

**Bertschi Living Science Wing
Seattle, WA**

Landscape Architect:	GGLO
Client:	Bertschi School
Architect:	KMD
Engineer:	2020 Engineering, civil; Quantum Engineering, structural; Rushing, MEP
Other consultants:	GeoEngineers; O'Brien & Co.; Skanska; Parsons PR; Back to Nature Design; Morrison Hershfield; Cascadia; City of Seattle; King County



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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Working *pro bono*, interested design professionals formed an integrated team with the School and Contractor. From day one the team understood the building and landscape needed to function as a unified system to achieve the *The Living Building Challenge* (LBC, www.ilbi.org), a green rating system with 20 requirements. Stepping beyond conventional roles, the Landscape Architects were integrally involved in the design and coordination of systems that bridge the typical indoor/outdoor separation of scope.

The LBC was used as a framework to derive a healthy, indoor/outdoor environment that viscerally engages students in learning about sustainability. The design emerged from intensive, collaborative workshops, student brainstorming,

and culminated in a one-day event where the students planted the entire site.

JURY COMMENTS

This beautifully crafted and thoroughly thought-out gem of a project is a wonderful example of the melding of design, sustainability and client involvement. The *pro bono* design incorporates every aspect of the project into a story that supports the school curriculum in the smallest spaces imaginable, and removes the separation of indoors and outdoors. The jurors applaud the idea of edible landscape, the zero use of water via on-site water treatment, and carefully selected materials to meet the Living Building Challenge's stringent requirements. This truly is a low-impact project with a beautifully detailed execution.



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