

National Building Museum [Annual Report 2006](#)



Chase W. Rynd
President and Executive Director
Photo by Liz Roll.

“IT IS HARD NOT TO BELIEVE IT WAS ALL PRE-DESTINED,” wrote founding trustees Herbert M. Franklin and Cynthia R. Field in the Winter 2005–06 issue of *Blueprints*, which marked the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the National Building Museum. They were referring to the happy marriage of a dynamic educational institution dedicated to the building arts and the spectacular historic landmark that is its home.

Herb and Cynthia’s comment was apt, and yet we know that nothing in the built environment is inevitable or immutable. Every building, every landscape, every city we experience is the result of a string of ideas, decisions, and even conflicts—some small, some momentous—that shaped its final form. Such strings of events make for fascinating stories, and it is the Museum’s mission to tell and interpret them.

Through exhibitions, education programs, and publications, the Museum encourages people to see—really see—the world that surrounds them. The uniqueness of our mission resonates with people of all ages and backgrounds, as reflected in our growing attendance figures. During the 2006 fiscal year, which ran from October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006, the Museum attracted a total of 376,474 visitors—an increase of 4 percent over the previous year—plus more than 1.6 million “virtual” visitors to our website, up an impressive 39 percent over fiscal year 2005.

We opened eight new exhibitions during the past year and offered literally hundreds of lectures, symposia, youth programs, and family festivals. As usual, our programming attracted a lot of attention from the media, drawing coverage throughout the United States and in many other countries. It is quite exciting to see the name of the National Building Museum appearing in newspapers from places as far-flung as Belarus, Brazil, and China!

I am grateful to all of our members, staff, and trustees for their contributions to the Museum’s success. I close with a special note of thanks to Carolyn Brody, who has so ably served as chair of the Museum’s Board of Trustees over the past six years. She has both led and represented the Museum with aplomb, and we have all benefited from her insights and her great spirit.

As you read this, we are already well into our next fiscal year, under the leadership of our new chair, Michael Glosserman. Exciting things are afoot once again, and we look forward to your ongoing support and participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chase W. Rynd". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Chase W. Rynd
President and Executive Director

THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2006 marked the conclusion of my six years as chair of the National Building Museum, and what a terrific experience it has been. I am so proud of what we have accomplished, and I know more great things are on the way, as I marvel at the Museum's ambitious plans for the future.

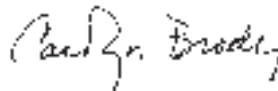
Six years does not seem such a long time, but the world has changed so much since I became chair. So far, the early years of the twenty-first century have been defined largely by cataclysmic natural disasters and the growing specter of global terrorism, forcing us all to re-examine our relationships to the built world. At the same time, however, the past few years have brought many positive developments. The burgeoning interest in sustainable design and development, for instance, has given rise to great optimism not only about the future health of our natural environment, but also about exciting possibilities for new forms of architectural expression and innovative community planning. Meanwhile, emerging technologies have offered the promise of safer, more beautiful, and more comfortable buildings than ever before. Through it all, the National Building Museum has exercised invaluable leadership in shaping the public debate about these complex issues.

I have been honored to serve with so many dedicated trustees, many of whom are not only valued colleagues, but also dear friends. My fellow board members come from diverse professions and places, but all of them share a commitment to the mission of the National Building Museum, as well as great joy in presiding over its ongoing success.

That success owes much to the Museum's talented and hard-working staff. In particular, I extend my thanks to our executive director, Chase Rynd, and to his predecessor, Susan Henshaw Jones. I am also pleased, as I have often said, that Michael Glosserman is succeeding me as chair—I know that the Museum is in good hands.

Finally, I thank the Museum's members, contributors, and many other admirers, who recognize that ensuring the quality of our buildings and communities is a shared responsibility, and one that brings profound rewards.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Schwenker Brody
Chair



Carolyn Schwenker Brody
Chair
Photo by Diana Walker.

Leadership in Design



Central China Television Headquarters and TVCC Television Center in Beijing, China designed by Rem Koolhaas and the Office of Metropolitan Architecture.
Digital rendering by Office of Metropolitan Architecture.

One of the vital roles of the National Building Museum is to provide a forum for meaningful public discussion about developments in architecture, engineering, construction, planning, landscape architecture, and preservation. In order to achieve this, the Museum identifies practitioners and scholars who are at the forefront of changes in these disciplines. Through lectures, exhibitions, and publications, the Museum offers many platforms for such leaders to share their ideas and views.

Spotlight on Design

The popular *Spotlight on Design* lecture series is the cornerstone of the Museum's public programming. Leading designers from the fields of architecture, interior design, and landscape architecture regularly appear at the Museum to present their latest work.

In April 2006, the Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas attracted an audience of nearly 1,400 people, the largest of the year for a public program. Other participants in the past year's lecture series included: Antoine Predock, winner of the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal; Japanese architect Shigeru Ban; Craig Dykers, of the Norwegian firm Snøhetta; and all eight of the innovative young firms recognized as Emerging Voices for 2006 by the Architectural League of New York.

Throughout the year, members of *The Corinthians*, the Museum's major donor group, and other VIPs enjoyed special, private dinners and receptions with the invited speakers.

The 2005–06 *Spotlight on Design* series was sponsored by Lafarge, the world leader in building materials. Additional support was provided by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Lunch and Learn

The Museum offers a number of informal, lunchtime lectures free of charge in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. During fiscal year 2006, the *Building for the 21st Century* series, which addresses cutting-edge technologies and sustainability, included presentations about the Solar Decathlon and high-performance, green commercial buildings. The *Smart Growth* series drew speakers such as *The Washington Post* reporter Michael Grunwald, who discussed his book *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida and the Politics of Paradise*, and Ed



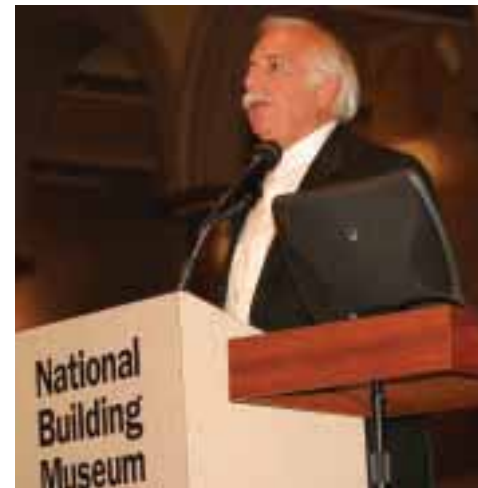
McMahon, senior resident fellow at the Urban Land Institute and former vice president and director of land use programs at the Conservation Foundation.

In fiscal year 2006, *Building for the 21st Century* was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and *Smart Growth* was presented in association with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Smart Growth Network.

Inspiring Audiences

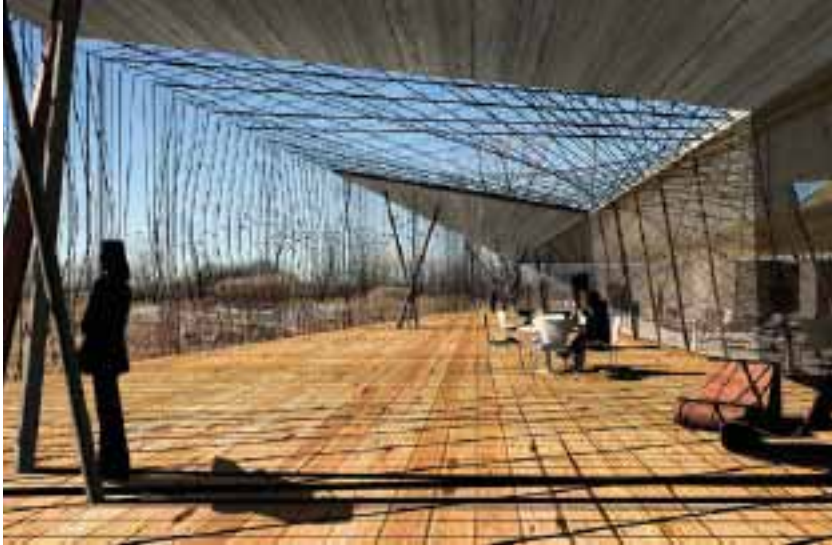
Other symposia, films, and special programs rounded out a wide selection of education events during fiscal year 2006. Films included those exploring the work and life of Louis Kahn, John Lautner, and Moshe Safdie, plus a mid-Atlantic preview of a documentary on the 1893 Chicago World's Columbian Exposition.

