



Australian
Institute of
Architects

NSW

2023

NSW PRIZES AND HONOURS AWARDS

WINNERS BOOKLET

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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ABOUT

The NSW Chapter Prizes recognises the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations. This year we are delighted to bring together the architectural community to celebrate the successes of 2023 and acknowledge winners at our Prizes and Honours Awards Celebrations.

Our Prizes and Honours celebrate a diverse array of architectural work, encompassing emerging perspectives on design in the public realm, distinctive bodies of work by a female architect, recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through the practice of architecture and recognition of individuals' contributions to the profession.



CHAPTER PRESIDENT

MESSAGE

ADAM HADDOW

To the winners of the Australian Institute of Architects NSW Chapter 2023 Prizes,

Warmest congratulations to each of you on your well-deserved recognition. Your achievements not only celebrate individual excellence but also illuminate the collective potential of the architectural profession in addressing critical societal challenges.

In the dynamic tapestry of the built environment, architects play a pivotal role in shaping the spaces we inhabit. Your innovative projects serve as powerful examples of how design thinking can be a force for positive change, especially in the face of the current housing and sustainability crises.

The magnitude of the housing crisis necessitates a multi-disciplinary approach, and architects, alongside planners, engineers, policymakers, and allied professionals, are uniquely positioned to lead collaborative efforts. Your work demonstrates the transformative impact that interdisciplinary collaboration can have on creating inclusive and sustainable communities. By breaking down silos and fostering partnerships, we can collectively develop holistic solutions that go beyond aesthetics to address the fundamental needs of our society.

Furthermore, your commitment to sustainability is commendable and serves as a beacon for the entire profession. Architects, urban designers, builders, and all stakeholders in the built environment must collectively embrace the responsibility to create spaces that are not only aesthetically pleasing but also environmentally conscious. Your sustainable design practices set an example for the broader profession, encouraging a shift towards more eco-friendly and socially responsible approaches.

As we celebrate your individual successes, let us also celebrate the potential for the architectural profession to be a driving force in tackling these global challenges. Your achievements inspire us to look beyond disciplinary boundaries and envision a future where the built environment is a testament to human ingenuity, compassion, and sustainability.

Congratulations once again, and I look forward to witnessing the continued impact of your work on our profession and society.

Adam Haddow
NSW Chapter President

LIFE FELLOW

LAURA COCKBURN



Laura has made a major contribution to profession of architecture in NSW and to the built environment around Australia through involvement with the Institute of Architects, the Architects Registration Board, the AACA and through practice.

Since 2018 Laura has made significant contribution to the profession through appointments within the institute. She has served as both an elected councillor, Vice president of the NSW Chapter and more recently as NSW Chapter President. These appointments, occurring during a period of great advancement in construction regulation in NSW, have allowed Laura to have a significant role in shaping the profession in NSW.

Laura has shown a strong commitment to the next generation of architects through her work with the ARB as an examiner and board member, and her work with the AACA as an assessor for the accreditation process.

Laura was a director of Conrad Gargett, leading their Sydney Studio. She is now a principal of Architectus following the recent merger. In this role, Laura has contributed numerous significant projects around Australia with particular focus in the infrastructure and defence sectors. Her projects are characterised by deep attention to the needs of the client & user group and to the successful resolution of complexity with positive impact.

Laura's service and contribution to the profession makes her a deserving recipient of an Australian Institute of Architects Life Fellowship.

LIFE FELLOW

BRIDGET SMYTH



Bridget Smyth is a distinguished candidate for Life Fellowship in 2023 thanks to her incredible commitment to improving cities and places for people. Over the past 30 years Bridget's work has driven incredible improvements to the urban environment, which is solidified through her many awards, including the 1999 National Women in Construction Lend Lease, 2000 Innovation Awards, 2001 NSW Max Kelly Government Architecture Award, 2014 Marion Mahony Griffin Prize, and the 2016 RAI NSW President's Award.

Bridget has been Design Director for the City of Sydney since 2001, providing strong leadership in the transformation of Sydney and the shaping of the city's sustainable future. In particular, she has been one of the key drivers behind the promotion of public art as a major enhancement of the urban Environment Dean's Industry Advisory Board. During her time, she has delivered innumerable high-profile projects such as the transformation of George Street in Sydney CBD. This is one project within Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050, a programme which she manages.

