

# Urban Design Awards Program/2009

Sponsored by the Urban Design Committee  
of the Boston Society of Architects/AIA

Co-sponsored by the AIA New York Chapter Planning  
and Urban Design Committee

**Deadline: April 16, 2009**

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## Call for Entries

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*This biennial urban design awards program, which includes the Willo von Moltke Award for Design Excellence, recognizes and honors excellence in urban design by architects, landscape architects, professional planners and allied professionals.*

### AWARDS OBJECTIVE

The world is full of sites where memory, commerce, arts, recreation, and transit command a new investment of time and resources to build and rebuild a shared public realm. The focus of this awards program is on projects in which that kind of analysis, together with a profound depth of urban knowledge, has been translated into new public realms.

Throughout our global communities, there are developing new urban forms providing a rich integration of activities, recognizing their contextual settings, creating new infrastructure ideas related to alternative transit opportunities and new spatial expressions creating memorable experiences. These settings require unique mixtures of public and private uses that sustain 24-hour activities, we invite those projects that create these settings, that reflect an understanding – through careful analyses of the urban context and an understanding of urban experiences – that shape a new public realm.

### ELIGIBILITY

An urban design project anywhere in the US may be submitted by design teams anywhere in the world. The spatial solutions of the submitted project shall be the result of a collaboration including architects, landscape architects, planners, public artists, placemakers, engineers, and allied professionals working in an integrated process with clients and stakeholders such as community groups, government agencies, and the public and private sectors.

### Projects eligible for submission

- Masterplanning
- Urban Design
- Placemaking
- Time-limited Installations

### Examples:

- academic, public and private projects
- historic preservation projects
- landscape design
- new community-design plans
- public art
- public open-space plans
- regional plans
- transit-oriented projects
- urban infill projects
- waterfront planning projects

➤ Projects must have been completed after January 1, 1999.

➤ Projects honored in this BSA Urban Design Awards Program in prior years are not eligible.

➤ Unimplemented or unbuilt urban design projects are eligible if they meet the other applicable requirements of this program. The client for unbuilt work must be identified. Theoretical projects for which there has been and is no real client should be submitted to the BSA's Unbuilt Architecture Design Awards Program; for details on that program, visit [www.architects.org/awards](http://www.architects.org/awards).

➤ Any eligible architect, landscape architect or professional planner may submit any number of eligible entries provided each is submitted separately with the appropriate fee for each.

➤ Work by designers and planners on this year's jury and work by their firms are not eligible.

### CRITERIA

We seek to honor work that reflects a high level of urban design excellence created through a collaborative effort involving architects, landscape architects, planners, artists and other allied professionals. The jury is empowered to determine the extent to which design excellence is informed by aesthetic, functional,



contextual, social, economic, or other characteristics and whether the work is programmatically, spatially and architecturally successful, socially important, and could be implemented.

In recent years, jurors have considered issues such as technical feasibility, cost, operations and maintenance issues, authenticity of the plan/design, the presence of a 'big idea', political acceptability, economic advice from the private sector, whether or not phasing of the project is possible, and similar issues.

## JURY

The jury may include architects, planners, urban designers, landscape architects, public art professionals, and allied designers, planners, clients and users.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Eschew grandiloquence and prolixity; tell the story concisely and directly to design professionals. This is not a marketing presentation. Type the words "Urban Design Awards" at the top right-hand corner of the first page and directly below that phrase identify the project with one of these descriptors:

- masterplan
- urban design
- placemaker
- time-limited last installation

The jurors' decisions will be based on the materials submitted. No field trips will be taken. All required information/materials listed below must be submitted in English, should conform to a format no larger than 11"x14" (ideally 9"x12"), and should be submitted in a flat binder (avoid three-ring notebooks and spring-loaded binders that do not lie flat when open). **Conceal references to the designers/planners on all materials submitted for the jury's review.** Each binder must include, as appropriate:

➤ A typed **bulleted outline** (not to exceed one page in 9-pt type or larger) noting:

- name and location of the project
- project type
- type (not the name) of client
- program and special constraints
- site description
- design analysis and response (problem, goals, size, key urban design concepts, etc.)
- sustainable design elements (energy-efficiency, appropriate land use, minimized ecological impact, etc.)

- universal design elements
- design team description
- completion date (year)

➤ Adequate graphic information (drawings, plans, photographs, etc.) to enable the jury to understand your submission. These graphics should **clearly indicate the built and natural environmental context of your project.** Concise captions on images help tell the story.

➤ One sheet of your letterhead with double-spaced, typed credit information *in this order using capitals and lower-case letters as appropriate* (do **not** type in all CAPITALS): the project name, city, and state; the client's name; your firm name and the firm names and complete postal addresses of each associated design, landscape, or planning firm, contractor or construction manager, engineering firm and other appropriate credits. Be sure the credits appear **exactly** as you wish to see each on the awards certificates; *please* check firm names and spelling carefully. Note at the bottom of this sheet the name, email address, and daytime telephone number and *extension* of the marketing or similarly appropriate contact person in your firm for the purposes of this submission. Place this credit sheet — and the signed 'Permission Form...' (included at the end of this document) — in a sealed plain envelope and tape the envelope to the inside back cover or back of the last page of the binder.

The intent is not to force entrants to adhere to a rigid format if comparable alternatives or adaptations will serve and are already available. Visit [www.architects.org/awards](http://www.architects.org/awards) for the jury's comments on the last edition of this program; such comments often include useful tips on the preparation of submission materials.

## ENTRY FEES

Each submission must be accompanied by a check or money-order payable to the Boston Society of Architects. The non-refundable fee for the first submission is \$150.00 for AIA members in Massachusetts and members of the AIA New York Chapter and \$200.00 for all others. The fee for each additional submission by the same individual or firm is \$120.00 for AIA members in Massachusetts and members of the AIA New York Chapter and \$170.00 for all others. If you wish to charge the entry fee to a credit card, simply type on the piece of letterhead you are enclosing the name of the credit card (MC, Visa, or American Express), the credit-card number and expiration date,

the name printed on the credit card, the amount being charged to the card, and the name and daytime telephone number *and extension* of the individual in your firm who should be called with questions about this credit card. Fee payments should be placed in an envelope with a piece of your letterhead and attached to the front cover of the binder. The words "Urban Design Awards" should be typed on the envelope. You may submit one payment to cover fees for multiple entries.

## **DEADLINE**

All submissions must reach the BSA office in The Architects Building, 52 Broad St., Boston MA 02109-4301 by 4:00 pm, April 16, 2009.

## **NOTIFICATION**

Results of the jurying will be mailed to all entrants in August.

## **AWARDS**

Award-winning project clients, designers, and other project-team members will receive award certificates. In addition, all award-winning projects will be highlighted at the annual BSA/Build Boston Design Celebration in Boston in November 2009. Award-recipients will be invited to provide images and exhibit boards of the honored projects. Award-winning projects also will be scheduled for publication in the BSA's annual awards publication. Award recipients will be asked to provide images suitable for publication.

## **RETURN OF MATERIAL**

We will return your portfolio(s) by UPS at our expense providing you include — in the same envelope as the entry-fee payment — a mailing label with your typed (not hand-written) name and complete postal address.

## **QUESTIONS?**

Write Nancy Jenner at the BSA  
([njenner@architects.org](mailto:njenner@architects.org)).

# The \_\_\_\_\_ Design Awards Program

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