

EMBARGOED UNTIL MIDNIGHT SATURDAY, 28 JUNE 2025

## NEW SA CREATIVE COLLABORATION PRIZE CELEBRATES DESIGN THROUGH CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS



L-R Josephine Evans, Nicolette Di Lernia and Brian Parkes are excited about this new initiative. Photo: JamFactory

A bold new initiative recognising creative partnerships across architecture, design, the arts and creative industries was officially launched at the 2025 SA Architecture Awards held at the Queens Theatre in Adelaide.

The **SA Creative Collaboration Prize**, a new honour of the Australian Institute of Architects, celebrates exceptional architectural projects and processes developed through meaningful collaboration between architects and a broad range of creative practitioners, including artists, designers, and craftspeople.

Developed by the SA Chapter's Creative Alliance Committee in partnership with JamFactory, the annual Prize will be awarded for the first time in 2026 as part of the SA Architecture Awards program.

Chair of the Creative Alliance Committee, **Josephine Evans**, says the Prize is a timely response to the growing importance of creative partnerships in shaping South Australian design outcomes.

*"This Prize recognises that great design is often the result of shared vision and a collaborative process," Evans said. "It's about acknowledging architects and creative collaborators who work side by side—sometimes on built outcomes, sometimes on conceptual or speculative projects. This Prize is designed to also encourage experimental practice and non-traditional design teams and processes."*

The SA Creative Collaboration Prize will be awarded to projects—realised or unbuilt—that demonstrate innovation, creativity, and leadership in collaborative practice. It is reserved

for work that advances design thinking and contributes positively to the built environment through:

- New connections between creative sector individuals or organisations
- Shared knowledge outcomes that benefit or educate the profession and community
- Exploration of architectural process beyond traditional boundaries
- Innovative team structures and design methodologies
- Integration of creative practice into the architectural outcome
- Tangible cultural or community benefit through collaboration

The Prize also reflects the values of the Institute's 2024–2026 Strategic Plan, particularly its commitment to cross-industry collaboration and advancing architecture as a major contributor to culture and community.

In-kind support for the inaugural Prize—including the design and making of the award object—will be generously sponsored by JamFactory, one of South Australia's leading institutions in craft and design.

**JamFactory CEO Brian Parkes** is excited about the Prize's potential, saying:

*"This Prize creates meaningful and sustaining opportunities for South Australian artists, designers and makers by embedding their practice in the built environment—where creativity becomes part of our everyday experience."*

Examples of eligible projects and collaborators will be featured on the Institute's dedicated landing page for the Prize. These will include a diverse range of built and conceptual works that highlight the breadth of collaboration across disciplines and development stages.

Entries for the inaugural 2026 SA Creative Collaboration Prize will open early next year, with full details, eligibility criteria, and key dates to be published in the 2026 SA Architecture Awards Program.

**Australian Institute of Architects SA Chapter Executive Director, Nicolette Di Lernia**, welcomed the announcement, saying:

*"Our intention is to highlight South Australia's unique creative eco-system and to engage with our creative community, government and the wider public through celebrating creative alliances in architecture. This Prize will be a national first for the Institute."*

**END**



**Further media enquiries:**

*Nicolette Di Lernia*

Executive Director, Australian Institute of Architects SA Chapter

[Nicolette.DiLernia@architecture.com.au](mailto:Nicolette.DiLernia@architecture.com.au)

*Brian Parkes*

CEO, JamFactory

[brian.parkes@jamfactory.com.au](mailto:brian.parkes@jamfactory.com.au)

*Josephine Evans*

Chair, Creative Alliance Committee

[jevans@jpe.com.au](mailto:jevans@jpe.com.au)

**NOTES TO EDITOR:**

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