

2019 NSW PRIZES LIFE FELLOWS FELLOWS



Australian
Institute of
Architects

NEW SOUTH WALES PRIZES – 2019

The Australian Institute of Architects thanks the partners and supporters of the 2019 New South Wales Architecture Prizes:

Best in Practice Prize Partner:

bespoke careers

Christopher Procter Prize Partner:

**ETHOS
URBAN**

 Sydney
Community
Foundation

Reconciliation Prize Partner:



Supporting Partner:

 Built Environment
Channel



Australian
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Architects

With thanks

President's Message:



The NSW Chapter Prizes recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals and practices. This year we are delighted to bring together the architectural community to celebrate the successes of 2019 and acknowledge winners at our inaugural End of Year Prize Night and Celebration.

In addition to our established prizes, we are thrilled to award three new prizes in 2019 and it is a fitting and wonderful continuation on the theme of firsts that we host this special occasion at the remarkable Joynton Avenue Creative Centre, which in 2018 earned our inaugural NSW Architecture Medallion, the highest distinction in the prestigious NSW Architecture Awards program.

Our prizes and honours celebrate a diverse array of architectural work, encompassing culture and literature, excellence in practice, emerging perspectives on design in the public realm, distinctive bodies of work by female architects, projects and practices driven to advance the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people, and recognition of individuals' contributions to the profession.

Across all prize categories, the juries agreed that each entry promoted inspirational qualities that reflect the value of good architecture, improving where we work, live and play.

Thank you to the jurors who contributed their valuable time and thank you to all the entrants.

This celebratory occasion also acknowledges those who have attained Fellowships and Life Fellowships in 2019. Life Fellow is the highest honour class of Institute membership and the class of Fellow marks the achievement of a very significant professional milestone.

Achieving the status of Life Fellow and Fellow displays to the profession, clients and others the high standing a member has attained within the profession as well as their advanced skill level and contribution. I look forward to seeing more Life Fellow and Fellow nominations next year.

I personally congratulate all the prize winners, Life Fellows and Fellows for 2019.

To help us continue to celebrate excellence in the architecture profession I encourage you all to participate in our 2020 programs, and to keep doing the extraordinary work our profession is uniquely capable of contributing to our built environment and the communities it serves.

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA
NSW Chapter President
Australian Institute of Architects

2019 Life Fellows

Angelo Candalepas LFRAIA Angelo Candalepas Associates



Helen Lochhead LFRAIA UNSW
National President Australian Institute of Architects



Philip Thalís LFRAIA Hill Thalís Architecture & Urban Projects



Fellows

Hector Abrahams FRAIA Hector Abrahams Architects

Graeme Barr FRAIA Graeme Barr Architects

Paul Connor FRAIA COSO Architecture

Neil Durbach FRAIA Durbach Block Jagers Architects

Valerie Giammarco FRAIA City of Canterbury Bankstown

Benjamin Giles FRAIA Ben Giles Architect

Justin Hamilton FRAIA SHAC

David Jagers FRAIA Durbach Block Jagers Architects

Julie Mackenzie FRAIA Tonkin Zulaikha Greer

Donald Mason FRAIA Design Corp

Debra McKendry-Hunt FRAIA McKendry Hunt Architects

Andrew Nimmo FRAIA lahznimmo architects

David Rose FRAIA DWP (Newcastle)

David Wilson FRAIA David Wilson Architects

Virginia Wong-See FRAIA architecture@altitude

2019 NSW Prize Winners

Adrian Ashton Prize

Catherine Hunter – ‘Glenn Murcutt:
Spirit of Place’

Best in Practice Prize

BVN

Commendations

MHNDU

SJB

Christopher Procter Prize

Hannah Slater – ‘Altogether Now:
seeking an integrated approach for
urban renewal’

David Lindner Prize

Hannah Slater – ‘Alone Together:
addressing urban isolation in
Australian cities’

Marion Mahony Griffin Prize

Abbie Galvin FRAIA

Reconciliation Prize

University of Sydney – Wingara
Mura-Bunga Barrabugu: a thinking
path to make tomorrow’s strategy