A symposium in April investigated the underrepresentation, but current rise, of women in the architecture field. The Museum also organized an exclusive *Dine by Design* restaurant preview, presenting a program at a new Georgetown waterfront restaurant, Agraria, with the architects and the restaurant's executive chef and management firm. In the fall, an inter-school student design competition had university-level architecture students



top / The audience for the lecture by Rem Koolhaas fills the Great Hall.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

above / Moshe Safdie, a speaker in the *Spotlight on Design* series.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.



above / The Ford Calumet Environmental Center designed by Chicago-based architecture firm Studio Gang, which was featured in the Museum's 2006 *Spotlight on Design: Emerging Voices* lecture series. Digital rendering courtesy of Studio Gang.

right / Exhibition catalogue for *Liquid Stone: New Architecture in Concrete*. Book cover, Simmons Hall, MIT, photo © Jan Haux.

responding to a design challenge with a day-long charrette in the Great Hall.

The symposium on women in architecture was supported by a generous grant from the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation (www.BWAF.org).

Etched in Liquid Stone

The exhibition *Liquid Stone: New Architecture in Concrete*, which opened in 2004, continued to draw interested visitors throughout its extended run, which ended in January 2006. To mark the closing of the exhibition, the Museum presented a special lecture by Áron Losonczi, the Hungarian inventor of LiTraCon®, the astonishing translucent concrete product featured in the show.



The popularity of *Liquid Stone* led to the publication of a substantial book based on the content of the exhibition and a related symposium held at Princeton University in the fall of 2005. Published by Princeton Architectural Press in summer 2006 with support from Lafarge, the exhibition's sole sponsor, the catalogue was co-edited by *Liquid Stone* curator Martin Moeller and Jean-Louis Cohen, the Sheldon H. Solow Professor in the History of Architecture at New York University. The book, which was simultaneously published in French under the title *Architectures du béton: Nouvelles vagues, nouvelles recherches*, is available through the National Building Museum Shop.

Liquid Stone: New Architecture in Concrete was made possible by the generous support of Lafarge, the world leader in building materials.

Bringing Affordable Housing to the Nation

In fiscal year 2006, the Museum's exhibition *Affordable Housing: Designing an American Asset*, which beautifully refuted the common belief that high-quality design and affordability are mutually exclusive, continued its national tour. The venues during the year were: the Virginia Center for Architecture, in Richmond (November 10, 2005–January 15, 2006); the Museum of Design, Atlanta (January 26–March 19, 2006); McKinney Avenue Contemporary, in Dallas (May 6–June 30, 2006); I space, the Chicago Gallery of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (August 4–20, 2006); and the Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family at Arizona State University/Bentley Project Gallery, Phoenix (September 9–October 28, 2006). Meanwhile, the online component of the exhibition drew more than 10,000 visitors.

The traveling exhibition and associated tour of *Affordable Housing: Designing an American Asset* were made possible by generous grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Fannie Mae Foundation, and NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.



left / Phyllis Lambert, David Schwarz, and Chase Rynd at the presentation of the Vincent Scully Prize to Ms. Lambert.
Photo by Liz Roll.

Scully Prize to a Leading Voice for Architecture

The *Vincent Scully Prize* was established in 1999 to recognize outstanding contributions to the understanding of architecture, planning, preservation, and design, through writing, research, or scholarship. The prize was awarded twice in fiscal year 2006: to His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales [see page 13], and to Phyllis Lambert.

Founding director of the highly respected Canadian Centre for Architecture, Lambert made her first significant contribution to architecture at a very young age, when she played an instrumental role in the hiring of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe to design the Seagram Building, considered by many to be his masterpiece. She went on to make her mark through many avenues, including serving as a curator of a definitive exhibition on Mies's work, as mentor to numerous younger designers, and as an important cultural philanthropist.

When the award was presented to Lambert in January 2006, The Honorable Frank McKenna, Canadian ambassador to the United States; Pierre Théberge, director of the National Gallery of Canada; and New York architect Elizabeth Diller gave stirring testimonials to her profound influence. Lambert followed with her acceptance remarks, in which she discussed the public reception and long-term impact of the Seagram Building on architectural culture. The award to Ms. Lambert carried a cash prize of \$30,000, which she contributed to the Canadian Centre for Architecture, where the funds will go toward the purchase of a significant work of art to be determined.

Museum Staff Active in the Cultural Community

The Museum's curatorial and education staff members play leading roles in other cultural institutions in Washington, D.C. and nationally. During fiscal year 2006, for instance, curator Chrysanthe Broikos was elected to the board of the National Preservation Institute, and was also elected to ArtTable, a national organization for professional women in the visual arts. Scott Kratz, vice president for education at the Museum, served as the vice chair for issues on the American Association of Museums' Committee on Education.

Icons



Frank Lloyd Wright (left) and client Harold Price review plans for the Price Tower.

Photo by Joe Price, Price Tower Arts Center, Gift of Etsuko and Joe Price.

The history of the built environment is replete with icons: brilliant people, extraordinary buildings, and innovative products that have helped to define perceptions of our cultural heritage. During fiscal year 2006, the National Building Museum spotlighted two American icons with exhibitions and related programs.

The Summer of Wright

Standing in a small Oklahoma town is one of the most unusual and beautiful skyscrapers ever built. It is the Price Tower, a slender, faceted jewel of a building designed by the ultimate icon of American architecture, Frank Lloyd Wright.

Wright was known primarily for his emphatically horizontal buildings that celebrated the flat expanse of the American prairie, and yet the startlingly vertical Price Tower exemplifies many of his fundamental tenets. Its crystalline form and rich materials reflect his pursuit of an “organic” architecture, while its integrally designed furnishings reveal a building that was conceived as a “total work of art.”

The genesis, construction, and recent renovation of this extraordinary structure were documented in *Prairie Skyscraper: Frank Lloyd Wright’s Price Tower*, presented at the National Building Museum from June 17 to September 17, 2006. Organized by the Price Tower Arts Center, this exhibition included drawings, models, photographs, and examples of correspondence between the architect and the building’s client. The exhibition itself was designed by Pritzker Prize winner Zaha Hadid, who is also currently designing an addition to the arts center.

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Museum declared a “Summer of Wright.” Highlights included several films about Wright and his work, a series of weekly, hands-on family activity programs called *Wednesdays with Wright*, as well as a lecture by Anthony Alofsin, a Wright scholar who curated the exhibition.



The Summer 2006 issue of *Blueprints* used the Price Tower exhibition as a springboard for a series of articles about Wright-designed houses. The lead piece was an interview with the 96-year-old Loren Pope, a Wright client who can still regale listeners with stories of what it was like to work with one of America’s most difficult but brilliant architects.

Prairie Skyscraper: Frank Lloyd Wright’s Price Tower was a traveling exhibition organized by the Price Tower Arts Center in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, in cooperation with The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation in Scottsdale, Arizona. The exhibition, its tour, and its publication were made possible in part by The Henry Luce Foundation, the Buell Family of Bartlesville, The Silas Foundation, and the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department.

