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LIGHT & ARCHITECTURE DESIGN AWARDS



JULY/AUGUST 2012



## 2012 DESIGN AWARDS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

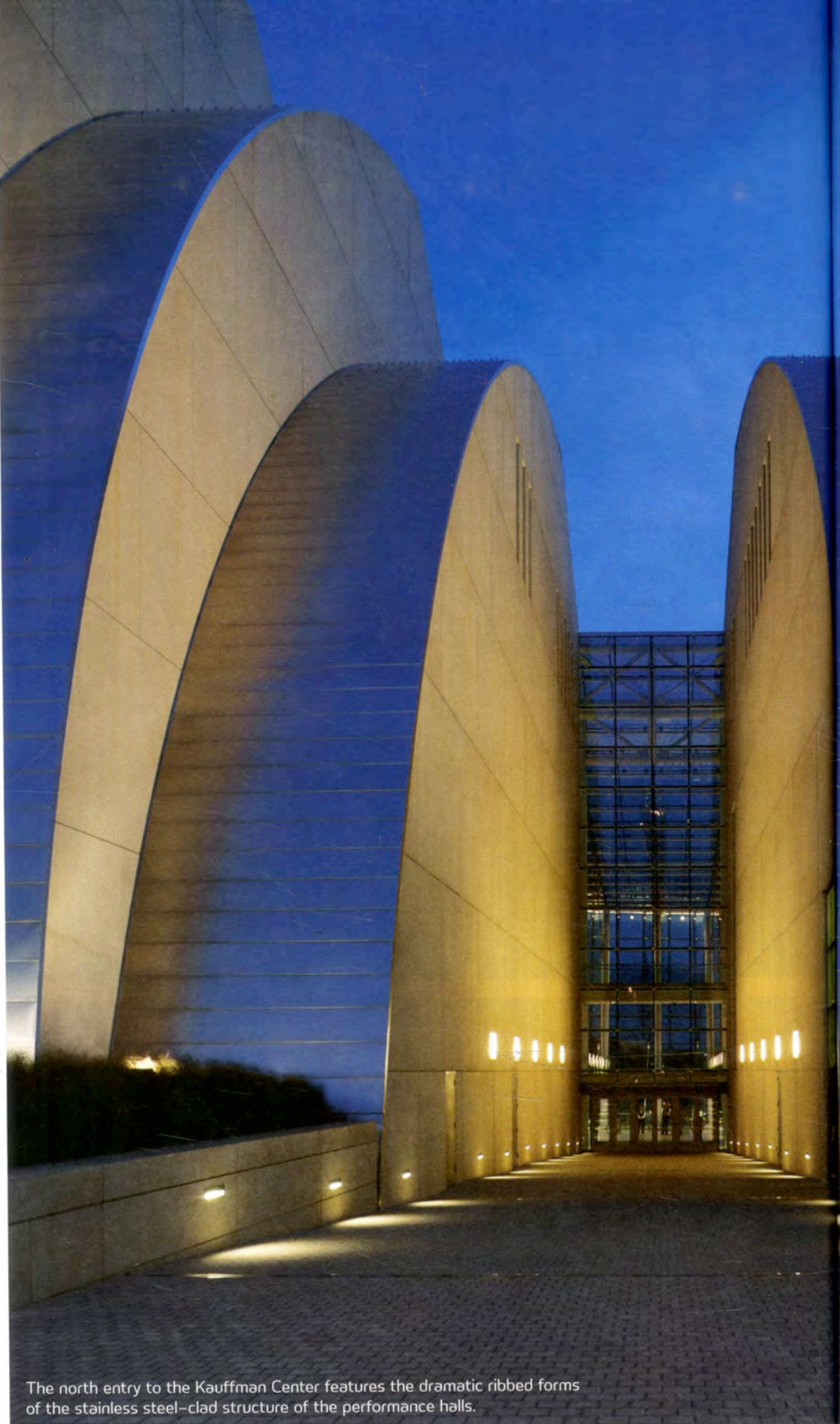
Category: Whole Building • Project: The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas City, Mo. • Entrant: Lam Partners • Jury Comments: The lighting cohesively brings all the different spaces together. • The lighting of the back façade is particularly dramatic.

### Details

Architect: Safdie Architects, Somerville, Mass., with BNIM, Kansas City, Mo. • Lighting Designers: Lam Partners, Cambridge, Mass., with Derek Porter Studio, Kansas City, Mo. • Photographer: Michael Spillers • Project Size: 356,000 square feet • Project Cost: \$304 million • Watts per Square Foot: Missouri has no energy code • Manufacturers: Acolyte, Alcko, Bartco Lighting, Baselite, Bega, C.W. Cole, D'ac, Dasal Lighting, Designplan, Eureka, Engineered Lighting Products, Edison Price, Elliptipar (the Lighting Quotient), Erco, Finelite, Focal Point, Halo (Cooper Lighting), H.E. Williams, Hubell, Intense Lighting, Insight Lighting, Jesolo, Litecontrol, Louis Poulsen, Lucifer Lighting, Lumiere (Cooper Lighting), New Star, Osram, Philips Capri, Philips Day-Brite, Philips Lightolier, Philips Omega, Rezek, RSA, Selux, Tivoli, We-ef

Designed by Safdie Architects, the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts sits confidently on the Kansas City's horizon, and its unique architectural form—a ribbed, helmetlike shape—gives the city a notable landmark. While the building as a whole has a sizeable urban presence, the real cause for celebration is its technical prowess, most of which is hidden in its structure, acoustical performance, and lighting. The center is actually several structures in one, wrapped in an envelope of metal and glass. It has two main performance halls—Helzberg Hall and the Muriel Kauffman Theater—each of which is structurally independent of one another as well as the main glass-enclosed lobby area known as Brandmeyer Hall.

Lam Partners, with the assistance of local firm Derek Porter Studio, have lit the interiors and exteriors in a seemingly simple, yet technically sophisticated, way. For example, five different luminaires work in concert to illuminate the entry drive and its architectural features. In Brandmeyer Hall, PAR38-IR spotlights are mounted directly to the tubular steel beams and provide the space with complementary lighting at night, which otherwise relies on daylight. Despite the scale of the building, the lighting provides an intimate feel and sets the stage for the spectacle within. • ELIZABETH DONOFF



The north entry to the Kauffman Center features the dramatic ribbed forms of the stainless steel-clad structure of the performance halls.





Helzberg Hall, the Kansas City Symphony's new concert hall.



The entry drive to the Kauffman Center is anchored by 27 high-tension steel cables that support the 330-foot-long glass curtainwall.