

## 13 AWARDS, PRIZES & HONOURS

### 13.1 AIM

The aims of the Institute's awards, prizes and honours program is to:

- (i) recognise architects, members and others for their achievements in relation to the profession of architecture;
- (ii) develop high public awareness and understanding of the importance of architecture and the value of design, and
- (iii) encourage architects to strive for excellence in architecture and thereby promote the advancement of architecture.

### 13.2 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply in relation to this policy:

#### **AWARD**

Recognition for completed works of architecture of the highest quality, including Named Awards, Architecture Awards and Commendations (eg *The Sir Zelman Cowen Award for Public Architecture*).

#### **PRIZE**

Recognition of one or more individuals for work of the highest quality, determined after a structured competitive process (eg *The Student Prize for the Advancement of Architecture*).

#### **HONOUR**

Recognition of one or more individuals for high achievement, based on an extensive body of work or the attainment of a high office (eg *Gold Medal*).

#### **MEDAL**

- (i) A physical token of recognition presented on conferring of any Award, Prize or Honour, or
- (ii) The name given to a Prize or Honour (eg President's Medal, Gold Medal).

## 13.3 NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE AWARDS

### 13.3.1 OVERVIEW

#### **AWARD STRUCTURE**

Awards in each category are based on a three-tier system, in decreasing order of merit, as follows:

#### *(a) Named Awards*

The first and highest award in each category is the '*Named Award*'.

The award is given to the work judged to be the most significant for the advancement of architecture in each category. The award carries the name of a respected person or meaningful name, and represents the pinnacle of projects in each category. There is only one Named Award per national category and one winner of the Named Award in each category in any year.

Juries will determine a Named Award in every category (except category 11: Sustainable Architecture) where at least 5 entries are eligible for consideration.

Projects awarded a Named Award at National level are not eligible for any future awards program.

Names adopted shall be approved by National Council and those used at one level may not be used for Named Awards at any other level.

Names adopted are to be reviewed at not more than 25 year intervals, and may be retained after such review.

A Named Award may (but not required to) be associated with Category 12: ENDURING ARCHITECTURE. Named Awards will not be awarded in Category A1: COLORBOND AWARD FOR STEEL ARCHITECTURE, and within the subcategories of the International Architecture category.

*(b) Architecture Awards*

The second tier is the 'Architecture Award'. This is a work of excellence demonstrating consummate architectural skill that contributes to the advancement of architecture. Projects awarded an Architecture Award are the best projects in each category that have not won the Named Award.

More than one Architecture Award may be given in a category, and an Architecture Award may be given regardless of the number of eligible entries received in a category.

Projects awarded an Architecture Award at National level are not eligible for any future awards program, except where nominated for Category 12: ENDURING ARCHITECTURE AWARD.

*(c) Commendations*

The third tier of recognition is a 'Commendation'. This is for projects of special merit, demonstrating significant architectural skill.

More than one Commendation may be given in a category.

A Commendation may be given regardless of the number of eligible entries received in a category.

**REGIONAL, CHAPTER, INTERNATIONAL AREA AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS**

The National Architecture Awards is an integrated, hierarchical program resulting in annual awards at National, International Area, Chapter and, in some Chapters, Regional levels. Chapters may opt to conduct a Regional program or not.

Regions and Chapters will conduct their Awards programs so that there is a category which aligns with each of the National Architecture Awards categories. The International Area will conduct its Awards program with the following categories exclusively: Small Project Architecture, Commercial Architecture, Interior Architecture, Residential Architecture and Public Architecture. The award structure and conditions specified above for the national architecture awards, namely the three tier system of Named Award, Architecture Award and Commendation, also applies for the State and Territory Chapters, unless otherwise specified. All Named Awards at State and Territory level must align

with a national category. A Region, Chapter or International Area category may align with more than one of the National Architecture Awards categories.

