

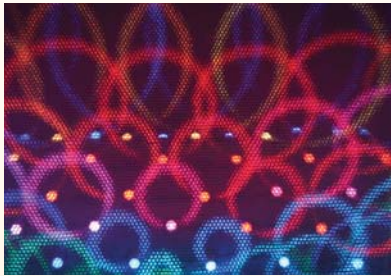
Windows LT: Light, Materials, and Dynamic Perception

In April 2010, LRC graduate students created a lighting installation, a three-dimensional light-art exhibit that accentuates the beauty, emotion, and science of light. The class chose to combine their individual ideas to design and build one interactive exhibit, *Windows LT: Light, Materials, and Dynamic Perception*. Intriguing illusions drew viewers in from an exterior corridor as they approached the exhibit space, through a series of distinct effects, to the final grand display. The experience filled an entire room in Rensselaer's Greene Building, home to the School of Architecture.

The student project stemmed from the LRC's Lighting Workshop course, a research and design class integrating technology, design, policy, and communication. As part of the course, the students examine the use of light as a medium. Then they have three weeks to design and develop a "message" using lighting.



Windows LT: Light, Materials, and Dynamic Perception was an interactive exhibit demonstrating the beauty, emotion, and science of light.



Patterns of light changed in color and shape as they were reflected through different materials and as the viewing angle changed.



To construct the project, the class divided into a construction group that designed large scale components, gathered materials, and built, painted and assembled the displays; and a lighting group that focused on finding the lighting technologies needed to achieve the effects required in the project—and make those complex systems work.

The exhibit was set up so that, depending on how one moved around the room and how much time one spent in each different exhibit chamber, the overall experience changed. From erasing boundaries to convey infinity, to using part of the spectrum to render all things colorless, a series of surprise discoveries unfolded for each viewer. The springtime light art exhibit promises to be an annual event.