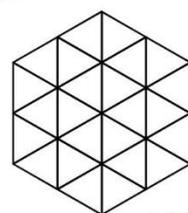


Australian Capital Territory Architecture Awards



ACT
Architecture
Awards



Australian
Institute of
Architects

2018

2018 ACT AWARDS CITATIONS

PRESIDENTS MEDAL

Award Name: Presidents Medal

Award Recipient: Hal Guida

Practice Name: Guida Moseley Brown Architects

Award overview:

Award citation:

Hal Guida's journey in life and architecture reads like few others. From his education at Pasadena City College and Arizona State University, where he learned to resolve design problems through rigorous examinations in drawing, to the heady swirl of UCLA and a Master of Architecture in Urban Design under Denise Scott Brown and Robert Venturi, to a partnership with Mitchell/Giurgola Architects in Philadelphia, to his arrival in Canberra as design coordinator of Parliament House, to the ensuing thirty-year career in the national capital as design director with award-winning firms Mitchell Giurgola and Thorp and its successor, Guida Moseley Brown, the path followed by Hal Guida is that of a passionate architect wholly committed to the advancement of his profession.

Throughout these years Hal has sought to create better environments and a better society through architecture. His designs transcend the traditional notion of architecture as individual edifice, to emphasise public space and landscape. Hal has nurtured projects across the broadest spectrum of architectural types, and in a myriad of locations: from small projects through to urban design, from private to public realms; a diaspora of architectural excellence scattered throughout Australia, South-East Asia, China, the Middle East and the Pacific.

Such success would not have been possible without Hal's unique abilities: a holistic and reflective approach to his craft, a strong understanding of place, and an ability to reconcile a myriad of factors including environmental, cultural, social and historical. Hal Guida's contribution to his adopted city is immeasurable.

His portfolio includes some of the ACT's most noteworthy buildings, many of them award-winning. He has served in numerous advisory and pedagogical roles: professional councils, committees, juries, an Adjunct Professorship in Architecture at the University of Canberra. Through his roles as design director and teacher, and his innate generosity of spirit, Hal has inspired generations of local architects. I am delighted to award the 2018 President's Medal to Hal Guida.

CLEM CUMMINGS MEDAL

Award Name: Clem Cummings Medal

Award Recipient: Rachael Coghlan

Practice Name: CraftACT

Award overview:

The Clem Cummings Medal recognises contributions by non-architects and architects to architecture and the public interest. The spirit of the award is exemplified by the public service exhibited by the late Clem Cummings FRAIA, who died in 1997. Clem was well regarded in the Canberra profession not only through his practice, C G Cummings & Associates but also through his contribution to the profession with the ACT Chapter Council, the Complaints Committee, as a founding member of the RSTCA Committee and in establishing the architectural student mentoring scheme.

Award citation:

Rachael Coghlan is the CEO of Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre and the Artistic Director of DESIGN Canberra festival. For 20 years, she has worked in national cultural institutions in Australia's museum sector, shaping the full continuum of visitor engagement from audience development, exhibitions and events, to digital and external communications. Craft ACT's mission is to support sector sustainability, promote professional practice and enable audience engagement in craft and design.

In her current role, Rachel is constantly exploring innovative and experimental ways to build community relevance and forge interdisciplinary collaborations between creatives. Rachael is a champion for the arts and believes that it is in Canberra's DNA to be a city of design. Indeed, her views about the inseparable links between art and architecture are demonstrated annually with the celebration of architecture throughout the DESIGN Canberra festival. In her own words, Rachael has stated that "from the time of Walter and Marion Griffin's visionary design a century ago, to iconic experimental modernist architecture of the 1950s and 60s, through to contemporary and sustainable design developments today, Canberra has been — and will always be — a living design laboratory".

Rachael has supported the Institute through various initiatives and programs, including the establishment of the 'Living Rooms' program in the Design Canberra Festival, which opens architect designed houses to the public, the organisation of mid-century bus tours of architecturally significant buildings, and through her role as lay juror in the 2018 ACT Architecture Awards.

Under Rachael's leadership, the high profile DESIGN Canberra festival achieved outstanding results in 2017: record attendance numbers, visibility, media and social media coverage, and deepened engagement with the broader community. A record of 94,455 people attended the 20 day festival in 2017, a 37% increase on the 2016 record (over 32 days) of 69,000. DESIGN Canberra celebrates and promotes Canberra as a global city of design.

PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Award Name: Architectural Professional of the Year Prize

Award Recipient: Remco "Sander" Alexander de Vries

Practice Name: SQC Architecture

Award overview:

The ACT Architectural Professional of the Year Prize acknowledges an individual architect who has demonstrated exemplary skills in architectural practice. In doing so, it is hoped that this prize will broaden the base for the recognition of architects and the significant contribution they make to the built environment, the building industry and the delivery of high quality buildings. In 2017, the Prize has attracted high quality submissions from architects with a broad range of experience and skills. In particular, the jury was impressed by the strong response to the judging criteria which included contributions to architectural practice and the broader profession. Sander has made a sustained and significant contribution to the profession of architecture through his project work, his commitment to collaboration and mentoring, and his participation and leadership in a diverse range of professional activities.

Award citation:

Sander completed the first part of his architectural studies in his native Netherlands and migrated to Australia in 2005, initially residing in Sydney. In 2007, Sander relocated to Canberra to take up work as an architectural technician with Small Quinton Coleman (SQC) Architecture. He completed his architectural degree at the University of Canberra while working and achieved registration in 2013. Sander has spent the majority of his career at SQC Architecture and has progressed to the position of Senior Architect.

Sander is known for his enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment to team-based solutions. This is reflected in the successful delivery of a number of public architecture projects, including most recently an impressive new Junior School building for the Brindabella Christian College. He has a particular passion for creating learning environments that engage and inspire students and teachers.

Sander is an effective communicator and makes every effort to engage with all project stakeholders from the project outset to establish clear briefing requirements and to ensure that all project opportunities are explored. His authenticity with, and leadership of the project team through the design, documentation and construction phases ensures the integrity of the design and functional outcomes. Of particular note, Sander devotes considerable time and effort to mentoring younger members of the profession.

Within SQC Architecture, Sander has established a team building program that involves hypothetical design challenges that encourage the development of presentation and communication skills. He also makes a significant contribution to the broader profession. Sander is an energetic and hardworking member of the ACT architectural community. He currently serves on the ACT Chapter Council and chairs the ACT Practice Committee. He is a regular participant in the Practice of Architecture Learning Series (PALS) program and is a contributor to various Emerging Architects and Graduates Network (EmAGN) events. Notably, Sander has a particular interest in equitable employment demonstrated through his involvement in the Institute's National Gender Equity Committee and the ACT Diverse Equitable Employment Practices (DEEP) Taskforce.

