The journalism school’s media lab is an academic experiment devoted to the co-evolution of technology and storytelling. A series of intertwining luminous elements builds a network of ambient light to support the institute’s varied programmatic needs. Backlight integrated in the perimeter scrim adds depth, and allows the structure to become an extension of the ceiling network, cradling the volume. In media-intensive scenarios, eliminating overhead lighting and dimming perimeter light maximizes perceptibility of the projections while reducing peripheral contrast and resulting eyestrain. Ceiling lighting dims in response to daylight, and during the day the perimeter lighting reduces visual contrast between windows and solid wall surfaces.

**ARCHITECT**
LTL Architects
Marc Tsurumaki, Paul Lewis, David J. Lewis, John Morrison, Keith Greenwald

**OWNER**
Columbia University School of Journalism

**PHOTOGRAPHY**
Michael Moran Photography, Inc.
Chris Coulter, Buro Happold
Gabe Guilliams, Buro Happold

**Award of CITATION for Strong Execution of Concept**

**Brown Institute for Media Innovation at Columbia University**
New York, NY

**Buro Happold**
Gabe Guilliams, Pei-Chun Yang

“The space really challenges the traditional pedagogic landscape by promoting a more collaborative teacher-student relationship. The ceiling is visually exciting, but the real vigor is in the walls becoming activated—and the energy they imbue to everyone inside.”

—Gabe Guilliams

“We loved the execution of this project and integration of lighting layers with the ceiling and walls to achieve the multi-use functionality.”

—Lumen Awards Jury