

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS/ HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY'S AWARDS PROGRAM

Background

The Housing Committee Knowledge Community of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), in conjunction with the Office of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), created an awards program to recognize excellence in housing and community design. Good design is the cornerstone of well-planned homes and communities. These awards demonstrate that design matters and provide examples of important benchmarks in the housing industry.

Recognition

The award recipients selected in this design program will receive significant recognition. HUD will publish and publicize the award-winning designs and a publication piece will appear in *AIArchitect*, the online newspaper of AIA. The award-winning designs will also be celebrated at the 2005 AIA National Convention in Las Vegas.

Award Categories

Entries from AIA-member architects with completed projects are welcome. In addition, owners of structures or projects fitting the eligibility guidelines may submit projects for review. The categories for this year's program include the Mixed-Use/Mixed-Income Development Award, the Community Building by Design Award, and the Alan J. Rothman Housing Accessibility Award.

All submitted materials, including documentation, CD-ROMs, photographs, plans, and digital files, will become the property of AIA and will be considered for inclusion in its resource library. Submitted materials will not be returned.

Mixed-Use/Mixed-Income Development Award

Nature of Award: This award recognizes a project that embraces and demonstrates the revitalizing potential of mixed-use and mixed-income housing developments. Mixed-use housing refers to developments that combine residential land use with nonresidential use(s), such as retail centers, community centers, public facilities, and the like. Mixed-income housing refers to residential developments designed and financed to include market-rate as well as below-market-rate (affordable) housing. Submissions can include both mixed-use and mixed-income housing developments or developments that feature mixed-income housing exclusively.

Award Criteria: Submissions for the award will be favorably scored based on the extent to which the project promotes the following features:

- ◆ **A variety of uses.** To what extent does the project create a mix of civic, institutional, commercial, retail, recreation, and/or housing uses in a single complex?
- ◆ **Access/usage by a diverse range of people.** To what extent does the project contain facilities that promote patronage/usage by people of diverse ages, racial backgrounds, physical abilities, and incomes? If the project contains housing, to what extent do the housing types and price levels promote residence by people of diverse ages, racial backgrounds, and incomes?
- ◆ **Walkable neighborhoods.** To what extent does the project provide compact, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods that encourage walking? To what extent does the project promote street-level activity and accommodate automobiles without making them a dominant feature of the site?
- ◆ **Transit.** If available, does the design provide for a variety of public transportation options, such as walking, biking, rail, and bus?



U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development



THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS

- ◆ **Streets and public spaces as shared-use spaces.** To what extent does the architecture physically define streets and public spaces as places of human scale, shared use, and flexible social interaction?
- ◆ **Seamless linkage to surroundings.** To what extent is the project seamlessly linked to its surroundings? To what extent does it integrate architectural, cultural, and/or other historical characteristics of the community? To what extent are historic structures integrated into the development?
- ◆ **Safety and security.** To what extent does the project's physical design provide safety and security without sacrificing accessibility and openness?

Community Building by Design Award

Nature of Award: Community building is a people-based approach to fighting poverty that builds on the assets of the community. It supports people in poor neighborhoods as they rebuild social structures and relationships that may have been weakened by outmigration, disinvestment, and the isolation of inner-city areas.

As a growing number of leaders in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors recognize, the design (or redesign) of physical structures and surrounding spaces can contribute to community building in several ways. First, the participatory design process can create positive connections between and among residents, community stakeholders, local government officials, and civic groups. It can give local residents a sense of empowerment and even create new institutions with broad purposes that enhance community life, such as a computer laboratory for training residents or an arts center. Second, design outcomes can provide buildings and public spaces that enhance human scale and promote

positive social interaction, shared use of space, defensible space, and other lasting community assets.

This award recognizes a project that plays an exemplary role in helping to revitalize the community in which it is located by enhancing the community's physical fabric. It will focus not only on the physical structures and their relation to the community, but also on the design processes surrounding the creation of those structures.

