



Excellence in Landscape Awards

Judging Criteria

A panel of professionals in the landscape field will evaluate all descriptive information and photos. All entries will be judged on attention to detail, degree of difficulty, and overall appearance.

Each submission will be evaluated to receive an award for Honorable Mention, Distinction and Grand. In addition, each category will include the top award, one Award of Excellence winner.

Featured Project

Outstanding examples of craftsmanship in landscape construction—such as walls, decks, gazebos, water features, or memorials.

Residential

Complete Landscape Master Planning

Comprehensive projects that include initial design, contract management, and final installation.

Outdoor Living Area

Includes entranceways, side yards, and backyards. Projects should feature a combination of hardscapes, plantings, and/or turf.

Residential Maintenance

For single-family residences. Must show evidence of a consistent maintenance program over the past 12 months. Minor tasks may be completed by the owner. One-time service projects do not qualify.

Lighting

Exterior lighting projects, accentuating the project.

Interior Landscape Contracting

Includes interior landscaping such as green walls, zen gardens, and indoor greenery installations.

Commercial

Commercial Landscape Installation

Commercial landscape construction projects that demonstrate excellence in design execution and installation.

Commercial Maintenance

Must show evidence of a consistent commercial landscape maintenance program over the past 12 months.

Lighting

Exterior lighting projects, accentuating the project.

Interior Landscape Contracting

Includes interior landscaping such as green walls, Zen gardens, and indoor greenery installations.

General Judging Criteria

- Exterior and interior installation categories will be judged on the quality of plant material, quality of installation, quality of construction work, attention to drainage and finish grade, and overall visual impact.
- Design/Build entries will be evaluated based on the scope and coherence of the design, construction details, plant selection and placement, and the integration of the landscape with its surroundings.
- Maintenance entries will be judged on turf quality, plant health, pruning, seasonal color, and bed maintenance including mulch and surface treatment.
- Craftsmanship-focused entries (such as Featured Projects) will be assessed on the quality of construction, detail work, structural integrity, and materials used.