At the National Building Museum, the exhibition was made possible by the Copper Development Association, Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Silas, and the Museum’s F. Stuart Fitzpatrick Memorial Exhibition Fund.



top / A model of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Price Tower displayed in the exhibition *Prairie Skyscraper*. Photo by Museum Staff.

above / The Museum’s quarterly magazine, *Blueprints*. Photo by National Building Museum.



above / Frank Lloyd Wright's Ennis House, Los Angeles, 1924, by Julius Shulman, 1968.

Copyright the J. Paul Getty Trust. Julius Shulman Photography Archive. Research Library at the Getty Research Institute.

top right / Richard Neutra's Kaufmann House, Palm Springs, 1947, by Julius Shulman 1947.

Copyright the J. Paul Getty Trust. Julius Shulman Photography Archive. Research Library at the Getty Research Institute.

right / Renowned photographer Julius Shulman with Wim de Witt, curator of architectural collections at the Getty Research Institute, addressing an audience at the Museum in July. Photo by F.T. Eyre.

Picturing Landmarks

Landmark buildings and brilliant designers are not the only icons in the architectural world. A number of famous modernist buildings owe their reputations to the photographer Julius Shulman, whose compositional artistry and technical precision yielded countless pictures that became icons themselves. Transcending mere documentation, Shulman's images seem to reveal the essence of an architect's vision and capture the spirit of the era in which the building was constructed.

To honor the photographer's work—and to mark his 95th birthday—the Getty Research Institute organized *Julius Shulman, Modernity and the Metropolis*, which was on view at the National Building Museum from April 1 to July 30, 2006. Comprising 83 original prints selected from a portfolio of more than 70,000 images, the exhibition offered a cross-section of Shulman's unparalleled body of work.

On July 26, Shulman visited the Museum to participate in a public program with Wim de Witt, curator of architectural collections at the Getty. While at the Museum, Shulman met with students

participating in *Investigating Where We Live*, a summer program for youth that uses photography, creative writing, and exhibition design to teach participants about D.C. neighborhoods. Some of the region's newest photographers thus had the opportunity to learn directly from a living legend in the field.

At the National Building Museum, *Julius Shulman, Modernity and the Metropolis* was presented in partnership with The Octagon, the Museum of the American Architectural Foundation, and was made possible by the Museum's F. Stuart Fitzpatrick Memorial Exhibition Fund.



Learning from Tradition



A Museum guest explores *Cityscapes Revealed: Highlights from the Collection* during the exhibition opening.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

Looking back at the past and learning from tradition can provide new insights into our built environment. In 2005–06, the Museum opened several exhibitions exploring diverse building traditions.

The Museum's Collection Revealed

In December 2005, in honor of its 25th anniversary, the Museum opened a first-time survey of its rich collection with *Cityscapes Revealed: Highlights from the Collection*. The exhibition features exquisitely detailed drawings, rare, early-20th-century photographs, and original building fragments from national historic landmarks, illuminating facets of the building process and documenting evolving American architectural styles, construction techniques, and materials preferences. The exhibition draws from a number of the Museum's most significant collections—ink-on-lin drawings executed by the Northwestern Terra Cotta Company; original photographs printed by the Wurts Brothers Company; watercolor room designs, fabric samples, and furniture hardware from the office of Ernest L. Brothers—and offers visitors the building blocks for understanding and evaluating America's architectural heritage. A festive opening reception for Museum members inaugurated the long-term show.



top left / This shop drawing by the Northwestern Terra Cotta Company details the griffins that crown Pittsburgh's Allegheny County Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (now Soldiers & Sailors National Military Museum & Memorial) by Palmer & Hornbostel, 1908.

Collection of the National Building Museum, photo by Museum staff.

above / Richard Wurts's 1965 double printing of a negative (positive and reversed) shows how the reflective glass façades of modern high-rises offered new ways to capture the power and essence of modern architecture.

Collection of the National Building Museum.

top right / The National Building Museum owns one of the original copper dormers designed by Babb, Cook & Willard for the Carnegie Mansion, now the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, in New York, 1902.

Collection of the National Building Museum, photo by Museum staff.



Also completed in 2006 was the reorganization of the Museum's internationally-known Wurts Brothers Photography Collection. Intern Mary Allen organized 20,000 photographs by geography and subject matter.

The reorganization of the Wurts Brothers material was made possible by a National Endowment for the Humanities Small Preservation Grant of \$5,000.

Educating With Traditions

Education programs for adults and families encouraged learning from tradition.

Dr. James Campbell, author of *Brick: A World History*, lectured about this familiar building material that has been used in construction projects for centuries. A walking tour of downtown with Linda Lyons introduced participants to another building material, terra cotta. Families had the opportunity to explore building materials with an interactive brick activity in *Cityscapes Revealed*. In the programs "Magnificent Metalwork" and "Create It! Terra Cotta Tiles," Museum educators led family tours of the exhibition and offered a hands-on introduction to the properties of various building materials.

Royal Traditions

In November of 2005 the Museum presented His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales with its sixth Vincent Scully Prize in recognition of his long-standing interest in the built environment and commitment to creating urban areas with human scale (the seventh prize was awarded in 2006 to Phyllis Lambert—see page 7). During his visit, on which he was accompanied by his wife, the Duchess of Cornwall, The Prince of Wales gave an exclusive talk for Museum members about traditional architecture and planning following a tribute by past Scully Prize winner Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk and the presentation of the prize by Vincent Scully himself. The prize carried a cash award of \$30,000, which the Prince of Wales donated to the Foundation for the Built Environment in support of its work in rebuilding Mississippi communities damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

“In the same way that our food and the way it is produced can tell a special story, so our buildings should tell the irresistible story of human character and idiosyncrasy,” the Prince said. The Museum published the Prince’s entire talk and those of the tribute speakers of the evening together with a companion DVD, which is available for sale in the Museum Shop.

On the occasion of the award to The Prince of Wales, the Museum presented two exhibitions produced by organizations supported by His Royal Highness.

The exhibition *A Building Tradition: The Work of the Prince’s School of Traditional Arts*, was on view November 5, 2005 through January 8, 2006. The school offers grounding in the philosophy and practical craft skills of the arts and architecture of Islam, as well as the traditional arts of other civilizations. The exhibition presented exemplary works of stained glass, mosaics, ceramics, and architectural drawings, as well as photographs of the courses and activities at the school.

A second exhibition was organized by The Prince’s Foundation for the Built Environment, an educational charity established to teach principles of traditional urban design and architecture. *Civitas: Traditional Urbanism in Contemporary Practice* (November 5, 2005–January 8, 2006)



included 16 examples of urban development from around the world, each exploring the principles underpinning the traditional urbanism movement. Projects ranging from urban infill to new towns gave insight into the challenges, solutions, and methodologies of urban development and included Poundbury, a town of houses, cottages, shops, and light industry designed especially for His Royal Highness by architect Leon Krier.

A Building Tradition: The Work of The Prince’s School of Traditional Arts was sponsored by Goldman, Sachs & Co. and DHL Freight and Contract Logistics (UK) Limited.

Civitas: Traditional Urbanism in Contemporary Practice was sponsored by DHL Freight and Contract Logistics (UK) Limited.

top left / The Prince of Wales accepts the Vincent Scully Prize from Professor Scully at the National Building Museum.
Photo by Vivian Ronay.

top right / Decorative wood inlay piece for the mihrab project by PhD student Minwer Al-Meheid, as featured in the exhibition *A Building Tradition*.
Photo by George Bodnar.

above / As seen in *Civitas*, Aerial view of Poundbury, on the outskirts of the county town of Dorchester, Dorset, England.
Copyright the Duchy of Cornwall.

Sustainability



The Green House opens with a full-scale replica of architect Michelle Kaufmann's Glidehouse, giving visitors a chance to experience a sustainable house first hand.

Photo by Hoachlander Davis Photography.

In 2006, a blockbuster exhibition, various education programs, and multiple publications solidified the National Building Museum as a leader in promoting sustainability.

