

HKIA Annual Awards 2025

Nomination Brief

Deadline for Nomination
18 July 2025, Friday
17:30

The Hong Kong
Institute of Architects
香港建築師學會



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Institute, we cordially invite your submission to the HKIA Annual Awards 2025.

This year's Annual Awards commenced with another major review of the awards categories with an aim to provide a more pinpointed grouping of similar projects and a more focused judging by the jury panel in response to the contemporary architectural trends of our society.

HKIA Medal of the Year of/outside Hong Kong's 8 categories have been re-organized into 12 categories with new categories such as **House, Residential (Single Building / Twin Buildings), Residential (Multiple Buildings), Public / Subsidized Housing, Retail, Hotel, Office, and Open Space and Park** etc. Also, **Urban Design & Master Planning** and **Unbuilt Projects** have been regrouped into our HKIA Special Award, establishing a new framework for our awards that is more compatible to the contemporary architectural scene and comparable with other important international architectural awards.

Hereby we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to this year's jury panel, our committee members and our secretariat for their participation and hard work. Their contribution is crucial in upkeeping the high standards of the HKIA Annual Awards.

Last but not least, we very much look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely,
Alvin KUNG, Keith CHAN & Stephen IP
Co-Chairmen
Annual Awards 2025 Organising Committee

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1

INTRODUCTION

The HKIA Annual Awards aims at recognising outstanding architecture achievements by members of HKIA. The Awards was launched in 1965 and is the most important architectural awards given out in Hong Kong acknowledging design excellence and offering the opportunity for public admiration and appreciation.

Nominations are now invited to compete for the HKIA Annual Awards 2025. All awarded & shortlisted entries will be invited to participate in the annual exhibition scheduled in the fourth quarter this year.

2

AWARDS CATEGORY

2.1 **HKIA Medal of the Year of/outside Hong Kong HKIA Award or Merit Award of/outside Hong Kong**

香港建築師學會全年境內/外建築大獎

香港建築師學會境內/外大獎或優異獎

Nominations are categorised into the following 12 categories. **HKIA Awards** and/or **Merit Awards** may be given in each category according to our assessment criteria. And as the highest honour of all awards, the **HKIA Medal of the Year of and outside Hong Kong** will be selected from the awarded projects of **HKIA Awards of and outside Hong Kong**. The **Medal of the Year** establishes the highest benchmark of excellence in the architectural profession. The 12 categories are:

- (i) **House**
 - e.g. House / semi-detached house / group of multiple houses in private sector
 - Inhabitable low-rise building for long term domestic use, including dormitory but excluding hotel, hostel & serviced apartment
- (ii) **Residential (Single Building / Twin Buildings)**
 - Residential tower / building in private sector
 - Inhabitable building for long term domestic use, including dormitory but excluding hotel, hostel & serviced apartment
- (iii) **Residential (Multiple Buildings)**
 - Group of multiple residential towers / buildings / housing estate, in private sector
 - Inhabitable building for long term domestic use, including dormitory but excluding hotel, hostel & serviced apartment
- (iv) **Public / Subsidized Housing**
 - Public housing estate
 - Residential developments subsidised by the government
 - Transitional housing

- 2.1**
- (v) **Retail**
 - Building / premise mainly for retail, dining and entertainment use
 - e.g. shopping arcade, shopping centre, retail street, shop building, restaurant, cinema, department store, etc
 - (vi) **Office**
 - Building mainly for working places
 - (vii) **Hotel**
 - Building for short-term stay
 - e.g. hotel, resort, hostel, serviced apartment, etc
 - (viii) **Institutional Building**
 - Building for a particular group/ organisation, which is not normally open for public enjoyment.
 - e.g. school, educational building, police station, fire station, hospital, elderly home, etc.
 - (ix) **Civic & Communal Building**
 - Building open for public use and not only for a particular group of people
 - e.g. museum, market, swimming pool, community hall, library, sports facility, columbarium, crematorium, religious building, etc
 - (x) **Industrial/ Infrastructural Building**
 - e.g. airport terminal, cruise terminal, pier, public transport interchange, bus / railway / MTR station, carpark, warehouse, industrial facility, power station / substation, treatment plant, etc.
 - (xi) **Mixed-use Building**
 - Building with an obvious mix of multiple uses, with no single use / function exceeding 90% of the total floor area.
 - (xii) **Open Space and Park**
 - Open space, park, playground, plaza, street, landscape garden, theme park, beach, promenade etc. The space can be public or private in nature.

