
H. Paul Davis

H. Paul Davis Landscape Architects

Washington, D.C.

Class IX - Merit Award

American University, Battelle-Tompkins Garden



The landscape surrounds an academic building that was recently renovated and includes a plaza and walkway. The design for Battelle-Tompkins garden had several objectives. Circulation around and through the site was an important consideration. Seat walls, clusters of benches amongst the plantings, and open lawn areas were added to the design. Due to its prominent location, this garden is viewed as a demonstration of the use of a sustainable planting of perennials combined with shrubs, bulbs, and selected annuals. The result is a rich tapestry of textures and colors that are enjoyed throughout the year. One challenge of the project was preparing the soil, which included a slope, and ensuring proper drainage on the site. The mixture of full sun and dense shade also presented a challenge for selecting plant material. Judges commented on the excellent sweeping mass of colors and textures.