The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design

The Green House—revealing exciting trends in green technologies, materials, and design for the home—was visited by 57,747 guests between its opening in May and September 30, 2006, putting the exhibition on track to become one of the most popular in Museum history. One early visitor was First Lady Laura Bush, who toured the galleries with curator Donald Albrecht, architect Michelle Kaufmann, and executive director Chase Rynd before its public debut.

The exhibition, which continues until June 2007, begins with a full-size, furnished version of a prefabricated sustainable house designed by Ms. Kaufmann and goes on to feature an international survey of 20 green contemporary residences and a fully-stocked resource room showcasing green materials.

The exhibition design, by Lewis.Tsurumaki.Lewis, is itself an example of sustainability, employing green materials such as bamboo, cork, and low-VOC paints.

As a whole, the exhibition proves that green homes can be both aesthetically compelling and environmentally friendly. It also answers key questions home owners and consumers have about what “going green” means, what the costs are, and how it can benefit them.

The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design was presented by The Home Depot Foundation with generous support from the ASID Foundation of the American Society of Interior Designers, Bosch home appliances, Portland Cement Association, Benjamin Moore® Paints, EPA/Energy Star, The Nathan Cummings Foundation, U.S. Department of Energy, Band Inc., Global Green, James G. Davis Construction Corporation, The American Institute of Architects, National Association of Home Builders, Smith & Fong Plyboo®, U.S. Green Building Council, 3form Inc., Andersen Corporation, Brighton Cabinetry, Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co., Hardwood Manufacturers Association, Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates PC, MBCI, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, and The Tower Companies. *Dwell* was the exclusive media partner.



Celebrating Sustainability

A grand reception feted the opening of *The Green House*, with more than 1,800 people—including donors, Museum members, trustees, industry professionals, and civic leaders—attending the festivities in the Great Hall and previewing the exhibition. Following the reception, nearly 150 representatives of the corporations, foundations, and government agencies that supported the exhibition attended a private dinner in the Pension Commissioner’s Suite hosted by Kelly Caffarelli, executive director of the Home Depot Foundation, the exhibition’s presenting sponsor.

Green in Print

The Museum co-published, with Princeton Architectural Press, a companion catalogue by the exhibition’s consulting curators. Other related publications included a *Green Resource Guide* made available for free in the exhibition and a comprehensive website. Museum members also received a special green issue of the Museum’s quarterly magazine *Blueprints*, with articles on sustainable building and interviews with architects Paolo Soleri and Shigeru Ban.

For families, the Museum developed a *Family Guide* that leads children on an inquisitive journey through the exhibition, teaching them about sustainable principles and suggesting environmentally-friendly choices they can make at home.



top / Museum guests celebrate the opening of *The Green House*.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

above / Laura Bush visits *The Green House* and speaks with Glidehouse architect Michelle Kaufmann.
Photo by Museum staff.

below / *The Green House* exhibition catalogue, co-published by Princeton Architectural Press, and the *Green Resource Guide* produced by the Museum and available in the exhibition.
Image courtesy National Building Museum.





top / A hands-on materials resource room in *The Green House* displays the various green materials available to consumers.

Photo by Hoachlander Davis Photography.



above / Young museum visitors learn about sustainability and design their own green roofs to take home.

Photo by Museum staff.

Learning How to Go Green

A robust schedule of programming on sustainable design throughout the year further encouraged going green. Architects and designers including Stefan Behnisch and David Hertz spoke about their green building practices. A symposium in June zeroed in on green, prefabricated homes and featured architects Michelle Kaufmann and Joseph Tanney together with Michael Sylvester, editor of *fabprefab.com*. Construction Watch Tours of Sidwell Friends School, the Fairfax Fire Station, the American Society of Landscape Architects' green roof, and other green projects in the area demonstrated how sustainable design and building principles were being put into practice. In addition, the Museum participated in the DC Environmental Film Festival for its sixth year.

For young people and their families, Museum educators developed hands-on activities such as constructing a model green roof. These activities were also available on the Museum's website, allowing kids to learn about green design from home.

Leaders in the Green Field

Museum curators and staff conducted numerous interviews with the media on green issues. Bloomberg News, CNBC, FOX News, WETA, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, and others sought out the Museum for expert advice. With the exhibition *The Green House* as a platform, the Museum also participated in forums such as the Environmental Protection Agency's "P3: People, Prosperity and the Planet Student Design Competition for Sustainability" and the 2006 Science Forum.

Rebuilding



The exhibition *Newer Orleans – A Shared Space* explored various possibilities for rebuilding the hurricane-devastated city.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

Pompeii in the year 79. London in 1666. Dresden in 1945. New Orleans in 2005. Since the dawn of urban settlement, many cities have been dramatically reshaped or, in some cases, completely destroyed by natural and human-made disasters. The Museum has assumed a leading role in the debate about the impact of such catastrophic events.

Building in the Aftermath

The damage inflicted by Hurricane Katrina on the Gulf Coast in August 2005 was unprecedented in U.S. history. The scope of the destruction and the ensuing diaspora led many people to predict that New Orleans and other affected communities would never fully recover.

Even before the initial flooding had subsided, the National Building Museum began working on various initiatives to help ensure that such dire predictions would not come true. Throughout fiscal year 2006, the Museum presented education programs examining the ramifications of the hurricane for the built environment, complemented by a thought-provoking exhibition of innovative design proposals for a new—and better—New Orleans. Meanwhile, Museum staff members lent their expertise and volunteered their time to assist with recovery efforts in the storm-ravaged region.



above / New Orleans on August 29, 2005
Photo © Paolo Pellegrin / Magnum Photos.

right / A *Building in the Aftermath* lecture featuring (l to r) Kevin Shanley, ASLA, principal, SWA Group; Paul Rookwood, ASLA, AICP, principal, Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC; Joseph E. Brown, FASLA, president and CEO, EDAW, Inc.; James Socash, ASLA, Sand County Studios.
Photo by FT. Eyre.



Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Museum organized a series of programs and exhibitions under the title *Building in the Aftermath*, which proved to be a valuable vehicle for assessing the implications of terrorism for the design of buildings and communities. In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the series was resurrected in order to provide a forum for candid discussion of strategies for recovery from natural disasters.

Specific programs in the series included a symposium featuring experts in flood management, who authoritatively explained the reasons for the levee failures in New Orleans and described how similar disasters could be prevented in the future. Another panel discussion addressed broader questions of land use, regional planning, and wetlands restoration. Other programs covered issues such as post-disaster housing, coordination of neighborhood planning efforts, and infrastructure repair. All told, the symposia and lectures drew nearly 850 people, including a number of federal, state, and local officials along with leaders of prominent non-governmental organizations.

Building in the Aftermath was sponsored by Lafarge, the American Planning Association, and the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Newer Orleans

After the hurricane, the rebuilding of New Orleans became a topic of interest around the world. This was especially true in the Netherlands, a country that faces many of the same environmental risks as the American Gulf Coast. In February 2006, under the auspices of *Artforum* magazine, the Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAi) and the Tulane University School of Architecture invited three Dutch and three American design firms to develop visions for the rejuvenation of New Orleans. They were asked to propose public spaces at three scales—the neighborhood, the city, and the wider region.

An exhibition of the six proposals, titled *Newer Orleans—A Shared Space*, appeared at the National Building Museum from April 29 to July 30, 2006. The exhibited designs all challenged common assumptions about urban context, the use of public



space, and the appropriate aesthetic language for new buildings and landscapes in a historic city. The Dutch firm MDRDV and American practice Huff + Gooden Architects designed schools that explored the neighborhood scale. At the city level, Ben Van Berkel, of UN Studio, and Morphosis each proposed a central “mediatheque.” Hargreaves Associates and Dutch architect Adriaan Geuze of West 8 devised plans for rethinking the regional landscape. Taken together, the proposals suggested possibilities for a vibrant, “Newer” Orleans, in which innovative contemporary structures would complement the preserved, historic architectural fabric of the city.

