

PROFESSIONAL

LIGHTING

DESIGN

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD OF LIGHTING DESIGN

Outline - Philadelphia's famed Boat House Row

A popular Philadelphia landmark, Boat House Row comprises twelve boating clubs in ten, architecturally distinct buildings along a half-mile stretch of the Schuylkill River. Prior to the relighting project, the Fairmount Park Commission was spending more than \$50,000 per year on lamp replacement and \$8,000 per year on energy. The new system encompasses more than 12,000 individually controllable LED nodes. An LED-based system made sense because it is practically maintenance-free and has a long source life. A further advantage is that the reduced energy consumption translates into reduced operating costs. The lighting redraws the outlines of the boathouses by night, giving rise to shimmering reflections in the water. A series of colourful, dynamic light shows were created and programmed for the grand unveiling, in addition to red, white and blue effects for the Fourth of July. The light shows are authored and controlled by Light System Manager, Color Kinetics' Ethernet-based software/hardware solution that facilitates the authoring, management and control of complex installations that can scale to thousands of individually controlled LED nodes. The project was funded through a public campaign, with labour donated by PECO, an Exelon energy company who spearheaded the project, in partnership with the Fairmount Park Commission, the Schuylkill Navy of Philadelphia, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 98.

Lighting design: Troy A. Martin-O'Shia, Hase & Associates, Ltd., Chicago/USA
Products: Color Kinetics (luminaires and control system)