



# 2023 ARCHITECTURAL EXCELLENCE SPECIAL AWARDS

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

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The Architectural Excellence Special Awards recognize significant achievements by members, non-members, civic leaders, allied professionals, and firms who contribute to the built environment and the advancement of the profession in the Commonwealth.

**AIA Pennsylvania is accepting nominations from the AIA Pennsylvania membership for all open Special Award categories through 11:59 pm Monday, June 5, 2023.**

All 2023 Special Award recipients will be notified by mid-July. The 2023 Architectural Excellence Special Awards will be celebrated during the 2023 Architectural Excellence Awards Broadcast and Viewing Parties set for Thursday, November 16.

## NOMINATOR & NOMINEE ELIGIBILITY

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To be eligible to nominate an individual, firm, organization, or structure to the Special Awards program, the following must apply:

1. The nominating individual must be a current AIA Pennsylvania member(s)
  - a. Additional nomination requirements & nominee eligibility for specific categories is outlined in the Open Nomination Categories below
2. The nomination requirements outlined must be complete and accurate.
3. A current AIA Pennsylvania member may nominate a candidate in more than one open award category, but each individual nomination will require a complete and separate submission.

If you are an AIA Pennsylvania member that is eligible for a Special Award (Associate Award, Emerging Professional Award, Impact Designer Award, Medal of Distinction) and believe that you should be considered for a Special Award, please reach out to another AIA member(s) to request endorsement as the primary nominator based on the Special Award category eligibilities outlined in the award category descriptions below. Nominees may fill out the nomination entry with the authorization of the named primary nominator.

Please review additional eligibility requirements for each Special Award category as outlined in the open nomination category descriptions outlined below.

## ENTRY FEE

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There is no entry fee for nominations to the Architectural Excellence Special Awards.

## NOMINATION COMMITTEE

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The AIA Pennsylvania Board of Directors has authorized the AIA Pennsylvania Committee on Design (COD) to convene an annual Special Awards Nomination Committee. The Committee on Design Chair invites a past Special Award recipient to serve as the Special Awards Nomination Committee Chair. The Committee on Design Chair also assists the Special Awards Nomination Committee Chair with recruitment of the Nomination Committee members to ensure perspectives from a diverse representation of the membership with local awareness of those making an impact on the profession.

It is the responsibility of the Special Awards Nomination Committee to:

1. Receive and review all nominations from eligible members for all open nomination awards categories.
2. Make additional nominations for each of the open nomination award categories.
3. Impartially evaluate, select, and forward a final special award slate of recommendations to the AIA Pennsylvania Board of Directors for approval.

The Special Awards Nomination Committee reserves the right to not put forth a Special Award recommendation in any category should the nominations presented not meet the high standard set by AIA Pennsylvania Board of Directors. Awards are granted at the discretion of the AIA Pennsylvania Board of Directors.

## OPEN NOMINATION CATEGORIES

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### **ASSOCIATE AWARD**

The Associate Award recognizes an AIA Pennsylvania Associate who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, creativity, and significant contributions to their communities, the architecture profession, and the AIA.

ELIGIBILITY: The nominee must be an AIA Pennsylvania Associate member who graduated within the last ten (10) years but is not yet licensed to practice architecture as of the nomination deadline.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS: A formal letter of recommendation should be endorsed by the primary nominator (AIA PA member) or another AIA PA member.

### **EMERGING PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

The Emerging Professional Award seeks to recognize the exceptional achievements and future promise of a licensed architect and to promote their continuing development. The applicant's contribution to the profession can be through one or more of the following: design excellence, leadership in practice, leadership in education, or service to the profession or society.

ELIGIBILITY: The nominee must be a registered architect member of AIA Pennsylvania in their first ten (10) years of licensure as of the date of the submission deadline.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS: A formal letter of recommendation should be endorsed by the primary nominator (AIA PA member) or another AIA PA member.

