



Carol Ross Barney FAIA, HASLA

Carol was honored with the 2023 American Institute of Architects Gold Medal, recognizing her as a visionary architect, urbanist, mentor, and educator. Throughout her career, she has relentlessly championed the idea that excellent design should be accessible to all, viewing it as a fundamental right rather than a privilege.

Her commitment to the design of public buildings and spaces that enhance daily life has resulted in distinctive, culturally significant structures. Notable projects include the design of the Oklahoma City Federal Building, replacing the bombed Murrah Federal Building, the Chicago Riverwalk, flagship restaurants for McDonald's in Chicago and Disney World, the Searle Visitor Center at Lincoln Park Zoo, JRC Synagogue, CTA Cermak and Morgan Street Stations, the University of Minnesota Duluth Civil Engineering Building, and the Multi-Modal Terminal at O'Hare International Airport. She also designed the NASA Aerospace Communications Facility, Railyard Park in Rogers, Arkansas, and Chicago's new DuSable Park.

Her work has earned over 200 major awards, including the AIA Gold Medal, Cooper Hewitt National Design Award, fourteen AIA Honor Awards, two AIA COTE Top Ten Project Awards for sustainability, and more than 45 AIA Chicago Awards. An alumna of the University of Illinois, Carol also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Costa Rica, planning national parks, and has taught advanced design studios at Illinois Institute of Technology for over thirty years.