

## PRESS RELEASE

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### IOWA READY MIXED CONCRETE ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2021 EXCELLENCE IN CONCRETE AWARDS

**AMES, IOWA** - The 28th Annual Excellence in Concrete Awards were announced on November 10, 2021, at a ceremony in Ames, Iowa. The Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association (IRMCA) and American Concrete Institute (ACI) Iowa Chapter hosted the awards luncheon during the Iowa Better Concrete Conference.

The Excellence in Concrete Awards recognize outstanding projects from throughout the state. Entries were judged on the following criteria: architectural design, engineering and construction challenges, complexity of project, uniqueness of project, workmanship, finished impression, and diverse application of ready mixed concrete.

The 2021 Excellence in Concrete Award winners are listed below by category.

#### **AGRICULTURAL CATEGORY**

##### **Rolinda Acres, Waterville**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Croell, Inc., Waukon

**Owner:** Pat & Tara Reisinger, Waterville

**Concrete Subcontractor:** Matt Benda Concrete Construction, Decorah

**Engineer:** ProAg Engineering, Inc., Audubon

Expanding into a larger dairy facility to meet the needs of a growing operation, this team helped Rolinda Acres build a top notch robotic dairy barn, massive waste storage structure, and large silage bunker. The barn accommodates future growth while meeting environmental regulations. The cow-friendly concrete in the over 98,000 SF dairy barn provides for dry, comfortable footing, and structurally sound flooring that will last for many years to come. The engineers, owners, and contractors worked hard each day to come up with a great plan to expand this progressive family farm while maintaining daily production with no leaks.

### **ABOVE-GRADE BUILDINGS CATEGORY**

#### **Old Dominion Freight Line, Cedar Rapids**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Croell, Inc., Cedar Rapids

**Owner:** Old Dominion Freight Line, Thomasville, NC

**General Contractor:** D.F. Chase, Inc., Nashville, TN

**Concrete Subcontractor:** Jay-Ton Concrete Construction Co., Burlison, TN

**Architect/Designer:** The Mollenkopf Design Group, LLC Nashville, TN

**Engineer:** WMD Engineering Consultants, Inc. Bethlehem, GA

This project is a shipping terminal for Old Dominion Freight Lines. The building is a cast-on-site tilt up concrete structure with an open web joist and girder roof. The tilt up panels serve as load bearing shear walls and the buttress panels (thickened sections in two locations down the dock terminal) are used to handle shear. There are no interior columns on the project. This is a very concrete intensive facility. The floor slab is 6" thick slab on grade, the footings are 2ft by 16" thick continuous around the building, and there are several acres of concrete paving around the terminal to support the high volume of loaded long haul freight trucks. The use of concrete at this facility definitely lends to its efficiency and success!

### **LOW-RISE BUILDINGS CATEGORY**

#### **Kum & Go #0185, Bondurant**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** CTI Ready Mix, Grimes

**Owner:** Kum & Go, L.C., Des Moines

**General Contractor:** The Hansen Company, Johnston

**Concrete Subcontractors:** Concrete Technologies, Inc., Grimes

**Architects/Engineer:** Civil Design Advantage, LLC, Grimes

The construction of the Kum & Go store in Bondurant was built to serve the growing development of the area due to new distribution centers, data centers, and community in general. The store floor slab finish provides better lighting reflection, allowing natural light to reflect off the polished floor and help keep the store well lit, increasing building energy efficiency. It boasts a clean and polished finish, joint layout and transition to the different areas within the store. The sidewalks around the perimeter of the store help provide clean and specious access from the parking area and fuel canopies. Architectural detail with a colored concrete sidewalk on the storefront helps distinguish pedestrian walkways versus the parking stalls. Exterior joint layouts have clean, straight lines that help the site look organized. The location and easy access in and out of this convenient and appealing Kum & Go is sure to meet the needs of the Bondurant community as well as travelers off of US 65 for years to come.

