

Press Release

ENV New Jersey Office Celebrated as Honoree at University of Mount Saint Vincent Awards Reception

Englewood Cliffs, N.J., May 7, 2025 – ENV’s New Jersey studio was proudly recognized as an Honoree at the University of Mount Saint Vincent (UMSV) Awards Reception Dinner on May 1 at Mutual of America in Manhattan. The award honors ENV New Jersey’s leadership—Charles Koch, AIA and Hans Erdenberger, AIA—and their project leads Mark Giessen, Lucas Koch and Maria Pereira for an enduring partnership that has shaped and sustained the Riverdale campus for more than a decade.

A Decade of Transformative Campus Projects

Since 2014, ENV New Jersey has led the design and execution of over 49 projects at UMSV, carefully balancing historic preservation with modern educational needs:

- **Founders Hall Restoration**
Repairing and reinforcing original masonry and timber framing, refurbishing intricate wood carvings and upgrading mechanical systems to meet today’s sustainability standards—all while preserving the building’s 19th-century character.
- **Student Recreation and Commons**
Creating flexible student-life spaces featuring adaptable furnishings, integrated event technology and daylighting strategies to promote well-being, collaboration and active campus life.
- **Seton College Master Plan**
Partnering with UMSV leadership to launch Seton College’s affordable associate-degree program, ENV designed new advising suites, student lounges and multipurpose classrooms—each tailored to foster an inclusive, supportive environment for first-generation and returning students.
- **Aquino Hall: School of Nursing & Residence**
Under Charles Koch’s direction, ENV navigated pandemic constraints to deliver a 56,000-square-foot facility housing cutting-edge simulation labs, a skills-assessment suite, collaborative study areas and 120 student residences. At the Awards Reception, Charles Koch announced the Denise Koch Memorial Nursing Scholarship in tribute to his late wife’s lifelong dedication to nursing and patient care.

Beyond Bricks and Mortar: Mentorship & Community Engagement

ENV New Jersey’s impact extends well beyond building design:

- **Mentor Program Development**
Designing and facilitating an accelerated mentorship initiative that pairs ENV architects and designers with UMSV undergraduates for portfolio reviews, site visits and career-skills workshops.
- **Charitable and Cultural Events**
Actively participating in campus fundraisers—including annual golf outings and Casino Night—and sponsoring service-day activities to reinforce UMSV’s community-outreach mission.

- **Strategic Collaboration**

Advising Vice President for Operations Kevin DeGroat and President Susan R. Burns on long-range facility studies and campus master plans that will guide UMSV's growth through 2030.

Sustaining a Shared Vision

ENV New Jersey studio specializes in client-driven architectural and interior-design solutions. UMSV remains dedicated to fostering student achievement and community engagement, and ENV is committed to advancing that mission by creating environments that inspire learning, support well-being and adapt to evolving campus needs