The exhibition opened with a reception and dinner hosted by the Royal Netherlands Embassy on April 27, 2006. The event was attended by 121 people, including senior Congressional staff members and numerous journalists. Highlights of the event included remarks by Dutch Ambassador Boudewijn Johannes van Eenennaam and Louisiana Senator Mary Landrieu.

Newer Orleans—A Shared Space was organized by the Netherlands Architecture Institute, Tulane University School of Architecture, and *Artforum* magazine and made possible by Shell Oil company, the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands, and the Royal Netherlands Embassy.



Designing Around Disaster

For the 13th installment of the Museum’s *Design Apprenticeship Program*, informally known as the DAP Squad, participants designed and constructed emergency relief shelters that could be used in the event of natural disasters such as tsunamis, earthquakes, drought, and hurricanes.

The participants had the rare honor of having their designs reviewed by the internationally renowned Japanese architect Shigeru Ban, who was at the Museum to give a *Spotlight on Design* lecture, and who has created various inventive temporary shelters himself.

Established in 2000, DAP Squad is an outreach program geared toward middle and high school students. During the fall and spring of each academic year, about 25 local teenagers work with architects, designers, and college-level students to design and build small structures, furniture, or other objects.

Design Apprenticeship Program was funded by The McGraw-Hill Companies with additional support from The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Clark Charitable Foundation, Clark-Winchcole Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation of The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The Dimick Foundation, and The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation.



top left / UN Studio-designed “mediatheque” from the exhibition *Newer Orleans*.
Rendering by UN Studio.

top / A new landscape for New Orleans levees, proposed by Hargreaves Associates.
Rendering by Hargreaves Associates.

above / In *DAP 13: Designing Around Disaster*, students had an opportunity to discuss disaster relief housing with world-renowned architect Shigeru Ban.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

Service to Society

The Museum and its staff members contributed directly to post-Katrina relief efforts in various ways. In October 2005, for example, the Museum hosted an event organized by Share Our Strength®, a non-profit, anti-hunger organization, in which 50 top chefs from across the country contributed their services to raise funds for victims of the storm.

A number of individuals affiliated with the Museum made personal commitments to aid in the recovery. Curatorial associate Matt Kuhnert, for instance, volunteered his time to help the National Trust for Historic Preservation and other groups to document the condition of damaged structures in New Orleans—a vital initiative to ensure that salvageable historic buildings would not be demolished unnecessarily. Other staff members volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, which has been busily constructing new houses across the Gulf Coast.

Design Education for Youth and Families



During the 2006 Discover Engineering Family Day, a young visitor poses a question to an astronaut at the International Space Station via a real-time radio link.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

More than 42,000 young people participated in design education at the National Building Museum in 2006, benefiting from an approach which integrates information with experience, links learning to living, promotes socialization and cooperation, and is both inter- and multi-disciplinary. The Museum also opened a long-term exhibition designed for two-to-six-year-olds and, in a significant move, launched its first design education program for national audiences.

Going National

With more than 20 years of design education experience, the Museum is uniquely equipped to inform future generations about the built environment. In 2006, the Museum launched the first of several programs for national audiences. The popular *Bridge Basics* program was developed into a curriculum kit complete with foundation and supplementary lesson plans, materials, posters, worksheets, and a CD-ROM, allowing educators to teach fundamental structural engineering concepts and five basic bridge types in their own classrooms. Rene Islas, chief of staff at the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, joined the Museum's national launch, saying "this program has the promise to support foundational skills and innovation." In 2006, the Museum also worked with the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration to develop a national curriculum for *Design Apprenticeship Program: Building Blocks*. Testing began near the end of the fiscal year and the program will be ready for national distribution in 2007.

The *Bridge Basics Program Kit* was produced in partnership with the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT) and also supported by The Sunrise Foundation. *Design Apprenticeship Program: Building Blocks* was supported by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Inspiring Youth in the Community

The Museum's three outreach programs served 171 at-risk youth from D.C. public schools and empowered them, through design education, to create change in their communities.

The Museum's five-week *Investigating Where We Live (IWWL)* program teaches junior, middle, and senior high school students to use photography and creative writing to explore, document, and interpret the built environment. In partnership with the Anacostia Community Land Trust, IWWL participants in the 2006 program focused on three neighborhoods in D.C.'s Southeast quadrant: Congress Heights, Hillside, and Uniontown. Twice a week, the participants met with Museum

staff, volunteer instructors, professional photographers, designers, and writers to explore the neighborhoods and learn about architecture and urban planning. The program culminated in the exhibition *Investigating Where We Live: Anacostia* (August 19–November 26, 2006), designed by and featuring the work of participating students. Photographs, drawings, collages, poems, stories, and narratives highlighted the participants' fresh outlook on Washington, D.C. In 2006, the 10-year-old program also won special recognition as a finalist in the 2006 Leadership Greater Washington Youth Awards.

The Museum once again collaborated closely with D.C. public schools to offer area middle and junior high school students its award-winning *CityVision* program, now in its 13th year. During two semesters, participants met at the Museum once a week for 13 weeks to work on design-centric activities that taught them how to actively shape their communities. The fall session focused on Potomac Avenue, the Navy Yard, and the area south of Florida Avenue; while the spring session had participants examine the LeDroit Park, Shaw, and Eckington neighborhoods.

Major funding for *Investigating Where We Live* was provided by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, and The Beech Street Foundation. *CityVision* was supported by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Freddie Mac Foundation, Mead Family Foundation, Bloomberg, Bank of America, and William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Additional support for outreach programs was provided by The Fannie Mae Foundation of the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Clark Charitable Foundation, and The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, among others.



top / After designing and constructing a cable-stayed bridge model during the Museum's *Bridge Basics* programs, students test the bridge to applause.

Photo by Museum staff.

above / Drawing by a *CityVision* participant named Rachelle.

Photo by Museum staff.

below / The Museum's *Bridge Basics* national launch (l to r): Mark Casso, president of CIRT; Chase Rynd, Museum executive director; Rene Islas, chief of staff of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; and Scott Kratz, vice president for education at the Museum.

Photo by F.T. Eyre.



The *Design Apprenticeship Program* (DAP) program also had fall and spring semesters. Participants in each seven-week program were challenged to solve a design problem and then construct the solution. Collaborating with architects, contractors, interior designers, visual artists, and others, teams of students conceived and constructed their designs. In the fall, participants considered the “building blocks” of architecture and design. The spring semester, in response to the series of international natural disasters, carried the theme of “Designing Around Disaster,” in which students were challenged to create emergency shelters in case of a drought, earthquake, hurricane, or tsunami.

Design Apprenticeship Program was funded by The McGraw-Hill Companies with additional support from The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Clark Charitable Foundation, Clark-Winchcole Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation of The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The Dimick Foundation, and The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation.

Group Learning

School groups with students in grades pre-K through nine visited the Museum to participate in fun, curriculum-linked programs. Eight interactive, two-hour, hands-on programs were offered in 2006: *Be a Builder*; *Bridge Basics*; *City by Design*; *Early American Architecture*; *Fuller’s Fantastic Geodesic Dome*; *Mathitecture*; *Patterns Here, There, and Everywhere*; and *Washington: Symbol and City*. One of the most popular programs was *City by Design*, where students learn how communities are shaped and then design their own model city. All told, 667 individual school programs were presented, serving more than 19,500 students. Fifteen percent of the programs were presented to Title I schools, demonstrating the Museum’s commitment to serving low-income students and D.C. public schools.

Other learning opportunities were offered to scout groups. Badges were earned by 1,295 scouts in 2006 in programs like *Fuller’s Fantastic Geodesic Dome* and *Be a Builder*. During the summer, 1,907 students participated in 77 individually-organized programs.

The National Building Museum’s school programs were funded, in part, by generous grants from The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Clark Charitable Foundation, The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Turner Construction Co., and Gilbane Building Company, among others. Additional support for special projects was received from Bender Foundation, Inc. for *Fuller’s Fantastic Geodesic Dome*; and Construction Industry Round Table and the Sunrise Foundation for *Bridge Basics*; and Miller & Long Concrete Construction and James G. Davis Construction Corporation for *Be a Green Builder*.

