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GLENDALE ENVIRONMENTAL CLASSROOM EARNS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

GLENDALE, Ariz. – The Glendale Main Library's unique combination of the environment and education has been celebrated for its efforts. The library was recognized at the Valley Forward Association's 28th Annual Environmental Excellence Award Ceremony for its Art in Public Places.

The Valley Forward Association presented the city of Glendale Library with the Crescordia, which was given as the highest honor in the category of Art in Public Places for its modern and functional architecture intertwined with impressive landscape. The classroom was designed by Matthew and Maria Salenger of coLab Studio.

Children and adults can learn about the beauty and importance of the natural Sonoran desert at the Glendale outdoor environmental classroom. The artwork bends itself to the forms of the existing landscape.

Seating accommodates 27 with black steel benches similar to the building's structure arranged in a curving form placed along the landscape. Hanging above is a large vertical shade. A new path connects a nearby concrete sidewalk with the classroom.

"It is an honor to receive the Crescordia for a project that truly demonstrates a design created in harmony with the environment," said Rex Gulbranson, arts and cultural administrator.

The outdoor classroom is part of the Glendale Xeriscape Demonstration Garden, which features 400 species of low-water-use plants. For more information, visit

www.glendaleaz.com.

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