



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **147-2012**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: May 29, 2012

SUBJECT: 2012 American Institute of Architects Honor Awards for Regional & Urban Design

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2012 MAY 29 PM 2:14
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

This is to inform you that West8, the designers of the City's SoundScape Park and Gehry Partners, designers of the New World Symphony concert hall and the City's Pennsylvania Avenue Garage have been awarded the 2012 American Institute of Architects Honor Award for Regional & Urban Design. The Institute Honor Awards for Regional and Urban Design recognize distinguished achievements that involve the expanding role of the architect in urban design, regional and city planning, and community development. The awards identify projects and programs that contribute to the quality of these environments.

Miami Beach SoundScape is a multi-use park that serves as an urban oasis and a gathering place for cultural and special events. It is a unified expression of passive recreation, pleasure and culture – a space that supports a multitude of day and night uses that, combined with the expansive projection wall on the adjacent concert hall, marries music, design, landscape and community.

The New World Symphony concert hall is a unique performance, education, production, and creative space with state-of-the-art capabilities. A global hub for creative expression and collaboration, and a laboratory for the ways music is taught, presented and experienced; the building enables NWS to continue its role as a leader in integrating technology with music education and concert presentation.

These incredible projects are located on two city owned blocks previously used as surface parking lots. The transformation from this utilitarian use into a world class urban open space and iconic architectural expressions is an example of how design and architecture can create a sense of place.

We should all be proud of this latest recognition for these projects.

JMG/JGG