With a vision of improving cities as places for people, the successes of her work are deeply embedded throughout Sydney. Her collaborative approach has seen many triumphant outcomes, elevating public art within the public space.

Bridget's service and contribution to the profession makes her a deserving recipient of an Australian Institute of Architects Life Fellowship.

LIFE FELLOW

INGRID PEARSON



For her generous and sustained contributions to the profession, Ingrid Pearson is a very deserving candidate for Life Fellowship of the Australian Institute of Architects for 2023.

Ingrid has been a long-time member of the NSW chapter council, and from this position became a major driving force behind the invaluable architect's networks, Particularly the IWAN and GWAN. Through these groups Ingrid has linked architects across Sydney together to support each other in practice.

Ingrid has also been highly active in encouraging women to take up active posts in the institute, and a major force in the Construct Women Forum. Ingrid has also served as the architect member of the Architects Registration Board. In more recent times, Ingrid has become an exemplar regional practitioner.

Relocating to Bathurst in 2017, she has swiftly become indispensable locally, providing resources to Council Planning and Environment unit related to Heritage, and Urban Design, as well as advocating for the value of sustainable buildings and communities.

At the same time as all of this, Ingrid has maintained a successful architectural practice, producing numerous buildings for clients around Sydney and beyond.

Ingrid's service and contribution to the profession makes her a deserving recipient of an Australian Institute of Architects Life Fellowship

LIFE FELLOW

MARK JONES



Mark Jones one of the few regionally based architects to serve as President of the Institute's NSW Chapter and continues to advise members through the role of Senior Counsellor.

Since the establishment of Edimston Jones in 1980, Mark has led the longest continually operating architectural practice in the South Coast region. Founded upon a passionate commitment to local needs, his team have contributed significantly to the design of facilities for the Wollongong University campus, Wollongong Hospital, as well as several aged-care precincts and community spaces.

In 2014 Mark was appointed as an Honorary Fellow of the University of Wollongong's Sustainable Building Research Centre, utilising this platform to host design workshops and mentor students.

Through a partnership with the Illawarra Retirement Trust Foundation, Mark established the Age Friendly Illawarra Alliance in 2014, which has since expanded to include councils and local organisations. The collective conducts research into the existing built environment, to advocate for age-friendly design practices and advise bodies such as NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Ageing.

Mark's long-standing commitment to the elevation of regional architecture, particularly within Illawarra and Shoalhaven has solidified him as a deserving recipient of an Australian Institute of Architects Life Fellowship.

PROF LINDSAY JOHNSTON AM



Lindsay has had a significant contribution to the profession through his unwavering dedication towards providing the highest quality of education at the University of Newcastle, his contribution to orchestrating the Murcutt International Master Class, and through a unique practice, developed in parallel with academic work has produced a body of rich architectural work. Prior to Lindsay's arrival in Australia, he ran his own architectural practice in Dublin for a period of ten years and received numerous commissions and awards for work including but not limited to housing, and commercial projects, for this body of work.

In his time at the University of Newcastle, Lindsay has held numerous major positions. Most notably, Senior lecturer, Deputy Dean, Dean, as well as holding a position as a visiting Professor, not just at The University of Newcastle, but also at The University of Sydney. His contribution extends to a temporary assignment as interim Head of the School of Architecture and Planning at The University of Auckland.

Lindsay is the founder of, and is now convener of, the Architecture Foundation Australia and principal organiser of the Glenn Murcutt International Architecture Master Class.

The breadth of Lindsay's contribution to the discipline of architecture and to the profession in NSW makes him a worthy recipient of a Life Fellowship of the Australian Institute of Architects



LIFE FELLOW

DR DEO PRASAD AO

Deo Prasad has made outstanding contributions to the profession through his internationally recognised work in the field of sustainable building, cities, and the environment. Deo has served as an associate dean and professor at University of New South Wales, while also contributing globally as a visiting professor at Tongji University and the National University of Malaysia. Deo's influence extends far beyond aspiring architects, encompassing multiple fields, all sharing the common goal of creating a sustainable built environment.

As an educator, researcher, and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Deo has demonstrated international influence, participating in various boards and advanced panels. For example, his role as a board member at the United Nations Environment Program and a United Nations Consultant on developing the Green Universities Toolkit (2014).