2.2 HKIA Award for Small Projects

香港建築師學會小型項目獎

Award given to members' small projects in Hong Kong that shows high quality and creativity in architectural design within a limited budget.

(i) President's Prize

- HKIA Members' works in Hong Kong
- Construction cost, excluding the cost of site formation & substructure, shall be **less than HK\$50 million**
- No limitation is set to the building type and nature of work

2.3 HKIA Special Award

香港建築師學會主題獎

Award given to members' architectural works or research with contribution to a particular architectural design issue:

(i) Heritage & Adaptive Re-use

- Including restoration, adaptive reuse & re-interpretation projects of a historically meaningful & significant building or space.
- An existing building or space having undergone and completed renovation, restoration, revitalisation, or similar process to its physical structure and/or communal facilities.

(ii) Research & Publication

- Architectural and built environment research with substantial findings and documentation/ publication.
- Essays and studies related to architecture published, either physically (in journals, newspapers, books) or digitally on publicly accessible online platform.
- Submissions must be based on original work authored or co-authored by the applicant provided that such work has been completed with substantial findings/ results.

(iii) Interior Design

- Interior design that integrates substantially with the architecture.
- Entries must be a completed interior project.

(iv) Sustainable Architecture

- To provide recognition to projects with outstanding performance and contributions in sustainability, so as to transform or to promote to the mainstream market towards wider adoption of sustainability.
- The sustainable design must be expressed through building design including sustainable planning, design, construction, management, operation, maintenance, renovation and decommissioning of buildings, etc.

2.3

(v) **Human & Social Inclusion**

- To promote inspiring buildings and spaces that have created socially sustainable and inclusive environments through thoughtful architectural designs.
- Entry must be a built project demonstrating how sensitive architectural design and collaborative processes can create inclusive, friendly, human-centred and enabling environments. There is no limitation in the scale of the project, i.e. they can be interior, architecture or urban design.

(vi) **Technology or Innovative Architecture**

- To honour projects that display the exemplary use and implementation of innovative technologies. Projects must be a completed building or space.
- The entry materials should be structured to show clearly that innovative technology has played a significant role in the whole or part of the whole development process, including but not limited to the aspect of: aesthetic, structural, information technological, and mechanical design advancement.

(vii) **Architectural Installation, Curation & Exhibition Design**

- To recognise exhibition design, curation, and installations that promote architecture and design.
- An executed project/ exhibition including but not limited to a social programme, exhibition, design tour, temporary construction or temporary event related to architecture and design.
- Verified by the organizer in written format endorsing the applicant's role in such programme or event.
- Prepared in a way to show its strong relation to architecture and design or to clearly demonstrate how architecture and design have played an important role in such programme or event.

(viii) **Urban Design & Master Planning**

- To recognise large scale master-planning scheme and project with holistic consideration of the built-environment, infrastructures and the functions of its components in the city.
- Must be built / partially built / already incorporated into the relevant town plans.

(ix) **Unbuilt Projects**

- To recognize outstanding architectural ideas, concepts, or schemes that are unbuilt or in progress, this category includes design projects in architecture, interiors, or urban design that have not been or will not be executed, as well as competition entries or speculative work not intended for construction.

2.4 Assessment Criteria

- (i) Outstanding architectural design that can stimulate, engage and move the receivers.
- (ii) Excellently addressing the function requirement, providing interesting spatial quality and demonstrating tectonic reasonableness.
- (iii) Having a clear design vision and successfully demonstrating it in the design.
- (iv) Achieving a space for imagination and the pursuit of human wellness.
- (v) Presenting innovative ideas to elevate living standards.
- (vi) Responsive to nature and urban context of the development.
- (vii) Sustainable, adaptive to changes, responsive to the environment, and putting concepts of sustainability and environmental friendliness into practice.
- (viii) Optimal use of land resources without compromising architectural quality.
- (ix) Good execution of architectural details to bring out the design intention.
- (x) for **HKIA Special Award - Heritage & Adaptive Re-use**
 - Demonstrating skill, sensitivity and thoughtfulness in re-interpretation, restoration or adaptive re-use of historically meaningful & significant building or space.
- (xi) for **HKIA Special Award – Research & Publication**
 - Originality-**
Project should be fundamental research/ planning study that enhances the advancement in substantiality in relation to the built environment.
 - Practicality-**
Project should offer the scope of generalization, with beneficial applicability to the industry in terms of sustainable planning, design, construction and/or operations of the built environment.
 - Quality-**
Project should demonstrate rigor and validity in research or student methodology.
 - Innovation-**
Project should demonstrate innovation in design or research through the process and/ or finding.
 - Impact-**
Project should benefit the architectural profession and help uphold architectural excellence.
- (xii) for **HKIA Special Award – Interior Design**
 - Integration of architecture and interior design.
 - Innovative ideas of spatial design arrangement.
 - Impressive natural lighting/ artificial lighting effect.
 - Excellent choice and use of materials.

- 2.4 (xiii) for **HKIA Special Award – Sustainable Architecture**
- Good integration of architectural and sustainable design.
 - Smart and clever use of natural resources such as ventilation, daylight, water, etc.
 - Achieving genuine energy reduction and a quality living environment by a sensible architectural design approach. Optimal use of material to reflect the best intention of the architects on saving the scarce material of the Earth.
 - Demonstrating the importance of architects' role in sustainable design.
- (xiv) for **HKIA Special Award – Human & Social Inclusion**
- Demonstrating that the project has provided opportunities for different users to enjoy, use and experience the building's facilities.
 - Showing creativity that meets social needs in a better way than the existing solutions.
 - Stating the goal of extending and strengthening civil society by creating positive social impact, improving livelihoods, strengthening neighbourhood bonding, enhancing social inclusion, promoting sharing economy and global citizenship, etc.
 - Able to provide inclusive universal design for people with physical disability to enjoy freely in the project.
- (xv) for **HKIA Special Award – Technology or Innovative Architecture**
- Importance of the technology towards the whole project development.
 - Practicality and quality of such technology.
 - Compatibility & integration.
 - Functionality and user- friendliness.
 - Demonstrating the technology that can enhance human well-being.
- (xvi) for **HKIA Special Award – Architectural Installation, Curation & Exhibition Design**
- Impact on promoting architecture and design.
 - Involvement and engagement of the neighbourhood and public.
 - Ingenious application of architectural skills in such works or programme.
 - Creativity.
- (xvii) for **HKIA Special Award – Urban Design & Master Planning**
- Demonstration of adoption of urban principles that contribute to the building of a liveable city.
 - Positive contribution to the public realm or environment through intelligent planning.
 - Thorough consideration of the complexity of different components and factors in urban environment and achieving a balanced outcome that benefits the most.

3 SCHEDULE & DEADLINE

6 June 2025, Friday
to
18 July 2025, Friday

Nomination

Nominations for the HKIA Annual Awards 2025 closes at 17:30 of 18 July, 2025

Jury Adjudication

Start from
28 July 2025, Monday

Stage 1 Shortlisting Process

- Jury Panel will review all nominations and select finalist projects.

Week of 25 August 2025
to
19 September 2025, Friday

Stage 2 Presentations, Site Visits and Jury Conclusion ^{note 1}

- Presentations and Site visits may be arranged for the projects which the Jury Panel wishes to know more about. Separate notice will be sent to those project teams. Stage 1 submitted materials will be used for presentation.
(Project teams are strongly advised to reserve these days for the event)
- Jury Panel to select winning projects

Awards Ceremony and Exhibition

November 2025

- Annual Awards winning and finalist entries will be officially announced at the Prize Presentation Ceremony.
- Prize Presentation Ceremony will be scheduled for November 2025.
- Awarded and Finalist entries will be introduced to the public at the HKIA Annual Awards 2025 Exhibition tentatively scheduled for December 2025.

Notes:

Request for site visit or interview for a project does not guarantee the project will be shortlisted or awarded.

Schedule and deadlines might subject to change. Shall an amendment be needed, prior notice will be posted on HKIA's official website www.hkia.net.

4

RULES & REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Eligibility

- The nominated projects must be the work of HKIA Members.
- Nominations must be represented by an HKIA member.
- The nominated buildings must be located within Hong Kong territorial limits for the **HKIA Medal of the Year of Hong Kong / HKIA Award of Hong Kong / Merit Award of Hong Kong**.
- The nominated buildings for the **HKIA Medal of the Year Outside Hong Kong / HKIA Award Outside Hong Kong / Merit Award Outside Hong Kong** must be located outside Hong Kong territorial limits.
- The nominated buildings for the **HKIA Award for Small Projects - President's Prize** must be located within Hong Kong territorial limits.
- The nominated projects shall not be in any way associated with members of the Jury unless declared in written format to HKIA.
- A partially completed building / project would not be accepted for nomination except for the **HKIA Special Award – Unbuilt Projects** category, unless the construction phasing of the project is so obvious as to render the completed portion a distinct building.
- All nominated buildings or projects should be completed within the last 5 years up to 31 May 2025 with **an Occupation Permit (OP) dated within 1 June 2020 to 31 May 2025**. If OP cannot be obtained, an equivalent proof that shows the project's completion date can be submitted for approval.
- A building or project can be nominated multiple times, provided that it has never received any medal / award / merit award / special award (not including “shortlist” or “finalist” status) in that category in previous years. A building or project that has already received an award (not including “shortlist” or “finalist” status) should not be nominated again in the same category as before.
- Individual building inside the urban design / masterplan of awardees of the **HKIA Special Award – Urban Design & Master Planning** category can be counted as separate project for nomination for future Annual Awards.
- Joint nomination is allowed. If the project is awarded, the award shall belong to the joint venture team.

4.2 Nomination

- Any Member of the Institute is at liberty to nominate one or more buildings for consideration by completing the Nomination through the submission platform together with all necessary documents uploaded.
- The participants for HKIA Medal of the Year of/outside Hong Kong / HKIA Award / Merit Award of/outside Hong Kong shall select in Part A of the Submission platform in the **award category** of the submitted project. The entries will be grouped under different categories of building types for assessment.
- In case of doubt about the building type of a particular submission, the decision of the Organising Committee shall be final.
- The participants for HKIA Special Award shall select in Part A the appropriate **award category** of the submitted building.
- Members may submit the **same project for different categories**. However, separate submissions and separate payments of fees must be made.

4.3 Nomination Fee

- HKIA Medal of the Year of/outside Hong Kong
HKIA Award / Merit Award of/outside Hong Kong
- **HK\$9,000** for each nomination
- HKIA Award for Small Projects
- **HK\$5,000** for each nomination
- HKIA Special Award
- **HK\$5,000** for each nomination

Notes:

- i) The Nomination Fee is non-refundable once it is submitted.
- ii) Submitted Nomination Fee of any ineligible building or project will not be refunded also.

4.4 Participation Fee for Public Exhibition and Publication

- For each shortlisted entry, their works will be displayed in the HKIA Annual Awards 2025 Exhibition and published in the Annual Awards 2025 Publication. They will be required to contribute their **HK\$7,500** to support the running costs of the Exhibition and Publication. If a project is shortlisted in multiple categories, a 50% discount on the participation fee will be given for the third shortlisted category of the same project that would be **HK\$3,750**.
- Prize Presentation for Awarded Entries
For each Awarded Entry, their works will be presented in the Prize Presentation Ceremony and their works will be displayed in the HKIA Annual Awards 2025 Exhibition and published in the Annual Awards 2025 Publication.
- For the awarded projects, building models or study

models, 3D audio and visual illustration may be invited by the Organising Committee for exhibition. In the past, 3D presentation materials and video displays were considered to be more appreciated by the public. However, these extra displays will be subjected to additional costs borne by the participants.

4.5 Submission

- Nominations, together with all required documents, must be sent to HKIA via the online form by 17:30 on 18 July 2025, Friday.
- Nomination submission platform: <https://awards.hkia.net>
- Submission package shall include:
 - (1) Completed all the compulsory fields of the application Brief Project Description (150 words in both English and Chinese) and Design Statement (500 words in both English and Chinese)
 - (2) Payment
 - (a) Nomination Fee of either HK\$9,000 or HK\$5,000, depending on the award category of the nomination.
Notes: The nomination fee shall be paid upon completion of the submission.
 - (b) Participation Fee of HK\$7,500
Notes: The participation fee shall be paid when the project is shortlisted. A reminder will be included in the email to the shortlisted project.
 - (c) Payment methods:
 - i. Bank-in
Bank Name: The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

A/C Name: HKIA Services Limited
A/C No.: 047-358908-001
 - ii. Cheque
Please issue cheque payable to HKIA Services Limited
(**Note:** Applicant should bank-in the cheque and upload the payment slip onto the website.)
 - iii. FPS
FPS Account No.: 117759431
Payee Name: HKIA
 - (3) Copies of Occupation Permit or equivalent except for Unbuilt Projects and Urban Design & Master-planning
 - For government projects, Completion Certificates are acceptable.
 - For addition & alteration works, Acknowledgement of Completion is acceptable.
 - For projects outside Hong Kong, Completion Certification or equivalent is acceptable.
 - (4) Project presentation document and images:

