STUDENT AWARD GUIDELINES

student design competition

2021 Texas ASLA Annual Conference
Galveston Island Convention Center
5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, Tx 77554
04.28.21 - 04.30.21
student eligibility

To be eligible, undergraduate students may only submit projects completed during or after the student’s second design year. Graduate students may submit at any point in their enrollment. Students who graduated in 2020 will be allowed to submit in the 2021 student awards. Undergraduate and graduate student entries will be judged separately. Each entrant will need to check the appropriate box indicating his or her status on the online entry form. Entrants who have graduated will select their status based on when the project was completed. (i.e. Senior capstone projects will be considered “undergraduate.”) An entrant must provide proof of registration as a student during the 2020-2021 academic year (i.e., a copy of a student identification card or a certification from NationalStudentclearinghouse.org). If not a current student, please provide proof on enrollment in the 2019-2020 academic year. Student entries may be individual or team efforts. All participants must be a National Student ASLA member or an associate ASLA member in good standing.

TEAMS
Teams will indicate “graduate” or “undergraduate” on the entry form based on the majority of team members. If it is an even number of graduate and undergraduate students, please choose “undergraduate.” If a team member is not in the landscape architecture program, please make note of that in the entry form. Those team members will be recognized at the awards ceremony but will not receive an award certificate.

JUDGING
The jury process is “blind”; therefore, the identities of the entrants and creative teams are not revealed to the jury. Members of the Student Awards Jury will recuse themselves from judging any entries with which they have a conflict of interest (for example, a juror who teaches in a Landscape Architecture program will not judge entries submitted by students from that program). ASLA retains the right to disqualify any entrant who does not meet the program requirements or that presents a conflict of interest.
student award categories

*Please note there is a new category for 2021 submissions.* There are five categories under which an entry may be submitted. An Entrant may submit multiple projects; however, an entrant cannot submit the same project to multiple categories.

**GENERAL DESIGN**

Recognizes: site-specific works of landscape architecture. Student entries are not required to be built.

Typical entries include: Single-site public, institutional, or private landscapes of all kinds (except entries qualifying for urban design or residential design categories); projects that include historic preservation, reclamation, or conservation; green roofs, stormwater management, sustainable design; design for transportation or infrastructure; landscape art or installation; interior landscape design; and more.

Criteria: The jury will consider the quality of design; design context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; hazard mitigation, climate adaptations, and resilience strategies; and design value to the client, community, and to other designers.

Submission: Materials in the submission must not reveal the names of the entrant and/or landscape architects, firms, other designers, students, schools, or photographer.

**URBAN DESIGN “NEW CATEGORY FOR 2021”**

Recognizes: projects that activate networks of spaces that mediate between social equity, economic viability, infrastructure, environmental stewardship, and beautiful place-making in the public and private realm. Entries in this category are not required to be built or implemented.

Typical entries include: conceptualized urban projects spatially greater than one block in the realm of public, institutional, or private landscapes; streetscapes, waterfronts, mixed-use developments, neighborhoods, districts, cities, placemaking interventions and civic improvements that may include elements of reclamation, stormwater management, transportation or infrastructure studies, art, and more.

Criteria: The jury will consider the quality of design and execution; urban design context; planning context; contribution of project to a broader urban landscape; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; and attention to social justice, equity, and inclusion.

**ANALYSIS AND PLANNING**

Recognizes: the wide variety of professional activities that lead to, guide, and evaluate landscape architecture design. Entries in this category are not required to be built or implemented.

Typical entries include: urban, suburban, rural, or regional planning efforts; development guidelines; transportation, town, or campus planning; plans for reclamation of brownfield sites; environmental planning in relation to legislative or policy initiatives or regulatory controls; cultural resource reports; natural resources protection; historic preservation planning; and more.

Criteria: The jury will consider the quality of the analysis and planning effort; context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; likelihood of successful implementation; and value to the client, the public, and other designers.

**RESEARCH**

Recognizes: research that identifies and investigates challenges posed in landscape architecture, providing results that advance the body of knowledge for the profession.

Typical entries include: investigations into methods, techniques, or materials related to landscape architecture practice; studies of relationships of landscape architecture to law, education, public health and safety, or public policy; and more.

Criteria: The jury will consider clarity and importance of research question, hypotheses, or goals; significance of historical data, where relevant, and links to current knowledge; appropriate research design and use of rigorous methods of inquiry; the clarity of presentation of outcome; potential applications to practice; and the value to the field at large.
PRESENTATION FORMAT

A compilation of images of the design (such as sections, plans and perspectives) should be submitted as one document in pdf format, with a maximum of eight pages. The pdf must be 11x17. In addition to the pdf, three high resolution images (300 dpi or greater) must be submitted. These will be used in the Awards Book and Awards Ceremony Presentation, so simplicity and minimal wording is preferred. Any other presentation format will be disqualified.

DESIGN ESSAY

A brief one page essay in English (300 words maximum, pdf format), describing the most important concepts of the project. Please relate the narrative back to the chosen project category and the category’s requirements. Include a Project Statement to describe the project and why it’s award-worthy. This statement may be used in promotional materials if the project is selected for an award.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Winners will be selected by the jury for each of the following categories:

- Undergraduate Award of Excellence
- Undergraduate Honor Award(s)
- Undergraduate Merit Award(s)
- Graduate Award of Excellence
- Graduate Honor Award(s)
- Graduate Merit Award(s)

ENTRY FORM

Students shall not place their names or school identifications on any submittal pages EXCEPT on the Official Online Entry Form, which will be examined by the Student Design Competition Jury only following review and selection of award winners and honorable mentions. Please visit www.texasasla.org for the form and program details.

SUBMISSION FEE

There is no submission fee to participate in the competition.

QUESTIONS

Questions should be emailed to Shannon Mundy at shannon.mundy@kimley-horn.com. Please reference the Student Design Competition in the subject line of the email.

ENTRY DEADLINES

Entries must be emailed no later than midnight (11:59 p.m.) on Friday January 22, 2021. No entries will be accepted after this date. Submit your work online at www.texasasla.org under the “AWARDS” tab. Please feel free to email Shannon Mundy for confirmation that the project was submitted. There will be no confirmation email when the submittal is uploaded.

The winners will be notified by March 6th, 2021. Winners will be announced during the awards luncheon on Thursday, April 29, 2021.