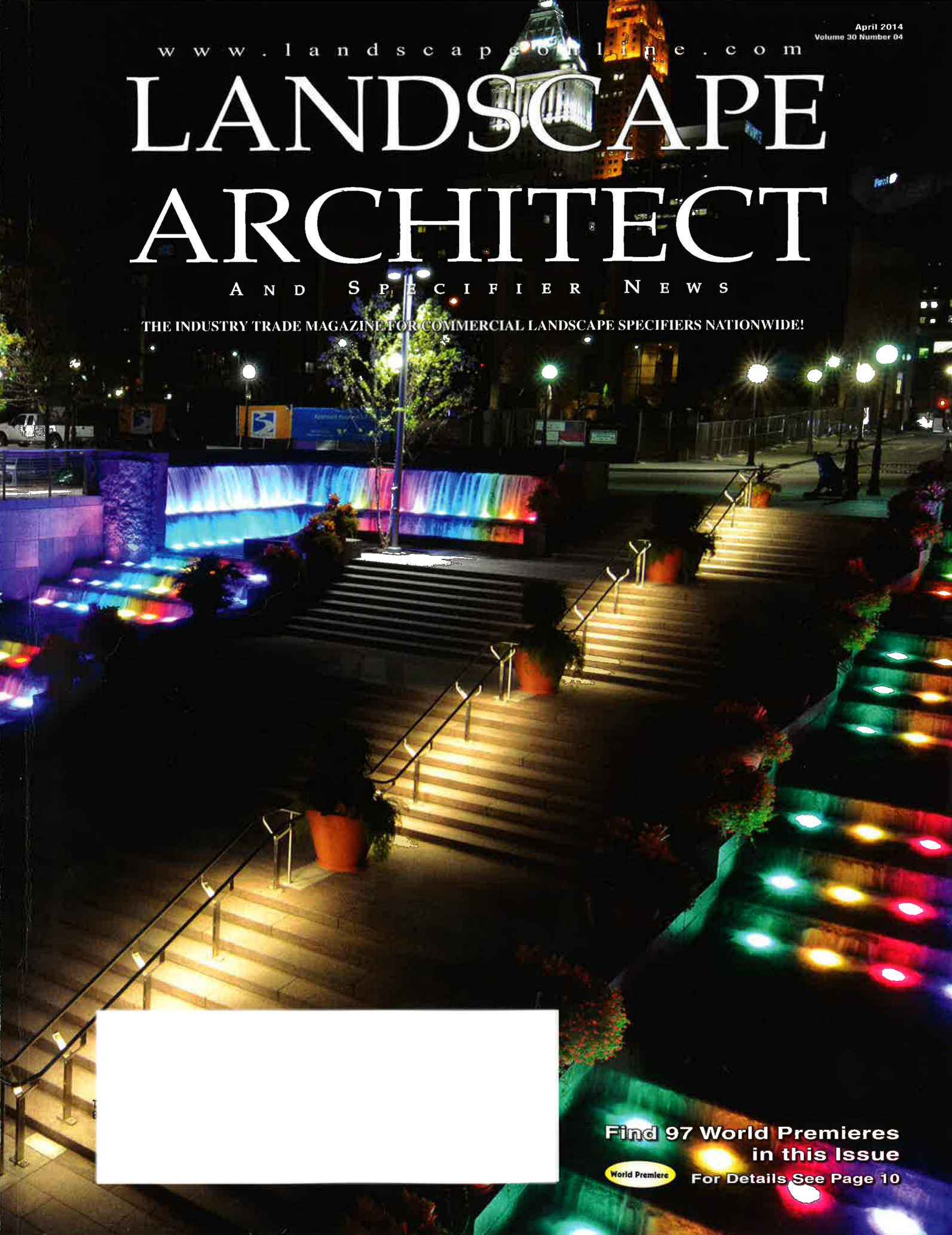


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NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S

An expansion of Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, included a six-acre park and a children's garden that serve as therapeutic spaces for three pediatric research facilities and a new 12-story in-patient tower. An expanded lighting palette features energy-efficient fixtures that change colors, reflecting the hospital's new brand standards and the unique character of the neighborhood. The iconic Grove of Light, a series of illuminated masts, defines the gateway into the Hospital campus.

CREDIT: MATTHEW CARBONE

Groves of Light: *Nationwide Children's Hospital*


By Rick Espe, MKSk



Gateway

With the expansion of the hospital and planned improvements to the adjacent I-70/71 freeway system, the edges and approaches to the campus have dramatically changed. Streetscape improvements along the main corridors of Livingston and Parsons Avenues, new pavements, bio-retention cells for stormwater runoff and street trees frame the hospital campus and form the neighborhood's new identity. District landmarks have been proposed at the five key thresholds into campus; these elements are oriented with the urban street grid and are scaled to relate to both vehicles and pedestrians. Throughout the hospital campus and surrounding neighborhood, a consistency in materials, colors, and modern sensibilities was maintained. Each element was designed

to be colorful and visible day and night, and the graphics and colors reflect the new brand standards and the unique character of the neighborhood, while the edges of the campus are demarked by iconic, illuminated gateway signs.

Together, the Nationwide Children's Hospital campus, Livingston Park, and adjacent streetscapes represent a city's and a hospital's commitment to healthier lifestyles and communities through built environment planning and design. Set within a traditionally disadvantaged community, the new and much needed open spaces are linked to neighborhoods by new tree-lined sidewalks, bike lanes and dramatic lighting elements, placing a strong emphasis on urban health and physical activity. 

Above

The centerpiece of the park is a significant shade structure, reminiscent of historic trolley sheds that once dotted the city's landscape. The plaza beneath can accommodate large crowds for festivals, markets, or other community events.

CREDIT: MATTHEW CARBONE

Top

The site renovation included a garden café, where virtual candles appear to float above the bluestone paving as they weave through a canopy of locust trees. The textured, vine-covered walls and mirrored glass of the below ground parking garage extend the indoor scenery into the park, providing a tranquil respite from the hospital setting.

CREDIT: RANDALL LEE SCHIEBER