Award Criteria: Submissions for the award will be favorably scored based on the extent to which the project is—

- ◆ **Community-driven with broad resident involvement.** To what extent do the project's concept and design reflect the leadership and meaningful involvement of members of the community where it is located? How inclusive was the design process in engaging residents, neighbors, civic leaders, and local institutions from different racial/ethnic, age, language, religious, and/or physical ability groups, as appropriate, to the project community? The jury will consider the extent to which community involvement went beyond simple consultation to include active engagement in visioning and decisionmaking.
- ◆ **Focused on specific improvement initiatives in a manner that reinforces and builds social and human capital.** To what extent did the project design and implementation process include activities that, while accomplishing specific, immediate outcomes, contribute to broader objectives (such as providing economic opportunity, building trust, increasing interaction, and building institutions and capacity) that enable successful community building?
- ◆ **Asset-based.** To what extent does the project build and/or capitalize on existing community assets, including the reclamation and repair of blighted, abandoned areas? The jury will consider

the extent to which the project reflects an effort to build on assets (such as community institutions, residents' skills, vacant land, locational advantages, and indigenous building architecture) found in the community where the project is located.

- ◆ **Tailored to neighborhood scale and conditions.** The jury will consider the extent to which the built environment responds to the local context by demonstrating, through the design of structures and public open space, an appreciation for the physical and social conditions of the neighborhood where it is located and which it is designed to serve.

Alan J. Rothman Housing Accessibility Award

This award is named in remembrance of Alan J. Rothman, HUD's late senior policy analyst on housing disability issues, who devoted his life to improving housing accessibility for the disabled. Alan, born with cerebral palsy, overcame many challenges in his life. He died in May 1999. HUD and AIA sponsor this award to commemorate Alan Rothman and demonstrate the commitment of both organizations to achieving housing accessibility for all Americans.

Nature of Award: Projects eligible for this award include those that involve housing and/or housing developments and demonstrate excellence in improving housing accessibility for people with disabilities.

This award recognizes achievement in architecture that promotes the design, construction, and use of affordable housing incorporating features (particularly those demonstrating universal design principles) that make housing accessible to and usable by people with disabilities.

Award Criteria: Submissions of accessible housing will be favorably scored based on the extent to which the project promotes the following features:

- ◆ **Universal design criteria incorporated into the nominated development.**
To what degree do the design features facilitate activities of daily living for the targeted populations?
- ◆ **Visibility.** Are the units designed to be accessible to disabled people who may want to visit them without having to be lifted up stairs, enjoy a meal with the resident(s), or be able to use the first-floor bathroom or restroom? Zero-step entrances and doorways with 32" clearance (at least on the first floor) are some of the options.
- ◆ **Affordability.** Are the units available to families and individuals with moderate incomes?
- ◆ **Example of accessibility.** How and to what extent does the submission serve as an example for others? What indicates that the approach can be applied elsewhere?
- ◆ **New technologies.** To what degree does the submitted housing incorporate new or advancing technologies that have promising applicability?

As part of the submission, a brief, clear statement describing the disability concerns that the housing addresses must accompany projects for this award. The statement should also indicate how each disability has been addressed and discuss the degree to which issues of universal design have been addressed and the project's responsiveness to applicable laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Eligibility

For all three awards:



Owners of structures and architects licensed in the United States may submit projects (located in the United States) of any size, budget, or style fitting the eligibility guidelines. An entry must have been designed by an architect who is an AIA member at the time of the project's completion. Completion is synonymous with substantial completion as defined in the standard AIA documents governing construction.

The submitting architect may qualify as a member of a design team, whether he or she serves as head of the team. All significant contributors to the design of the project must be given credit as part of the submission. Project authorship must remain anonymous during jury deliberations. If authorship is revealed on any submission materials—photos, plans, CD-ROMs, or narrative—**the entry will be disqualified.**

Any housing element must include affordable units—that is, units available to individuals and families with incomes no greater than the local area median income.

Projects submitted for this award will be subject to review and clearance within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to ensure adherence to ethical practices and overall professional conduct.

For the Mixed-Use/Mixed-Income Development and Community Building by Design Awards:



New construction, renovations, and restored homes in the United States are eligible. Only developments or projects completed after January 1, 2001, will be considered for this award.

For the Alan J. Rothman Housing Accessibility Award:



Any complete innovative design of some aspect of a dwelling is eligible for entry. Newly built structures, as well as renovated or restored houses, in the United States are eligible.