#### **MID-RISE BUILDINGS CATEGORY**

##### **Stark Performance Center (ISU Sports Performance Center), Ames**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Manatt's, Inc., Ames

**Owner:** ISU Facilities Planning and Management, Ames

**General Contractor:** Neumann Brothers, Inc., Des Moines

**Concrete Subcontractor:** Jensen Builders, Ltd., Des Moines

**Architects/Designer:** Substance Architecture, Des Moines

**Engineer:** Snyder & Associates, Inc., Ankeny

A project 5 years in the making has finally come to fruition for Cyclone student-athletes. The site work consisted of new construction and renovation of a mixed-use development with the construction of a 144,795 square-foot, four-story above grade educational facility. It is designed to be an efficient one-stop shop for student-athletes. This project includes a laundry list of amenities including an academic and student affairs center, sports medicine, as well as strength & conditioning for multiple sports, a commons area, dining facility and sports nutrition center. The building boasts a sprawling outdoor concrete plaza area as well as beautiful polished concrete floors on the upper level with interior finishes that are second to none. This state-of-the-art facility has it all, and is sure to be a place of enrichment and success for all who enter its doors.

## **COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL DECORATIVE CATEGORY**

### **Veterans Memorial Site Improvements, Dubuque**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** BARD Materials, Dubuque

**Owner:** City of Dubuque

**General Contractor:** Conlon Construction, Dubuque

**Concrete Subcontractors:** Taylor Construction, Inc., New Vienna; Manders  
Quality Concrete, Dubuque; D & D Superior Concrete Construction, Dubuque

**Architect/Designer:** RDG Planning & Design, Dubuque

**Engineer:** WHKS & Co., East Dubuque, IL

The Veterans Memorial Plaza originally opened in 2009 and included a curved wall dedicated to the branches of service and the wars they served. In 2021, a \$3.2 million dollar improvement project was completed which sought to honor all veterans by unifying and enhancing all existing nearby memorials. It includes a new memorial composed of a decorative swirling concrete path that transforms into an elevated boardwalk extending from the Veterans Memorial Plaza to over the pond. The colored concrete leads to a circular landing that contains a stainless-steel sculpture at the end of the boardwalk. The concrete plaza incorporates memorial pavers and monuments nestled amongst an inviting landscape. At night, subtle colorful lighting honors veterans and adds prominence to the memorial. A wonderful tribute to our fallen heroes.

## **PARKING AREAS/DRIVES (<1,000 CY) CATEGORY**

### **Jackson County Regional Health Center, Maquoketa**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Manatt's, Inc., Maquoketa

**Owner:** Jackson Co. Regional Health Center/Genesis Health Systems

**General Contractor:** J.H. Findorff & Son, Inc., Madison, WI

**Concrete Subcontractor:** CDMI Concrete Contractors, Inc., Port Byron, IL

**Architect:** BWBR Architects, Inc., St. Paul, MN

**Engineer:** Shive-Hattery, Inc., Moline, IL

The Jackson County Regional Health Center's new facility is conveniently located right off of highway 61 on the south side of Maquoketa. Construction began on this new \$26 million state of the art facility in late 2019 and will service the city of Maquoketa, the citizens within Jackson County and the surrounding area. This new facility replaces an aging facility that was designed for more inpatient stays, leaving much of the older facility unused. As noted by Jackson Co. Regional Health Center, advances in health care have allowed more outpatient treatments to be performed, thus not requiring as many inpatient rooms. The concrete parking areas and drives of this facility are equally as pristine as the building itself. The clean lines and quality craftsmanship of the lots, drives, ambulance garages and loading docks are aesthetically appealing, functional, and will sustain this health center for years to come.