Commendations

Kaunitz Yeung Architecture

Neeson Murcutt + Neille with Sue

Barnsley Design and Freeman Ryan
Design

NSW President’s Prize

Caroline Pidcock LFRAIA

2019 NSW Prize Juries

Adrian Ashton Prize

Dr Kerwin Datu, Architectus (Chair)
Andrew Nimmo FRAIA, lahznimmo architects
Amelia Holliday, Aileen Sage Architects (former winner)
Isabelle Toland, Aileen Sage Architects (former winner)
Peter Salhani, Sparkle.space

Best in Practice Prize

Fiona Martin Consultant (Chair)
Andrew Nimmo FRAIA, lahznimmo architects
Steven Donaghey, HDR
Misty Waters, Bespoke Careers
Simon Rochowski, studioplusthree
Justine Clark, Parlour

Christopher Procter Prize

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA, NSW Chapter President
Stefan Meissner, Ethos Urban
Bridget Smyth FRAIA, City of Sydney
Prof Glenn Murcutt AO LFRAIA

David Lindner Prize

Robyn Lindner, Prize Partner (Chair)
Dr Kirsten Orr FRAIA, Architects Registration Board
Chloe Rayfield, TKD
Jamileh Jahangiri, Cox (2018 Prize Winner)

Marion Mahony Griffin Prize

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA, NSW Chapter President (Chair)
Oi Choong, Consultant (2018 Prize Winner)
Louise Cox AO LFRAIA
Monica Edwards, SJB
John Prentice, Woods Bagot

Reconciliation Prize

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA, NSW Chapter President (Chair)
Michael Mossman, University of Sydney
Dillon Kombumerri, Government Architect NSW
Jefa Greenaway, Greenaway Architects

NSW President's Prize

Kathlyn Loseby FRAIA, NSW Chapter President

Adrian Ashton Prize

Awarded to an outstanding piece of architectural reporting and criticism. Open to journalists, editors, authors, producers and others reporting on architecture and design in NSW, the prize recognises quality communication, public engagement and high-quality debate

SHORTLIST

The three shortlisted works for this prize all make substantial and authoritative contributions to architectural knowledge and discourse on subjects that have been essential to the positive evolution of architectural practice in NSW and elsewhere.

The book 'Designing the Global City: design excellence, competitions and the remaking of central Sydney' by **Robert Freestone, Gethin Davison** and **Richard Hu** is an academic investigation of the City of Sydney's Competitive Design Policy. The book details a rare sustained research effort to analyse and assess the effectiveness of a major government architecture policy over several years of its implementation.

The book 'Bruce Rickard: a life in architecture' by **Julie Cracknell, Peter Lonergan** and **Sam Rickard** captures the process of a circle of family and colleagues grappling with the very personal legacy and archives of an architect who quietly helped to shape the introduction of modernity into the Sydney landscape.



Adrian Ashton LFRAIA (1907-1982) First editor Architecture Bulletin (1944-1953) he wrote/edited for a number of journals. Life fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and NSW Chapter President (1948-1950).

WINNER

CATHERINE HUNTER **Glenn Murcutt: Spirit of Place**



The documentary 'Glenn Murcutt: Spirit of Place', traces the construction of the Australian Islamic Centre in Newport, Victoria – possibly Murcutt's most important public building to date – alongside reflections on his overall body of work by leading architects and critics including Haig Beck, Keith Cottier, Norman Foster, Frank Gehry and Françoise Fromont. This work adds another valuable record to the documentation of Australia's only Pritzker Prize winning career to date.

More importantly, Hunter shows us an Islamic community in an evolving industrial suburb of Melbourne, who might otherwise have been considered a marginalised voice in a marginalised place, invoking its agency to take control of the narrative that has built up around it, and seeking to prove that it is just as much an Australian community – an active and integral participant, inclusive and embracing – as any other in our society.

Hunter's work does so by deploying architecture to evoke these values and embody this openness, thus demonstrating even to architects the power of our own practice and product. The community's struggles – with budget and time overruns, with wet weather, with self-doubt and weakening morale – is not brushed over but shown ultimately as part of the reward of the process.

By reaching out to a broad television audience, 'Glenn Murcutt: Spirit of Place' does not simply exhibit architecture to passive viewers, but captures the act of one section of the Australian public speaking to the whole – a dialogue spoken through the medium of architecture, and documented through the medium of film, arguably the best available medium for the task.