Both single-family and multifamily housing are eligible for consideration (but not facilities that provide treatment or require participation in services as a term of tenancy).

Housing may be newly built or additions to (or renovations of) existing housing.

Housing that is the object of a submission must have been completed and in place after January 1, 2001.

Judging Criteria

Each entry will be judged for the success with which the project has met its individual requirements. Entries are weighed individually, not against one another.

Submission Materials

1. Project description/narrative

Provide a brief, clear description of the original design objectives. Explain the distinguishing characteristics of the work and featured design elements. The jury will use the project description as a guide.

2. Photographs

For the Mixed-Use/Mixed-Income Development and Community Building by Design Awards:



Provide 8" x 10" or 8 1/2" x 11" color glossy prints. Do not submit color photocopies or magazine reprints.

Photo submissions must include at least the following:

- ◆ One 8" x 10" or 8 1/2" x 11" print showing key buildings in the community and environment.
- ◆ For projects involving renovations or alterations, before and after 8" x 10" or 8 1/2" x 11" prints.
- ◆ Two 8" x 10" or 8 1/2" x 11" interior prints of key structures or aspects of the environment.

For the Alan J. Rothman Housing Accessibility Award:



Provide a minimum of two 8" x 10" or 8 1/2" x 11" color glossy prints. Do not submit color photocopies or magazine reprints. For projects involving renovations or alterations, provide before and after 8" x 10" or 8 1/2" x 11" prints.

3. Drawings

Provide a site plan, on a small scale, showing the project and its immediate context. Also provide a floor plan(s) and one or more sections sufficient to explain design solutions. Plans can be drawn on any scale in any medium, but the scale must be indicated graphically. All plans must be on 8 1/2" x 11" sheets placed in the binder's transparent window sleeves. Oversize or folded plans will be discarded without consideration.

4. CD-ROM

All award entrants must duplicate their submission binders onto a CD-ROM. This includes all project description

text, Concealed Identification and Copyright Release Forms, and project images.

- ◆ Description text and required forms should be saved as text or MS Word documents.
- ◆ Images should be 300 dpi resolution or higher, at least 5" on one side, in RGB color rendering and TIF file format.
- ◆ All files should be labeled with program name and binder number and should describe contents clearly (e.g., rather than "IMG000932," "Arch 32 west exterior"). Photograph-file labels should also include the photographer credit.

How To Enter

Please note that entries must be submitted in the manner specified below or they will not be considered.

Mail the entry form (downloadable from www.aia.org and www.huduser.org), fully completed and accompanied by an entry fee of \$200 for each building or group of buildings to be entered, to—

AIA/HUD Secretary's Awards, Honors and Awards Department, The American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006-5292.

Make checks payable to The American Institute of Architects.

Entry forms must be returned to AIA postmarked no later than November 19, 2004, to allow time for preparing submission binders.

All materials submitted must be contained in an 8 1/2" x 11" binder that will be supplied to each entrant on receipt of the entry form and fee. A separate binder will be provided for each project submitted. Pages may not be added to the binder, but both sides of the pages may be used.

Photos and plans must be cleared for publication by the entrant. Entrants are responsible for any royalties or copyright photography fees. Before entering, entrants must have the owner's approval to submit the project. Owners must be notified of potential site visits and significant recognition in the media for winning submissions.

Completed submission binders must be returned to AIA for judging postmarked no later than December 17, 2004. This postmark date will be strictly observed; no exceptions will be made. No entry fees will be refunded for entries that are disqualified, late, or incomplete.

All submitted materials, including documentation, CD-ROMs, photographs, and plans, will become the property of AIA and will be considered for inclusion in its resource library. Submitted materials will not be returned.

This information, along with the PDF entry form, is available at www.aia.org/awards.

Questions? Contact AIA at 202-626-7586 or via e-mail at honorsawards@aia.org.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Policy Development and Research
Washington, DC 20410-3000

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
HUD
Permit No. G-795

A I A / H U D S E C R E T A R Y ' S

Housing and Community Design Awards Program

*T*omorrow's homes will come from the drawing boards of today's architects seeking innovative design solutions to our real-world challenges.

A l p h o n s o J a c k s o n

**Secretary of Housing and
Urban Development**



**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**



**THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS**