BSA DESIGN AWARDS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

BUILT DESIGN EXCELLENCE

& SMALL FIRMS

2023

The BSA Design Awards program celebrates exemplary innovation in the built environment, investment from committed clients, and the unique power of architecture to design buildings and spaces that transform communities and shape the way we live. The BSA honors projects that embody the values of the AIA Framework for Design Excellence and the BSA's vision of building a just and sustainable Boston, together.

Architecture is ever evolving. Architects play important roles in leveraging the power of design to create innovative processes and new design ideas that create positive social and environmental impact.

The **2023 BSA's Design Awards** program invites visions of varying scales and resources that **challenge practice, lead sustainability progress**, and **broaden conversations** about resilience in design.

- All building typologies are welcome in **BUILT DESIGN EXCELLENCE, SMALL FIRMS, or UNBUILT PLANNING & DESIGN** categories – However, awards may not be bestowed for every typology.

- The **SMALL FIRMS** category is eligible to firms of 10 or fewer employees.

- Accessibility and Sustainability are human rights that should be embedded in all design work.

- Juries will review narratives and design based on **IMPACT ADVANCEMENTS** of **social responsibility, technology excellence, and sustainability** that connect with our values and values of good design.

- The BSA Design Awards emphasize the AIA's Design Excellence criteria that are highlighted in the **COMMON APP** to evaluate zero-carbon, equitable, resilient, and healthy built projects.

- Innovation can be demonstrated at multiple levels. We encourage emerging ideas and theoretical projects that demonstrate the AIA's Design Excellence criteria from professionals and students for **UNBUILT PLANNING & DESIGN.**

- Celebrating 100 years in 2023, the **Harleston Parker Medal** celebrates the most beautiful piece of architecture, building, monument or structure within the City of Boston.

DATES & DEADLINES

March 31, 2023 – Harleston Parker Medal nominations close

June 15, 2023 – Award Submissions Open

June-August, 2023 – Awards overview program, Common App and awards office hours and awards resources available

September 29 ~~15~~, 2023 – Submission deadlines. All Awards submissions must be uploaded and completed online with payment by 11:59pm EDT New Deadline!

September-October 2023 – Technical Jury reviews

October-November 2023 – Design Jury reviews

December 2023 – Award notifications & announcements

January 2024 – Design Awards Gala

SUBMISSION FEES

Payment is due at checkout for your submission to be completed. All submission fees are non-refundable.

	BSA Firm Members	Non-BSA Members	Assoc. AIA or Student
Built Design Excellence	$275	$550	-
Small Firms	$175	$350	-
Unbuilt Architecture & Planning	$150	$300	$100

START YOUR SUBMISSION HERE
Log in or new account required.

QUESTIONS?

Questions about your eligibility or the submission process? View our **FAQ** page for sample applications and resources.

For general questions about the Awards Program or submissions, please contact, Patricia Olshan:
e: polshan@architects.org p: 617-391-4017

Questions may not be directed to or answered by the jurors.

Project submission criteria emphasize a robust approach to **sustainability, social responsibility**, and **innovation**.

Projects may be recognized in these **Award Levels**:

Honor – Representing the highest level of achievement of Design Excellence

Merit – Representing exceptional design, performance, and intent work

Impact Advancement Commendations – May recognize projects that encompass the values of good design within the context of **social responsibility, technology excellence**, and **sustainability**.

Juries will be comprised of both BSA members and other AIA chapter representatives with expertise in different design and building types and experience levels.

BUILT DESIGN EXCELLENCE	SMALL FIRMS	UNBUILT PLANNING & DESIGN
Two-Phase Review Jury: AIA Chapters	Two-Phase Review Jury: AIA Chapters & BSA Members	One Jury: BSA Members and local non-members
1. Technical Jury: • Common App metrics and Framework narratives • Offer recommendations for awards **2. Design Jury:** • Submission portfolio and project Impact Advancement narrative • Bestow awards	**1. Technical Jury:** • Common App metrics (optional) and Framework narratives • Offer recommendations for awards **2. Design Jury:** • Submission portfolio and project Impact Advancement narrative • Bestow awards	**1. Jury:** • Project boards and narratives • Bestow awards (based on categories)

Massachusetts Architectural Access Board Award Recognition

In collaboration with the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB), **BUILT DESIGN EXCELLENCE** and **SMALL FIRMS** submissions may be eligible for accessible design achievement for:

A. Thomas P. Hopkins Memorial Award for public buildings and facilities to which Massachusetts statute 521 CMR applies.

B. Private Residential Award for projects addressing an individual's personal accessibility needs.

C. William D. Smith Memorial Award for projects that integrate accessibility with historic preservation.

For residential or housing, and public and commercial buildings, entries may be for entire facilities or site-specific solutions, which might include exteriors (ramps, signage, campuses, landscape); interiors (entries, bathrooms, hardware, lifts, details); or buildings. Entries will be judged in part on effectiveness in integrating the specific access solution into the overall project design.

At the jury's discretion, the number of awards and award recognition in any category may be given to as many or as few projects as are deemed worthy by the jury. The jury's decisions are final and not subject to review.

Anyone meeting eligibility requirements may submit. Massachusetts AIA firm members receive special pricing.

	BUILT DESIGN EXCELLENCE	**SMALL FIRMS** **Firms with 10 or fewer employees**
	All typologies may be submitted in each division, for with accompanying metrics, narratives, and design that demonstrate advancement in design excellence measures.	
About	Recognize measured Design Excellence through performance in all completed projects	Recognize Design Excellence through narratives in all completed projects. Eligible for firms of 10 or fewer employees.
Submitter Requirement	Common App performance data <u>required.</u> At least <u>3 out of 10</u> measures must be addressed in **narratives** portion.	Common App performance data <u>optional</u>. At least <u>3 out of 10</u> measures must be addressed in **narratives** portion.
Submitter Eligibility	Professional license is <u>required</u> by at least one person on the design team. Associate AIA members and other unlicensed design professionals may submit projects that do not require the stamp of a licensed professional. For firms with multiple offices: the primary office producing the work must be the office in the MA AIA. SMALL FIRMS may submit projects the BUILT DESIGN EXCELLENCE division with Common App requirements.	
Project Eligibility	Projects <u>completed</u> within the past 5 years: between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2022	
Location Eligibility	Projects by New England design professionals may be located anywhere. Projects by non-Massachusetts design professionals must be located in New England.	
Award Eligibility	Eligible for **Honor**, **Merit**, or **Impact Advancement Commendation**	
	Projects that have previously won an award in other awards programs (such as other AIA chapter programs) are eligible. Projects previously honored with a BSA Design Award are ineligible.	
	• Submitters are encouraged to re-enter projects previously submitted if they did not win an award (if eligible). • The BSA is not responsible for errors in submissions. • The BSA reserves the right to disqualify entries or projects not submitted in accordance with the stated rules.	

1.	**Enter > Entrant information**. *This is for internal use only as a means of communications.*	
	Do not include information identifying your firm in any materials below this point.	
2.	**Select > PROJECT TYPE** <u>EXAMPLES INCLUDE, but are not limited.</u> The project type you select is for consideration only. At the jury's discretion, the number of awards and award recognition in any category may be given to as many or as few projects as are deemed worthy by the jury. If your project type is not listed, select "other" and enter the type. Juries will evaluate and may group projects accordingly.	○ Adaptive Reuse, Renovation or Historic Preservation ○ Community Centers ○ Libraries ○ Museums ○ Hospitality ○ Retail ○ Office/Workplace Spaces ○ K-12 Educational Facilities ○ Higher Education Facilities ○ Single Family/Residential ○ Multi-Family/Residential ○ Specialized Housing ○ Mixed Use Housing ○ Healthcare Facilities ○ Life Science Facilities ○ Interior Architecture ○ Urban Design & Master Planning**
3.	**Select > MAAB AWARD consideration (Optional)** Entries will be judged in part on effectiveness in integrating the specific access solution(s) into the overall project design.	○ Yes ○ No
4.	**Enter > PROJECT INFORMATION**	Location, project size, completion date, client name
5.	**Upload > PROJECT NARRATIVE** • 250 words maximum • Uploaded as a single Word file This should be embedded within the digital portfolio.	Describe the story of both the design and the impact (including team engagement), including concepts and considerations, as well as lessons learned, <u>addressing at least one **IMPACT ADVANCEMENT CONCENTRATION**</u>, if the project qualifies.
6.	**Upload > PROJECT PORTFOLIO** • 10 pages maximum • Uploaded as a single PDF file • No larger than 25 MB • File to be named: ProjectName_01.pdf • File name no longer than 60 characters (including spacing) • Do NOT include firm or client name	• First page must be a title page with project name (this may include images and other text) • Project narrative should be included within the portfolio • Do not include the project category • If the project is a restoration or adaptive reuse project, include at least one image that describes conditions before work began • Include diagrams, site plans, details, photographs • Keep captions to a minimum

7.	**Upload > GALLERY & PUBLICITY IMAGES** • Up to 10 images (maximum); 5 images minimum • Minimum 2000 pixels wide and 300 dpi • Submit as .jpg, .tif, or .png files • Must include photographer credit in file name: 01ProjectName_Photographer.jpg	• Not for jury review • Photographs should not include text • Photographs and annotated site and building plans should be included
8.	**Upload > COMMON APP FOR DESIGN EXCELLENCE WORKSHEET** The Common App is the embodiment of the Framework for Design Excellence's values in the AIA Design Awards process. Each submission will be reviewed by a Technical review jury within project types, who review each project's metrics and success in achieving sustainability and decarbonization goals. Recommendations with average scores will be forwarded to the Design jury. (Important: providing incorrect information or failing to provide information may negatively rate the submission and jury assessment.) • All information shall be anonymous - **Do NOT include firm or client name** • Upload completed file, to be named: ProjectName_CommonApp.xlsx	• Submissions <u>do not</u> need to address all the measures • Applicants should highlight relevant performance data and narratives that are applicable to their specific projects. • If you do not have building performance data to share, do not leave the Common App field blank. Mark "NA" in the fields as needed. • Suggested questions for each measure can be found here **Download Common App worksheet** This worksheet should be downloaded as an .xlsx file
8b.	**SMALL FIRMS** **Upload > AIA COMMON APP WORKSHEET** • Common App performance data <u>optional.</u>	
9.	**Enter > DESIGN TEAM/CONSULTANTS INFORMATION**	Not for jury review
10.	**Enter > Affirmation Declaration information**	Not for jury review
11.	**COMPLETE PAYMENT** All submission entries and payments are due by the deadline	

Submissions are assessed for the degree to which the project meets the requirements, degrees of opportunity, constraint, and budget. It is important that submissions convey to the jury a full understanding of the project through the metrics narratives and design.

Project submissions criteria include a robust approach to sustainability and equity, as well as addressing environmental, social, and economic factors. Projects that contain attributes which successfully reduced the carbon footprint of the architecture, construction, or usage, should make every attempt to highlight those aspects within their entry submission.

Impact Advancements are explored by juries to understand the concepts and considerations that drive the values of good design. Your 250-word summary provides the opportunity to narrate your project's process and impact in one or more of the following:

Social Advancement – demonstrating a commitment to social progress by proposing new approaches to the development of architectural and/or urban form.

- o *Community Engagement – an entire community and/or stakeholders are substantially involved and engaged in the decision-making processes, and community involvement influenced project outcomes.*
- o *Community Benefit – project addresses a need(s) and demonstrates benefit(s) to the community.*
- o *Economic Disparity – architecture or the design process has reduced disparities in the economics of the larger community or individuals served by the project.*
- o *Health Outcomes – project improves health, safety, or well-being outcomes for the larger community or individuals served by the project.*
- o *Educational Inequity – project addresses inequities in our education system and those that increase the social responsibility of education.*

Technical Advancement – exploring new technologies and/or their architectural applications

- o *Technical elements of building design,* including engineering achievements
- o *Technology that greatly improved collaboration, innovation, and creativity*
- o *Technology that resulted in improved economic, environmental, or social outcomes of the project*

Environmental Advancement – demonstrating a commitment to environmentally sensitive design, sustainability and/or energy/resources conservation

- o *Excellence in demonstrating ecological stewardship, including reduced environmental impact and reduced energy consumption, as well as attention to quality of life issues, resiliency, and community engagement within the environment.*
- o *Demonstrating efforts to reduce energy use in occupancy of the building.*
- o *Innovative solutions reducing embodied energy/carbon use in the building's design and construction.*

The number of awards granted shall be at the sole discretion of the juries. Additionally, juries may decide not to award projects every in category.

DOWNLOAD COMMON APP WORKSHEET HERE
This worksheet should be downloaded as an .xlsx file

The BSA believes that innovation in the build environment is key to tackling the greatest challenges facing Boston, including the increasing threat of climate change. In recognition of the new ways architects are designing sustainable spaces, the BSA has incorporated the AIA Framework for Design Excellence measures through the **Common App**, which includes metrics for evaluating how projects respond to the urgency of climate change and promote sustainability, reduce carbon emissions, and promote healthy communities.

The BSA recognizes that some of the Framework's measures may be less relevant to a specific project, and that metrics may be difficult or impossible to acquire. A submission will not be penalized if the project's scope simply does not address a certain measure or if the design team and/or submitting personnel lack performance metrics. However, a submission may be viewed critically if the jury believes that a measure or question that should have been addressed was skipped. In other words, if the jury is believes that a project's design was or should have been impacted by a measure that is not included in the Design Awards submission, the jury may negatively assess the submission.

The Common App worksheet will be the first elements that the jury will see for every submission (Built Design Excellence and Small Firms).

- Suggested questions for each measure can be found **here**
- Not all 10 measures are required. However, it is important to demonstrate how the project performs above and beyond
- Each project will be reviewed by a Technical Review Jury within project types, who will assess each project's success in achieving sustainability decarbonization goals. Average scores, along with technical review comments, will be forwarded to the Design Jury. (Important note: providing incorrect information or failing to provide information may result in a lower technical review score; jurors are less likely to give awards to lower-scoring projects).
- All information shall be anonymous - no mention of the submitting firm, team or collaborators in any text.
- Upload completed Common App to be named: ProjectName_CommonApp.xlsx
- All information shall be anonymous - no mention of the submitting firm, team or collaborators in any text.
- Upload completed Common App to be named: ProjectName_CommonApp.xlsx

If you do not have building performance data to share, do not leave the Common App field blank. Mark "NA" in the fields as needed. All built projects must provide performance data and narratives where requested on the Common App. **Completing** at least three **descriptive and strategy narratives is required to ensure that the jury understands your approach.**

For **Urban Design/Planning, "initiated" shall mean a completed or an incomplete project, where a significant portion has been completed, implemented, or adopted by a local jurisdiction, authority, institution, or private client.

What jurors will not review?

- Entrant information—firm demographics and disadvantaged business enterprise certification
- Publicity and gallery images
- Design team/consultants credit list, including names and contact information.
- Affirmation of Intern Declaration Policy
- Affirmation of AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Consent to the BSA/AIA statement on equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Entry fee

Disclaimer

By participating in the BSA Design Awards program, all entrants grant the BSA a non-exclusive license to post winning project entries in an online gallery so that the public and press may view all competing entries. In addition, each winner grants to the BSA approval for use of all entries in connection with the BSA Design Awards program, in any media now or hereafter known, including but not limited to: publications, social media, and BSA- sponsored events or exhibitions of the work. The BSA will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such use. Submission to this program implies permission from the project owner and releases the BSA from any responsibility of seeking permissions from owners, photographers, or any project-related stakeholders. Inclusion of photos implies permission from the photographer. Correct attribution is the sole responsibility of the submitter.