Best in Practice Prize

Launched in July 2019, the Best in Practice Prize recognises excellence in practice, with a focus on the development of supportive and inclusive workplaces and contributing to the overall success and elevation of a positive workplace culture in architecture

COMMENDATIONS

MHNDU has a high energy and inclusive culture with commitment to continuous improvement and the exploration and implementation of new ideas. They are passionate about creating a culture where people feel safe, seen, heard and respected.

A strong focus on personal growth and developing skills through a range of ideas and policies benefits all. Blending the design and documentation teams also supports skills exchange and growth.

Flexible working from the top down is integrated into the culture and processes with office meetings held between 10am-4pm. Mentors for emerging leaders are also proactively increasing diversity at senior levels.

SJB's culture celebrates diversity and actively seeks continuous improvement. Built on a high trust culture, well implemented policies around flex time support the mental health and wellbeing of all. SJB leads in parental leave, including additional superannuation contributions and supporting some childcare costs.

Leadership training identifies and develops different leadership styles and tackles issues such as unconscious bias. Paid internship programs create pathways to the profession for Indigenous, refugee and asylum-seeker students.

SJB's outstanding contribution supports talks and events, advocating for diversity in the industry.

WINNER

BVN



BVN stood out as leaders to win this year's Best in Practice Prize due to their progressive approach to all aspects of workplace culture.

BVN recognises that a diverse and inclusive environment supports engagement, empowerment and performance. Led by a studio director in the role of head people + character, the practice invests significant time and resources into constantly improving this foundation of its business. BVN actively explores future possibilities through research work that is integrated into the life and structures of the firm, conducted in partnership with universities and other institutions.

BVN has a reputation for maintaining high ratios of female leadership. Four of the ten (equally paid) principals are women. Diversity is an authentic practice principle – demonstrated through the active inclusion of older staff, Indigenous staff, and gender and cultural mixes through all levels of the studio. There are currently 30 nationalities within the practice, including leaders for whom English is a second language.

The practice exhibits a readiness to try new policies and ideas, to seek rigorous feedback and to continually improve. There is a clear understanding that cultural change must be led from the top, and, where possible, policies and benefits are open to all staff, junior and senior. These include access to research time, flexible work, parental leave and profit sharing. The promotion system includes a high level of consultation with other key staff members at various levels.

BVN leads in supporting formal and informal flexible working. Leading by example is demonstrated at the most senior levels of the practice. Building on the model policy developed through Male Architects Champions of Change, the practice has developed integrated cultural and technological approaches that are open to all. These aim to reduce the guilt and stigma that is too often associated with flexible and part-time work by providing transparency and promoting a 'redistributed hours' approach that also helps improve work life balance.

Christopher Procter Prize

The inaugural prize gives an emerging architect who has demonstrated a commitment and passion for the design of cities the opportunity for research-based travel or study to enrich their professional development

WINNER

HANNAH SLATER

Altogether now: seeking an integrated approach for urban renewal

Hannah Slater is proposing to research governance models for large urban renewal precincts and how these precincts can create a legacy of good design outcomes, balance public versus commercial interests and assure genuine and equal access to the public realm.

The jury agreed that her proposal is timely in the context of urban renewal across Sydney and, in particular, the redevelopment of the harbour foreshore, in which Hannah has been involved through her current role as Development Manager at Urban Growth and Infrastructure NSW for the Bays East and West Precincts, as well as the Sydney Fish Market.

Hannah proposes to visit and document the learnings from seven international projects and take her research question to her Masters Degree within the Cities Program at the London School of Economics which she is starting next year.

The jury was extremely impressed with the quality of all submissions received, yet, unanimously agreed that Hannah's proposal is particularly topical and will make a valuable contribution to better planning for Sydney's future.

Hannah epitomises the spirit of Christopher Procter in her passion to shape cities by following non-traditional ways of practice and dedication to serving the public interest through architecture and urban design.



Christopher Procter (1964-2018) was an architect, urban designer and director of Ethos Urban. He was a graduate of Harvard University's Master of Architecture in Urban Design degree and the University of South Australia's Bachelor of Architecture.

David Lindner Prize

This prize aims to inspire graduates and emerging architects to engage in important and challenging design issues involving the public realm through a funded body of research



WINNER

HANNAH SLATER

Alone together: addressing urban isolation in Australian cities

Awarded to an emerging architect in honour of the late David Lindner, the winner is recognised for generating ideas that solve real challenges facing our cities and contribute to the profession as well as the broader community.