#### **PARKING AREAS/DRIVES (>1,000 CY) CATEGORY**

##### **Forest Grove Elementary, Bettendorf**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Manatt's, Inc., Eldridge & Bettendorf

**Owner:** Pleasant Valley Community School District, Bettendorf

**General Contractor:** Tricon Construction Group, Dubuque

**Concrete Subcontractor:** CDMI Concrete Contractors, Port Byron, IL

**Designer/Engineer:** FRK Architects & Engineers, West Des Moines

This 1,270 CY parking lot services the Forest Grove Elementary School to accommodate the growing needs of Bettendorf and the Pleasant Valley Community School District. With site work and construction taking place for nearly 2 years, the paving was started in November of 2020 and completed in May of 2021. The forward thinking of the district in planning and implementing expansion to support the residential growth of NE Bettendorf was instrumental in the construction of this new elementary school. The clean lines and ample space of this well-designed parking lot will serve the needs of this community for generations to come.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE-RECREATIONAL CATEGORY**

##### **Lauridsen Skatepark, Des Moines**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Liberty Ready Mix, Urbandale; Concrete Supply, Inc., Des Moines

**Owner:** Polk County Conservation Board, Granger

**General Contractor/Designer:** California Skateparks, Upland, CA

**Concrete Subcontractor:** The Concrete Contracting Co., Inc., Grimes; Jensen Construction Co, DSM

**Engineer:** Snyder & Associates, Inc., Ankeny

The Lauridsen Skatepark contains many elements including a total of 88,000 square feet of skateable terrain, making it the largest skatepark in the United States. A two-tiered, 300-foot, downhill snake-run includes banks, stairs, rails, and ledges. Pools and skate bowls ranging from 3-9 feet accommodate elements for beginners through advanced skaters. The entire facility is designed for a mix of uses- skateboarding, biking, and scooters with architecture specifically tailored to each individual sport. This Olympic level skatepark (that hosted the Dew Tour Olympic trials in 2021) requires near perfection in design and construction of the concrete elements of the park. The finishes are critical for performance and safety, therefore the tolerances are much tighter than typical concrete work. In addition to the precise surface conditions, color was added to the skatepark elements to provide a contrast to the rest of the promenade flatwork. From the footings and retaining walls, to the platform and surrounding walkways, this park is a recreational asset to the thriving city of Des Moines.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE-STRUCTURES CATEGORY**

##### **I-74 WB Iowa Viaduct Bridge, Bettendorf**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Hahn Ready Mix, Davenport

**Owner:** Iowa DOT, Ames

**General Contractor/Concrete Subcontractor:** Helm Civil, East Moline, IL

**Architect/Engineer:** Benesch, Chicago, IL

This project is the WB Iowa Viaduct for the new I-74 bridge in the Quad Cities. Taken together, all the projects in the I-74 corridor are the largest undertaking by the Iowa DOT in its history, in terms of dollars. It consisted of construction of the WB mainline bridge, on and off ramps, demolition of roughly 25 spans of existing viaduct, and various roadwork, sewer, and electrical work. A majority of the projects will have public access and parks underneath, so appearance of the substructure concrete was important. Obtaining consistency with the appearance of the mixes throughout the duration of the project was critical. This included pours over a span of 3 years and in all seasons of weather. The column design is a unique, 3-dimensional, crossing “Y” pier column shape throughout the corridor. Self-Consolidating Concrete mixes were used for all columns to create an unblemished smooth surface. The finished appearance and mixes had to be as consistent as possible over 5 projects spanning two DOTs. Overall, this project is nothing less than amazing in both size and structure for our state’s infrastructure.

## **RECREATIONAL TRAILS CATEGORY**

### **Ashworth Drive Trail, Waukee**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** CTI Ready Mix, Grimes

**Owner:** City of Waukee

**General Contractor/Concrete Subcontractor:** Concrete Technologies, Inc., Grimes

**Engineer:** Shive-Hattery, Inc., West Des Moines

This trail runs along all four quadrants of the newly improved intersection of Ashworth Drive, Warrior Lane and Northview Drive. Engineers were tasked with developing a way to offer a safe and efficient travel-way for both traffic and pedestrians near the Waukee schools in the heart of Waukee. What was once a 5-way intersection is now a safe and better traffic flowing roundabout. Finishes were accounted for with great detail when it came to the different surfaces, roads, trails and roundabout formed walls. The connecting recreational trails that run in each direction are set alongside aesthetically pleasing features of landscape and seat walls. This improvement and expansion project provides the residents of Waukee a safe and user-friendly way to travel along this corridor and enjoy the beauty of this growing community.