### **RAYMOND J. SINAGRA ALLIED TRADES AWARD**

The Allied Trades Award, renamed in 2019 in honor of Raymond J. Sinagra's collaborative, whatever-it-takes spirit and dedication to the AEC community, is presented for contributions to the built environment by a contractor, developer, civil engineer, or other allied professional. The award honors those professionals who bring architects' work into reality and who uphold the tenets of design, sustainability and collaboration.

ELIGIBILITY: Nominations open to non-member allied professionals and firms/companies/organizations including AIA PA allied members and preferred partners.

### **CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROFESSION BY A NON-ARCHITECT**

The Contribution to the Profession by a Non-Architect Award honors individuals, corporations, associations, or other groups who do not practice architecture. Recipients will be cited for their direct contributions to the profession such as a building program, a public works project, publications, theoretical or applied research in zoning, urban design, interiors, planning, energy conservation, preservation, restoration transportation, industrial design, artistic endeavors, or other significant disciplines which have had a strong influence on the field of architecture.

ELIGIBILITY: Nominations open to non-member professionals and firms/companies/organizations.

### **IMPACT DESIGNER**

The Impact Designer Award recognizes a wide range of design disciplines held together by a common goal to design and create a better world through innovative, scalable, and measurable solutions. Impact design is rooted in the core belief that design can be used to create positive social, environmental, and economic change, and focuses on actively measuring impact to inform and direct the design process.

ELIGIBILITY: Nominations are open to any AIA Pennsylvania member, firm with at least one AIA Pennsylvania principal owner, or allied organizations with employees ineligible for AIA Pennsylvania membership. Current AIA Pennsylvania Board Members and their respective firms are ineligible.

### **GOVERNMENT AWARD**

The Government Award is given in recognition of significant contributions to, or particular support of, the profession and business of Architecture and/or the built environment. Anyone working in state or local government such as legislators, department secretaries, township officials, etc. are eligible for the award as an individual or specified group.

ELIGIBILITY: Nominations open to an individual or specified group working in state or local government, such as a legislator, state, or township official, etc.

## **MEDAL OF DISTINCTION**

The Medal of Distinction is the highest award bestowed by AIA Pennsylvania upon a living AIA Pennsylvania member. The recipient shall have made contributions to architecture that transcend local boundaries and have been of benefit to the profession and citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ELIGIBILITY: Nominations open to AIA Pennsylvania members only. Current AIA Pennsylvania Board Members are ineligible.

## **50 YEAR TIMELESS ARCHITECTURE AWARD**

The 50 Year Timeless Architecture Award recognizes a building that has endured the test of time and still resonates with the design community and the public.

ELIGIBILITY: The nominated building must be at least fifty (50) years old established from the date of completion to the date of the submission deadline and be located in the State of Pennsylvania.

## **ARCHITECTURE FIRM AWARD**

Every year, AIA Pennsylvania recognizes one firm whose passion and practice have produced notable architecture for at least a decade. Deserving firms will have demonstrated excellence in design and leadership through any combination of the following criteria: the breadth and/or depth of their portfolio, a healthy firm culture, influence on the practice of architecture, exemplary outcomes for clients and/or society.

ELIGIBILITY: Nominations open to firms with at least one AIA Pennsylvania principal owner that have been in operation for ten (10) years. While serving on the AIA Pennsylvania Board of Directors, board members and their firms are ineligible to be nominated for this award. Current AIA Pennsylvania Board Members respective firms are ineligible.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS: Firms may entirely self-nominate if they fit all eligibility criteria. The primary nominator named should be a principal owner of the firm that maintains AIA membership.

## **NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

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After creating an account and logging in\* to the [awards nomination site](#), nominators/nominees will be able to preview and save the submission as they work to complete the submission. Applicants may log back in at any time to complete submission before the submission cutoff date.

Preview the required and optional fields for the Special Awards categories as reflected in the submission site fields on the following page.

