

INDUSTRY NEWS

Designing For Fast Times

Poppin x *Contract* explore the implications of designing for high-growth companies.



Over the past year, *Contract* and Poppin have co-hosted a program for the architecture and design community, held at various Poppin showrooms around the country, to discuss the topic of designing for fast times. Exploring the implications of designing for high-growth companies, the most recent panel took place at Poppin's Boston showroom on Sept. 25th, where *Contract* editor in chief Paul Makovsky moderated a fun, informative and fast-paced evening and a full house.

Conversations between three design firms and their clients illuminated everything from budgets and timelines, to space planning and pain points. Felice Silverman, principal at Silverman Trykowski Associates, Inc., talked with Christopher Velis, founder and executive chairman, Miraki Innovation about designing the company's innovative headquarters in the iconic TAC building, formerly home to Design Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Reetika Vijay, managing principal at IA Interior Architects, also engaged in a lively discussion with Mack Freedman, senior manager of Global Real Estate at DraftKings, about the rapid growth of this ever-expanding tech startup. Finally, Tara Reilly, LEED AP, senior associate at Elkus Manfredi Architects, spoke with Christopher Caine, development manager at Samules & Associates, a firm responsible for developing some of Boston's most renowned commercial real-estate properties. They educated the audience about the challenges and opportunities of designing an office building that is both sustainable and focused on attracting tenants from the tech and innovation sectors.

The Inaugural ICFF Constellation Awards Included Live Judging in Six Categories

Color X, a company that specializes in large-format printing and graphics, received the award for Best Booth at ICFF 2019. Their booth was entirely covered in their unique large-scale architectural paper, making for an eye-catching display.



For the first-ever ICFF Constellation Awards at this year's ICFF in May, Contract conducted live judging in six categories—Best Booth, Gallery Winner, Young or Emerging Designer, Best School, Best Country of Contingent, and Best in Show. A jury of two seasoned design professionals, Greg Guerra, LEED AP, design director at IA Interior Architects, and Angie Lee, AIA, IIDA, partner & design director of interiors at FXCollaborative Architects LLP, traveled the show floor on the first day of the expo to choose winners in each category. The live judging gave companies, schools, and contingents showing at ICFF a chance to receive recognition for collective works and booth appearances—things that were not able to be considered during the pre-show Constellation Awards judging, which focused on 11 product categories. The winners were announced on May 19, the opening day of ICFF 2019, at the Jacob K. Javits Center.

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