As a CEO, Deo has led meaningful research projects that contribute to a sustainable built environment. For the Co-operative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living, Deo provided an opportunity to achieve a low carbon future at a global scale.

Following his election as a Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in 1991, Deo has received numerous accolades, including the Green Globe Award (2004) and the highest accolade in Australia; the Order of Australia (2014), awarded for his involvement in furthering sustainability and renewable energy through his research and for extensive international community work.

Deo's continuous contribution to the discipline of architecture and to the profession deems him a worthy recipient of a Life Fellowship of the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

ANDREW DUFFIN



With a career spanning almost 40 years, Andrew is a passionate advocate for designing for people and the environment as well as supporting wellbeing within the community. His broad experience in practice from small to large has developed his strong leadership in quality design and management of complex projects of all scales with an emphasis on sustainability and constructability.

As Director and Chief Design Officer at NBRS, Andrew has led the practice to succeed in design and practice awards, including the 2022 Best in Practice Prize. His stewardship has supported advocacy for students and graduates and more broadly the work of Architects Without Frontiers. Through his pro-bono work Andrew has been involved in projects supporting women and children in both Uganda and India, and he has personally supported worthy causes including mental wellbeing generously through his art.

Andrew sits on the Practice of Architecture Committee, is a juror and presenter for Learning Environments Australia, and a respected panellist, presenter and mentor.

We warmly congratulate Andrew on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

CHERRY PARSONS



Cherry's distinguished university career included scholarships and prizes, graduating with first class honours and the University Medal from the University of Newcastle in 2008. Since then, she has continued to influence the profession, establishing EmAGN in Newcastle in 2012, which has grown since its inception to a network of over 200 people.

A strong advocate for design and practice in regional NSW, Cherry has actively promoted public discourse on the sustainable future of the built environment as a member of organisations including The Property Council and The Architecture Foundation.

In practice, Cherry has actively sought out opportunities to collaborate on design-driven community development projects, reflected in her open and collaborative reputation across a range of public, residential and educational buildings.

Cherry sits on the RAIA Regional Committee, Practice of Architecture Committee, has been a juror and chair for the NSW Awards, and is a respected industry panellist, tutor, mentor and guest critic, and has volunteered with Emergency Architects, and Design-Build PNG.

We warmly congratulate Cherry on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

BRENT DUNN



With qualifications in design and architecture, Brent Dunn has had a diverse career working across furniture, residential, public, and commercial projects. He worked with a few architecture practices prior to founding Takt Studio for Architecture with Katharina Hendel in 2008. Having previously run an awarded prefabrication design and construction company, Brent brings a unique combination of design, IT and business skills to his current practice.

Brent's contribution to the profession crosses multiple sectors - from University teaching, to creative direction of conferences, industry seminars and events. Based on the Illawarra Coast, Brent is a proud advocate for regional architecture. He was an active member of Country Division, is co-Founder of the Regional Architecture Association and is its current treasurer.

We warmly congratulate Brent on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



FELLOW

ELISABETH PEET

Elisabeth's career has spanned over 35 years, focusing on large scale urban design and transport projects over the last 13 years.

Her senior strategic roles within Department of Planning and Transport for NSW, working with numerous government agencies has influenced major city infrastructure projects over the past decade.

As an expert in the design excellence strategy and process Elisabeth is committed to elevating design review processes as a best practice method to elevate design quality across several significant world class projects, including the recent Sydney Metro.

In addition, Elisabeth has dedicated time for teaching and mentoring across a number of Universities and industry bodies, including Design Excellence Review Panels and strategies.

The Fellowship award to Elisabeth recognises her advocacy for delivering high quality-built environment outcomes across NSW.

We warmly congratulate Elisabeth on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



FELLOW

DUNCAN SANBY

Duncan's career has spanned the globe and over three decades and counting.

He grew up in the UK, and following Northampton University worked for Bennets Associates in London, Norman Foster in Hong Kong and Cox Richardson in Sydney before establishing Utz Sanby Architects with Kristin Utz 25 years ago.

He is passionate about making a difference to the architectural community and has supported many local high school students getting work experience, and many co-workers at Utz Sanby Architects Pass their NSW ARB exams. He is an active and influential member of several industry organisations and programs, including RAIAs NSW Chapter Council.

