

AZ AWARDS

15th
Anniversary

New categories
+
Greater exposure!

SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN

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EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
January 31, 2025

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
February 21, 2025

15 Years of Celebrating Design Excellence

AZURE's AZ Awards is a benchmark for excellence in design and architecture. Since its launch in 2011, many other A&D award programs have been introduced worldwide, but very few reach AZURE's standards of quality and significance.

The AZ Awards has grown in impact and stature to become an international measure for excellence, attracting entries from some of the most innovative firms around the world. In 2024, the competition received an impressive number of outstanding entries from 42 countries – an achievement that solidifies the AZ Awards' ever-growing reputation.

Every aspect of the competition is curated and professionally executed – from the Call for Entries and the jury deliberation to the AZ Awards Gala attended by hundreds of industry leaders and winners and finalists from around the world.

The AZ Awards celebrates inclusive and sustainable design and recognizes innovative and socially and environmentally responsible people, projects, products and ideas.

“AZURE continuously supports creative minds and I strongly recognize in it a platform for cutting-edge projects and young talents, too. It was an honour to contribute to their work and take part in the AZ Awards jury.”

PATRICIA URQUIOLA

designer and founder of Studio Urquiola
2021 AZ Awards Juror



AZURE's AZ Awards turns 15 this year!

To kick off the celebration we're introducing new categories – including our first-ever EMERGING designer awards.

That means more opportunities for global recognition.

The Awards Process

Each year, the AZ Awards receives a thousand submissions from around the world. We are thrilled to accept inspiring entries in all our categories! The AZURE editorial team reviews the submissions in a multi-day series of sessions with local A&D experts to select a longlist, which is then presented to our official jury. With every edition, the AZ Awards convenes an international jury made up of the world's most renowned architects, landscape architects and designers. The jury convenes in March, reviews the longlist, selects a shortlist of finalists (Awards of Merit), and designates the Winners.

For the 15th anniversary of the AZ Awards, AZURE will publish online the longlist selected by the editorial team and local experts. After the jury deliberates in March, AZURE will publish the official jury's shortlist of finalists online. These shortlisted finalists will then compete in the People's Choice segment. The AZ Awards Winners and the People's Choice favourites will be announced at our annual gala and in the July/August print edition of *Azure* as well as on our AZ Awards website.



“In a world oversaturated with information and media, opportunities such as the AZ Awards allow us to cut through the noise by providing visibility and acknowledgement to the ‘best of year’ projects that push our world forward with creative, as well as inspiring, solutions.”

— AZ Awards juror **LUCA NICHETTO**,
NICHETTO STUDIO, STOCKHOLM



From our past jurors

“The AZ Awards are unique in Canada in that they celebrate international and national projects. It was exciting to serve on the jury with international colleagues. The broad range of typology, quality and scale of the award-winning entries was inspiring.”

— AZ Awards juror **SHIRLEY BLUMBERG**,
KPMB ARCHITECTS, TORONTO



“The AZ Awards is distinguished by the breadth of design disciplines that it recognizes and commends. Each year, it exposes a broad survey of highlights in design culture to both the general public and throughout the world of design. In doing so, the AZ Awards plays a vital role in expanding the reach and richness of contemporary design.”

— AZ Awards juror **PATRICIA PATKAU**, PATKAU ARCHITECTS, VANCOUVER



“Awards are incredibly important. They lend validity and credibility to work which is outstanding for innovation or for excellence; and the AZ Awards is really dependent on experts in the field, which helps everyone else realize what the achievement is.”

— AZ Awards juror **THEO RICHARDSON**,
RBW, NEW YORK



The 2025 AZ Awards Jury

One of the undeniable benefits for architects and designers to enter the AZ Awards, is the opportunity to show their work to our jury members, who represent the best of the worlds of architecture, urbanism, interiors, landscape architecture, product design and more.

Meet this year's jurors!

[READ THEIR BIOS HERE](#)



Ali McQuaid Mitchell
Founder,
Futurestudio



Amelle Schultz
Principal,
Ayers Saint Gross



Angie Jim Osman
Partner,
Allies and Morrison



Bahar Ghaemi
Creative Director
of Products,
Yabu Pushelberg



Gregory Henriquez
Managing Principal,
Henriquez Partners



Nathan Rich
Architect and Partner,
Peterson Rich Office



Rasmus Astrup
Design Principal &
Senior Partner,
SLA



Sergio Morales
Co-founder,
Chevalier Morales



**Simone Vingerhoets-
Ziesmann**
EVP for the Americas,
Ligne Roset

Why Enter the AZ Awards

Longlisted entries, finalists and winners of the AZ Awards receive unparalleled global recognition in print and online



Mid-March:

- Longlisted entries get published online

Mid-April:

- Finalists – shortlisted by our jury of experts – are revealed online

All entrants receive a complimentary digital subscription to Azure

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:

January 31, 2025

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

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In June and July, winners and finalists receive:

- Acknowledgement in the print and digital editions of the July/August issue of *Azure* Magazine
- Global exposure through the AZ Awards' international network of media partners
- Recognition at the annual AZ Awards Gala in Toronto, attended by 500+ local and international A&D professionals
- A certificate confirming the firms'/designers' achievement



Winners also receive:

- The AZ Awards trophy, reimagined each year by a prominent designer
- A complimentary press kit distribution on v2com newswire to reach a wider global audience
- Student Winner receives a \$5,000 cash prize

THE AZ AWARDS GALA

This year's jury-selected winners and People's Choice winners will be revealed and celebrated at the **AZ Awards 15th Anniversary Gala in Toronto, on June 19, 2025**, in the company of 400+ local and international industry professionals

The 2025 AZ Awards Categories

31 categories across major A&D fields

Entrants can submit their work in as many categories as applicable



ARCHITECTURE

Residential buildings (houses and multi-unit); commercial and institutional buildings; experiential installations; adaptive re-use

DESIGN

Furniture, single piece; furniture systems and collections; lighting fixtures; lighting schemes; interior products; architectural products; housewares and tech products

INTERIORS

Residential; retail and hospitality; healthcare; workspace; institutional interiors

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Public and private landscapes

URBAN DESIGN

Built development projects; masterplan proposals; urban interventions and infrastructures

EXPERIENTIAL GRAPHIC DESIGN

Wayfinding, sign programs, information and map design, experiential brand identity

CONCEPTS

Conceptual projects, ideas and prototypes

NEW EMERGING AWARDS

Awarding four EMERGING firms for special recognition in architecture, design, landscape and interiors

A+ AWARD FOR STUDENT WORK

Projects developed by a student enrolled in a post-secondary design or architecture program in 2023. The winner will receive a \$5,000 cash prize.

In addition to the category in which they are submitted, entries may also be considered for the Social Good Award and/or the Environmental Leadership Award by election. A winner in each of these two categories will be selected.

SOCIAL GOOD

Projects that advance social equity and have a positive impact on the collective realm.

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

Projects and products that show sensitivity and respect for the use and management of natural resources throughout their lifecycle, especially with respect to materials and energy use.

Submission Details

Important Dates

- Submissions open **November 11, 2024**
- Earlybird deadline **January 31, 2025** at 11:59 pm EST
- Deadline for submissions **February 21, 2025** at 11:59 pm EST
- Finalists will be notified **April 17, 2025**
- People’s Choice voting takes place from **April 17 to May 11, 2025**
- AZ Awards Gala: **June 19, 2025**
- Winners will be revealed and celebrated on **June 20**, at the AZ Awards Gala in Toronto, and will be featured in *Azure* Magazine’s annual AZ Awards issue.



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Guidelines

- Entries must be submitted and received via the online entry system by 11:59 pm EST on February 21, 2025.
- All images must be jpg or tif format, at least 300 dpi resolution.

AZ Awards is open to

- Designers and design firms from all disciplines
- Architects and architectural firms
- Landscape architects, Urban designers
- Developers, manufacturers, clients
- Post-secondary students enrolled in design and architecture programs in 2024

Eligibility

The completion date of projects should be within the past three years, i.e. anytime between November 1, 2021 and December 31, 2024.

Judging criteria

Each project is evaluated on its own merits according to the following four criteria:

- 1. Aesthetics** Is the design contemporary, visually and intellectually stimulating? Does it provoke curiosity, have the capacity to uplift spirits or simply delight?
- 2. Function** How well does it serve its intended use? Does it effectively resolve problems?
- 3. Creativity** Does it incorporate a unique approach, use a new medium or materials? Is it technologically innovative, forward-looking?

4. Social and Environmental Responsibility

Does it make respectful use of materials and resources? Does it possess a long life span? Does it contain recycled materials and/or can it be recycled? Does it provide a social benefit?

Jury Process

Each year, the AZ Awards receives hundreds of submissions from around the world. We are thrilled to accept inspiring entries in all our categories.

Soon after the competition deadline, our editorial team reviews ALL submissions in a multi-day series of sessions with local A&D experts. These sessions result in a longlist.

This longlist is then presented to our official jury. With every edition, the AZ Awards convenes an international jury made up of the world’s most renowned architects, landscape architects and designers. The jury convenes in March, reviews the longlist, selects a shortlist of finalists (Awards of Merit), and designates the Winners.

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ABOUT AZURE

AZURE is an internationally renowned media company that has charted the world of architecture and design for 40 years. Through its print, digital and experiential platforms, AZURE showcases exceptional projects from Canada and around the world. It features the most innovative practitioners in the creative fields along with in-depth reports on major industry trends and directions.

The AZ Awards, now celebrating its 15th year, is AZURE's annual competition that celebrates ingenious product and furniture designs, inspiring residential and commercial interiors, transformative architecture and landscape architecture, visionary concepts and progressive urbanism from around the globe.

Made up of professionals, trendsetters and design aficionados, our readers and social followers rely on AZURE for our product and material expertise as well as our authoritative take on the currents and issues impacting today's architecture and design world.

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