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Lab of the Year Brings Science to the Public

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Monday, February 22, 2010



The main entrance to the Plant Conservation Science Center is accessed via a bridge over a rain garden. Photo: Michelle Litvin

The Plant Conservation Science Center at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill., has been selected Laboratory of the Year in the 2010 *R&D* Magazine Laboratory of the Year competition.

The Laboratory of the Year competition, now in its 44th year, is sponsored by *R&D* Magazine. The judging panel consists of architects, lab planners, construction project managers, a vendor representative from SEFA (Scientific Equipment and Furniture Association, co-sponsor of the Laboratory of the Year competition), and the editors of *R&D* Magazine and *Laboratory Design Newsletter*.

The goal of the Plant Conservation Science Center, owned by the Chicago Horticultural Society, was to make the building accessible not only to scientists, but the visiting public as well. A central public atrium offers educational exhibits and a window to working research labs. Booth Hansen, Ltd., Chicago, Ill, served as architect and laboratory planners.



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An eight-story vertical expansion to Texas Children's Hospital, Feigin Center in Houston, Texas received Honorable Mention in this year's *R&D* Laboratory of the Year competition. The expansion added 200,000 square feet of space for research labs, clinical research offices, GMP space for gene therapies, a simulation center, expanded vivarium, and an animal imaging center. FKP Architects of Houston, Texas served as architects and laboratory planners.

Representatives of the winning facilities and design teams will be officially recognized at *R&D* Magazine's Spring Laboratory Design Conference at the Sheraton Raleigh, N.C., on Tuesday, April 20. The design teams will provide presentation on the winning projects as part of the [Laboratory Design Conference](#) program.

Complete profiles of each facility will be published as the cover story in the May 2010 issue of *Laboratory Design Newsletter* and the June issue of *R&D* Magazine.

About R&D Magazine

Since its founding in 1959 as *Industrial Research*, *R&D Magazine* has served research scientists, engineers and technical staff at laboratories around the world, providing timely, informative news and useful technical articles that broaden readers' knowledge of the research and development industry and improve the quality of their work. *R&D Magazine* is a publication of Advantage Business Media (www.advantagebusinessmedia.com).



View of Feigin south and west exterior. Photo: Aker/Zvonkovic Photography

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