He has organised and presented on various AACA tours of Utz Sanby Architects completed houses over the years and has been a Jury Member for Heritage and Small Projects categories in the 2018 NSW Architecture Awards.

He is currently an active member of LOWAN the Lower North Shore Architects Network and has been on the NSW Institute of Architects Chapter Council in various roles since 2019. Particularly he is appreciated for his enormous efforts in creating and managing CPD activities and for tirelessly working to renovate and restore the Tusculum facilities.

We warmly congratulate Duncan on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



FELLOW

KRISTIN UTZ

Kristin is a registered Architect and co-founder of Utz Sanby Architects, established in Sydney over 25 years ago.

Kristin has supported many local high school students getting work experience at Utz Sanby Architect, and many coworkers to pass their NSW ARB exams, has worked as Design Tutor at University of Sydney from 2015-2019, was Chair of the University of Sydney Alumni Committee 2014-2019, and has organised and presented on various AACA tours of Utz Sanby Architects completed houses over the years.

She has worked on and helped deliver over 120 projects around NSW throughout her career so far, and with her life/business partner Duncan Sanby are another of the growing examples of true partnership in architecture. Kristin is currently an active member of LOWAN the Lower North Shore Architects Network.

We warmly congratulate Kristin on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

JASON ELSLEY



Over two decades, Jason's contributions to architecture, specifically in Newcastle and the regions has seen him drive a wide variety of projects across a diverse range of typologies including cultural and tourism, education, heritage, masterplanning, hospitality and residential.

As director of Derive Architecture and Design, Jason has established a reputation for delivering responsive and engaging architecture in public and private realms and brings a focus on creating positive civic interactions with the public domain to each project.

His contribution throughout his career to the Institute's Newcastle Division, the NSW Awards and Honours Committee and currently the Awards Working Group as well as involvement in sessional tutoring at the University of Newcastle, Industry Advisory Panels and events, demonstrates Jason's depth of engagement and deep commitment as a mentor and promotor of architectural excellence within the Regions.

We warmly congratulate Jason on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

SOPHIE SOLOMON



Over the past 25 years, Sophie Solomon has contributed extensively to the built environment through architectural practice, advocacy, and research, with a strong focus on Sustainability and the role it should play in our cities and housing.

Through her work on the RAIA NSW Built Environment Committee Sophie has represented the Institute on various industry workshops led by State Government which have resulted in the establishment of the Greater Sydney Commission, the Design and Place SEPP, the Circular Quay proposal, Sydney Modern, and the Renovate or Rebuild TV Show. Sophie has also provided multiple contributions to Acumen and appeared as guest editor for the Built Environment Committee Bulletin edition.

Beyond the institute Sophie has been awarded the Byera Hadley Scholarship for which she focused her research on improving the affordability, density and sustainability of housing in Sydney. This work led to further competition and publication contributions.

In practice, Sophie established SSD Studio in 2011 after gaining experience across Australia and England. Her built work is the culmination of her research and drive and has led to multiple shortlisting's, awards and commendations in housing and sustainability.

We warmly congratulate Sophie on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

JOHN DE MANINCOR



John's contribution to the life and knowledge of architecture in both NSW and nationally has been generous, creative and diverse. His practice has seen him undertake multiple roles, as practicing architect, curator, academic and writer.

His contributions to award winning architecture across a range of typologies has been diverse in scale, approach and context. His interest and engagement with the teaching and learning of architecture has seen him teach at UNSW, USYD, UTS and the University of Queensland and as guest critic at universities in Japan, the US and the UK.

Beyond teaching and practice, John's contribution to architectural discourse in this country has been extensive. He has undertaken the roles of City Editor of Australian Architectural Review, Contributing Editor of Architecture Australia and convened numerous architectural lecture series, symposia, and panels, most notably as a Creative Director of the Australian Institute of Architects' 2013 National Conference. In addition, he has also served as a juror on awards programs in NSW and Queensland, most recently on the 2024 NSW Country Awards Jury.

We warmly congratulate John on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

GABRIELLE PELLETIER



An inspiring advocate across a broad architectural landscape, Gabrielle is an integral member of the local architectural community, bringing energy and insightful perspective to initiatives across diversity, sustainability, and practice. In her role as Associate Director at Sam Crawford Architects, Gabrielle drives design and delivery, as well as practice initiatives and business growth, and is a Registered Design Practitioner.

