

9 projects win praise for design

These Nashville developments stand out

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The new sponsor of Nashville's annual Excellence in Development Awards says this year's nine honorees are great examples of what's possible when attention is paid to great design and neighborhood character.

The Urban Land Institute's Nashville District Council's award winners are: **Belmont Lofts**, a multifamily residence near Belmont University; **Schermerhorn Symphony Center** downtown; **Edgehill Village**, a mixed-use development in the Edgehill neighborhood south of downtown; **The Hill Center** upscale retail development in Green Hills; **Icon in the Gulch** condo development in the Gulch neighborhood downtown; **Noah Liff Opera Center**, the new home of The Nashville [Opera](#) in the Sylvan Park neighborhood west of downtown; **Summer Street Lofts**, a mixed-use project in the Germantown neighborhood north of downtown; **The Commons**, a new freshman community on the Vanderbilt University campus; and **W.O. Smith Nashville Community Music** with its new home in a renovated tire store on Eighth Avenue South in Edgehill.

In its inaugural year of conducting the awards, the institute recognized projects for innovation in land use and design, design excellence, contribution to the community, reflection of the regional or neighborhood character, public-private partnership, environmental sensitivity and [financial](#) viability.

"These awards are honoring excellence in development and provide models for people to do better projects," said Nashville contractor Bert Matthews, president of the institute's local council.

— NANCY DEVILLE

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