



# NEWS RELEASE

JUNE 2009

## RUDY BRUNER AWARD FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE



### GOLD MEDAL WINNER

\$50,000

## Inner-City Arts, Los Angeles, CA



The 2009 Selection Committee chose Inner-City Arts from a field of 87 applicants as an outstanding example of urban placemaking. The campus, located in the Skid Row neighborhood of Los Angeles, was designed by Michael Maltzan Architecture. The Committee commended Inner-City Arts for addressing two of the most critical issues facing our cities today: homelessness, and the challenges facing our public schools. The Committee noted that the impact of the ICA experience in the lives of children who may be homeless or transient, and who receive little or no arts education in school, can be transformative.

The Committee commended Inner-City Arts for:



- Partnering with the LA school system to offer high quality arts instruction to children who otherwise would have little exposure to the arts
- Encouraging exploration and self-expression in part as a means of cognitive development and as a means of improving overall educational performance
- Engaging teachers along with their students to train them so they can take skills and methods back to their classrooms
- Contributing to the revitalization of the neighborhood through design of a beautiful, safe oasis for children in the middle of an otherwise bleak industrial area
- Maintaining excellence in program over a 20 year period and through a variety of administrations
- Demonstrating the success of its programs through focused research and evaluation.



*The Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence is a national award for urban places that seeks to promote fresh and innovative thinking about cities and the urban built environment. Established in 1987, the Rudy Bruner Award celebrates urban places that are distinguished by quality design and by their social, economic, and environmental contributions to our nation's cities.*

## THE 2009 RUDY BRUNER AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE:

- ❖ Mayor David N. Cicilline, Providence, RI
- ❖ Michael A. Dobbins, Professor of Practice, College of Architecture, Georgia Tech
- ❖ Mary Houghton, President, ShoreLine Bank Corp., Chicago
- ❖ Grace E. La, La Dallman Architects Inc., Milwaukee, WI
- ❖ Jair Lynch, Jair Lynch Development Partners, Washington D.C.
- ❖ Martha Welborne, Managing Director, Grand Avenue Committee, Los Angeles

### Contact:

Emily Axelrod, Director  
RUDY BRUNER AWARD  
[info@brunerfoundation.org](mailto:info@brunerfoundation.org)

## BRUNER FOUNDATION

130 PROSPECT STREET :: CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139  
TEL 617-492-8404 :: FAX 617-876-4002

[www.brunerfoundation.org](http://www.brunerfoundation.org)