Gabrielle has been a member of the Gender Equity Taskforce, and chairs the RAI NSW Sustainability Working Group, significantly driving the sustainability questionnaire for the architecture awards, now adopted nationally. She now sits on the National Climate Action & Sustainability Committee.

Through her design tutoring at the University of Sydney, guest lecturer at UTS, and being a juror for the NSW Awards, Gabrielle shares her expertise in thoughtful design and practice with strong sustainability and community impact. As a member of several Design Excellence Panels, her expertise across a broad range of projects and contexts is helping shape our communities.

We warmly congratulate Gabrielle on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



FELLOW

NIALL MACKEN

Niall Macken boasts an illustrious career spanning over three decades as a registered architect, during which he has assumed a pivotal role in championing heritage architecture across New South Wales. With a distinguished tenure as the head of heritage at the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority for over a decade, Niall has consistently left an enduring mark on the preservation and promotion of heritage architecture.

Niall has also lent his expertise to prestigious heritage award juries, notably serving on panels for the NSW RAIA Awards and the coveted Marrickville Medal. Presently, Niall occupies key positions as a vital member of the heritage committee for both the NSW RAIA Chapter and the NSW Heritage Council. His unwavering commitment to heritage conservation is further exemplified by his prior roles as a member of the National Trust Australia's heritage listing committee and as an elected representative of Australia ICOMOS.

Noteworthy accolades and recognitions have also been bestowed upon Niall for his work in preserving and restoring heritage structures. His projects in The Rocks and along George Street Sydney have earned accolades in both the RAIA and National Trust heritage awards, further solidifying his reputation as a guardian of architectural heritage.

Niall Macken's steadfast commitment to the field of heritage architecture makes him a deserving fellow of the RAIA, a testament to his enduring and impactful contributions to the architectural profession.

We warmly congratulate Niall on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



FELLOW

JACQUELINE URFORD

Jacqueline's career has spanned over three decades of practice working across a wide variety of building typologies and award winning buildings. She has held leadership roles within national architectural practices as well as maintaining a strong connection to the next generation of architects through tutoring of undergraduate and masters students in design and construction at University of Sydney, UTS and UNSW. These students now in turn taking their place as leaders in the profession.

Her passion for heritage has seen Jacqueline actively participate and chair the NSW Chapter Heritage Committee for over 10 years. Her advocacy included contributions to the Guidelines for Infill Development (NSW Heritage Office), significant additions to the Register of Significant Buildings as well as articles for newspapers and journals. More recently Jacqueline has authored and contributed to publications spanning the work of Bruce Richard and Peter Muller.

She has maintained her membership with the RAIA since 1979 and as an active and influential member of The Institute, she has held several positions on NSW Chapter Council, Chair of the Heritage Committee and Chair of the Marion Mahoney Griffin Award as a part of the NSW Awards Programme.

Jacqueline's ongoing commitment to the recognition of heritage works, documentation of the work of seminal influential Australian architects and mentorship and education of the next generation of architects is testament to her passion for the profession and its ability to shape our society and built environment through recognition of the past with a view to the future.

We warmly congratulate Jacqueline on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

PHILLIP ARNOLD



The discourse of architecture locally, nationally and beyond is all the better thanks to Phillips contribution as a practicing architect and teacher. His work for a series of prominent architects, and with his own practice Plus Minus Design which he established in 2007 has delivered award winning projects with nuance, rigour and grace. As a teacher, he has been actively involved in an evolving pedagogy of architecture for more than 25 years as tutor, lecturer and studio leader at the University of NSW, UTS and the University of Western Sydney.

His work beyond the traditional boundaries of practice and teaching has seen him engage with tens of thousands of architects, architecture students and design enthusiasts both locally and internationally. Utilising the benefits of social media, lectures, symposia and forums of different guises, Phillip's knowledge of architecture, his thirst to pursue the best of good design in places few would think to look, and his generosity in sharing and discussing his knowledge and findings has made a considered, delightful contribution to our architectural discourse and community.

We warmly congratulate Phillip on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.

FELLOW

SANDRA STEWART



In a career spanning over 30 years, Sandra has gained experience in large commercial projects throughout Australia, leading large multi-disciplined teams to create numerous successful projects.

Her recent roles, combining both project and sector leadership, have concentrated on health projects across the State.