## **RESIDENTIAL DECORATIVE CATEGORY**

### **Tucker Pool & Backyard Environment, Iowa City**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Hawkeye Ready-Mix, Inc., Iowa City

**Owners:** Richard & Buffie Tucker, Iowa City

**GC/Concrete Subcontractor:** Power Concrete Construction & Design Center, North Liberty

**Pool Contractor:** Pool Tech, Cedar Rapids

**Engineer:** Shoemaker & Haaland, Coralville

The newly renovated backyard design of this project was created to make the new freeform concrete pool appear to be shelved into the spacious yard area. The sloping yard allowed the project to incorporate numerous elevation changes with elegant stamped concrete steps, raised pool decks, as well as elegant stone retaining walls. A winding pathway leads to the entrance of the backyard which incorporates decorative concrete stoops and patios. Guests are greeted by roman slate seamless stamped concrete steps and pathways to the pool deck areas. The upper raised pool deck has two custom architectural colored concrete caps shaped to follow the flow of the pool area. The pool house outdoor kitchen & bar features polished concrete countertops as well as concrete block columns. From the water features, to the sun shelf, and everything in between, this exquisitely detailed and finished backyard literally leaves no stone unturned!

## **STREETS & INTERSECTIONS CATEGORY**

### **University Avenue Phase 2, Waterloo**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Benton's Ready Mixed Concrete, Cedar Falls

**Owners:** City of Waterloo

**General Contractor:** Peterson Contractors, Inc., Reinbeck

**Concrete Subcontractor:** Owen Contracting, Inc., Cedar Falls

**Architect/Engineer:** AECOM Technical Services, Inc., Waterloo

University Avenue formerly served as US Hwy 218, was transferred to the city to transform the corridor into a "complete street" with a multi-use path, sidewalks, landscaping, and bus/transit accommodations. The majority of University Avenue is a 4-lane divided urban arterial, however, Phase 2 also included a 5-lane portion with a two-way left turn-lane. Some of the project enhancements include ADA crosswalks, ramps and turning squares, bus stops and median caps. The reconstruction project has also incorporated stamped, colored, and textured concrete into the project aesthetics. Median caps have colored and textured concrete waves matching the median plantings. The colored and textured crosswalks improve pedestrian safety by drawing more driver attention to their locations. These enhancements have had a great impact on the corridor and has started to revitalize University Avenue.

## **INNOVATIVE CONCRETE**

### **Glow In The Dark Trail, Vinton**

**Ready Mixed Concrete Producer:** Manatt's, Inc., Vinton

**Owner:** City of Vinton

**General Contractor:** Brian Miller Excavating, LLC, Marengo

**Concrete Subcontractor:** Baker Enterprises, Inc., Waverly

**Designer/Engineer:** Shive-Hattery, Inc., Cedar Rapids

The city of Vinton is now home to a two mile glow-in-the-dark trail, the longest glow-in-the-dark trail in the United States. The two-mile stretch looks like a regular path by day except for 3,000 pounds of glow stones cast into the path. The glow stones run on solar power and after only 15 minutes of charge, it lights the path for 15 hours. The trail's novelty reflects the man who championed it. Nathan Hesson was on the Vinton City Council and was a huge supporter of the trail. In January, he died at the age of 37. The trail is named in his honor and is also referred to as "Nathan's Miles". This unique trail is a big draw to the community, attracting people from hours away to come enjoy a nighttime stroll. Its impact is fantastic for local businesses and overall economic development. Next time you are near Vinton, it is definitely worth a visit!

For photos of the Excellence in Concrete Award winners or an electronic copy of this press release, please visit [concretesate.org](https://concretesate.org)

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IRMCA is a state organization representing the ready mixed concrete industry.

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