

## **For Immediate Release**

### **Green Building United Announces 2018 Groundbreaker Award Project Finalists**

*The award finalists demonstrate innovation in sustainable building and design.*

**Philadelphia, PA, August 29, 2018** – [Green Building United](#), a green building education and advocacy organization, today announced the project finalists for the [2018 Groundbreaker Awards](#). Green Building United’s annual Groundbreaker Awards recognize leaders in the green building industry that demonstrate innovation, commitment to sustainability in the built environment, and environmental, social, and/or economic impact. Winners will be recognized at an award ceremony on Wednesday, September 26 at the National Museum of American Jewish History.

“This year’s finalists speak to the innovative nature of the sustainability leaders in our region who are constantly working to develop buildings that are not just sustainable, but also provide a better occupant experience,” said Alex Dews, Executive Director of Green Building United. “From office buildings to recreation centers, the diversity of the project finalists demonstrates how green building practices can be integrated into every type of building.”

2018 Groundbreaker Project Finalists include the following projects. Project winners will be selected during the September 26 awards ceremony.

#### **Adaptimmune**

*351 Rouse Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19112*

Adaptimmune Therapeutics, a U.K. based leader in T-cell therapy to treat cancer, recently opened a state-of-the-art cGMP manufacturing facility at the Philadelphia Navy Yard to support the company’s clinical development objectives. Developed by Liberty Property Trust and Synterra Partners, the 47,400-square-foot LEED Gold building was designed by Philadelphia-based architecture firm DIGSAU and more than 30 percent of the building materials were produced regionally. The building’s unique horizontal floor plan was modeled to use 29 percent less energy than a baseline building and features a two-story daylight lobby that connects and integrates Adaptimmune’s clinical and operational functions.

#### **Aerzen USA Headquarters**

*108 Independence Way, Coatesville, PA 19320*

Aerzen’s USA headquarters reflects a decade-long commitment to green building that began with a LEED Gold office/manufacturing facility. In 2017, Aerzen doubled down on its original green building with a major expansion to yield 15,000 square feet of office area and 50,000 square feet of manufacturing. Aerzen’s commitment to sustainability is grounded in the company’s culture which includes an emphasis on employee health and wellness and a focus on continued improvement and efficiency. Located in an area of big box structures surrounded by parking and mowed grass, Aerzen features wild meadows, unique building forms and a solar array that generates 75 percent of the company’s electricity.

#### **Barry Playground**

*1800 Bigler Street, Philadelphia, PA 19145*

Barry Recreation is a newly renovated 2,700-square-foot building located in the heart of South Philadelphia’s Girard Park neighborhood. The project transformed a small bunker-like building into a high-performance public amenity. The full building renovation sets a new example for sustainable city building renovations and cross-departmental cooperation, exemplifying how a small urban building can contribute significantly to the neighborhood and its residents. The renovation created a daylight,

sustainable, and spatially efficient building that is well-insulated and finished with non-toxic materials and energy-efficient systems. The building and site are integrated with a full site stormwater management system, and the building attained the city's first LEED Gold building, setting the bar for future projects.

### **The Battery**

*152 West Laurel Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123*

The Battery, a 25-unit apartment building in the Northern Liberties section of Philadelphia, is designed as a scalable and replicable prototype of dense, urban multifamily housing that responds to two pressing local and global issues: the need for attainable housing with rents below gentrified market values and the need for buildings to zero-out their impact on global warming. Its extensive green roof, use of geothermal heating, cooling, and hot water, super-insulated, pre-fabricated, thermal envelope with triple-pane windows, air-tight construction, and a 77 kW photovoltaic canopy on the roof are designed to generate all the energy the building requires annually. The Battery is a PHIUS + Certified, net-zero-energy demonstration that high-performance and cost-effective, carbon-neutral buildings can become standard design and building practice.

### **Bridge**

*205 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106*

Bridge is a thoughtfully appointed apartment building designed for modern living in Old City. One of Philadelphia's first high-rise LEED Gold residential buildings, Bridge offers 146 apartments with 10 percent affordable units. Amenities include spectacular city views, especially from the 8,000-square-foot green roof terrace. Bridge achieved LEED Gold certification in 2017 for its high-level commitment to sustainable design. The team established the overall goal to reduce the consumption of energy, water, and natural resources, as well as promote the health and well-being of residents, visitors, and staff. The new building anticipates 22.9 percent energy cost savings through an innovative heating and cooling system called variable refrigerant flow technology. Other contributing energy efficiency strategies include a high-performance building envelope, LED lighting and full-height windows for ample daylighting.

### **Carpenter Lane**

*520 Carpenter Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19119*

Carpenter Lane demonstrates a novel solution to mixed-use development in Mount Airy. An innovative floor plan incorporates single-story residences over a co-working space on the ground floor with a public forecourt and multiple scales and layers of plantings that create a vibrant space for community interactions and development. Other exemplary features include the exterior corridors to the units, which reduce energy demand from space conditioning, allow for natural ventilation, and provide balanced light within the homes. The commitment to energy efficiency is further demonstrated in the use of a super-insulated envelope designed to minimize thermal bridging and modular construction. Designed, built, and tested to achieve LEED for Homes and Commercial Interiors at the Platinum level, this project's list of sustainable features also includes green roofs, modular construction, heat recovery ventilation, daylighting strategies, including clerestory windows, and low-flow faucets and fixtures.

Tickets to the 2018 Groundbreaker Awards can be purchased online [here](#).

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**About Green Building United**

Green Building United, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is committed to promoting sustainable building in Greater Philadelphia, the Lehigh Valley and Delaware. Through education and advocacy, Green Building United aims to create a sustainable, healthy, and resilient built environment for all. Green Building United offers its members and partners a wide variety of resources, tools, and events to help them stay informed of the latest green building news and trends. For more information, visit [www.greenbuildingunited.org](http://www.greenbuildingunited.org) and connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

**Press Contacts:**

Shari Rosen on behalf of Green Building United

Office: 267-238-4132

Mobile: 609-230-7561

[srosen@brownsteingroup.com](mailto:srosen@brownsteingroup.com)