

# AZ AWARDS 2021

## PRESS RELEASE

### Call for Entries – 2021 AZ Awards

Toronto, Canada

### **With an All-New Urban Design Category, the AZ Awards Kicks Off a New Decade. Now's the Time to Submit your Best Work.**

Toronto, Canada, 2021-01-04 -

The AZ Awards has been recognizing excellence in design and architecture across the world for over a decade now. Since AZURE debuted the [AZ Awards](#) in 2011, the program has grown in size, scope, and momentum to be internationally recognized for its influence in the global design and architecture spheres. The 2021 edition of the AZ Awards adds the completely new category of Urban Design, encouraging developers to submit their projects.

The awards program welcomes submissions until February 25 and promises to attract entries from some of the most forward-thinking firms from all corners of the globe.

In 2020 – the AZ Awards' 10th anniversary – the program received projects from over 1,200 architects, landscape architects, product designers, interior designers, students, and manufacturers from 47 countries. Out of that unprecedented number, the international jury of experts selected 68 extraordinary finalists.

This year, our jury of internationally renowned practitioners in the areas of product design, architecture, landscape architecture, and interiors will convene remotely from their homes and offices all over the world to evaluate the entries. Past jurors have included Thom Mayne, Nader Tehrani, Nina-Marie Lister, Philippe Malouin, Marion Weiss, Omar Gandhi, Craig Dykers, Michel Rojkind, and Brigitte Shim. Stay tuned to find out who the members of the 2021 AZ Awards Jury will be!

Winners will be revealed at the AZ Awards Gala in Toronto in June. The gala has become *the* event of the season, an exciting evening with fellow members of the industry's elite. Every year – with the exception of 2020, when we hosted our gala online – close to 500 top architects, designers and industry-related professionals come together to meet and mingle and to celebrate the finalists and winners. Past finalists have traveled from as far away as South Korea, Austria, Brazil, Peru, and Japan to join the festivities. The gala also welcomes an annual international guest of honor; previous years' guests have included



legendary landscape architect Martha Schwartz, architect Winy Maas (co-founder of the Dutch architecture firm MVRDV), and designer Gaetano Pesce.

Winners take home the [AZ Awards trophy](#), recreated annually by a prominent designer – in past years such luminaries as Luca Nichetto, Michael Anastassiades, Matt Carr, Philippe Malouin, Karim Rashid, and Omer Arbel have designed trophies for the AZ Awards. Look for announcements later this year about our special gala guest and the 2021 AZ Awards trophy designer.

Azure and its partners encourage design and architecture professionals, developers, students, and manufacturers to submit their work to the AZ Awards for an opportunity to step into the global spotlight, elevate their profile, and raise public awareness for their firm and their clients.

Submissions close Tuesday, February 25, 2021 (early-bird submissions end January 31, 2021).

Online entry portal and more information at [awards.azuremagazine.com](https://awards.azuremagazine.com)

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## Eligibility

The 2021 AZ Awards are open to:

- Designers and design firms from all disciplines
- Architects, landscape architects, and architectural firms
- Developers
- Post-secondary students enrolled in design and architecture programs in 2020
- Clients and manufacturers
- Projects must be completed by December 31, 2020
- Products must be prototyped or in production
- Concepts must have been developed or presented for the first time in 2020

## Categories

- Architecture: Residential buildings; commercial and institutional buildings over 1,000 square meters; commercial and institutional



buildings under 1,000 square meters; temporary and demonstration projects; adaptive re-use

- Landscape Architecture: Public and private landscapes
- Urban Design: Built and unbuilt multi-building development projects (commercial, residential or mixed-use); infrastructure; urban interventions
- Interiors: Residential spaces; commercial and institutional spaces
- Design: Furniture; furniture systems; lighting fixtures; lighting installations; interior products; architectural products
- Experiential Graphic Design: Wayfinding; sign programs; information and map design; experiential brand identity
- Concepts: Unbuilt competition entries; concepts/prototypes
- A+ Award: Projects developed by a student enrolled in a post-secondary design or architecture program in 2020. The winner will receive a \$5,000 cash prize.
- All entries may 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. Projects may be entered in one or both of these categories.
  - For the Social Good Award, projects must advance social equity and have a positive impact on the collective realm.
  - For the Environmental Leadership Award, projects must show sensitivity and respect for the use and management of natural resources throughout their lifecycle, especially with respect to materials and energy use.

## 2021 Key Dates

JANUARY 4: Submissions open

JANUARY 31: Early-bird deadline

FEBRUARY 25: Deadline for entries

APRIL 15: Finalists are announced and People's Choice voting opens

JUNE: Winners are revealed at the 2021 AZ Awards Gala and published in print and online

*The 2021 AZ Awards is presented by [Keilhauer](#) and [Landscape Forms](#).*

*The 2021 AZ Awards Gala sponsors are [Ciot](#), [Dark Tools](#), and [Scavolini](#).*