<b>Special Award Category Selection &amp; Nominee/Nominator Information</b>	
Special Award Category Selection & Nominee/Nominator Information*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Architecture Firm Award</li> <li>○ Associate Award</li> <li>○ Emerging Professional Award</li> <li>○ Government Award</li> <li>○ Impact Designer Award</li> <li>○ Medal of Distinction</li> <li>○ Contributions to the Profession by a Non-Architect Award</li> <li>○ 50 Year/ Timeless Award</li> <li>○ Raymond J. Sinagra Allied Trades Award</li> </ul>
	○ Select the 1 <sup>st</sup> dropdown option in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> dropdown field, “Nominator is an AIA PA Member” or for the Architecture Firm Award, “Nominator is an AIA PA Special Awards Nomination Committee Member and/or AIA PA Member.”
Nominee Information*	Identify the nominee in the field below. May be an individual (full name), firm, or organization depending on Special Award category.
Nominee Identification*	Identify the nominee in the field below. May be an individual (full name), firm, or organization depending on Special Award category.
Nominee's AIA Member # (Requirement for applicable Special Award categories)	
Nominee's Firm/Organization Affiliation*	
Nominee's Title/Role*	
Nominee's E-mail*	
Nominee's Phone Number*	
<b>Primary Nominator Information</b>	
For the Architecture Firm Award or Impact Designer Award (Firm Nominee), the primary nominator named may be a principal owner of the firm that maintains AIA membership.	
Primary Nominator's First Name*	
Primary Nominator's Last Name*	
Primary Nominator's AIA Member #*	
Primary Nominator's Firm/Organization Affiliation*	
Primary Nominator's E-mail*	
Primary Nominator's Phone Number*	
<b>Nomination Materials &amp; Supporting Documents</b>	
<b>Nomination Materials &amp; Supporting Documents Upload*</b>	The upload (single PDF file) should not exceed eight (8), 8.5x11 pages (portrait or landscape orientation), and 25

<p>.PDF File Upload</p>	<p>MB, in the order as outlined in the general guidelines below:</p> <p>PAGE 1: Introductory Information Page (REQUIRED FOR ALL CATEGORIES) must include the following -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Award Category of Nomination</li> <li>• Nominee Identification</li> <li>• Nomination Narrative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 300-500 word essay introducing the nominee and why the candidate is merited</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>PAGE 2: Letter of Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REQUIRED for the Associate Award and Emerging Professional Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The formal letter of recommendation should be endorsed by the primary nominator (AIA PA member) or another AIA PA member. The letter may reiterate points covered in the “Nomination Narrative.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In categories that do not require this recommendation, please treat page two as another optional page to include supporting narrative and imagery.</li> </ul> <p>PAGES 3 - 8: Supporting Documentation (OPTIONAL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any supporting short narratives, images, activities, previous honors, work, or other accomplishments that support the required 300-500-word essay noted above.</li> <li>• Any additional information in support of the nomination relevant to the first-page narrative and nomination category such as brief: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ biography/CV</li> <li>○ achievements and awards</li> <li>○ example work and images</li> <li>○ clippings and articles</li> <li>○ historic significance, building plans and images, notable mentions [50 Year/Timeless Architecture Award]</li> <li>○ firm principals and history; achievements and awards; portfolio images and drawings [Architecture Firm Award]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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## QUESTIONS

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Contact Olivia at [operry@aiapa.org](mailto:operry@aiapa.org).

\*If you participated in the Architectural Excellence Design, COTE, or Special Awards (2020 onward), the account you created is still on file and retains your previous submissions/nominations. If you cannot recall your password, there is a self-service “lost password” feature in the submission/nomination portal. If you cannot recall which e-mail address you used to register an account and manage your submissions/nominations last year, please reach out to Susan at [sfrear@aiapa.org](mailto:sfrear@aiapa.org).