Signature Family Festivals

The Museum’s family festivals draw large crowds while still offering personal interactions with engineers, designers, artists, educators, and others involved in the built environment.

The festival season began with *Discover Engineering Family Day* on February 16. The Museum and the National Engineers Week Foundation welcomed 6,400 people to this engineering extravaganza where curious visitors interacted with professional engineers to solve math and engineering puzzles, built model railroad bridges, created paper helicopters, watched student-designed robots compete, and even listened in on a live, 10-minute teleconference with the International Space Station.

Major funding for the *Discover Engineering Family Day* was provided by the National Engineers Week Foundation and IEEE-USA. Local support was provided by the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program, American Society of Civil Engineers National Capital Section and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers Nation’s Capital Chapter. Additional support was provided by McDonough Bolyard Peck, Inc. and PEER Consultants, Inc.

More than 6,250 visitors came to the *National Cherry Blossom Festival® Family Day* on March 25, 2006, participating in origami and Japanese garden-making activities and watching demonstrations on Japanese brush painting, fruit carving, and more. Following the free, day-long festival, a record-breaking crowd attended the official *National Cherry Blossom Festival® Opening Ceremony* in the Great Hall.

The *National Cherry Blossom Festival Family Day* and *Opening Ceremony* was co-presented by the National Building Museum and the National Cherry Blossom Festival®. It was funded in part by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.



top / *Design Apprenticeship Program* students learn that the construction process requires teamwork.

Photo by Museum staff.



above / Young participants design a haunted house during a family workshop.

Photo by Museum staff.

On April 5, the Museum offered *Careers in Construction* for middle and high school students. At this free, one-day expo, 1,559 students were introduced to the skills needed and training available for a variety of careers in the construction industry. Visiting students participated in hands-on demonstrations like bricklaying and computer-aided drafting, and met with professionals from the industry to learn about the numerous opportunities available in the building and design industry.

The 2006 *Careers in Construction Expo* was sponsored by Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. and Future Force Now.

Family Learning

In addition to the spring festivals, the Museum's family audiences enjoyed many drop-in programs and even a new exhibition during fiscal year 2006, plus opportunities to celebrate birthdays at the Museum.

Available on a daily basis were activity booklets on patterns and architectural elements that guided families in their exploration of the Museum. Every weekend, the Museum offered demonstrations on bridge types and structural forces through *Discovery Carts* called "Bridging the Gap" and "Arches and Trusses: The Tension Builds." Special programs were also scheduled throughout the year, where families designed window ornaments, pasta towers, green houses, terra cotta tiles, model airplanes, architectural photo collages, gingerbread houses, and more. During the summer, visitors participated in an eight-week series called "Wednesdays with Wright," making and taking home projects inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright and the exhibition *Prairie Skyscraper*. In conjunction with the same exhibition, the Museum presented "A Towering Challenge Family Day," during which families built "skyscrapers" out of Keva® wooden planks and watched building masters erect a 50-foot-high freestanding tower using the four-inch planks.

In the spring, the Museum opened the exhibition *Building Zone*, a hands-on introduction to the building arts especially for children ages two to six and their adult

companions. In the exhibition, kids built with building blocks, curled up with an architecture picture book, played with toy construction trucks, dressed up as a crafts-person, and more. The exhibition debuted in April and has been extended indefinitely based on feedback from visitors.

The Museum's programs are educational and enjoyable, making them a fun way to celebrate birthdays. Eighty-one birthday parties for youngsters ages three to eleven were thrown at the Museum in fiscal year 2006, with 1,738 kids investigating the Museum's historic building, constructing a design project, and celebrating their special day.

Leading Design Education

Throughout 2006, staff in the Museum's education department shared their expertise with other educators and professionals in the field. The Museum was selected to serve on the steering committee for the Architecture+Design Education Network (A+DEN) and during the course of the year met with leaders from the American Architectural Foundation and other organizations to discuss strategies for fostering the growth and development of architecture and design education on a national level. In addition, outreach program coordinator Kate McGill was invited to participate in a one-week workshop at the Alvar Aalto Institute in Finland, using her experience working with the Museum's outreach programs to mentor young people. In Washington, D.C., Ann Lambson, director of youth education, and Sarah Rice, family programs coordinator, were invited to participate in the Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference and prepared a presentation on how to engage young people in understanding and preserving the built environment.



top / Participants in one of the Museum's summer programs.
Photo by Museum staff.

above / Building a skyscraper at the Museum's "Towering Challenge Family Day."
Photo by F.T. Eyre.

Building Communities



Investigating Where We Live participants explore Washington, D.C.'s Anacostia neighborhood. Photo by Museum staff.

Partnering with like-minded organizations, participating in citywide initiatives, and engaging and supporting the community of which we are a part are important goals and responsibilities of the National Building Museum.

Our City, Our World

The long-term exhibition *Washington: Symbol and City* investigates the Museum's hometown with in-depth stories and descriptions of the architecture, influential players, monuments, neighborhoods, and residents of the nation's capital. Opened in 2004, the exhibition remained popular among tourists and residents in 2006, with more than 105,000 people going through the galleries during the year. Also in 2006, the Museum offered a new school program to complement the exhibition. Specifically for grades five through eight, the one-and-a-half-hour program engaged students in activities to discover the evolution of Washington, D.C.

Washington: Symbol and City was made possible by major grants from The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, the Charles E. Culpeper Foundation, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Government of the District of Columbia, American Express Company, the Fannie Mae Foundation, and Jim and Sharon Todd, among others.

Planning for Our Future

The National Building Museum partnered with the American Planning Association to establish a new lecture series in fiscal year 2006, creating an annual forum that enlivens dialogue about urban and regional growth and stimulates development of communities of lasting value. The L'Enfant Lecture on City Planning and Urban Design was initiated on December 15, 2005, at the Museum, with Sir Peter Hall as the inaugural speaker.

Learning In the Community

The Museum's education programs serve a range of audiences in the community. *DC Builds*, a long-standing lecture series conducted in cooperation with the D.C. Office of Planning, explores issues specific to the Museum's hometown. In January, a panel discussed how a D.C. planning commission could enhance the economic development of the city. Other topics in fiscal year 2006 included the role of modernism in this largely classical city and an exploration of Washington's Metro system.

Members also have the opportunity to learn about what "DC builds" by participating in the Museum's *Construction Watch Tours*. These tours, usually held on Saturdays, give inside and exclusive access to important projects in the Washington area. In 2006, participants visited the U.S. Air Force Memorial, the Harman Center for the Arts, and the Newseum, to name a few.

For the design education program *Investigating Where We Live*, the Museum enlisted the expertise and mentorship of local design professionals and cooperated with the Anacostia Community Land Trust and other local groups. The resulting exhibition *Investigating Where We Live: Anacostia* will travel to Anacostia in 2007, allowing the greater D.C. community to see the ideas and accomplishments of the Museum's program participants.

A Community Partner

During the course of 2006, the Museum participated in numerous city-wide cultural promotions, including "American Originals" and "Warm up to a Museum," initiated by Cultural Tourism D.C. together with the Washington, D.C. Convention and Tourism Corporation. The Museum hosted several performing artists in July as part of D.C.'s inaugural Capital Fringe Festival.

The Museum was engaged in the Penn Quarter Neighborhood Association and supported its holiday party by hosting the event. The Museum also worked with industry partners like the American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Interior Designers, the American Planning Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to promote the building arts, organize education events, and offer professional development credit.



above / As part of *CityVision*, local historians and designers take students on tours of D.C. neighborhoods.
Photo by Museum staff.

The Visitor Experience



The Museum's busy information desk.
Photo by Museum staff.