In these roles Sander has promoted equitable environments within the workplace and made every effort to ensure women are recognised and promoted to leading roles within the industry and a more inclusive approach generally for the improvement of our profession. Sander undertakes the practice of architecture with an impressive enthusiasm, honesty and energy that will see his career trajectory continue.

The jury congratulate Sander on this award and are confident that he will continue to be a highly respected and effective champion for all members of the architectural profession.

EMERGING ARCHITECT PRIZE

Award Name: Emerging Architect Prize

Award Recipient: Shannon Battisson

Practice Name: The Mill: Architecture + Design

Award overview:

The Emerging Architect Prize acknowledges an emerging architect's contribution to architectural practice, education, design excellence and community involvement. The jury is delighted to announce Shannon Battisson as the recipient of the 2018 Emerging Architect Prize.

Award citation:

Shannon graduated from the University of NSW in 2006 with a Bachelor of Architecture. She is currently the lead architect and founding director of The Mill: Architecture + Design. Shannon has made significant contribution to the profession of architecture through extensive involvement within the Institute of Architects and broader industry groups, as well as through community engagements, public advocacy and charitable work.

Shannon established The Mill: Architecture + Design in 2012, where she executes residential and commercial projects with a high level of professionalism and commitment to project delivery and client liaison. She has a particular focus on sustainability and is dedicated to improving the quality of housing stock in Canberra. This is demonstrated through the principles underpinning her built work, and through her personal construction project, the "Affordable Architectural Housing Option" which seeks to create a display project to advocate the value of the architect in new residential construction.

Shannon undertakes a variety of roles across the Institute of Architects and other professional bodies, such as her role as the current Chair of the Sustainability Committee, current ACT Chapter Councillor, previous ACT Awards Jury member, and involvement with the Housing Industry of Australia, the Design Institute of Australia, and the National Association of Women in Construction. Shannon has undertaken numerous speaker engagements across a variety of forums which advocate design and workplace issues. She also engages with the media through a number of written publications to promote design, sustainability, and equity within the profession.

Shannon has a continued involvement in education, which has taken the form of industry mentorship, primary school education, public education, and gender equity. Shannon takes part in the Institute of Architects mentorship program, and has established a school outreach program aimed at encouraging engagement of primary school aged children with the profession. She has also presented regular workshops and programs on behalf of the ACT Government which educates the general public on the value of sound sustainable design.

The jury commends Shannon's ongoing leadership, professionalism, and passion for the industry.

LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION PRIZE

Award Name: Lifetime Contribution Prize

Award Recipient: Robert Foster

Award citation:

Robert Foster (1962-2016) was an iconic designer and silversmith who continues to be revered and admired for his sculptural installations. His work is held in major Australian and international collections.

His many art in architecture commissions include:

- **The Journey (2010):** A spectacular group of 'ossolites' installed in the foyer of ActewAGL headquarters. 37 major sculptural forms emerge from the polished concrete floor to become sinuous light-filled shapes programmed to create dramatic sequences of light, colour and movement.
- **Blue Mantle (2013):** An open spherical work located in the Cox Humphries Moss designed Radford Senior School building. The sculpture allows you to look through to the outside to highlight the 'real' world that surrounds us and reminds us of the fragile and miraculous nature of our world and lives.
- **Mackenzie's Beach House (2016):** Robert's final work was a collaboration with architect Tony Trobe for a new residential project at Mackenzie's beach, NSW, which resulted in the integration of vibrant red anodised folded panels for kitchen cabinet doors, and a carefully crafted sculptural frame to house locally sourced pebbles that blur the boundary between indoor and outdoor spaces.

Throughout his career, Robert collaborated with architects on multiple projects, both private and public. His open and creative approach to architectural installations succeeded because he was a natural collaborator and problem solver, always courageous to experiment across disciplines and materials with an open mind and generous heart. This prize acknowledges Robert's commitment to collaboration throughout his career, setting the bar for art and architecture.

CANBERRA MEDALLION

Award Name: Canberra Medallion

Award Recipient: Australian Federal Police Forensics and Data Centre

Practice Name: HASSELL

Award citation:

Despite an absence of neighbours and a necessarily restricted access scenario, the new AFP forensics facility creates a vibrant and open-feeling workplace community at the foothill of Mt Majura.

An ambitious rethink of the typically cellular and segregated organisation of such highly secured facilities, the architecture structures the complex program into a series of lateral bands. These are arranged north south, from least to most secured, and linked by a central spine.

Together with their visual transparency the bands successfully increase the interface between contrasting parts of functional areas: general work areas with specialist labs, separated and controlled ones with those more open and communal. The overlapping of activities and groups is particularly evident within the light filled atrium spaces and the front café. These breakout spaces appear to collect everyone, from across the various departments, to foster the intended intelligence sharing and exchange.

The programmatic bands are also expressed on the building's exterior, serrating its considerable length to appear as a series of small buildings. Fingers of garden cleave between these so that the interior intermingles with the landscape within a series of courtyards. They bring a restorative and calm quality to the workplace and establish a lush foreground to the dramatic and beautifully framed views of the impressive indigenous landscape beyond. A varied palette couples glassiness with the warmth and texture of Australian timber creating an interplay of light and dark, transparency and opacity in support of functional needs.

This brief could so easily have succumbed to an explicitly defensive architecture. Instead the Forensics and Data Centre extracts generosity and openness from a highly sensitive program to engender a collaborative and collegiate workplace and find a welcome ease of fit between organisation and built form.

PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Romaldo Giurgola Award for Public Architecture

Award Recipient: Synergy

Practice Name: BVN

Award citation:

X marks the spot for Synergy, a new research facility for CSIRO's Black Mountain consolidation project.

The building is expressed in two parts: a laboratory wing with generous floor to floor heights and an x-shaped plan for workspaces. The vertically stacked program within each of these is connected via a ramp that circulates around a triangular and light-filled void in the X: a superb and dynamic space that also provides opportunities for more informal moments of exchange between researchers and performs as chimney for the natural ventilation of the facility.

The fanning of the X plan fosters research clusters and maximises the extent of perimeter workspaces with direct views out to the Black Mountain landscape. Inside and out, the architecture draws upon the landscape for inspiration and as 'workplace enticement'. Colours extracted from this, especially the local scribbly gum's bark, create the palette applied to the exterior shading system.