Regions and Chapters wishing to acknowledge excellence outside of this structure may create additional categories, but winners in such categories will not be eligible for consideration at any higher level. Regional or Chapter categories not aligned with one or more of the categories described in 13.3.5 AWARD CATEGORIES will be identified as a Prize or Medal, as appropriate (eg President's Medal).

Entries in all categories are made through a common online entry system. In Chapters where a Regional program applies, entrants may opt to be first considered at either the Regional or Chapter level.

Projects awarded Named Awards and Architecture Awards by Chapters will be considered for a National Award in the same year. Projects awarded Named Awards and Architecture Awards by Regions may be considered for a Chapter Award. Projects awarded Architecture Awards by the International Area will be considered for a National Award in the International Area category.

Projects awarded a Commendation by a Chapter or the International Area are not eligible to be considered for a National Award in the same year. Projects awarded a Commendation by a Region are not eligible to be considered for a Chapter Award in the same year.

Projects given a Commendation or no award by a Chapter, Region or the International Area may resubmit in one future Awards program.

Projects may be resubmitted where the project has received a Named Award or Award in *Category 11: Sustainable Architecture* at any level (National/Chapter/Region), but received no Named Award or Award in any other category at any level. In this instance the project will not be eligible for consideration in *Category 11: Sustainable Architecture* at any level (National/Chapter/Region) where the project has previously been awarded in this category.

Entries may be judged at the National Awards level only once.

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Projects entered in the National Architecture Awards may be new, renovated or altered and extended buildings.

Juries may choose to distinguish between new buildings and projects categorised as "Alterations and Additions" and award projects under these subcategories.

Juries may choose to distinguish between "small" buildings and "large buildings" and award projects under these subcategories.

Juries may choose to consider projects in categories other than the category the project was originally entered in, subject to the following:

- the project must meet the entry requirements of the other category, as set out in 13.3.5 Award Categories
- where the project is deemed not to meet the entry requirements for a category in which it is entered, it may be removed from that category and considered in one other category, for which it does meet the entry

requirements

- the project must not be considered in more categories than it was originally entered in, unless one or more of the other categories has 5 or less eligible entries
- the National Jury may not consider a Chapter winner in the COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture category in any other category at National level, unless it is also a winner at Chapter level in that other category.

Mixed use projects (ie. projects containing different components of uses such as commercial, retail and residential) will be considered under the category applicable to the predominant use of the project.

Individual components of a mixed use project can be judged in the appropriate individual category.

### **CONDUCT AND TIMING OF ANNUAL PROGRAMS**

The following critical annual dates apply:

April 30: latest date for determining date of following year's Chapter Awards presentation event (dates must be coordinated by Chapter Managers and the National Awards & Prizes Officer to ensure that every reasonable effort is made to avoid different Chapter awards events occurring on the same date).

November 7: earliest date for calling entries for the following year's program

March 31: latest closing date for entries (except International Award entries)

May 31: final date for Chapter Jury decisions, and latest closing date for International Award entries

July 7: latest date for announcement/presentation of Chapter winners, and for decision of International Award Jury

August 31: final date for National Jury decisions

November 7: latest date for announcement/presentation of National winners.

### **13.3.2 ELIGIBILITY**

#### **ELIGIBLE ENTRANTS**

Entry into the National Architecture Awards is limited to a person, or a team under the substantive control or direction of a person, who is:

- (i) an architect registered in the State or Territory of the project, and
- (ii) an Institute member, and
- (iii) a principal of the practice which is an owner or formal licensee of the copyright in the work being entered.

Where the entrant does not own the copyright, the entry must be accompanied by a written agreement from the copyright holder stating that the work may be entered for an award.

#### **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**

To be eligible for entry into the Awards, projects must have at least reached practical completion and be in all other respects complete to the point of enabling a proper assessment by the Jury, no later than 31 December in the year preceding

the year of judging.

Buildings that are not complete may not be considered for an award, except in exceptional circumstances with the written approval of the current National President.

#### **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

Before an entry can be considered for an award the entrant must have, by the required date:

- (i) Submitted all required entry information, materials and images
- (ii) Provided all required consents and declarations in relation to the entry
- (iii) Paid all required entry fees.

