



The design of the **Arkansas Diamond Award** incorporates aspects of the architectural decoration found in the inner dome of the Arkansas Capitol.

The plaster mouldings were applied during 1910, as builders hastened to complete the monumental inner and outer domes. The patterns were chosen by architect Cass Gilbert from the wide variety of existing ornamentation; all were commonly found in Neoclassical buildings of the day.

The patterns:

A **rosette** is a round, usually symmetrical stylized flower design used extensively in sculptural objects from antiquity. It was found in ancient Mesopotamia and Greece and adopted later by both Romanesque and Renaissance artists. The sculpted rosette mimics the natural shape of the botanical rosette, formed by leaves radiating out from the stem of a plant. The Capitol's rosettes include both a simple cruciform style and a subtle one based on an acanthus leaf pattern. These rosettes can be found in the four corners of the Diamond Award.

"**Bead and reel**" consists of a narrow line along which slender elements, resembling an edge view of a reel or pulley, alternate with spherical or cylindrical ones. It is found throughout the modern Western world in architectural detail, particularly on Greek/Roman-style buildings, wallpaper borders, and interior moulding design. This design comprises the inner border of the Diamond Award.

Dome Rib: The Capitol's plaster inner dome is made up of coffers separated by ribs that are covered in an imbricated plaster frieze moulding and accented by crossed belts or ribbon. (imbrication is a pattern that simulates overlapping leaves or scales) The Dome Rib design is represented by the outer border of the Diamond Award.