Comprising of perforated anodised louvres in a variety of colours it filters sunlight without interrupting views from the interior and gives the building a distinctive visage that is both delicate and striking. Synergy is architecturally finessed. It's clear palette, vibrant light, high level of interior amenity and excellent ESD credentials (that are embedded in and exploited for architectural beauty) yields a workplace that seeks to restore the spirits and wellbeing of a revered organisation.

Award Name: Award for Public Architecture

Award Recipient: St Christopher's Precinct

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

St Christopher's Precinct draws together formerly scattered functions of the Diocese into one building, placed centrally on a prominent site. The new public building comfortably sits between the prominent 1927 Cathedral and new residential apartments.

The three storey public building accommodates the parish hall and bookshop, on the ground level, with other diocesan departments and the bishop's suite on the upper levels, and car parking, archives and services located in the basement. Each frontage is responsive to adjacent conditions, with key dimensions, datum lines, and proportions matching those of the cathedral. The primary frontage, facing the cathedral, is distinguished by a concave glazed front entry, derived from the unbuilt apse planned for the rear wall of the cathedral - a gentle and welcoming inflection.

Polished and honed concrete blade side walls create a strong closed volume, whilst contrasting glazed walls at ends open to views of the Cathedral to the south, and courtyard to the north.

External materials are carried through into the central glazed atrium, effectively continuing the external public spaces through the building. Internal planning also focuses on providing many delightful views back to the cathedral.

A particularly well thought out connection is the inclusion of a gated opening to the basement carpark, which is opened for large events, when the square would become a natural gathering space and short cut to the Cathedral.

Award Name: Commendation for Public Architecture

Award Recipient: High Commission of Samoa in Australia

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

The Samoan High Commission, a distinctly white building in the suburb's muted bush surrounds, treads a careful line between the vernacular and the colonial, and between cultural origin and adopted homeland in its figuration, use of materials and construction methods.

Arranged laterally across the site and within terraced landscapes, are three buildings.

Linked by a central spine, they orchestrate a path from the most public areas – the fale as reception and meeting room and the Chancery - to the most private - the two-storey residence.

Of particular note is the attention to material choices and details to achieve an ease of flow from inside the fale to the adjacent terrace and to respectfully intermingle local use of contemporary steel construction with longstanding Samoan crafts of the afa woven from coconut fibre.

HERITAGE

Award Name: The JS Murdoch Award for Heritage

Award Recipient: Monaro Mall, Canberra Centre

Practice Name: Universal Design Studio and Mather Architecture

Award citation:

The redevelopment of Monaro Mall pays its respects to the mid-century modernist beginnings of Australia's first fully enclosed shopping mall.

Listed for more than thirty years on the ACT register of significant twentieth century architecture, Whitehead and Payne Architects' 1963 Mall had sadly been obscured by multiple renovations and overshadowed by the expansion of the Canberra Centre in which it resides.

An ambitious project, the practice team has successfully and sensitively restored, revealed, reinstated and reimagined Monaro Mall's heritage values, intent and finishes. Monaro Mall is now a light-filled and material-rich contemporary retail transformation which demonstrates the powerful potential of adaptive reuse of heritage buildings over demolition.

Externally, the Bunda Street and Petrie Plaza façades borrow from the beautiful and fortunately still intact David Jones entry on City Walk. With a nod to the earlier significance of the Mall, the public realm has been activated with large format windows, street facing shops and cafes and the thoughtful restoration of original marble, breeze blocks and mosaics. Elegant arched awnings have been reinstated and new gold soffits and up-lighting introduce a contemporary finish.

COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The John Andrews Award for Commercial Architecture

Award Recipient: Australian Federal Police Forensics and Data Centre

Practice Name: HASSELL

Award citation:

Discretely located in the foothills of Mt Majura, the AFP Forensics and Data Centre is a fascinating response to a complex programme which has effected genuine cultural change within the organisation.

The design concept effectively responds to the key briefed elements of transparency, interactivity and adaptability. For the first time, the new building brings together 200 experts in digital, biological and chemical forensics, weapons intelligence and fingerprint and facial identification. It is broken up into multiple communities along a common pedestrian spine which links the northern ceremonial entry to the southern exhibit entry through a variety of animated volumes.

The five east-west wings inform the dominant façade expression, cleverly articulating what is a substantial building and ensuring it sits comfortably in its beautiful landscaped setting. These are suggestive of the multiple communities within including open planed work places and laboratories separated by deep, visually-connected courtyards.

Of particular note, the facility has effectively struck a balance between segregated and controlled operational requirements and the aspirations for an open and communal organisation and in doing so resolved complex security, acoustic and containment requirements to create a comfortable, friendly team-based work environment in tune with AFP culture. Indeed, some Officers personal collections from part of the building narrative further personalising a building that somehow downplays its size and complexity.

The building meets its brief in terms of environmental performance and project budget and exceeds expectations with cutting edge forensic services to the nation in a striking architectural response.

Award Name: Award for Commercial Architecture

Award Recipient: Monaro Mall, Canberra Centre

Practice Name: Universal Design Studio and Mather Architecture

Award citation:

The Monaro Mall redevelopment by Universal Design Studio and Mather Architecture has sought to widen the definition of a shopping mall to become a civic space which meets both commercial and cultural needs.

With a desire to create a luxury experience for shoppers, individual arcades of different scales and purposes have been conceived using quality finishes and details including brass, marble, granite, spotted gum, and thoughtful lighting.

On the ground level, intimate open retail spaces, which can accommodate small or short-term tenancies, have been introduced into a beauty garden. On level one, a generous arcade with a large central skylight and voids between levels draws shoppers into individual shopfronts with consistent threshold detailing. The relationship to the broader shopping centre has been better aligned to improve layout and circulation, and to create connections to other parts of the Canberra Centre, Bunda Street, and Petrie Plaza.

By embracing the responsibility and opportunity of being the custodian of a significant piece of Canberra's built heritage, the project owners and their dedicated design team have drawn inspiration from iconic mid-century modern references and successfully adapted the mall's existing building structure to become a memorable contemporary retail experience.

Award Name: Commendation for Commercial Architecture

Award Recipient: Dairy Road (3.4)

Practice Name: Craig Tan Architects

Award citation:

Setting the tempo and character for future development, Dairy Road (3.4) is a surprising adaptive reuse of a large Government storage facility into a mixed-use offering which explores the idea of experimental tenancing to a diversified mix of artisans and manufacturers.