The National Building Museum welcomed more than 376,000 visitors to its marvelous building in fiscal year 2006, and an additional 1.6 million guests online to its website. Compared to 2005, website attendance was up 39 percent, public program attendance increased by 28 percent, and overall Museum visitorship increased by nearly 5 percent. Contribution box donations made by Museum visitors during their visits were up a significant 32 percent.

Touring the Museum

The Museum offered free tours of its historic home every day and special exhibition tours over each weekend. During 2006 more than 10,400 people took advantage of this opportunity. The Museum's group tours, for groups larger than ten, were specially arranged for travelers from across the country and from our own community; the Museum hosted 871 groups during the year.



The Acclaimed Museum Shop

The Museum Shop, hailed as one of the best in Washington, D.C., offers unique design-oriented merchandise, a wide selection of books, educational toys and games for young people, jewelry, housewares, and more. In 2006, the Museum was stocked with special merchandise corresponding to the Museum's many exhibitions, such as Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired pens and ties in conjunction with *Prairie Skyscraper* and a beautiful book of Shulman's work complementing *Julius Shulman, Modernity and the Metropolis*. Most notably, the Shop offered hundreds of books and products relating to *The Green House*, including bamboo towels, energy-efficient appliances, a solar backpack, soy crayons, a full library of books on sustainable design, and more. Green products were a hit with customers and the media—local Fox Channel 5 aired a segment on the Museum Shop's green offerings. Select products are also available online at www.nbm.org.

Taking a Break

During fiscal year 2006, the Museum welcomed Firehook Bakery and Coffee House as the new manager of its cafe. Firehook is known for its delicious breads and pastries and now Museum visitors can enjoy muffins, bagels, sandwiches, salads, soups, specialty espresso drinks, and more.

Going Online

It is always satisfying to see the Museum busy with visitors, but in cyberspace the National Building Museum has become a resource for people around the world. More than 1.6 million people visited the Museum in fiscal year 2006 through our website, www.nbm.org. The site offers four online exhibitions, audio lectures and transcripts from education programs, downloadable activities for young people, educator resources, past issues of *Blueprints*, and up-to-date information about the Museum's activities. Many of the Museum's online visitors request e-communications, which include the monthly electronic newsletter *NBM Online*, a monthly email for families detailing fun Museum learning activities, and a weekly email outlining upcoming education programs. The e-communications program reaches more than 50,000 subscribers per month.



top / A docent leads a group on a tour of the Museum's historic home.
Photo by Museum staff.

above / A sample page from NBM Online.
Image courtesy National Building Museum.

below / The Museum's acclaimed shop.
Photo by F.T. Eyre.





above / Museum volunteers enjoy special benefits, such as educational trips and tours.
Photo by Museum staff.

right / The Museum's Great Hall set up for a special event.
Photo © Reflections Photography.

Making a Difference at the NBM

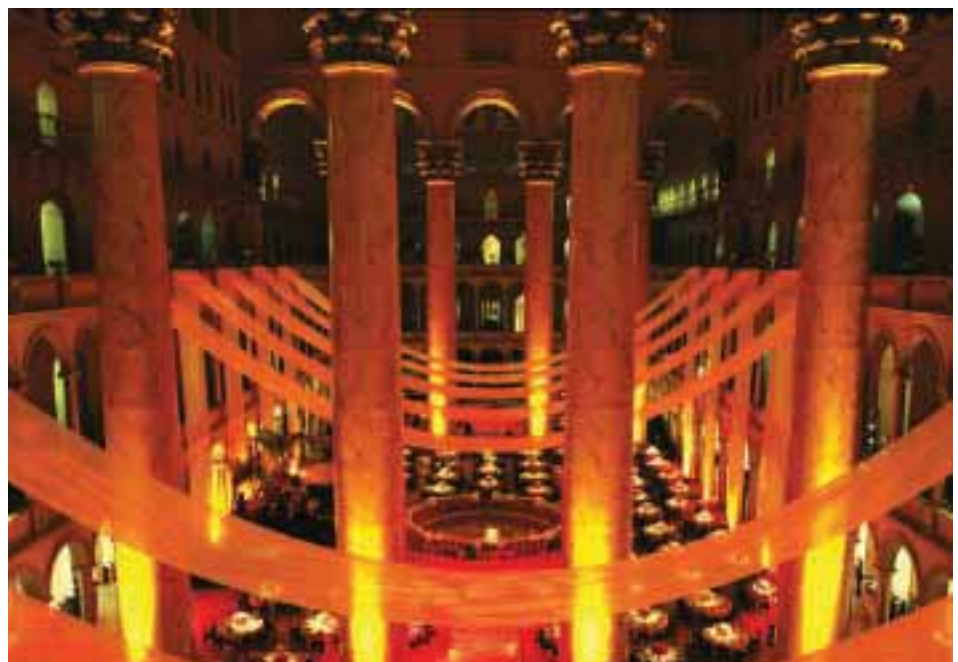
A high-quality visitor experience depends in part on volunteers who lead historic building tours, guide visitors through exhibitions, staff the Information Desk, and support education programs and family festivals. In fiscal year 2006, volunteers donated 7,952 hours of their time to the Museum. In appreciation, the Museum honored the volunteers at a special dinner in July. Several field trips

were also organized expressly for volunteers, including a tour of the new green roof at the Casey Trees Endowment Fund's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Working more behind the scenes were 17 interns from universities across the country and overseas. As a group, the interns donated close to 4,600 hours in all departments. While learning about Museum operations and the various disciplines, interns assisted with marketing initiatives, special events, family programs, and more.

Great Events in the Great Hall

The majestic Great Hall makes a spectacular setting for galas and special events. Many organizations chose the hall as the backdrop for special occasions: the American Institute of Architects and the American Architectural Foundation held their annual Accent on Architecture gala at the Museum in February, and in May, the American Jewish Committee had its centennial celebration with President George Bush, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in attendance. NBC selected the Great Hall as the venue for the season finale of *Treasure Hunters* and TBS again filmed the star-studded *Christmas in Washington* program at the Museum.



Fiscal Year 2006 Volunteers

The Museum extends its thanks to all volunteers and interns who donated their time and services to the National Building Museum in 2006.

Jacqueline Aamot
Brent Adams
Louis Allahut
Katherine Anderson
Claire Andreas
Joanne Angeles
Peter Amato
Joyce Arsnow
David Avitable
Benjamin Axleroad
Yimon Aye
Susan Bairstow
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Michael Sorensen
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Gail Stenger
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Ruth Ellen Wennersten
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Sylvia Williams
James Woods
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Maria Del Rosario Cornejo
Rachel Finkelstein
Mark Genszler
Danielle Holstrom
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Charlotte Ickes
Anna Ippolito
Ludivine Gilli
Margaret Luke
Carmen Melchers
Katie Meyerson
Joy Ogden
Lisa Rhoden
Sarah Smith
Kelli Urry
Jennifer Walker

Support



A record-breaking crowd of more than 1,200 guests enjoyed the reception at the beginning of the 2006 Honor Award gala, which recognized Clark Construction Group, LLC. Photo © ImageLink Photography.

As a private, nonprofit institution, the Museum relies on the generous contributions from corporations, individuals, associations, and foundations to fund its many exhibitions and programs. In fiscal year 2006, contributed income, including contributed goods and services, totaled \$5.3 million. The Board of Trustees and staff are grateful to all who provided the financial support during the year that allowed the Museum to carry out its mission.

Membership

Museum members enjoy exclusive member-only benefits, but more importantly, they are core supporters whose contributions help the Museum offer inspiring exhibitions and education programs. At the end of the year, the Museum was pleased to have nearly 4,500 members from 45 states and 10 countries.

In 2006, members enjoyed an exclusive presentation from His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, festive opening receptions for *Cityscapes Revealed* and *The Green House*, and previews for all new exhibitions. Members also received the Museum's quarterly magazine, *Blueprints*, the *Calendar of Events*, and continued savings on education programs and in the Shop. *The Builders*, comprising members who contributed \$100 or more, were invited to a special reception and presentation with interior designer Katie Leavy, who spoke about green living, and other events. This special group grew by almost 10 percent in 2006.