In the past ten years Sandra has taken on the role of an industry mentor, both informally amongst her colleagues across the Sector and more formally through the mentoring programme as a Member of the National Association of Women in Construction, (NAWIC)

Since 2020 she has been an APE Assessor for the NSW Board of Architects and devoted considerable time to the RAIA Professional Advocacy Committee between 2021-2022.

This Fellow award recognises Sandra's continued leadership and to her ongoing mentorship and advocacy for the profession.

We warmly congratulate Sandra on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



FELLOW

WESLEY HINDMARCH

After a remarkable international study and working early career that included time at Bauhaus University and working for Alvaro Siza, Wesley Graduated from the University of Tasmania in 2000 and since that time has become a significant contributor to the profession of Architecture around Australia.

After founding Dock4 Architects in Tasmania and leading this practice to success for many years, Wesley has recently moved onto a new challenge. Establishing a new practice in the South Coast of NSW: Local Architect, South Coast. This practice has a strong regional focus, with a direct aim of supporting local builders and craftspeople in the south coast area.

Across these practices, Wesley has developed a reputation for thoughtful, considered architecture, sensitive to place and to client requirements. He has earned numerous awards for his work, including RAIA and Timber Awards.

Wesley has a history of offering his services pro-bono in support of worthy endeavours – including overseas and to local councils in Australia. This act of extraordinary generosity confirms Wesley's attributes as a thoughtful and considerate architect, sensitive to the needs of those around him.

Wesley has been active as a writer contributing to Architecture Australia and Sanctuary Magazine, as well as other publications and websites. He has also supported the institute with submissions to Infrastructure Australia, with CPD events and other important contributions.

We warmly congratulate Wesley on attaining Fellowship at the Australian Institute of Architects.



PRESIDENT'S PRIZE

WINNER

NSW LAND & HOUSING CORPORATION

If we accept that you can judge a society by how we treat our most vulnerable, the NSW Land and Housing Corporation is our conscience. With 125,000 properties under management and with more than 60,000 people on the waiting list, the NSW Land and Housing Corporation has an immense challenge ahead of it.

While housing itself is the priority, well-designed housing that is fit for purpose, reduces running costs, increases individuals sense of health and well-being, and is robust and future proofed, are all important contributing factors to delivering value to the people of NSW while recognising housing as a basic human right rather than a real estate 'play'.

To achieve the immense task of delivering on such significant housing numbers LAHC are invested in numerous delivery structures from standalone delivery to partnerships. At this year's NSW Architecture Awards the Bigge Street Apartments in Liverpool designed by Turner Studio and built by Hutchinson Builders was awarded a Multiple Housing Award.

This award recognised the design excellence of the project within a building typology rarely celebrated. In recognition of this excellence, I am awarding a President's Prize to the NSW Land & Housing Corporation for leadership in the procurement of high-quality social housing.

As a profession we are deeply committed to partnering with you to deliver the world's best housing within reasonable budgets and construction programs.

PRESIDENT'S PRIZE

WINNER

BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL



Image credits: Woodcroft Neighbourhood Centre | Traditional Owners: Dharug People | Architect: Carter Williamson | Builder: Westbury Constructions | Photographer: Brett Boardman



Image credits: Blacktown Animal Rehoming Centre (BARC) | Traditional Owners: Dharug | People | Architect: Sam Crawford Architects | Builder: AW Edwards | Photographer: Brett Boardman



Blacktown Exercise Sports and Technology Hub

Image credits: Blacktown Exercise Sports and Technology Hub (BEST) | Traditional Owners: Dharug | Architect: ARM Architecture | Builder: Buildcorp | Photographer: Adam Hollingworth



Image credits: Kings Langley Cricket Club | Traditional Owners: Dharug | Architect: Eoghan Lewis Architects | Builder: Dezign | Photographer: Keith Saunders



Image credits: Warrick Lane Plaza and Carpark | Traditional Owners: Dharug | Architects: COX Architecture and McGregor Coxall | Builder: AW Edwards | Photographer: Guy Wilkinson Photography

Our cities are the melting pots of our communities. Great cities create environments that enable multicultural activities to exist and thrive in collaboration. Fairness is underpinned by access, and access is achieved through economic investment and long-term strategic planning, often seeded generations earlier.