Through the careful insertion of a series of urban passages, a transition occurs from the apparent anonymity of a bulky good warehouse to an edgy internal streetscape and courtyard full of life and interest. The clever use of scale, geometry, colour, materiality and lighting achieve a warm and tactile quality that personalises what might otherwise be an incongruent mix.

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The W Hayward Morris Award for Interior Architecture

Award Recipient: Monaro Mall, Canberra Centre

Practice Name: Universal Design Studio and Mather Architecture

Award citation:

Informed by the strong geometry of the original 1963 Mall's design heritage, along with modernist and brutalist influences of the era throughout Canberra, the Monaro Mall interiors introduce light, luxuriousness, and connectivity.

Internally, the bespoke detailing and selection of high quality timeless finishes of brass, marble, timber and jesmonite, elevate the shopping mall experience.

On the ground floor, a beauty garden marketplace mixing retail and beauty services introduces a new and largely open plan retail experience drawing on elegant, custom-made signage, lighting and shopfront display language. Adjacent the Bunda Street entry, a beautifully detailed and richly crafted timber and stone staircase provides a uniquely warm and cosy transition to the first floor. The first floor is bathed in natural light via well framed skylight shafts and the restored breeze block wall.

In addition to the introduction of natural light, specialised artificial lighting is featured throughout. Barisol light boxes are integrated into the coffered ceiling of repeat triangular pattern, ambient lighting is incorporated into planter boxes, and metal light boxes display shop brands coherently.

The exquisite interiors of the Monaro Mall are resultant of thoughtful and innovative planning, the execution of natural light deep into the volume, and the meticulous attention to the finer detailing and interplay of materials and forms.

Award Name: Award for Interior Architecture

Award Recipient: St Christopher's Precinct

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

St Christopher's Precinct in Manuka includes a vibrant community of residents, office staff, parishioners and clergy in an integrated redevelopment adjacent the Cathedral.

The Diocesan Offices are conceived as two parallel wings linked by a glazed central atrium and stairwell which act as an organising element for the various functions within its 3 storeys. The work environment, accommodating 15 diocesan departments, is fresh and efficient with a clever marriage of traditional and modern materials, colours, art and furnishings gesturing to the past yet looking confidently forward. Importantly this includes places for the general public for research.

The three independent living unit wings are also site and context responsive framing a central private garden area while taking advantage of views to both street frontages. Through clever planning, apartments are efficient and Accessible and benefit from ample light and natural ventilation, usually from two frontages. They are purpose-designed and sensitively detailed for an older demographic with a sophisticated yet calm materials palette. Particular efforts have been made to control light, privacy and acoustics through a series of integrated fenestration layers. The interior design solution is de-institutionalised and comfortable for all users and residents.

Award Name: Award for Interior Architecture

Award Recipient: Synergy

Practice Name: BVN

Award citation:

The CSIRO's Synergy building has redefined scientific workplaces through an intense consultative process between the client and project team.

The establishment of a porous neighbourhood concept, through the clever placement of meeting rooms and central facilities around work clusters ultimately informed the x-plan and the architectural form of this important and indeed substantial new scientific facility.

The need for a contemplative workspace was fulfilled by purpose-designed workstations facilitating concentrated work. The building comprises two components being workplace and laboratories. These are intrinsically linked, yet each with their own functional performance requirements and associated lighting, ventilation and servicing strategies. In an Australian first, the PC3 laboratory levels are linked through an internal interconnecting stair further promoting collaborative scientific research.

A central atrium space, integral to an innovative natural ventilation system, provides a dramatic arrival experience connecting all levels of the building with its soaring height, stairwells and ramps.

Building services are expressed as functional counterpoints to a warm materials and colour palette. Daylight is diffused through suspended sunshade elements which appear porous from the work clusters within.

Synergy is a place of collaborative research and intellectual endeavour appropriately attuned to the natural environment through clever design which manages changing light intensity and the flow of cooling fresh air.

Award Name: Commendation for Interior Architecture

Award Recipient: Capital Airport Group Office Fitout

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

Capital Airport Group's new headquarters is an exciting and contemporary workplace which effectively showcases the multiple company brands while achieving a stronger connectedness to airport operations.

The solution makes the most of several obvious constraints. The planning arrangement is cleverly layered with a seamless transition from public to more private work areas and a sense of quality, space and height is achieved through sophisticated detailing of key elements and a materials palette which is tactile and authentic.

As a reflection of the organisational culture, an informal lounge purposely intersects with work spaces reinforcing the company's ethos around the balance between work and play.

URBAN DESIGN

Award Name: The Sir John Overall Award for Urban Design

Award Recipient: Throsby Infrastructure

Practice Name: Tait Network

Award citation:

Much of Australia's demand for new housing is still answered by the creation of new suburbs comprising of detached houses standing proud in their autonomy. Throsby is just such a place but it also holds lessons for how these collections of individual homes can be designed to foster community and neighbourhood.

A modest series of interventions extract urban design opportunity from the undisputable need for stormwater infrastructure to create a civic spine of elements. These include pathways, bridges, retaining walls, water bodies and play areas that together encourage recreation and movement, especially for walkers and cyclists.

The very real sense of place and much of the delight in Throsby is drawn from its ecology and history. The endangered Superb Parrot, local to the site, is a central motif and has been celebrated in the abstraction of the bird's wing to form balustrade railings on pedestrian and road bridges that intersect the realigned creek, and in the vibrant colour palette of the pergola structure that shades the children's playground and forms a central resting point. From here one can appreciate the integration of the various parts in combination with the surrounding landscape that make Throsby a new suburb of great potential.

Award Name: Award for Urban Design

Award Recipient: ANU Pop-Up Village

Practice Name: OCULUS with Craig Tan Architects

Award citation:

Proximate to the construction site that is in the process of becoming the official student union building at ANU is this joyful Pop Up one. While Pop Ups can be synonymous with a poor fit between program, people and climate, their failings justified by their temporariness, the ANU student union pop up village is a lesson in the delights of the informal and contingent, conditions that seem entirely appropriate for on-campus-life of the student.

A scattering of timber framed pavilions as common areas and study halls in combination with smaller food kiosks create a virtual village. The artful placement of these structures yields a balance between large and small, more and less protected interstitial outdoor space that perfectly suits the ebb and flow of students, whether in packs or alone. A timber boardwalk, with integrated bench seating, links the structures together and is integral to the preservation of existing trees.

