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Jackson architect feted for life of service

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Award-winning architect Bob H. Canizaro was recognized with a lifetime achievement award by his peers Thursday night in Jackson.

The honor, by American Institute of Architects, Mississippi Chapter, was the first such award given by the organization, and was greeted with a standing ovation from the crowd gathered for a lecture by the recipient.

The actual award was an original design in glass and wood by master Mississippi craftsmen Andrew Young and Fletcher Cox.

Canizaro's role in Jackson extended from architecture to civic leadership and committed volunteerism.

"He has enhanced the quality of life of all Mississippians by treating access to culture as a right and not a privilege," said Michael Jones of Tupelo, president of AIA Mississippi, in presenting the award.

The honor followed a lecture by Canizaro on the topic, "Architectural Profession: Glamorous, Creative, Sexy?"

Rather, the profession's defining characteristic, Canizaro said, is service.

The award culminates a month-long, multi-pronged Mississippi Celebrates Architecture show that includes several exhibitions, including America's Favorite Architecture.

Saturday is the final day for the exhibitions' display at the Arts Center of Mississippi in Jackson. It's been viewed by an estimated 1,500 people, including more than 600 students.
