

**AIA Honors & Awards**  
Submitting for  
Young Architects Award

# Submitting for Young Architects Award

- Overview
- Submission
- The jury
- Resources



# Overview

# Submitting for Young Architects Award

## OVERVIEW

### AIA Young Architects Award

Emerging Talent deserves recognition. The AIA Young Architect Award honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the architecture profession early in their careers.

AIA members who are in good standing and have been licensed to practice architecture fewer than 10 years by the submission deadline are eligible. The term “young architect” has no reference to the age of the nominee.



Submission

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## SUBMISSION

### Process

#### **Submission must be:**

- clear and concise
- results oriented
- well-documented influence on profession

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## SUBMISSION

### Eligibility

- AIA architect members who have been in good standing for under 10 years may be nominated.
- Associate AIA members who have passed the ARE
- International members who meet one of the qualifications listed above.



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## SUBMISSION

### Nomination

- Young Architects can be nominated by the following:
  - AIA Chapters
  - Fellows
  - Knowledge Community members
  - Members of the National AIA Board of Directors
  - Members of the Strategic Council
- Self nominations will be disqualified
- Being a friend or a business partner is not enough to serve as a nominator.



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## SUBMISSION

### Composition

- **Nomination letter** (one page)
- **Biography** (one page)
- **Summary of Accomplishments** (two pages)
- **Leadership Credentials** (one page)
- **Exhibits** (twelve pages)
- **Confidential References** (3 letters)

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## SUBMISSION

### Nomination Letter

- One page
- Speak directly to your achievements
- Set the stage for what the jury is going to read about in the submission
- Avoid broad generalizations

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## SUBMISSION

### Biography

- One page
- Include the 25-35 word summary statement
- Be short, concise, and direct.
- Read like an amplified resume
- Include awards, publications, community, and AIA/YAF involvement
- Show how multifaceted you are!



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## SUBMISSION

### Summary of Accomplishments

- Two pages
- Tell your story
- Highlight your strongest contributions focusing on three main points
- Illustrate how your work has advanced the profession



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## SUBMISSION

### Leadership Credentials

- One page
- Involvement and leadership in AIA
- Involvement and leadership in other organizations
- Demonstrate your professional influence



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The AIA logo is a red circle with the letters "AIA" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

## SUBMISSION

### Exhibits

- Twelve pages total – Two pages for each exhibit
- Outline pertinent information about the project, but use text to explain your specific role in the exhibit.
- Emphasize your contributions.
- Discuss how your involvement made the exhibit better
- Strongest Exhibits first
- Exhibits may included:
  - Volunteering
  - Publications
  - Demonstrations of leadership
  - Does not have to be only design
- Include the Declaration of Responsibility on each exhibit page.

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## SUBMISSION

### Exhibits – Declaration of Responsibility

- Every exhibit must have a Declaration of Responsibility
- For each exhibit, someone in in possession of full knowledge of the specific project – other than the candidate – must certify the candidate’s responsibility.
- Ideally from a client or collaborator rather than someone else at your firm.
- Easy to find on the exhibit page

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the exhibit listed above. The responsibility included:

- Largely responsible for design
- Project under direction of nominee
- Nominee’s firm executed project
- Other: explain

Signature

Title/typed name

Relationship to the exhibit

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## SUBMISSION

### Reference Letters

- **Must remain confidential!**
- Three letters
- Each reference letter should specifically focus on one or more aspects of your contributions already highlighted previously in the submission
- Letters should speak directly about your work.
- References should have a direct connection to you and your work
- Avoid “big name” architects offering no substance.



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## SUBMISSION

### Submitting Reference Letters

- Application sends a link for writers to upload their letter
- Provide ample time for reference writers to submit
- The application system will notify you when they have been received
- Don't submit your application before they have been received
- Letter's are only accepted through this system – **no hard copies, no emails accepted, do not include them in your upload**



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## SUBMISSION

### In short...

- Clear, concise presentation
- Consistent orientation – landscape preferred
- White space is a good thing
- Legible font size (11pt) and color
- Page numbers
- 8.5” x 11” pages
- Strong/specific references
- Support for summary statement
- Focus on results/achievements
- Demonstrate influence on profession

# The Jury

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## THE JURY

### Young Architects Jury

The Young Architects Award Jury is comprised of the current College of Fellows Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor; two individuals selected by the Young Architects Forum Advisory Committee. These individuals must be past recipients of the Young Architects Award, and must have been licensed to practice architecture less than ten years at the time of their selection; and two additional Fellows selected by the Chancellor of the College of Fellows. Either or both of these individuals may be drawn from the membership of the College of Fellows Executive Committee or from the membership of the College of Fellows generally.

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## THE JURY

### Process

- Assigned to review a fraction of the total
- Present assigned candidates to the voting jurors in 5 minutes
- Jury spends 5 minutes discussing each candidate.
- A juror cannot review candidates from their own firm or region
- A juror must recuse themselves from candidates they know personally

# Resources

# Submitting for Young Architects Award



## RESOURCES

- Visit [aia.org/7506-young-architects-award](https://www.aia.org/7506-young-architects-award) for more information and program date.
- Contact AIA Archives for previously successful submissions at [archives@aia.org](mailto:archives@aia.org)
- Contact [HonorsAwards@aia.org](mailto:HonorsAwards@aia.org) for any additional inquiries