

P R E S S R E L A S E

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Dirtworks, PC receives 2008 Design Citation Award from AASA

New York, NY – December 12, 2007 – Dirtworks, PC received the 2008 Design Citation Award from the American Association of School Administrators for the Science Center Courtyard and Outdoor Learning Environment at Keene State College. “A well designed and planned outdoor learning area that addressed the nature of the sciences studies and academic program of the school,” described the AASA Awards jury, composed of the AASA and its co-partners, the American Institute of Architects and the Council of Education Facility Planners International. “A living laboratory with skillful adaptation of geological principles and use of materials to elevate awareness of surroundings, place of community, and the natural world,” they added.

The Keene State College Science Center Courtyard, the heart of the new Science Center, demonstrates the successful contribution landscape architecture can make – in teaching and learning, promoting social connectedness, supporting community, and providing natural habitats. Enclosed on four sides by a dynamic three-story brick and glass building, the courtyard is aesthetically pleasing, functional, and responsive to the college’s commitment to service learning. Nature is more accessible, more exciting and real to both students and community members as they enjoy the serendipity of discovery in this intellectually engaging, sensory rich garden. It is a place for education, relaxation, reflection and where kids find science “cool.”

Dirtworks, PC (www.dirworks.us) is an internationally recognized and award-winning landscape architecture firm. Its designs enhance the restorative quality of the natural environment. The firm, founded in 1995 by David Kamp, FASLA, LF, provides clients with the creativity and technical knowledge essential to project design and site planning. Dirtworks, PC provides a full range of professional services with a staff of technically trained and design-oriented landscape architects.

About the AASA

The American Association of School Administrators (www.aasa.org), founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders across the United States. Its mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders who are dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children. The AASA award and scholarship programs, such as the 2008 Architectural Awards, recognize excellence, profile best practices in public education and honor leaders from inside and outside the field whose contributions have made a significant impact on the lives and learning of children.