



# The United States Conference of Mayors

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## U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS PRESIDENT MIAMI MAYOR MANUEL A. DIAZ TO RECEIVE 2009 AMERICAN ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION'S KEYSTONE AWARD

### *Award to be presented at 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Accent on Architecture Gala*

WASHINGTON, D.C - The American Architectural Foundation (AAF) will present its 2009 Keystone Award to U.S. Conference of Mayors President Miami Mayor Manuel A. Diaz, at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Accent on Architecture Gala in Washington, D.C. on February 6, 2009.

The Keystone Award is presented annually by AAF to an organization or individual outside of the architectural profession for their leadership in demonstrating the power of architecture and design to improve lives and transform communities.

Three years ago, Mayor Diaz launched Miami 21, a comprehensive master plan for Miami based on new urbanism and smart growth principles, which includes economic development, park and public places, transportation, historic preservation, and arts and culture.

Mayor Diaz is also being honored by AAF for his vision for Miami that is guided by an understanding of, and commitment to, sustainable design. He created the city's first Office of Sustainable Initiatives which coordinates Miami's environmental programs, retrofitted City Hall, which now sports solar panels, and launched the city's first Citywide Tree Master Plan, which aims at enhancing and restoring the city's tree canopy.

"Mayor Diaz has been a leader in design and smart growth on the national level, as well as in Miami. His achievements in design leadership have enriched the quality of life for the residents of Miami and transformed his community into being recognized as one of the best cities in the world," said Tom Cochran, CEO and executive director of The U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Mayor Diaz is a member of the National Advisory Council of the Mayors' Institute on City Design, a partnership program of the National Endowment for the Arts, American Architectural Foundation, and The U.S. Conference of Mayors.

"Mayor Diaz is revolutionizing downtown Miami through design. Through public art, multi-family housing, transit, mixed-use developments, and preservation of Miami's historic neighborhood fabric, he is constantly utilizing design to shape a more sustainable future," said Sandy Diehl, chair of the AAF Board of Regents.

This year's event will feature the presentation of the AAF Keystone Award, as well as the AIA Gold Medal, AIA twenty-five Year Award, and AIA Architecture Firm Award. Approximately 1,000 guests will attend the black-tie gala at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

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