#### **AWARDS ENTRY HANDBOOK**

Detailed conditions of entry and instructions for entering the National Architecture Awards are set out in the Awards Entry Handbook.

#### **AUTHORSHIP AND ATTRIBUTION**

Entrants must provide accurate entry information and attribute all who contribute significantly to the authorship of the project (including any non-member). Any entry containing inaccurate information or incorrect attribution may be disqualified.

#### **LOCATION**

Except with the written approval of the President, entries will be considered in the Chapter or Region in which the project is located, regardless of the business address of the entrant. Any project located outside Australia will only be eligible for an award in Category 13: INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE at the National level.

Chapters are responsible for checking the current membership status of the entrant(s) prior to the entry being judged by a Regional or Chapter Jury, and for ensuring that all entries forwarded to the National Awards contain the required material.

The National Awards & Exhibitions Manager is responsible for checking current membership status for Category 13: INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE.

### **13.3.3 JURIES**

#### **JURY SELECTION**

The National Jury is appointed by the President for endorsement by National Council at the Council meeting preceding the commencement of the relevant National Awards program. This reduces the opportunity for conflicts of interest for Jury members, provides a greater opportunity for visibility of the National Jury, and ensures a longer lead time for planning of the National Jury Tour.

To facilitate openness and transparency, members, Chapters and National Council will be encouraged to nominate prospective National jurors, but the final composition will be determined by the President.

Architects on National Juries will be Institute members.

National jurors will not serve more than two years consecutively.

### **NATIONAL JURY COMPOSITION**

The National Jury will comprise:

- (i) the Immediate Past President (at the time of final judging) (Chair);
- (ii) a senior respected and awarded architect;
- (iii) a senior respected and distinguished architect;
- (iv) a younger emerging architect, and
- (v) an architectural commentator or academic (who may be a non-architect).

### **NATIONAL JURY PROCESS**

The process of judging nominees in each category is determined by the National Jury, but will generally be by consensus and include as a minimum:

- (i) consideration of all entry material for each entry against the Core Evaluation Criteria;
- (ii) determination of an agreed shortlist in each category, based on the submitted entry material;
- (iii) site visits to each shortlisted entry by a majority of National Jury members (except in relation to Category 13:INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE and projects of a transient nature in category 10:SMALL PROJECT that are not able to be visited because they have been dismantled);
- (iv) interview of the architect(s) and/or client for each shortlisted entry by a majority of National Jury members, and
- (v) The National Awards Jury is required to nominate a *Jury Closing Date* after which no further changes are permitted to the awards allocated by the jury. The Jury Chair must submit in writing a complete list of all awarded projects as agreed by the National Jury to the Institute's National Awards Contact officer. A three-day grace period is permitted in which changes can be made with the consensus of the National Jury. At the conclusion of this grace period no further changes can be made; this date is the final national *Jury Closing Date*.
- (vi) preparation of a written citation for each awarded project, agreed by a majority of National Jury members.

Information on Chapter Award winners will be made available confidentially to the National Jury as soon as Chapter decisions are confirmed and National Jury shortlisting will occur as soon as possible after all Chapter Award winners are determined. Site visits will not occur until after all Chapter Awards have been made public.

Each Chapter Jury Chair, the previous National Jury Chair and the Chair of the International Architecture Award Jury will be invited to brief the National Jury during the shortlisting process.

The National Jury will also provide a written account of its process and decisions, which will be published in relevant Institute publications.

The National Jury may obtain expert technical advice to assist judging of entries in specialist areas such as heritage and sustainability.  
All decisions and outputs of the National Jury will be kept strictly confidential until announced at the National Architecture Awards presentation event.

## CHAPTER AND REGIONAL JURIES

### (a) Selection

Chapter and Regional Juries are appointed by the Chapter President in consultation with the Awards Director (if applicable) and the Chapter Awards Taskforce (if applicable) for endorsement by Chapter Council prior to the closing date for entries.

