



Brunelleschi Construction, LLC
650 Montgomery Street - Unit 101
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Alfonso Carrino, *Partner*
Anthony Carrino, *Partner*
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Daniel Cleary, *Job Supervisor*

April 28, 2009

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the **Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy (JCLC)**, I am writing to congratulate **Brunelleschi Construction, LLC** on being selected as the first recipient of our newly established **ADAPTIVE RE-USE PRESERVATION PRIZE** in recognition of the creative transformation of the former **Calco Chemical Company** (1915) now known as the **M650 FLATS**, 650 Montgomery Street, McGinley Square, Jersey City.

The prize will be bestowed upon your company at our gala **2009 JCLC Preservation Awards Ceremony** at the **Landmark Loew's Jersey Theatre**, 54 Journal Square, on **Thursday, May 28, 2009**, during the ceremonial conclusion of **Preservation Month 2009 in Jersey City**. The ceremony, which draws hundreds from the preservation field and community - not to mention considerable media coverage and exposure on our website and in our email newsletters - will take place from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and will feature an open buffet, wine, and dessert.

In addition, special table seating will be provided for all awardees at the front of the lobby, and a slide show illustrating the preservation accomplishments of our awardees will be presented by local prominent architectural photographer Leon Yost. A live jazz trio will entertain our awardees, their invited guests, and the public.

We would like to point out that this award category is *long overdue* - and we could think of no finer project to receive it than the M650 Flats. (The competition for this prize, however, was fierce; it challenged and transformed our very perception of historic preservation, which we recognize as a growing field with immense creative potential and possibilities.)

Our board of directors and advisory council - made up of architects, planners, architectural historians, educators, and other professionals - was greatly impressed with Brunelleschi's decision to retain original fabric and structural forms within and without the brick and concrete complex.

We were especially amazed by the bold culminating **Deconstructivist** addition designed by **Minervini Vandermark** (of Hoboken) - *the* architectural firm to watch out for in the years to come – that hovers above the original roofline. This addition, serene and beautiful, has redefined the aesthetic landscape of Montgomery Street and has raised the bar in the practice of architectural additions.

A sense of true craftsmanship and attention to detail is evident throughout the M650 site. This, coupled with superbly designed modern amenities, ecologically sensitive materials, technologically advanced electrical and mechanical systems, and the imaginative relocation and reinsertion of original fabric - be it brick or bluestone - captured our organization’s imagination and added a striking sense of excitement to our site visit.

We have all agreed that almost no other adaptive re-use project in Jersey City comes close to the level of sophistication, reinvention and passion that is evident at the M650 Flats.

We ask that you please provide us with the complete names/titles of all and any associated architect(s), engineering firms, contractors, etc. so that our specially designed award certificate may properly honor them. We recognize as well that these branches of preservation are pivotal to the success, prestige and longevity of a high-profile project such as yours, and we would like to give them well-deserved credit.

We are enclosing **4 complimentary tickets** to the ceremony. If Brunelleschi would like to purchase additional tickets or has any other questions, you may contact me at (201) 420-1885 or jclandmarks@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you on May 28th and honoring your visionary work!

Sincerely,

John Gomez

Founder & President
Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy, Inc.

M.S. Historic Preservation
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History/Architecture Columnist - “Legends & Landmarks”
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www.jclandmarks.org