

**CHARLES COMMONS WINS MFE STUDENT HOUSING PROJECT OF THE YEAR**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2007

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Baltimore, Md. – Charles Commons, a mixed-use student housing project at Johns Hopkins University, was named the Student Housing Project of the year by Multifamily Executive. Designed by Design Collective, Charles Commons was recognized for how well sustainable design principles were used to create a livable, pedestrian-friendly community for the students.

Developed to meet the growing student housing needs of Johns Hopkins, this 314,000 SF project has grown into much more than the average student housing facility. Located just across the street at the edge of the campus, this building brings a mix of uses to the students, faculty and surrounding community. A vast amount of unparalleled amenities and common space creates a sense of community among undergraduates, and interaction with the surrounding neighborhood through the combination of student housing and public uses. The 615-bed facility features a 25,000 SF Barnes & Noble University Bookstore, Starbucks, dining facility, banquet room and conference center.

The award was accepted on October 3, 2007, by Principal Luis Bernardo at the Multifamily Executive Conference in Las Vegas and was received favorably by those judging the competition.

“This successful building contributes to a sense of community. The project creates livability through simplicity of structure and materials and is a partner in the neighborhood,” said juror member Daniel Ashtary.

About Design Collective, Inc.:

Design Collective is an award-winning multi-disciplinary design firm headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, with a branch office in Durham, North Carolina. Founded in 1978, the firm provides innovative solutions nationally and internationally in architecture, planning, landscape architecture, and interior architecture. For additional information, please visit [www.designcollective.com](http://www.designcollective.com).