Our daily lives are enlivened by public parks, swimming pools, sports centers, and even animal shelters. To this end good public leadership is both about doing and agitating. Doing what you can with what you have and agitating for more leverage – for the benefit of your community. For too long the western suburbs of Sydney have played second fiddle to the those in the east. As the most populous local government area in NSW Blacktown Council is undergoing radical change.

With innovative procurement models and a commitment to investing in keystone public projects, Blacktown Council under visionary elected officials and steady bureaucratic leadership is delivering on its promise of a built environment as interesting and diverse as the people who call Blacktown home.

This year Council has delivered two buildings of incredible significance – the imaginatively named BARC – Blacktown Animal Rehoming Centre designed by Sam Crawford Architects and built by AW Edwards, and the Blacktown Exercise Sports and Technology Hub (BEST), designed by ARM Architecture and built by Buildcorp.

We congratulate Blacktown City Council and look forward to the continued growth of an urban fabric that is expressive and representative of its people while delivering on the promise of fairness and equity.



Image credits: Gujaga Foundation



Image credits: Gujaga Foundation



Image credits: Aboriginal Languages Trust

RECONCILIATION PRIZE

WINNER

GUJAGA FOUNDATION

Voice.

The Gujaga Foundation is a community run social enterprise that leads language, cultural and research activities within the La Perouse Aboriginal Community. The Foundation has established a framework of engagement that allows built environment professionals to better connect and understand First Nations stories in an authentic and culturally appropriate way.

Through the foundation they have established a consultancy framework, ensuring that the community's cultural knowledge is fairly and appropriately managed, while at the same time investing in research and truth telling - with the ambition that gaps in Australia's history can be restored. By taking control of their cultural capital the community generates income that is reinvested into education programs enabling their youth to learn language and better connect with their history. This is a program that has identified a commercial need and is leveraging the opportunity to create a positive future history rooted in cultural authenticity.

Gujaga has established a framework that is helping to empower their local community while providing an example for other First Nations community groups to engage with the built environment sector to create culturally rich places, to the benefit of all Australians.



RECONCILIATION PRIZE

WINNER

DR MICHAEL MOSSMAN

Empowerment.

Dr. Michael Mossman is an Architect and educator and is a Kuku Yalanji man from Cairns, now living and working on Gadigal land. Based at the University of Sydney, Dr. Mossman gained a Doctor of Philosophy in 2021 with his thesis: 'Third Space, Architecture and Indigeneity.

Michael's ambition is to create a structural shift in the education, practice and policy of the architectural profession - seeing First Nations cultures as agents for change. With his focus firmly on growing capacity within the profession through the promotion of greater cultural competency, while helping to build a pipeline of First Nations built environment practitioners, Michael is asking the profession to look differently, asking us to consider our physical landscape through a broader cultural lens, with the intent of decolonizing the built form.

His intent is that through the identification of a new starting point we might achieve built outcomes that better reflect, celebrate and respond to the unique landscape and cultural history of the places our projects exist. With the awarding of a \$1.4m Australian Research Council Linkage grant Dr. Mossman will be investigating the capacity of Architects to deliver on Designing with Country competencies, with the intent of assisting in the amplification of professional skills.



Photo caption: Appin Massacre Cultural Landscape
Image Credit: Heritage NSW

RECONCILIATION PRIZE

WINNER

HERITAGE NSW AND HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW

Truth.

To truly achieve reconciliation our nation must address historical truths. This will be difficult but will ultimately allow us to collectively own our entire history – both painful and wonderful.

This year Heritage NSW and Heritage Council of NSW added the Appin massacre site of 1816 to the State Heritage Register. The listing acknowledges the significance of one of the earliest and most traumatic frontier conflict events between First Nations People and European settlers. At least 14 Aboriginal men, woman and children were killed in the attack ordered by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. This listing on the State Heritage register recognises the injustices of the past and provides an opportunity for healing and reconciliation. The listing includes topography and natural features of the landscape that have sacred significance to the Dharawal traditional custodians and the Gundungurra people and will ensure the protection of the site and cultural landscape so that future generations can learn from the injustices of the past. Leadership of this type, acknowledging the pain sometimes imbedded in our physical environment should be acknowledged and protected is the sign of a truly enlightened and open society.

Through acknowledgement will come understanding, helping to build empathy and community. As an organisation we fully support truth telling through the lens of the physical environment and congratulate the Heritage NSW and Heritage Council of NSW for this significant step.