Australian cities are experiencing compounding urbanisation and population growth. Government plans focus on issues of land use planning, infrastructure delivery, and transport mobility to accommodate growth whilst the intangible 'social city' is too often neglected.

Despite city dwellers being physically closer than ever, they increasingly feel disconnected from their neighbours and communities.

The design of our cities has the ability to help or hinder social connectedness. In this age of unprecedented growth there is increasing demand for our public space network to 'do more'.

Hannah's research aims to examine the role of the built environment in addressing urban isolation. The jury unanimously agreed that this research promises to provide important insights to address what is an urgent, widespread and growing issue. It will build on existing research and focuses on potential solutions in the context of Sydney.



David Lindner a talented young Sydney architect tragically disappeared in Iran in 1993. Generously supported by his family, the prize honours his memory.

Marion Mahony Griffin Prize

Named for the pioneering woman architect, Marion Mahony Griffin, this prize was established to acknowledge a distinctive body of work by a female architect, be it for their contribution to architectural education, journalism, research, theory, professional practice or built architectural work

WINNER

ABBIE GALVIN

Abbie Galvin is an inspiration to her profession and widely considered an architect for her generation.

The recipient of more than 40 state, national and international awards over a 25 year career, Abbie's design portfolio spans across public, urban, health, research, defence, education, commercial and workplace projects, all with her distinct knack for bringing a fresh approach to common challenges.

Abbie resonates the benefits of diversity for delivering design excellence.

She is a firm believer that building typologies benefit from exposure to other sectors; that experts in their field will always learn something from amateurs; and that innovation, at its core, springs from cross-disciplinary conversation and collaborations.

Alongside an exemplary design career, Abbie is also distinguished by her

outstanding advocacy for the profession. She was instrumental in the creation of Sydney Open more than twenty years ago, to this day, a highly anticipated annual event which unlocks the doors of the city's most treasured buildings.

Abbie regularly presents at conferences; is active in architectural education; has sat on numerous juries, nationally and internationally; and participates in design advisory panels, most notably the Sydney Opera House and the inaugural NSW Department of Planning and Government Architects Office.

Despite her devotion to architecture, Abbie is admired by her peers for achieving that which alludes many in the profession – balance. She prioritises time to pursue her love of knitting and weaving; for running and marathons; for family and friends. Her colleagues recognise her for retaining grace under pressure, bringing focus to discussion whilst including different voices, all peppered by a humorous warmth.



At the time of awarding the Marion Mahony Griffin Prize, Abbie Galvin was a principal at BVN. Since this date, her appointment as the Government Architect NSW has been announced, making her the first woman to hold the position since it was created more than two hundred years ago.

Without doubt Abbie will continue to champion a public domain and architecture that breathes an authenticity and integrity, positively affecting the daily life of our state.



Marion Mahony Griffin

The adoption of the name of Marion Mahony Griffin recognises her invaluable contribution to the combined effort of Marion Mahony and Walter Burley Griffin to the architecture of Australia.

Reconciliation Prize

The prize seeks to recognise architecture and professional practice in NSW which advances the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people, through partnership, cultural practices, training and employment opportunities

COMMENDATION

Kaunitz Yeung Architecture

The practice navigated the nuances of identity, representation and methodologies, addressing cultural intelligence in design practice.

The **Biripi Clinic** is a critical infrastructure for local Aboriginal communities. Beyond pragmatic and functional needs, this project demonstrates how architects can become enablers in foregrounding cultural expression – in this case transforming the intersection of health with the importance of cultural connections.

The project captures a process that engages with Indigenous voices and finds simple ways to connect with how a community is embraced in a culturally responsive project.

COMMENDATION

Neeson Murcutt+Neille with Sue Barnsley Design and Freeman Ryan Design

The **Kamay Botany Bay National Park Masterplan** development was a collaboration with National Parks and Wildlife Services for one of the most significant contact sites between Aboriginal and European people.

Through community consultation, the project integrates histories rather than separates them, allowing multiple voices to be heard and providing for ongoing discussion.

The masterplan principles to respect, reflect, rebalance, heal, amplify, enliven and sustain, together provide a strong structural framework, evident in the design, supporting community engagement and activities.

WINNER

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu: A thinking path to make tomorrow's strategy



The University of Sydney Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu Strategy is a visionary, reconciliatory proposition of institutional transformation that activates the design of culturally inclusive and safe physical environments.