Education architecture is increasingly about maximising the place for incidental exchange – whether of the social or intellectual variety – as foundation to learning. In ANU Pop Up we find a successful example of just this, and a treat to enjoy while it lasts

Award Name: Commendation for Urban Design

Award Recipient: St Christopher's Precinct

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

The redevelopment of St Christopher's Precinct provides a well-crafted assemblage of buildings and public spaces on a prominent island site, serving a mix of residents, office staff, parishioners and clergy.

The new relationships created between the site and surrounding streets, and within the site, are successful and invite exploration and appreciation of the heritage listed Cathedral.

Thoughtfully scaled and oriented buildings, the careful management of level changes, and uniformity of paving stone works exceptionally well to tie the public spaces together.

SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Derek Wrigley Award for Sustainable Architecture

Award Recipient: Synergy

Practice Name: BVN

Award citation:

Synergy is a research and workplace facility for the CSIRO which has been designed to merge the workplace with its unique setting on the cusp of the Black Mt bush, and the city. What appears to be a decorative screen to the façade, is a meticulous transposition of the leaves, barks and colours of the Black Mt flora, to provide the very contrasting daylight and sun control requirements between workplace and laboratories. The triangulated screen enables views out to the landscape and down to the ground plane, providing a real sense of connection to the Canberra bush.

Although for various highly concentrated scientific research, the workplace planning is open plan with meeting rooms and shared facilities located with the circulation atrium to enable a greater sense of community. The planning and inherent integration of sustainable initiatives engenders the transparent and collaborative future of the organisation.

Every opening to the façade is thoughtfully considered; whether it's to permit the workspace to be fully naturally ventilated; to direct views to Canberra icons; or encourage incidental encounter and collaboration. The sheer amount of natural light which is provided to the laboratory spaces; despite their strict environmental requirements, is incredibly refreshing and well executed.

Award Name: Award for Sustainable Architecture

Award Recipient: RN Robertson Building

Practice Name: CCJ Architects

Award citation:

The overall experience through the various parts of the ANU Biology school is one of continual, unexpected joy. The complete strip out and refurbishment of this early '70s building originally by Hely and Horne has transformed this facility to allow its operation and enjoyment for future generations. The upgrades are an exceptional enhancement of the existing materiality and spatial quality of the central atrium space, whilst providing the flexibility and functionality of modern workplace and research requirements.

The extent of natural light and views through the office neighbourhoods and laboratories is an innovation by the design team who persevered through the detail of the existing structure, deep floor plates and low ceiling heights. The considered planning to place glazing and shared zones at the end of corridors brings the tree canopies in to fill the workplace with a strong sense of peace and connection.

What was a dark, enclosed and inward-looking building has been rejuvenated into a modern, public facility which can celebrate the activity and collaboration of the future of open workplace culture. The dedication of the Australian National University and CCJ Architects to retain and enhance this exceptional building is a respectful and admirable result; an exemplar of the sustainability considerations for the built environment.

Award Name: Commendation for Sustainable Architecture

Award Recipient: The Link

Practice Name: CCJ Architects

Award citation:

Located in an isolated bush setting, The Link is an inclusive and welcoming educational space. Currently the Ginninderry Sales Office, it also functions as a retail/community hub and will, in the future, be gifted to the Strathnairn Arts community.

Working incredibly hard to provide flexible, adaptable spaces, the design extends beyond the ephemeral and considers social and whole-of-life impacts. Providing a lot of interactive and sensory cues around the building, The Link is a pleasing experience and one can't help but feel that you will learn something new with every visit.

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (NEW)

Award Name: The Malcolm Moir and Heather Sutherland Award for Residential Architecture - Houses (New)

Award Recipient: Swan

Practice Name: Collins Caddaye Architects

Award citation:

Seven years in the making, this house is a confident statement of the clients' personal success, their collaborative skills and the virtues of patience.

The house is an intriguing study in opposites: contemporary status symbols such as the media room and the flamboyant ensuite, contrast with the simple, sublime entry court, and a focus on the elemental - fire, water and light. Abundant luxurious and expensive inclusions are similarly balanced by thrifty repurposing of cool room walls, collection of local rock, reuse of concrete waste and absence of air conditioning.

The architect's audacious proposal that the new house be placed, not near the existing house on the semi-rural property, but at the edge of the dam has paid off by providing a setting of exceptional poise.

On approach, the floating, white rendered house is long and low. The beautifully proportioned entry court leads to an open central space with views in both directions over water. The planning allows equally for private and intimate moments and for large family gatherings.

The jury visited when the just completed house was yet to be occupied - the clients were overseas, about to return. The house held an air of expectancy - a stage set for a fabulous drama about to begin.

Award Name: Award for Residential Architecture - Houses (New)

Award Recipient: Box House

Practice Name: Paul Tilse Architects

Award citation:

Box House replaces half of a two storey 1950s duplex in Yarralumla, demolished under the ACT Loose Asbestos Removal Program, on a site already unit titled from its rear neighbour. The architect was able to resolve complex siting challenges and convince clients still mourning the loss of their previous home, of the opportunities available to them.

The jury arrived to several figures seated on a terrace, waving a greeting. The terrace appeared to float above the carefully contoured entrance to a basement garage and was just the right distance from the street to encourage interaction without discomfort. Entering and moving through the house, further opportunities for generous engagement with the street are offered through the street facing kitchen window and carefully curated close and distant views from every room.

Clever planning, especially on the main level, allows modestly sized interior spaces to feel open and well connected with useable garden spaces. Flexibility in room uses and the high level of amenity provided in the 140m² dwelling area offers valuable lessons for infill housing on challenging inner Canberra suburban sites.

Award Name: Award for Residential Architecture - Houses (New)

Award Recipient: Inset House

Practice Name: JUDD.studio

Award citation:

Thoughtful planning and siting of this new, single storey house for a young family in the new suburb of Wright, has resulted in varied and useful interior and exterior spaces with surprising levels of functionality and connectivity to northern light.

The house steps down behind the two front rooms and garage, following the site slope. The house differs from its two storey neighbours by offering not larger, but more flexible and useable outdoors spaces, including a central courtyard. Privacy from neighbours is achieved by carefully positioned windows, with views curated to focus on landscaping and courtyard spaces.

The decision to locate the laundry in the garage and to allow for the garage to open up to the central courtyard allows for other functional uses of the garage beyond car storage. Visual connections between rooms on different levels through the use of internal windows, provides welcome long views to the street. Allowing corners of children's bedrooms to open up to living areas, provides generous and flexible options for family interaction.