MARION MAHONY GRIFFIN PRIZE

WINNER

CATHERINE LASSEN

With an inspiring international career as a practitioner and academic, Catherine consistently and passionately promotes and mentors those around her, creates agency in learning, and pursues research which celebrates the enduring value of Australian architecture.

Drawing upon her experience in private practice, Catherine's unique approach to teaching encompasses social, cultural, technical, and historical narratives of architecture, emphasising the advancement of a profession that is innovative, critically engaged, and socially responsible.

Pursuing original research, Catherine has highlighted the significant local contribution of women, including Eva Buhrich and Marion Mahony Griffin, to the understanding of modern Australian architecture and its influence upon contemporary practice. The exploration of society, culture, and technical innovation in her research is reflected in her pedagogical approach, making architecture discernible by learning through precedent and promoting inclusive environments for students to develop.

Catherine is Senior Lecturer at the University of Sydney, and Coordinator of the Rothwell Chair in Architectural Design Leadership Program. She is a valued mentor and role model. Her selfless generosity, particularly to the women around her, is exemplary and makes her the worthy recipient of this prize.



DAVID LINDNER PRIZE

WINNER

ISABELLA REYNOLDS

PROJECT: SOFT SPACES: DESIGNING
FOR PAIN IN THE PUBLIC REALM

The 2023 David Lindner Prize is awarded to Isabella Reynolds for her proposal entitled *“Soft Spaces: Designing for Pain in the Public Realm”*.

Isabella’s submission brings to the fore the high proportion of Australian’s living with the invisible experiences of chronic pain and disease and how good design within our built environment should consider people living with these conditions.

Her proposal builds on her previous research into this topic, where she catalogued how public spaces affect people living with chronic pain. The David Lindner Prize will enable Isabella to continue this research through establishing a set of recommendations in the form of a practical guide for future public buildings and spaces to palliate the effects of chronic pain. This research will be strengthened through collaboration with nominated industry leaders in this space as well as medical professionals.

Through highlighting the statistics around chronic pain and the impact of our environmental conditions on this, the jury considered that Isabella’s work could be a very poignant topic within the architectural profession about how we design our spaces with empathy and inclusion.

DAVID LINDNER PRIZE

COMMENDATION

TAMARA KERR

PROJECT: THE POWER POWERLESS: ADAPTING THERMALLY
INEFFICIENT HOUSING AND ITS URBAN ENVIRONMENT



The jury agreed that Tamara Kerr's proposal "*The Power Powerless: Adapting Thermally Efficient Housing and Its Urban Environment*" deserved a commendation. Kerr identifies how inequities in the built environment will be exacerbated through the impacts of climate change. In particular, as mechanical heating and cooling become increasingly needed to manage climatic unpredictability, designers and planners face the challenge of meeting those needs without increasing carbon demands, and doing so affordably and equitably.

Tamara focuses her proposal on how design interventions, rather than carbon-based mechanical systems, can support the thermal comfort needs of the less advantaged. In so doing she reveals another layer of Australia's dire housing affordability crisis, and encourages architects to bring this into our collective social aspiration.



CHRISTOPHER PROCTER PRIZE

WINNER

ANDREA LAM

PROJECT: CHINATOWNS ARE DISAPPEARING AROUND THE WORLD - HOW CAN ARCHITECTURE ENSURE THEIR FUTURE?

Chinatowns around the world are unique cultural and urban spaces which make a rich contribution to our cities. Through the 19th and 20th century they became places to congregate for many migrants from China and Asia more broadly. They served as vibrant hubs of significant cultural and economic activity, attracting locals and tourists alike.

Changing demographics, post Covid-19 challenges of our inner cities combined with the virus' origin in Wuhan have left Chinatowns across the globe struggling to regain that vibrancy. Andrea's research will focus on San Francisco's Chinatown which is one of the largest and oldest of its kind. Her study will be about its distinct cultural, economic and physical characteristics, as well as which local renewal strategies may be translatable into an Australian context.

Growing up with regular visits to Sydney's Chinatown and now working on its reimagination as an architect and urban designer Andrea's proposal is personal and highly relevant. It meets the mission of the Christopher Procter prize to enable research and professional development with a focus on improving our cities.

JURORS

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