Members and Chapter Council may nominate prospective jurors, but the final composition will be determined by the Chapter President. At the discretion of Chapter Council, interstate jurors may be appointed, at the cost of the Chapter. Jurors shall not serve on a Chapter or Regional Jury for more than three years consecutively.

Architects on Chapter and Regional Juries will be Institute members.

An overall Jury Chair and an Awards Director (if applicable) will be appointed by the Chapter President and endorsed by Chapter Council prior to the date for calling entries.

The Awards Director will be the Immediate Past President or, in the event of him/her being unable or unwilling to serve, a member with experience of the awards' process appointed by the Chapter President.

### (b) Composition

Composition of Chapter and Regional Juries will reflect the range of backgrounds required of the National Jury.

Chapters may nominate more than one jury where the number of entries is substantial or where particular expertise is considered desirable for one or more categories.

### (c) Process

The judging process adopted by Chapter and Regional Juries will reflect the process required of the National Jury except that shortlisting of entries is not mandatory, and all entries in a category may be required to present or submit to interview (either publicly or to the jury alone) and all entries in a category may be visited.

All Regional and Chapter Awards juries are required to nominate a *Jury Closing Date* after which no further changes are permitted to the awards allocated by the jury. The *Jury Closing Date* must be no more than three days after the final jury judging session. This also applies to sub-juries: each sub-jury must nominate a *Jury Closing Date* which must be no more than three days after the final sub-jury judging session.

The Jury Chair must submit this nomination in writing to the relevant Regional or Chapter Australian Institute of Architects Awards Program Manager. The awards

determined by 5.00pm on the *Jury Closing Date* are deemed final and must be confirmed in writing as binding by the Director or Jury Chair.

All entries should be displayed to the public where possible.

Where a Chapter or Region appoints more than one jury in any year, the judging process will include an appropriate mechanism for ensuring consistency in the decisions of all such juries.

The jury processes adopted in a Chapter or Region should be consistent from year to year.

### **INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE AWARD JURY**

#### **(a) Selection**

The International Architecture Award Jury will consist of 3 to 5 jurors, who will be selected annually by the President, and endorsed by the International Area Committee (IAC).

A Jury Chair will be appointed from the selected jurors by the President and endorsed by National Council prior to the date for calling entries.

#### **(b) Composition**

At least 2 Jury members will be overseas members of the Institute, but all jurors should have significant experience of architecture outside Australia. One juror may be a non-architect. The IAC may recommend or nominate potential jurors.

Architects on the International Architecture Award Jury will be Institute members.

#### **(c) Process**

The judging process will reflect the process required of the National Jury except that shortlisting of entries is the sole task of the Jury.

Other than in exceptional circumstances, and at the discretion of the Chief Operating Officer, the Jury will meet via teleconference or videoconference.

The jury processes adopted should be consistent from year to year.

### **JURORS HANDBOOK**

Detailed guidance and instructions for juries appointed at all levels of the National Architecture Awards program are set out in the Jurors Handbook.

### 13.3.4 CORE EVALUATION CRITERIA

The key criteria to be used by the jury for judging entries in each category are:

1. Conceptual framework

Underlying principles, values, core ideas and philosophy of the project.

2. Public and Cultural Benefits

The amenity of the project and its conceptual contribution to the public domain.

3. Relationship of Built Form to Context.

Concepts engaged with new and pre-existing conditions.

4. Program Resolution.

Functional performance assessed against the brief.

5. Integration of Allied Disciplines.

Contribution of others, including engineers, landscape architects, artists and other specialists to the project outcome.

6. Cost/Value Outcome.

The effectiveness of decisions related to financial issues.

7. Sustainability.

The benefit to the environment through design.

8. Response to Client and User needs.

Additional benefits interpreted from the brief, serving the client or users and the community.