The strategy is a unique, exemplary framework for an Australian university setting to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Islander cultures and values and sets a benchmark for the design of space and place. Furthermore, it sets a precedent for other Australian universities and institutions to introduce similar strategies to further reinforce the enriching positions of Indigenous cultures in all sections of Australian society.

Broad in its application, the strategy promotes a transdisciplinary approach to the creation of place and associated design processes.

Key features of the strategy include the Wingara Mura design principles and the Wingara Mura storylines, a framework for meaningful engagement between First Nations original custodianship, past histories of colonial exclusiveness, and collaborative, inclusive futures.

The design principles and storylines documents promote wayfinding devices for architects to engage with the tenets of Australian histories, to enhance the visibility of First Nations cultures and knowledge systems.

The achievements of the Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu Strategy have seen its application to a broad range of projects conceived and procured as definitive reconciliatory gestures.

The strategy will continue to define a key approach that the University of Sydney wishes to envision for current and future generations of community, students and staff. The strategy is an inspirational statement that interfaces Indigenous cultures with the many cultures that exist in Australia and sets a shared trajectory of reconciliation and healing.

NSW President's Prize

This prize is awarded at the discretion of the NSW Chapter President and is given to an individual who has made a substantial contribution to the profession of architecture

WINNER

CAROLINE PIDCOCK LFRAIA Pidcock

Caroline Pidcock is a calm visionary, a tireless advocate for sustainable development, a leader, and an advisor in a diverse range of professional, academic and community areas.

Through her practice's work, Caroline delivers highly considered outcomes, ever aware of how the creation of the built environment must also shape a sustainable, elegant solution.

Caroline has also distinguished herself through her contribution to the profession and built environment more broadly as president of many organisations, including the NSW Architects Registration Board, the Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council, and NSW Chapter of the Institute.

Caroline has never stood still. She has represented the profession and sustainability on the Australian Building Codes Board, Greening Australia NSW, Bicycle NSW Board and SA Forestry Advisory Board. Additionally, she established and chaired the Living Futures Institute Australia and is currently chair of



the 1 Million Women Board, a member of the Alternative Technology Association and on panels for the Sydney Olympic Park Authority, North Sydney Council and Liverpool Design Excellence.

Boundless in her energy and the generosity with which she dedicates it to the wider community, Caroline is now spearheading the Architects Declare movement in Australia. Declaring a climate and biodiversity emergency, the movement advocates regenerative design that seeks not merely to minimise negative environmental impacts, but to reverse damage and have a net-positive impact on the environment. Caroline is approachable, honest, humble, and supportive. Never judgmental, always willing to help and support.

In awarding the prize for 2019, Chapter President Kathlyn Loseby thanks Caroline for her passion, vision, and constant drive to help us all to make this world a better and healthier place through ethical practice and responsible design.

About Joynton Avenue Creative Precinct

As the 2018 winner of the NSW Architecture Medallion, the highest honour awarded by the NSW Chapter, the Joynton Avenue Creative Centre by Peter Stutchbury Architecture in association with Design 5 – Architects for City of Sydney, is a fitting location for the inaugural 2019 NSW Prize night.

The Joynton Avenue Community Centre is a beautifully rounded project. The result of collaboration between its architect and heritage architect, this project fully integrates passive sustainability initiatives throughout, and with bold gestures and a firm hand collects a suite of elements to make a genuine public place.

Reusing an existing but unremarkable building, the team has harnessed its elements to inform its transformation. The arches of the existing building are drawn out to create a memorable covered space that make a real contribution to the community.

At once striking and functional, it is also projected back into the building to recalibrate the spaces within. Opposing it across a lawn is an elders' facility and amenities block, the former reusing another heritage building and the latter below a floating roof of translucent tiles.

There are a series of big moves; the new covered space, the excising of floors and ceilings to create changing volumes and spaces, the clustering of services behind a screened artwork that also protects from the western sun, the internal arches creating a variety of spatial conditions, and a shallow water body reinterpreting the site's original marshlands.

The detailing is exquisite with robust interventions balanced against careful conservation. There is throughout the project a consciousness and confidence born of careful collaboration and a deep understanding of materials.

Again the City of Sydney as client has allowed the investigation of the brief to deliver another memorable public facility and a suite of community buildings as part of the wider urban program of place making.



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