LIBRARY DESIGN
AWARDS 2019

About the awards

The Australian Library Design Awards have been created to showcase the best in contemporary library interiors and exteriors in Australia, and to celebrate the investment in libraries made by our nation's institutions, corporations, local, state and territory governments.

They have been developed in the context of other competitions internationally, including the American Institute of Architects/American Library Association Library Building Awards and the Danish Agency for Culture Model Programme for Public Libraries Public Library of the Year Award.

The entries, shortlisted and winning designs will provide case studies in excellent library design for the 21st Century. They will be submitted for consideration for the UK's Designing Libraries website. There will also be media coverage for the finalists.

The awards are organised by the Australian Library and Information Association in partnership with the Australian Public Library Alliance and Council of Australian University Librarians. The organising committee includes senior library leaders from Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria, acting on behalf of colleagues nationally.

The inaugural awards were presented in 2017, with the aim of making the scheme a bi-annual event.

Categories

There are four categories – public libraries, academic libraries, school libraries and special libraries. Entries can be for new buildings, refurbishments or major renovations. Each entry will be judged against the same set of criteria and there will be the option for the judging panel to make special awards where there are several outstanding entries in one category.

Eligibility

Any library in Australia, recently built, renovated or refurbished (work completed between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2018) can be entered for the awards. This includes fixed locations. It does not include pop up, temporary and mobile libraries.

Who can nominate

Nominations will come from libraries and their organisations, with support from the architect and/or other design professionals.

Key dates

Online nominations open on 2 July 2018 and close on 30 September 2018. Judging will take place October-November and the shortlist will be announced in December 2018.

On 14 March, 2019, there will be a one-day conference at the State Library of Queensland, featuring the shortlisted projects, with a presentation of the awards at an evening reception to follow.

Judging

The judging panel comprises independent design professionals and library leaders.

Prizes

In addition to the publicity surrounding their achievement, the winners will receive handcrafted trophies.

How to enter

1. Complete our online entry form. All submissions must be in electronic format. You will be able to upload images, high level floor plans and architectural drawings, each file under 20MB (jpeg or pdf format preferred).

2. Make your payment of the non-refundable entry fee of $380 + GST (ALIA members) and $530 + GST (non-ALIA members).

Criteria

Entries will be assessed on how well the designs have met their objectives and specifically on the basis of the following three criteria:

Design: including interior, exterior appearance, visual impact, flexibility, innovation, and integration into the local environment.

Strategic relevance: including approach to achieving the objectives, response to special considerations or challenges, sustainability and value for money.

Impact: including user experience, efficiency, functionality, delivery of services, meeting community needs and accessibility.

The judges' decision will be final.

More information

Contact:
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Sponsors

The ALIA Library Design Awards are kindly supported by AchitectureAu.com, Raeco and the State Library of Queensland.