

MAY 2025

BCM

30
YEARS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF BPAA

- Lerner, Wapensky Recipient Profiles
- Billiards: It's Still a Profitable Game
- Lane Patterns for Tournament Play

STUNNING DESIGN

Complete Results of the '24 BCM
Architecture and Design Awards



BD BAR

Top: Dok 99 in Rotterdam,
Netherlands.

Bottom: Boondocks Food
& Fun in Draper, Utah.



INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

40th ANNUAL BCM BOWLING CENTER ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AWARDS



It's always fascinating to see which venues emerge as the International Division winners in the BCM Bowling Center Architecture and Design Awards competition. In many cases, modern, high-tech venues are built in cities that are steeped in history and boast architectural sights that date to Medieval times.

So it is with the "Best New Center" in the 40th annual Design Awards, which shines the spotlight on new and modernization projects completed in 2024. Bowl & Co. (shown here) is housed in the basement of a venerable brick building in Esslingen, Germany, that's mere steps away from more than 200 half-timbered buildings dating as far back as the 13th century. Being able to view architectural projects from multiple centuries can provide a different perspective on the world and one's place in it.

It was up to an independent judging panel to sort through this year's entries and select the best of the best. Heading the panel for the second consecutive year was James Nowak, architect, AIA, LEED AP (retired). Nowak was a senior technical architect for 50 years, leading such Chicago projects as the 900 N. Michigan multi-use skyscraper and the revolutionary Rush University Medical Center — all while being an avid league bowler and participant in company leagues with the various architecture companies for which he worked.

As we have for the past 39 years, we hope this year's Design Awards winners will inspire existing proprietors and newcomers to the industry to embrace creativity with their bowling-based projects.

(Note: Information in the "At a Glance" listings is provided by the entrants.)



BEST RESTAURANT

Claus Bowling Hoofddorp, Netherlands



► Claus Bowling offers two unique dining experiences: the Barraca Rodizio Grill & Bar for fine dining, and a diner evoking 1950s America. Barraca Rodizio provides a sophisticated yet comfortable atmosphere by combining the warmth of ambient lighting, exposed wood trusswork, wood-paneled walls, corrugated metal sheeting and wire mesh panels. The subtle use of color in the polished concrete floors adds to the ambience. The diner features walls decorated with retro pinsetting equipment, chrome-legged chairs with padded vinyl cushions, and a full-size 1957 Buick Super Rivera that brings the “drive-in” right into the “bowling alley.”

AT A GLANCE

Proprietor: Jelrick Claus

Architecture & Design: Prast & Hooft

Bowling Distributor: Bowltech International BV

Bowling Equipment: QubicaAMF (BES X Bowler Entertainment System, HyperBowling, SPL Select Lanes, Harmony Ball Returns, Harmony Masking, AMFlite Pins)

Lighting: Keeman Electrical

Sound: Bose

On the Web: clausbowling.nl





BEST MODERNIZED CENTER

Dok 99

Rotterdam, Netherlands

► One should not go to Rotterdam expecting to see the kind of architecture encountered in places like Italy or Bavaria. The Netherlands' second-largest city was essentially leveled during World War II but has since emerged as the country's most modern and innovative metropolis — making it a perfect fit for Dok 99. From its bowling area — where a rigid grid of exposed steel and simple graphic screening above the pins and side walls of common brick evoke an industrial warehouse — to its chic dining area, Dok 99 projects a relaxed, sophisticated vibe. The beautifully detailed bar area features interesting hanging racks and shelves for bottles and glassware, while the brick back wall helps create a comfortable feeling. In the dining area, intimacy is created using strategically placed lighting and a lowered ceiling plane of rustic tin tiles. An outdoor beer garden is protected from the weather by a soaring fabric tent.

AT A GLANCE

Proprietor: Gebbe de Vet

Interior Design: Heineken

Bowling Distributor: Bowltech International BV

Bowling Equipment: QubicaAMF (BES X Bowler Entertainment System, HyperBowling, SPL Select Lanes, Harmony Ball Returns, Harmony Masking, AMFlite Pins)

Masking Units/Screens, Lighting and Sound

Equipment: MEB Rotterdam

Furniture: Satelliet Meubelen

Restaurant/Bar Equipment/Supplies: Heineken

Music: Xenox

On the Web: Rotterdam.dok99.nl





BEST BAR/LOUNGE

Jungla Bowling

Panama City, Panama

► “Jungla” is the Spanish word for jungle, and the greenery encountered throughout Jungla Bowling gives the feeling of walking through a rainforest. Monumental bronze head sculptures peek out from a sea of green plantings, adding an air of mystery, awe and fascination. The bar itself has green panels and vertical wood strips that resemble thatched walls of a hut and support a green marble top. The herringbone patterned wood paneling above the bar is reminiscent of a thatched roof, and the inventive glass-hanging rack appears like creeping vines over the “hut.”

AT A GLANCE

Proprietor: Carlos Garcia

Architecture and Design: Proyectos Recreativos S.A.S.

Bowling Equipment: QubicaAMF (BES X Entertainment System, HyperBowling, EDGE String Pinspotters, SPL Select Lanes, Harmony Ball Returns, AMFlite Pins)

Lighting: QubicaAMF (Centerpunch Intelligent lighting)

On the Web: junglabowling.com