### 13.3.5 AWARD CATEGORIES

National Architecture Awards will be considered in the following categories:

#### CATEGORY 1: PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

Projects in this category must be predominantly of a public or institutional nature generally falling within BCA Class 9. It does not include projects falling within the definition of Educational Architecture or any BCA Class 9b building used primarily for educational purposes.

Named Award: *The Sir Zelman Cowen Award for Public Architecture*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Public Architecture*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Public Architecture*

#### CATEGORY 2: EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Projects in this category may be any preschool, primary, secondary or tertiary educational facility and/or joint research facilities in which an educational institution is a significant partner. Education projects may not be entered in the Public Architecture category.

Named Award: *The Australian Institute of Architects Award for Educational Architecture*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Educational Architecture*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Educational Architecture*

#### CATEGORY 3: RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

Projects in this category must be residential in nature, generally falling within BCA Class 1a and must be new builds. Projects with up to two self-contained dwellings may be entered in this category

Named Award: *The Robin Boyd Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (New)*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (New)*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Residential Architecture – Houses (New)*

#### **CATEGORY 4: RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)**

Projects in this category must be residential in nature, generally falling within BCA Class 1a, and must include renovations or alterations or additions to an existing building, whether or not the building was residential in nature in the first instance. Projects with up to two self-contained dwellings may be entered in this category

Named Award: *The Australian Institute of Architects Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (Alterations and Additions)*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Residential Architecture – Houses (Alterations and Additions)*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Residential Architecture – Houses (Alterations and Additions)*

#### **CATEGORY 5: RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE - MULTIPLE HOUSING**

Projects in this category must be residential in nature, and comprise of or include two or more self-contained dwellings (whether or not the building includes uses for other purposes).

Named Award: *The Frederick Romberg Award for Residential Architecture – Multiple Housing*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Residential Architecture – Multiple Housing*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Residential Architecture – Multiple Housing.*

#### **CATEGORY 6: COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE**

Projects in this category must be built primarily for commercial purposes, generally falling within BCA Classes 3b, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Named Award: *The Harry Seidler Award for Commercial Architecture*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Commercial Architecture*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Commercial Architecture.*

#### **CATEGORY 7: HERITAGE**

This category is for any built conservation project or study developed in accordance with the Australian ICOMOS Burra Charter, or any adaptive reuse of a heritage structure.

Named Award: *The Lachlan Macquarie Award for Heritage*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Heritage*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Heritage.*

#### **CATEGORY 8: INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE**

Projects in this category must be interior spaces and environments within a new building or the refurbishment of an existing building.

Named Award: *The Emil Sodersten Award for Interior Architecture*

Architecture Awards: *National Award for Interior Architecture*

Commendations: *National Commendation for Interior Architecture.*

#### **CATEGORY 9: URBAN DESIGN**

Projects in this category may be single buildings, groups of buildings or non-building projects, studies or masterplans, which are of public, civic or urban design in nature. Awarded projects must have enhanced the quality of the built environment or public domain or contribute to the wellbeing of the broader community.

Named Award: *The Walter Burley Griffin Award for Urban Design*  
Architecture Awards: *National Award for Urban Design*  
Commendations: *National Commendation for Urban Design.*

#### **CATEGORY 10: SMALL PROJECT ARCHITECTURE**

Projects in this category will be those considered to be “small” in terms of area or budget as determined by the Jury. Projects are recognised that have been constrained by space or cost restrictions, but have achieved a level of invention, creativity and craftsmanship beyond these constraints. This category can accommodate projects which may be over-looked against larger scale projects in other categories or may be transient or experimental in nature, such as exhibition design, set design or installations that may or may not be able to be visited by the Jury. Projects of all functional types may be considered.

Named Award: *Nicholas Murcutt Award for Small Project Architecture*  
Architecture Awards: *National Award for Small Project Architecture*  
Commendations: *National Commendation for Small Project Architecture.*

#### **CATEGORY 11: SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE**

This category recognises projects which excel as architecture, and also display innovation and excellence in terms of environmental sustainability. Juries will assess the environmental performance in terms of the Institute’s Environment Policy (Supplement: Sustainable Design Strategies for Architects).