- (a) A **PPT document in landscape format of max. 15 pages** to present the entry project. (This will also be used later for on-screen presentation to the Jury Panel and for Jury Panel's stage 1 and stage 2 assessment.) A **PDF version** of the same document should be provided as well.
 - All texts shall be **preferably in English**.
 - **NO company names, logos or other identifying information** should appear on the PPT/PDF. (Disqualification may be resulted otherwise.) However, if the company name is part of the project name, it may be allowed subject to the Committee's final decision.
 - No advertisement or commercial content should appear on the presentation.
 - Location plan, floor plans and sections, photos of the projects are recommended to be shown in the presentation.
 - Submitted images should accurately portray the building. Over-edited or doctored photos, for example, altering the building profile, omitting elements which should be seen on the façade, altering the actual site context etc., are prohibited. Disqualification may be resulted otherwise.
 - (b) **4 actual photos (1 Key Image and 3 Supplementary Images)** of the nominated project of the following specifications:
 - In **“.jpg” format**.
 - Image resolution **not less than 3000 pixels** on the long side
 - these photos should accurately portray the building. (Except for the categories of **Unbuilt Projects, Urban Design & Master Planning** (projects which may not be completed yet) and **Research & Publication** (projects which may not have any physical appearance), in which renders, diagrams and graphics are accepted)
 - Over-edited or doctored photos, for example, altering the building profile, omitting elements which should be seen on the façade, altering the actual site context, etc., are prohibited. Disqualification may be resulted otherwise.
 - (c) All shortlisted entries will be required to submit **ONE A0 size** panel in digital format (both JPG & PDF formats) for the exhibition purpose.
 - (d) For multiple entries made by the same architectural practice, separate submissions with all documents listed above should be submitted.
 - (e) No printed images or presentation document will be accepted unless specifically requested by the Jury Panel later.
- The onus is on all participating parties and clients to ensure that the nomination is received by the Chief Operating Officer of HKIA before the closing date and time of submission.
 - No consideration would be given to late submissions.

5

TERMS & CONDITIONS

5.1 Awards

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects and the Jury Panel do not bind themselves:

- to confine their selection to the works nominated,
- to select nominated work(s) for award in every category; and
- to select only one nominated work for award in every category.

Decision(s) of the Institute and Jury Panel shall be final.

5.2 Examination for Eligibility of Submissions

The Annual Awards Organising Committee may exclude any nomination from consideration by the Jury Panel if it does not fully conform to the Rules & Requirements stated herein. Any such exclusion by the Organising Committee shall be final and such nominations will not be included in the HKIA Annual Awards Exhibition and Publication.

All nominations will be examined and the works meeting the expected standards of the Award criteria will be selected for consideration of Awards by the Jury Panel.

5.3 Ownership of the Submissions

All presentation materials including presentation boards, electronic files and photographs (except the model) are deemed to be the property of The Hong Kong Institute of Architects and there are no restrictions or losses recoverable from the Institute on the publication of any materials submitted herewith. The Institute reserves the right to reproduce, print, publish, and edit the materials submitted in either paper or electronic format or the like, for any use.

5.4 Disclaimer

All participating parties and clients must warrant that the information provided in the submission is true and accurate, and agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions stated in this Nomination Brief and shall be responsible as the primary author of the design submitted herewith.

6

JURY PANEL

HKIA Medal of the Year / HKIA Award (Inside and Outside HK)

The Jury Panel consists of five members appointed by HKIA as follows:

HKIA Senior Member (Chairman of Jury Panel)

Ar. David Lung
HKIA Fellow

Overseas Juror

Mr. Robert Greenwood
Partner & Director for Asia Pacific
Snøhetta

Overseas Juror

Mr. Brian Lee
Consulting Partner
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM)

Lay Juror

Mr. William To
Executive Director
PMQ

Representative from Young Architect

Ar. Alvin Kung
HKIA Young Architect Award 2018 Recipient

HKIA Award for Small Projects

The Jury Panel consists of three members appointed by HKIA as follows:

President

Ar. Julia Lau

Past President

TBC

Past President

TBC

HKIA Special Award

The Jury Panel consists of five members appointed by HKIA as follows:

HKIA Senior Member (Chairman of Jury Panel)

Ar. Raymond Fung
HKIA Fellow

Lay Juror

Ms. Anita Chung
Head of Heritage
Tai Kwun

Specialist Juror

TBC

Specialist Juror

TBC

Representative from Young Architect

Ar. Owen Lam
HKIA Young Architect Award 2023 Recipient

7

NOMINATION SUBMISSION PLATFORM

- Nomination submission platform at <https://awards.hkia.net>

8

ENQUIRY & CONTACTS

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects Secretariat
Contact person Mr. Ian Lau / Ms. Ashley Lee
Tel. 3155 0412 / 3155 0404
Fax 2519 6011 / 2519 3364
Email bia@hkia.org.hk

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