The Corinthians

The Corinthians are the Museum's premier philanthropic partners. These generous and public-minded individuals and corporations provide substantial annual support and are committed to sustaining the Museum's most significant efforts. *Corinthians* enjoy many exclusive opportunities, including invitations to private receptions and dinners, use of the Corinthian Lounge for small meetings and events, and larger discounts in the Museum Shop. In 2006, *Corinthians* attended a tour of the Capitol Visitor Center led by the Architect of the Capitol, Alan Hantman, FAIA; a private dinner with Rem Koolhaas; receptions with Antoine Predock and Shigeru Ban; and the annual Corinthian Holiday Party.

Restricted Funding

While membership contributions provide unrestricted support for the Museum's operations, other gifts are given especially for certain exhibitions, education activities, prizes, or other projects. The Museum raised \$1.4 million of such "restricted" funding in 2006, making possible



exciting exhibitions and countless education programs, two Vincent Scully Prize awards, and the Turner Prize for Innovation in Construction Technology.

above / Museum's 2006 Honor Award Presentation.
Photo © ImageLink Photography.

25th Anniversary Bash

The Museum celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2005 and capped the milestone with a once-in-a-lifetime Silver Anniversary Bash in late October 2005. The silver-themed event included a luxury raffle, live music, and more than 700 revelers. Proceeds directly benefited the Museum's exhibitions and education programs.

Honoring Tradition and Innovation

On June 8th, the Museum presented its 2006 Honor Award to Clark Construction Group LLC. Bestowed on the occasion of Clark's 100th anniversary, the award recognized Clark's contributions to the commercial, residential, public, and infrastructure sectors of American cities and its tradition of excellence and commitment to community service. The 2006 award was the most successful ever, hosting more than 1,200 cultural, corporate, political, and building industry leaders and raising more than \$1.2 million for Museum exhibitions and education programs.

Contributors

The following donors made gifts or pledges of \$250 or more during the 2006 fiscal year (October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006). While space limitations do not permit listing gifts of less than this amount, the Museum extends its sincere thanks to all donors.

\$250,000 and above

The Home Depot Foundation
 Benjamin Moore® Paints
 The Nathan Cummings Foundation
 Lafarge
 National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts
 Turner Construction Company

\$50,000 – 99,999

Bosch home appliances
 Clark Construction Group, LLC
 Fannie Mae Foundation of the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region
 Marilyn and Michael Glosseman/ JBG Companies
 Hanley Wood
 Portland Cement Association
 Royal Netherlands Embassy

\$25,000 – 49,999

The American Institute of Architects
 The Associated General Contractors of America
 Autodesk Inc.
 Carolyn and Kenneth D. Brody
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above / Antoine Predock speaks with Museum guests at a dinner reception. Photo by Rich Confalone.

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Financial Report

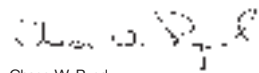
The Museum's total revenue for fiscal year 2006 was \$9,059,271, an 11 percent increase compared to 2005.

More than 58 percent of the Museum's overall revenue came from contributed revenue and services. These contributions totaled \$5,292,397, an 18 percent increase from 2005. Significantly, contributions made through the donation boxes at the Museum increased by 32 percent. Earned income from Great Hall rentals, the Museum Shop, and other sources totaled \$3,766,874—an increase of \$78,495.

The Museum's exhibitions, education programs, events, administration, and other costs totaled \$9,506,358. The change in net assets from the end of fiscal year 2005 to the end of fiscal year 2006 was a decrease of \$447,087.

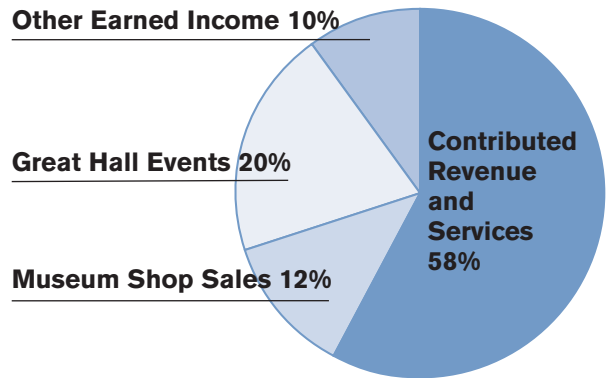
The National Building Museum is a nonprofit, educational institution designated under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This financial report is based on an independently audited financial statement. For a copy of the complete financial statement, please write to: Accounting Department, National Building Museum, 401 F Street NW, Washington DC 20001, or call 202.272.2448.

The National Building Museum makes all financial records available to its outside auditors and attests to their accuracy and completeness. Additionally, the Museum attests that it maintains adequate internal accounting controls and uses sound accounting policies.

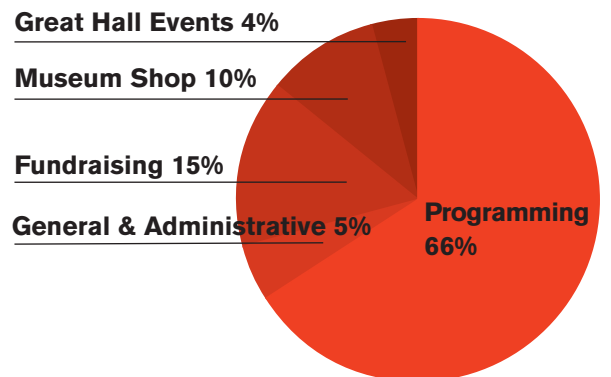


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FY '06 Sources of Support and Revenue



FY '06 Expenses



2006 Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ended September 30, 2006

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2006 Total	2005 Total
REVENUE, GAINS, & OTHER SUPPORT					
Contributions and Grants	2,408,591	1,394,566	-	3,803,157	3,643,892
Great Hall Events	1,783,703	-	-	1,783,703	1,782,453
Contributed Goods & Services	1,179,408	-	-	1,179,408	548,994
Museum Shop Sales	1,088,049	-	-	1,088,049	1,045,485
Other	254,770	-	-	254,770	223,964
Membership	248,889	-	-	248,889	268,161
Education Programs	238,056	-	-	238,056	208,082
Investment Income	136,854	126,380	5,122	268,356	318,895
Event Income	133,940	-	-	133,940	109,500
Contribution Box	60,943	-	-	60,943	46,247
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	1,745,284	(1,175,284)	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	9,278,487	(224,338)	5,122	9,059,271	8,195,673
EXPENSES					
Program Services					
Exhibitions	2,669,149	-	-	2,669,149	1,807,345
Education & Public Programs	1,733,729	-	-	1,733,729	1,364,258
Marketing & Communications	1,003,465	-	-	1,003,465	820,587
Museum Shop	960,665	-	-	960,665	883,754
Collections	694,519	-	-	694,519	200,855
Great Hall Events	419,637	-	-	419,637	444,611
TOTAL Program Services	7,481,164	-	-	7,481,164	5,521,410
Supporting Services					
Fundraising	1,400,219	-	-	1,400,219	1,065,782
General & Administration	478,274	-	-	478,274	484,649
Membership	146,701	-	-	146,701	127,163
TOTAL Supporting Services	2,025,194	-	-	2,025,194	1,677,594
TOTAL EXPENSES	9,506,358	-	-	9,506,358	7,199,004
Change in Net Assets	(227,871)	(224,338)	5,122	(447,087)	996,669

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Net Assets, September 30, 2004	785,502	1,386,944	645,165	2,817,611
Change in Net Assets	180,192	808,909	7,568	996,669
Net Assets, September 30, 2005	965,694	2,195,853	652,733	3,814,280
Change in Net Assets	(227,871)	(224,338)	5,122	(447,087)
Net Assets, September 30, 2006	737,823	1,971,515	657,855	3,367,193