Cooper Lighting’s 32nd Annual

Student Competition Winners

National Lighting Design Competition Winners 2008
The lighting concept for Spa Six features six layers of light to accentuate and enhance the perception of the interior finish materials, colors and textures. While the lighting creates repetition, organization and emphasis with the interior architecture, the six layers of light play a significant role in highlighting various luminous contrasts with the darker spa setting. Quieter, solitary spaces within the spa are illuminated with a relaxing soft glow and sparkle, which contributes to a restorative atmosphere.

Ambient lighting is achieved using dimmable recessed downlights and track lighting to create the desired lighting levels for a relaxing ambience to the spa. Textures, such as brick and slate surfaces, are accented with a series of recessed wall washers and sconces. Decorative pendants throughout the space are used for task lighting. Indirect cove lighting in combination with custom image light panels in the treatment rooms and tea lounge provide a soft glow of light, creating a calming and relaxing environment. In the aqua treatment rooms, glimmering fiber-optic star ceilings and underwater fixtures beneath water walls and reflection pools create sparkling surfaces and provide a visual inspiration to uplift emotion within the restorative setting. Lastly, daylighting is integrated through skylights bringing in the outside environment.
“Chaos to clarify” is not just a phase; it is the goal of Clarity Spa. It provides a journey of mental filtering, where the guests go from the sensory overload of the outside world, through a clarifying entry sequence, to a singular decision point over two simple, pure options for their spa experience. Multiple options within one flexible space provide each use with a cohesive, cleansing experience. This experience is driven by dualities: day/night, wet/dry, simple/complicated, and public/personal. The lighting design responds to the duality by separating day and night experiences. Each celebrates different aspects of the same space, both providing a beautiful, sparkling entry sequence to the space on the second floor. In the main promenade chamber, the giggling sound of falling water reverberates, while refracted light skips down the subtle tones of the concrete walls, shimmering off the water. Underwater lights illuminate the path to the far end. All day, the light and shadows glide across the floor and walls. As the sun dips below the skyline, electric lighting changes the volume into a whole new space.

Clarity Spa mimics the natural environment in its constantly shifting light. The textured, illuminated, and reflective layers of materials celebrate this light that changes throughout the day. A guest enters from the parking lot into the sparkling reception area and turns the corner into a tight, dim hallway. Restrained beams of warm light illuminate the changing room doors, in a gentle rhythm, down one side of the corridor as the ceiling recedes into the darkness above. On the opposite wall, cooler light probes through narrow holes in the dark concrete. This same cool light faintly bathes the far wall, inviting the guest to turn into the vaulted, voluminous chamber full of soft daylight. The walls, which before were washed with beams of light, now fade into the shadows. Behind the liquid partitions, light spills through the holes in the wall, ripping through the falling water. It beacons to the visitor, luring them through the oppressive darkness to the flittering, dancing light. Crossing the threshold of ribbons of golden water, the guests ascend the constricted staircase, hugged with glowing rays of warm light.
Wegmans Supermarket is known for providing customers with convenience, a quality shopping experience, and resources to make a nutritious and balanced meal. The design concept for the Wegmans corporate office, located in Washington D.C., is a balance of aesthetically pleasing elements. The private company provides healthy recipes and inspires shoppers with their slogan, “Eat well, Live well”. These concepts relating to balance inspire the design of the office. The food pyramid is a guide for the symmetrical floor plan and subtle angles that compose the interior.

Balance not only applies to the floor plan and aesthetics in the Wegmans office, but also to the lighting design throughout the space. Fixtures are spaced evenly to form a symmetrical ceiling plan. A variety of Cooper Lighting fixtures are specified to appropriately mix ambient light with decorative wall sconces and pendants. The mixture of recessed fluorescent lights and open downlights works well in the office. Translucent lay-in panels placed in the acoustical ceiling grid add visual interest. The panels also accentuate the unique shape of the dropped ceiling in the reception area.