Members are not able to enter this category directly. All Awards entries may be considered in this category. Entrants are required to provide information regarding the sustainable design of the project as part of the entry process.

Upon review of all entries, the relevant Jury will determine a shortlist of entries for consideration in this category. Juries will determine a Named Award in this Category where at least 5 entries have been shortlisted for consideration.

Other non-building projects that contribute to the advancement of architecture and to the goals outlined in the Environment Policy may also be considered for this Award.

Named Award: *The David Oppenheim Award for Sustainable Architecture*  
Architecture Awards: *National Award for Sustainable Architecture*  
Commendations: *National Commendation for Sustainable Architecture.*

#### **CATEGORY 12: ENDURING ARCHITECTURE**

Buildings of at least 25 years of age may be considered for this Award.

Buildings nominated need not be previous award winners but must be buildings of outstanding merit that, considered in a contemporary context, remain important as high quality works of architecture. Projects should be assessed in terms of

national significance, technical advancement, innovation for its time, symbolic significance and/or creative leadership.

The project attribution and award citation must acknowledge the original architect(s), either individual or firm. It may also acknowledge subsequent work done by another architect in the conservation or maintenance of the original work.

However, this award category is designed to recognise the enduring features of the original work, not any substantial adaptive re-use, which should be considered under Category 7: HERITAGE.

Members are not able to enter this category directly. Projects considered in this category will be determined by the Chapter Committee and/or assembled jury tasked with judging this category.

The original architect or any third party (including non-members and non-architects) may recommend to the relevant jury projects for consideration in this category.

The jury may give an award where less than five nominations are received. It is not mandatory for the jury to give an award.

No more than one award is to be made annually at National level or by any Chapter. This award is not given at Region level.

No commendations are given in this category.

National Award: *The National Enduring Architecture Award.*

### **CATEGORY 13: INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE**

Projects in this category must be located outside the eight State and Territory jurisdictions of the Commonwealth of Australia.

This award acknowledges the work of Institute members resident outside Australia and local members undertaking commissions overseas.

Entries in this category will first be considered for Architecture Awards and Commendations by the International Jury under the subcategories outlined in Section 13.3.1. All projects awarded an Architecture Award by the International Jury will progress to be considered for the Jørn Utzon Award for International Architecture by the National Jury.

All projects awarded an Architecture Award by the International Jury will progress to be considered for the Jørn Utzon Award for International Architecture by the National Jury.

Entries in this category will not be visited. In lieu of a site visit, jury evaluation may be undertaken using (i) a short video walk-through, (ii) a teleconference interview with short-listed entrants, and (iii) an independent visit-report of the local Architectural Institute.

National Award: *The Jørn Utzon Award for International Architecture*  
Architecture Awards: *Award for International Architecture*  
Commendations: *Commendation for International Architecture.*

**13.3.6 OTHER AWARD CATEGORIES**

From time to time National Council may resolve to include one or more special categories in the National Architecture Awards program. Special categories that currently apply are:

**CATEGORY A1: COLORBOND AWARD FOR STEEL ARCHITECTURE**

This category recognises buildings in which steel products play a major role in the architectural solution and which exemplify innovation in the use of steel products. Engineering, infrastructure and other non-building projects are not eligible for this category.

BlueScope Steel has the naming rights for this award, but use of BlueScope products, including Colorbond, is not a criterion for selection or award. Jury consideration of entries in this category will include consultation with a nominated BlueScope representative at Chapter and National levels.

Projects may not be entered directly in this category. Nominees will be selected by the jury from all entries in each Chapter. The winners in each Chapter will become the nominees at National level. However, the National Jury may consider nominees from other categories at its discretion.

One winner and/or one Commendation may be awarded at Chapter and National levels. This award is not given at Region level.

National Award: *The COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture*

Commendations: *The COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture – Commendation*

For a listing of State and Territory Awards see the relevant Chapter Awards and Dates Listing.