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THE CONTEMPORARY DAYTON AND LWC RECEIVE 2026 AIA OHIO DESIGN RECOGNITION

**The Art Center's home in the historic Dayton Arcade earns Honorable Mention for Interior Architecture;
LWC is the only Dayton firm recognized in this year's statewide awards**

DAYTON, OH — October 9, 2026 — The Contemporary Dayton (TCD) is pleased to announce that its home in the historic Dayton Arcade has received an **Honorable Mention Award for Interior Architecture** in the **2026 AIA Ohio Design Awards**, recognizing the work of Dayton-based architecture and design firm **LWC Incorporated**. LWC is the **only Dayton-based firm among the 2026 AIA Ohio Design Award recipients**, placing TCD and the Dayton Arcade among projects recognized statewide for excellence in architecture and design.

"This recognition means a great deal to us," said **Eva Buttacavoli, Director of Advancement of The Contemporary Dayton and staff liaison for the original design**. "When we began imagining TCD's future in the Dayton Arcade, we wanted to create something more than galleries. We wanted a welcoming, flexible and distinctly contemporary space that could bring nationally and internationally significant artists into conversation with artists from our own community—and give Dayton a cultural destination worthy of that ambition. LWC understood that vision and helped us make it real."

The Contemporary Dayton opened its **6,444-square-foot home in the Dayton Arcade in April 2021**, becoming one of the first major cultural organizations to establish a permanent presence within the revitalized historic complex. The design transformed the space into a contemporary arts center incorporating exhibition galleries, gathering and program spaces, and The CoSHOP while respecting the character and history of the Arcade.

The project was designed by **LWC Incorporated**, whose work helped create a space that is both highly functional for presenting contemporary art and accessible and inviting to the broader community.

The AIA Ohio Design Awards recognize architectural excellence throughout the state. The 2026 recipients include projects for the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland Institute of Music, Case Western Reserve University, Xavier University and other prominent Ohio institutions.

For TCD, the award is particularly meaningful as the organization celebrates its **35th Anniversary Season** and reflects on its evolution from a small community arts organization founded in 1991 to a contemporary art center serving Dayton and the region.

“The Arcade represented a bold step forward for this organization and for contemporary art in Dayton,” Buttacavoli added. “Five years after opening our doors here, it is wonderful to see the space—and the Dayton firm that designed it—recognized at the state level. We are proud that this award brings additional attention to the extraordinary creative work happening in Dayton.”

The 2026 AIA Ohio Design Award recipients will be formally recognized during the **AIA Ohio Awards Celebration**.

ABOUT THE CONTEMPORARY DAYTON

Founded in 1991, **The Contemporary Dayton** is Dayton’s contemporary art center, presenting exhibitions and programs that connect local and regional audiences with artists and ideas from across the country and around the world. Located in the historic Dayton Arcade, The Co provides art for the community and a community for artists. Admission is free.

ABOUT LWC INCORPORATED

LWC Incorporated is a Dayton-based architecture and design firm whose work encompasses architecture, interior design, planning and related design services. Learn more at lwcinspires.com.

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The Contemporary Dayton is supported in part by The Charles D. Berry Foundation, Culture Works, The Dayton Foundation, The Charles F. Kettering Foundation, The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, The Mathile Family Foundation, The Montgomery County Arts & Cultural District, The National Endowment for the Arts, The Ohio Arts Council, the PNC Foundation, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and our Members.

About The Contemporary Dayton

Advancing art for the community and a community for artists since 1991.

The Contemporary Dayton is the region’s contemporary art center. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit, The Contemporary Dayton produces and presents ART EXHIBITIONS, ARTIST TALKS, and PUBLIC ART by local, national, and global creatives and makers, and is ALWAYS FREE & OPEN TO ALL. As a non-collecting art center, The Contemporary Dayton is one of 45 non-collecting art centers and museums across North America that specialize in presenting modern and contemporary art. **Admission is always free.**

GALLERY & CoSHOP HOURS

Wednesday–Saturday 11 am–6 pm

Closed Sunday–Tuesday

ALWAYS FREE & OPEN TO ALL

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