All of the light fixtures are high performance fixtures that reduce energy costs and make the space more sustainable. GE Ecolux lamps are ideal for this 19,886 square foot space that will use a lot of energy. Compact fluorescent lamps are specified for most of the fixtures since they are greatly superior to incandescent lamps in performance and lifetime. The building is surrounded by curtain walls that allow a significant amount of light to enter the space during the day. Employees have the option to turn off some lights during the daytime to reduce energy usage. Occupancy sensors are also specified to make the space more energy-efficient when a room is not in use. The lighting design of the Wegmans corporate office is simple and sustainable.
Awards

Stephanie Ploof
School: Washington State University
Project: Thermae Spa

The Thermae Spa concept was inspired by the baths of ancient Rome. The spa is a contemporary version of a Roman bath. Meant to convey an urban spa experience, the lighting intent is to provide an enjoyable and relaxing spa experience while communicating a feel of contemporary urbanism. The main lighting effects are a combination of subtle, warming wall washes and moments of chic Technicolor glow.

One of the main lighting goals was to create lighting effects without fixtures being visible. This is achieved with the use of cove and custom lighting details as well as in the use of recessed fixtures. Strip fluorescents are used in the great hall to create the glowing columns of light that reflect the columns across the hall, and underwater LED fixtures are used for the blue glow of the pools.
Erin M. Browning
School: Louisiana Tech University
Project: Kabuki Japanese Theater

The Kabuki Japanese Theater is one of the oldest, most glamorous and dramatic Japanese Theater styles. The sushi bar is about re-interpreting this traditional theater, hence the name: Kabuki. Much like a theater focuses on the stage and the actors, Kabuki is all about the sushi bar and the chefs. Everything else is secondary.

The entrance is illuminated by custom wall sconces and LED lighting installed behind the Eco-Resin panels. Custom Halo Etchings square sconces are wrapped with a thin sheet of steel to mimic a sushi roll. The entrance’s drama is downplayed to save the excitement for the stage. The booths surrounding the sushi bar are illuminated by low voltage recessed downlights to create an intimate and comfortable feel, and like the entrance, to downplay the drama of the booth, directing attention to the action at the bar. Custom sconces, like those in the entrance, create ambient lighting and highlight the imperfections of the exposed perimeter brick wall of the original building. These features lead up to the focal point: the sushi bar and chefs. At the bar, the levels of illumination dramatically shift, to catch the guest’s eye and highlight the “stage”. The bar is illuminated by suspended track lighting around the perimeter of the bar. Suspended track lighting placed higher into the ceiling highlights the “backdrop” behind the chefs—a glass display shelf housing traditional Japanese artwork, Kabuki masks and plates—therefore, completing the stage.
Cornerstone Family Counseling is a small counseling center in Manhattan, Kansas. They provide services to a variety of people, from small children to adults. The main goal for the center is to make the patients feel comfortable and relaxed while in the office. The patients likely feel scared, anxious, or upset while attending counseling sessions, so it is important to provide a calming and healing environment. The atmosphere of the entire center is developed not only through the architecture, but also with the lighting design. The design incorporates several layers of lighting combined with natural daylighting to provide ample illumination as well as visual interest. The intended result is a space that does not look like a typical doctor's office or healthcare facility, but rather a space that is more homey and inviting.

On the exterior, inground lights with adjustable beams are used to illuminate the building façade and highlight the logo, which has been incorporated into the wooden slats. This detail is subtle during the day, but when illuminated at night becomes quite dramatic. Spotlights, which correspond with the panels of exterior cladding, are also used on the exterior to light the façade of the building and highlight the materials used. There are also landscape lights used to illuminate the exterior garden spaces and inground luminaires to light the walkways. All of the interior lamps selected have a color temperature of 3500 K to create a space that feels warm and welcoming. This includes the cove lights, recessed downlights, recessed wall washers, pendant fixtures, and direct lensed recessed fluorescents. The lamps were also chosen with the highest possible CRI in order to achieve the best color rendering for all of the finishes and furnishings within the space. In the lobby, there are a number of layers of light. For ambient lighting, cove lights are located around the perimeter to wash the top portion of the wall and ceiling. The cove lighting is combined with recessed downlights and day lighting from the glazed entrance façade as well as skylights. Above the reception desk, there are three pendant lights that provide task lighting for patients filling out forms and to help define the space of the reception area. The reception desk itself also has an illuminated cross to highlight Cornerstone’s logo and image. To highlight the artwork, recessed wall washers are placed so that each painting is properly lit. There are also small table lamps that add any additional light needed near the seating areas and contribute to the home-like feel.