 1st prize, private competition, Country Day School, San Jose, Costa Rica
- 2015 TASA TASB Caudill Award, Katy STEAM, TX
- 2017 Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Architecture through the Media in Honor of John G. Flowers Hon. AIA
- 2019 AIA Los Angeles, Architectural Photography Award
- 2019 AIA St. Louis, Architectural Photography Award
- 2019 AIA Houston Design Award, Delmar College
- 2019 AIA Corpus Christi Design Award, Delmar College
- 2019 AIA Orange County, Design Award, Misk Schools

Expositions

- 1998 Feria Artistica, FA 98, "mil y una casas"
- 1999 Sao Paulo, Brazil, Biennial, Publipar building.
- 1999 Feria Artistica, FA 99, "sonidos mecanicos"
- 2000 Venezia Biennale, Italy, Sitrande building.
- 2012 AIA austin latinos in architecture perspectivasdosmil12
- 2014 CIES al mundo Conference, Valparaiso, Chile
- 2014 SIEESP Architecture in Education conference, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2016 Emerging Voices, YAF Houston
- 2016 Emerging Professionals, AIA Headquarters, Washington DC
- 2018 Apertures on Architecture: The future of Architectural Photography Panel at the 79th TSA Conference in Fort Worth, TX
- 2018 2Thirds, Fine Art Photography at THINGZ Gallery
- 2019 AIA Houston, Architectural Photography Workshop



Receiving the 2019 AIA Architectural Photography Honor Award in Los Angeles, CA, by jurors Laure Joliet, Michael B. Lehrer, FAIA and Matthew Rolston



Receiving the Texas Society of Architects Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Architecture in 2017

“Não sou eu quem me navega

Quem me navega é o mar”

Timoneiro - Paulinho da Viola

*“I don't sail the seas,
the seas sail me”*

Timoneiro lyrics by Paulinho da Viola