Inset House is a successful exploration in spatial proportion and connectivity to landscape on a compact block. Refreshingly, this family valued quality of space over maximising plot ratio.

Award Name: Commendation for Residential Architecture - Houses (New)

Award Recipient: Moss River House

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

Moss River House, a new farm house near Yass, is poetically anchored to rebuilt remnants of two stone outbuildings, and gains much from this relationship.

On approach, the rebuilt stone buildings sit forward of a new glazed link structure which separates them from the new pavilions behind. Practically (this being a farm house), there are several entries, all leading to the glazed link.

Internally, contemporary detailing links old and new. The new pavilions are generous in scale and open onto the expansive Yass River aspect. New stone walls anchor the building into its landscape. The result is an elegant approach to living on the land.

Award Name: Commendation for Residential Architecture - Houses (New)

Award Recipient: Sawtooth House

Practice Name: JUDD.studio

Award citation:

Sawtooth House is an intelligent design response to the challenge of how to increase density in Canberra's inner suburbs. Designed for an owner builder with young family and modest budget, the details are less important than the robust idea - a distinctive, saw-toothed, windowless brick wall marking the boundary between an existing house and its backyard and a new secondary dwelling.

Entering the gate next to the brick wall, a series of private and inviting areas open up, with the brick wall expressed again internally and in a bathing courtyard. Northerly clerestory windows provide openness and a laundry that shares the entry porch is a welcome informality.

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – HOUSES (ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS)

Award Name: The Gene Willsford Award for Residential Architecture - Houses (Alterations and Additions)

Award Recipient: Chowne Street House

Practice Name: Philip Leeson Architects

Award citation:

This restorative project reinvigorates life back into a 1950s gem. Delicately crafted, the Chowne Street House balances the introduction of contemporary living into the existing footprint, whilst maintaining integrity of form and fenestration.

From the street, the house feels untouched. A sympathetic landscape and detailing of new windows pay homage to the original design. The introduction of colour at the entrance sets the scene for a lively exploration in colour throughout the project.

A modest extension into an original rear porch allows for the opening up of living spaces and inclusion of a dining space, visually linked to the rear yard. A subdued palette of joinery materials and refurbished lighting allow the owners collection of mid-century furnishings and objet d'art to take stage.

Minor reconfiguration of the bedroom wing provides a new ensuite to the main bedroom and improves visual privacy through the introduction of slatted screens.

Connectivity to the rear garden is via a layering of platforms. The balustrade wall, with integrated artwork by Ham Darroch, draws one down to a generous outdoor dining pavilion.

It is the finer details, such as repurposing of original kitchen handles and light fittings, that illustrates awareness of heritage, utmost care in preservation, and commitment to sustainable outcomes that makes this project exceptional.

Award Name: Commendation for Residential Architecture - Houses (Alterations and Additions)

Award Recipient: Puutalo House

Practice Name: JUDD.studio

Award citation:

Puutalo, a unique prefabricated circa 1948 cottage, has been afforded a new lease of life through a playful reinvention of existing spaces and modest open plan addition over an original verandah structure in the backyard.

Internally, new insertions are easily understood with the use of plywood lining. The warmth and craft of material extends into the new wing where a dramatic raked ceiling, and bench seat with integrated steps that moderate internal and external levels, offer an unexpected and delightful volumetric experience.

Care has been taken in the detailing this project to offer a series of spaces that encourage both quiet contemplation and family living.

Award Name: Commendation for Residential Architecture - Houses (Alterations and Additions)

Award Recipient: TL House

Practice Name: Ben Walker Architects

Award citation:

Extending into the rear yard of a Curtin two-storey duplex is a generous light filled contemporary open plan living pavilion. A new kitchen successfully navigates the change in orientation and elevation between old and new forms. The existing spaces have been refreshed, with a new entrance and remodelled wet areas drawing from the same material palette.

Thermal performance is enhanced with new insulation to the old, and northerly glazing, thermal mass from polished concrete floors and grey brick blade walls, and carefully located openable windows to enhance cross ventilation in the new.

Award Name: Commendation for Residential Architecture - Houses (Alterations and Additions)

Award Recipient: DC House

Practice Name: Ben Walker Architects

Award citation:

DC House marries two previously competing architectural expressions – the original Blandfordia 5 precinct heritage listed cottage and a 1990s poorly conceived addition – with well executed interventions and remodelling.

Reorganisation of functions within the existing footprint delivers an improved spatial sequencing, and connections to the courtyard and established rear garden have been framed by finely detailed black steel windows and French doors.

The introduction of an ensuite into an original disjointed sunroom is masterfully executed to preserve the heritage façade, ensure privacy, and capture views into the mature trees.

RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE – MULTIPLE HOUSING

Award Name: The Sydney Ancher Award for Residential Architecture - Multiple Housing

Award Recipient: St Germain

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

Canberra holds a rich collection of models for medium density living. Adding to this is St Germaine, which forms part of the Campbell 5 precinct.

Exploiting the constraints of a development plan with a prescribed building envelope that stepped from three to six storeys, St Germaine achieves a new and compelling apartment typology, most evident in the apartments to the lower three floors which extend for the full depth of the site. These are masterfully configured with a north facing satellite living wing separated by an internal courtyard from the southern sleeping one and linked by a generous breezeway hall.

All spaces are of handsome proportions with high quality amenity in terms of light and air. The north facing living areas overlook the park and are extended by very large terraces that can be screened for solar and privacy control as required. Every apartment enjoys dual aspect including the more conventional layouts to the upper three floors. The size, layout and range of facilities combined with ample storage targets its market of empty nesters, who are well accommodated.

A somewhat stolid exterior belies much light and delight within.

Award Name: Award for Residential Architecture - Multiple Housing

Award Recipient: St Christopher's Precinct

Practice Name: Cox Architecture

Award citation:

The redevelopment of St Christopher's has introduced a complementary mix of program - ecclesiastical, administrative, and residential – and compelling urban design to transform this significant site and its relationship to the Manuka neighbourhood.

Book ending the northern edge of this newly revitalised precinct is a supportive housing facility that caters for the over-fifty members of the community. Forty-four apartments are organised within three wings around a central courtyard of just the right proportion to balance opportunities for neighbourly connection with individual privacy and to accommodate a calm and restorative landscape. The building's massing, scale, and materiality is sympathetic with the higher density of Canberra Avenue.

Apartments are generous and well planned with an ease of flow to large outdoor balconies that deploy screens for solar control, privacy and decorative effect. Interior spaces are warm, inviting and thoughtfully detailed to suit occupant needs. Circulation corridors are light filled and offer framed views the surrounding landscape.

