

# aspenartmuseum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ASPEN ART MUSEUM DESIGN ARCHITECT SHIGERU BAN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS 2014 PRITZKER ARCHITECTURE PRIZE**

**ASPEN, COLORADO** — The Aspen Art Museum (AAM) congratulates Shigeru Ban—design architect of the museum’s new facility—as recipient of the [2014 Pritzker Architecture Prize](#). The award announcement was made today by Thomas J. Pritzker, chairman of prize sponsor The Hyatt Foundation.

The Pritzker Architecture Prize is known internationally as architecture’s highest honor. It is presented annually to a living architect whose built work demonstrates a combination of talent, vision and commitment, and who has produced consistent and significant contributions to humanity and the built environment through the art of architecture. The prize was established in 1979 by the late Jay A. Pritzker and spouse, Cindy. Pritzker Architecture Prize laureates receive a \$100,000 grant and a bronze medallion, which will be presented during a ceremony in June.

The new Aspen Art Museum facility, which is currently under construction and will open to the public on August 9, 2014, is Shigeru Ban’s first U.S. museum to be constructed. After an international search in 2007, the Aspen Art Museum’s Architect Selection Committee unanimously chose Ban (Shigeru Ban Architects) for the project.

AAM Nancy and Bob Magoon CEO and Director Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson comments: “The Aspen Art Museum Board of Trustees and New Building Committee congratulate Shigeru Ban on his 2014 Pritzker Architecture Prize. We are extremely proud to be closely affiliated with an architect whose work not only embodies the award criteria so perfectly, but whose humanity imbues each of his endeavors so thoroughly, and whose humility is a constant reminder of how grace and greatness can coexist. We are honored to be the recipient organization of his first U.S. museum, and we look forward to welcoming him back to Aspen for both its opening and the debut of our *Shigeru Ban: Humanitarian Architecture* exhibition this coming August.”

Ban’s vision for the new AAM is based on transparency and open view planes—inviting those outside to engage with the building’s interior. Of the new, 33,000-square-foot building design, Ban states: “The Aspen Art Museum presented a very exciting opportunity to create a harmony between architecture and Aspen’s surrounding beauty, while also responding to the need for the dialogue between artwork, audience, and the space itself.”

The new AAM features 17,500 square feet of flexible exhibition space, with six primary gallery spaces spread over the museum's four levels—more than tripling the exhibition space of the museum's current facility.

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The Aspen Art Museum is a noncollecting institution presenting the newest, most important evolutions in international contemporary art. Our innovative and timely exhibitions, education and public programs, immersive activities, and community happenings actively engage audiences in thought-provoking experiences of art, culture, and society.

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**AAM MUSEUM HOURS:**

Tuesday–Saturday, 10am – 6pm; Thursday, 10am – 7pm; Sunday, noon to 6pm  
Closed Mondays and major holidays

**AAM ADMISSION IS FREE** courtesy of Amy and John Phelan  
Visit the AAM online: [www.aspenartmuseum.org](http://www.aspenartmuseum.org)

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