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NOTL wins six Niagara Biennial Design Awards

Brittany Carter The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake's many exuberant design efforts haven't gone unnoticed as local groups won recognition in the Niagara Biennial Design Awards this year - and NOTL teams brought home six of the 18 awards.

One small neighbourhood initiative in The Village last December was recognized with the award of excellence in the Urban Design-Urban Interventions category. Project owner Dale Des Islets said it was nice for the community to be recognized for its contribution to the neighbourhood.

"I think it's kind of cool that a neighbourhood initiative could get recognition for something like this," he said.

The Dec. 23, 2019, Luminaires candle lighting along the neighbourhood parks in the small community off Niagara Stone Road was an "elegantly simple gesture of



Village Christmas decorating volunteers. SUPPLIED

paper luminaries and light installations (which) brought the community and visitors together for the one-night event," the awards team said in its recognition video.

The category looked to temporary, small-scale, outdoor projects located on public or private land designed to improve an urban space or condition.

The other five NOTL winners were chosen because of their creative execution and developmental vision, the recognition video said.

The Glendale Niagara

District Plan received an award of excellence in the Visionary Design category. The heritage reconstruction at 106 Queen St. won an award of excellence in the Architecture category. An award of excellence for Interior Design went to the Student Commons at Niagara College's Daniel J. Patterson Campus in NOTL. And two outstanding achievement awards for Commemorative Landscapes were awarded to the Landscape of Nations and the Voices of Freedom Park.

Winners were chosen by a

panel of design professionals which included Amy Friend, Ken Greenberg, Linda Irvine, Gordon Stratford and Lois Weinthal.

This new bi-annual design awards program is an evolution from the previous Niagara Community Design Awards, which ran annually from 2005 to 2016. The program celebrates the role of design in the enhancement of unique and diverse environments in Niagara, the award page states.

There were 68 submissions this year, 18 of which were named winners.