St Christopher's offers a compelling model for housing that integrates homes with social, civic and community space to connect people and place at all stages of life.

COLORBOND - STEEL ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: COLORBOND Award for Steel Architecture

Award Recipient: Roberts Residence

Practice Name: formi building creators

Award citation:

This project is a delightful encounter of uniform materiality and colour to experience from a public footpath. A striking Next Generation ZINCALUME steel clad addition, to a 'Radburn' precinct house with two distinct front boundaries, consists of new living and master bedroom spaces wrapping around a courtyard containing an existing crab apple tree.

What appears at first glance to be a very utilitarian address to the footpath with the ZINCALUME roof and wall elements, the façade is broken up by the central courtyard and bookended by two rainwater tanks. Oversized gutters playfully reference chopsticks and celebrate the path of water to the tanks. The galvanised steel angle gateway entrance structure further embellishes this motif of elements gliding past each other.

The vertical Mini Corry ZINCALUME profile adds a fine grain and is cleanly detailed to provide a seamless appearance. The ZINCALUME clad wall that kinks into a floating fence and then terminates with a unique folded gate is poetic and delightful in its crafting.

SMALL PROJECT ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Cynthia Breheny Award for Small Project Architecture

Award Recipient: Phased Change House

Practice Name: Erin Owens, MAKO Architecture

Award citation:

Subtle intervention is key to the success of this project. Phased Change House reconfigures a typical compartmentalised 1960s suburban cottage with poor connectivity to its backyard into a warm and meticulously crafted home.

An untouched entry condition disguises the new-found drama within. Whilst the footprint is largely the same, the spaces are now light, open, and heightened by the exposure of original roof trusses over the kitchen/dining area.

A modest bay window extension that emerges out from under the original eaveline into the rear yard, holds the kitchen bench, new glazed doorways to the rear deck, and a bathing area. Generous windows have been positioned to maximise sightlines.

The muted palette of spotted gum, form ply, raw fc sheet, and grey laminate used throughout the spaces are detailed with delight and evoke homeliness. A splash of colour is delivered through deep blue Pirelli rubber floors and splashbacks.

In a context where knock-down rebuild 'forever' homes are increasingly the norm; this project is a reminder that simple repurposing and staging can deliver exceptional, highly sustainable outcomes.

Award Name: Award for Small Project Architecture

Award Recipient: Kingston Boat Sheds

Practice Name: Tait Network

Award citation:

Located in a prominent location of competing architectural expressionism, the Kingston Boat Sheds manage to recede and restore a sense of calm and human scale to the shoreline.

Dispersed along the public waterfront promenade, the four buildings are interconnected by a low retaining wall of the same materiality, which moderates the change in levels and forms a place to sit and watch the nautical action.

The use of Corten, an enduring and resilient material that feels at home in a dock lands setting, references earlier structures in the precinct and sets up a strong and unified language for the Foreshore's public realm.

The buildings house services linked to the boat jetties adjacent, including workshops, storage rooms, a shopfront and hire facility, and wet area facilities for users. A consistent and robust form links the buildings, despite the varied functions within. Subtle perforations in cladding conceal services within the volume, allowing the public domain to remain void of visual clutter.

The intelligent design has withstood a difficult construction delivery model and the resultant buildings will no doubt withstand the elements and age gracefully in place.

Award Name: Commendation for Small Project Architecture

Award Recipient: Parents Room, Monaro Mall, Canberra Centre

Practice Name: Mather Architecture

Award citation:

The Parents Room, located in the Monaro Mall, provides an exemplary experience for its occupants through thoughtful planning and interconnectivity of spaces.

The design is culturally sensitivity and enables multiple ways to use the space depending on need and child age. The material palette considers both children and parents, is playful yet sophisticated, and defines public and private usage within a compact footprint.

Sophisticated detailing ensures the space is easily maintained and is therefore always clean, fresh, and comfortable. There is a sense of homeliness at the Parents Room that makes this facility memorable, unlike its utilitarian predecessors.

EDUCATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Enrico Taglietti Award for Educational Architecture

Award Recipient: STEM Centre

Practice Name: Collins Caddaye Architects

Award citation:

STEM Centre is a simple, yet pleasingly articulated building which functions as a collaborative space for all public schools across Canberra. The building positively reads as part of the Caroline Chisolm School Senior Campus 'village', as well as a standalone public facility. The entry is humbling and dark; providing a striking contrast to the central Collaboration space which is enjoyably light filled with high ceilings, yet of a considered scale suitable for high school students.

The internal planning organises around the central Collaboration space where movement, noise and action coexist, with its volume and importance reflected in the external form. The carefully considered transparency of the internal spaces is reflective of visible learning philosophies and provide some fun opportunities for students. External windows are strategic to frame views to established Chinese Elms and outdoor learning areas, which provide a real sense of belonging, peace and enjoyment.

Utilising a robust and timeless palette of materials, the design and form are thoroughly considered and executed to provide a unique facility providing an enhanced educational environment. Despite the extremely limited budget and constrained design and construct contract, the elegance of this project is an outstanding achievement by Collins Caddaye Architects.

Award Name: Commendation for Educational Architecture

Award Recipient: RN Robertson Building

Practice Name: CCJ Architects

Award citation:

This project involved a complete strip out and refurbishment of the existing 1970s building for the Research School of Biology at the ANU.

The central atrium is a joyful, welcoming space with newly crafted generous views to laboratories and landscape beyond, linking it with the building's function.

Overcoming the constraints of the existing structure, deep floor plates and low ceiling heights, this school has been transformed to be socially enticing and full of natural light, which beautifully celebrates the details and materiality of the original building, for the enduring pleasure of future generations.

ART IN ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Pamille Berg Award for Art in Architecture

Award Recipient: Chowne Street House

Practice Name: Philip Leeson Architects

Award citation:

Integrating art into architecture is an opportunity for designers from different disciplines to work collaboratively to create something truly unique. This potential has been realised with the inclusion of new work by Canberra-based contemporary artist Ham Darroch at a sensitively fulfilled alteration and addition project of a 1950s modernist house in Campbell.

Darroch's abstract painting has been installed on the western face of a new landscape wall which defines a small deck and staircase leading to an outdoor garden room. The work is visible from within and without: the new living and kitchen area of the dwelling looks onto the work which reinforces the colour scheme selected for the overall project. The painting is a boldly coloured and successful intervention which enlivens the external spaces and effortlessly draws the eye out into the landscape.

LIGHT IN ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Robert Foster Award for Light in Architecture

Award Recipient: Monaro Mall, Canberra Centre

Practice Name: Universal Design Studio and Mather Architecture

Award citation:

The play of light and dark at Monaro Mall defines space, guides movement and provides intimacy – through both natural and artificial light. Generous voids have been cut through previously dark floor plates to allow natural light to penetrate deep into the mall's two storey volume, transforming the retail experience.

The light qualities enhance the selection of material and texture: the Barrisol light boxes, integral to the coffered ceiling, complement the geometry of the polished marble and terrazzo floors; the strategic coffered framing of the existing skylight to the first-floor filter daylight down the fluted Jesmonite spandrels; and the restored iconic arched awnings with reflective gold soffits have been uplit to provide a sense of intimate luxury.

One striking, unexpected aspect is the refurbishment of the existing glazed breeze-block façade which provides a double height volume to the Bunda Street entrance and allows a soft, filtered light into the first-floor retail area and affords tree canopy views from within.

The overall consideration of planning, views, existing elements, negative space, texture, colour and reflectivity all interlace to create an exceptionally atmospheric experience; where both natural and artificial light celebrate the spaces within, reflective of their scale and function.

ENDURING ARCHITECTURE

Award Name: The Sir Roy Grounds Award for Enduring Architecture

Award Recipient: St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Charnwood

Practice Name: Mitchell Giurgola and Thorpe Architects

Award citation:

"You are now entering the Old Testament," explained Father Neville Drinkwater. "These columns represent the Lost Tribes of Israel. Are you familiar with Divinity theory?" We had to admit that none of us on the 2018 Enduring Architecture Award jury were. We were standing in the entrance courtyard to St. Thomas Aquinas Church, tucked away in Charnwood, one of Canberra's northern-most suburbs. The church is another architectural legacy that Romaldo Giurgola of Mitchell Giurgola and Thorpe Architects bestowed upon the nation's capital.

While Giurgola was putting together the finishing touches to Parliament House, Drinkwater issued him with a challenge. The priest wanted the Italian-born architect to design him a church. And it had to cost no more than \$500,000. "I was fascinated," Giurgola explained later, "by this character who was so straightforward." [1] Up for the challenge, Giurgola relished the opportunities provided by the smaller scale, limited budget, and community-level, collaborative nature of the project.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church was built by a parishioner, Cesare De Franceschi. A collection of art and craftwork was co-ordinated by Pamille Berg of Mitchell/Giurgola and Thorpe Architects. Opened and blessed by Archbishop Francis Carroll on 2 September 1989, the church was the recipient of a Canberra Medallion for Architectural Excellence in 1990. Throughout the design and construction process, a friendship developed between Giurgola and Drinkwater; a bond that endured until the architect's death in 2016.

Twenty-nine years after it was built, we were visiting the church to consider it for the 2018 Enduring Architecture Award. To be perfectly honest, we were a little underwhelmed at first. From some angles the church appeared to be quite unprepossessing. From Lhotsky Street, the cream brick facade is bland, uncompromising. It is easy to drive past the church: we all did. But once we moved around the edifice, ignoring some unsympathetic additions, we found delight in the modulation of the eastern facade, and in the welcoming gesture of the entry.

Entering through the glazed timber doors, it started to make sense: this is a building that is all about internal space. We were drawn through a space that was low, compressed. This is the transition from the outside world, the space where parishioners turn off phones, lower voices, clear minds. A few metres further in, the space expands upward and outward. Dramatically. A steep skillion roof rises to an apex over the altar, which is further dramatised by a full-height cross of light directly behind.

In contrast to the exterior, the interior is lively and full of contrasts. There is a clear articulation of structure, space and skin. Ceiling and pews of honey-coloured Australian timbers are complemented by white-painted steel structure, white plastered walls and blue-carpeted floor. Here and there in the variety of fenestration, in the natural lighting and in the accoutrements of the interior can be detected a nod or a wink towards leading architects of the modern movement: Kahn, Corbu, Ando, Botta — take your pick. There is a sense of controlled delight; it is clear that Giurgola was having fun. Yet this is a coherent, restrained building of modest architectural artifice: a truly modern church that is more about the scale and life of the suburbs and the local community than it is about any awe-inspiring, architectural statement.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church speaks of a unique understanding between architect and client, and represents the work of a master creator at the height of his powers. As such it is a deserving winner of the 2018 ACT Enduring Architecture Award.

STUDENT AWARDS

Award Name: ACT Chapter Student Medallion

Award Recipient: Joel Smith

Award overview:

The Medallion, first awarded in 1981, coincided with the ACT Chapter's formal accreditation of the course offered at the then College of Advanced Education.

Award citation:

Joel Smith is awarded the 2017 ACT Chapter Medallion for attaining the highest grade point average over the five years of his architectural education at the University of Canberra. Joel achieved a high level of excellence in all aspects of his studies, pursued with intelligence, focus and explorative rigour. His responses were underscored by an interpretive ability of considerable depth, finely attuned to the conceptual scope and intent within each project.

Award Name: DJAS Graduate Prize

Award Recipient: Joel Smith

Award overview:

The Institute's Graduate Prize provides encouragement and support for architecture graduates as they embark on their professional careers; it provides assistance through the registration process, supporting students in the transition from education to the profession.

Award citation:

Joel Smith is the 2017 recipient of the Institute's Daryl Jackson Alastair Swayn Graduate Prize, awarded for attaining the highest grade point average over the two years of the Master of Architecture course at the University of Canberra. Joel's achievement highlights his commitment to excellence across all areas of learning, supported by a consistently thoughtful, articulate and coherent sensibility.

Award Name: John Redmond Prize

Award Recipient: John Roberts

Award overview:

The John Redmond Prize was first awarded in 1978, in honour of Mr John Redmond, Chairman of the Chapter Education Committee 1969 -1978. John Redmond, graduate of the University of Adelaide, completed a three year town planning post graduate thesis under Sir William Holford at the London University. He then went on to be one of the first architects employed by the National Capital Development Commission, working there until his retirement in 1973.

Award citation:

John Roberts is the 2017 recipient of the John Redmond Prize, awarded for the highest achievement during the first three years of architectural studies at the University of Canberra. John demonstrated an aptitude for highly considered thinking, pursued with insight and intelligent evaluation of project parameters. He is particularly adept at drawing together complex concepts, theory and analytical considerations into thoughtful and cohesive responses.