

## Victorian Architecture Awards Policy

### 1.0 Victorian Architecture Awards

- 1.1 The Victorian Architecture Awards serve to recognise best practice in the field and inspire others to continue striving to positively shape communities through architecture.
- 1.2 The Victorian Architecture Awards form part of the Australian Institute of Architects' National Architecture Awards program. This document operates in conjunction with the Institute's national awards documents including the Entrant Handbook, Jury Handbook, and Awards, Prizes and Honours Policy. These national documents take precedence over this document.

### 2.0 Awards Committee

- 2.1 The Awards Committee is responsible for overseeing the Victorian Awards program as administered by the Victorian Chapter and national Institute staff in accordance with national policy determined by the Institute.
- 2.2 The Committee shall be comprised of six members including a chair.
- 2.3 The Committee shall appoint jurors for the Victorian Architecture Awards ensuring gender balance overall as well as on each individual jury.
- 2.4 The Committee shall serve as the jury for the Victorian Enduring Architecture Award.

### 3.0 Chair of Juries

- 3.1 The Awards Committee shall appoint a Chair of Juries before entries close each year.
- 3.2 The Chair of Juries shall be responsible for overseeing all juries and adjudicating any potential issues or disputes throughout the Awards program.
- 3.3 The Chair of Juries – or their practice – should not have any entries in the Victorian Architecture Awards.
- 3.4 In the event that the Chair of Juries cannot adjudicate due to incapacity or potential conflict of interest, the Chair of the Awards Committee shall temporarily step in or nominate another Committee member to step in.
- 3.5 The Chair of Juries should provide a report to the Awards Committee at the conclusion of the Victorian Architecture Awards providing feedback and suggestions for improvement.

### 4.0 Melbourne Prize

- 4.1 The Melbourne Prize recognises projects that have made a significant contribution to the city of Melbourne.
- 4.2 All projects located within the Urban Growth Boundary are eligible for consideration. Projects must be entered in at least one direct-entry category in the Victorian Architecture Awards.
- 4.3 Only one project may be awarded the Melbourne Prize each year. There can be no joint-prizes or commendations.

### 5.0 Regional Prize

- 5.1 The Regional Prize recognises projects that have made a significant contribution to regional Victoria.
- 5.2 All projects located outside the Urban Growth Boundary are eligible for consideration. Projects must be entered in at least one direct-entry category in the Victorian Architecture Awards.
- 5.3 Only one project may be awarded the Regional Prize each year. There can be no joint-prizes or commendations.

## 6.0 Victorian Architecture Medal

- 6.1 The winner of the Victorian Architecture Medal is judged to be the most outstanding project of the entire field of entries, a building of exceptional merit in respect of the Core Evaluation Criteria as defined in the Entry and Jury Handbooks.
- 6.2 The Medal is awarded from the Named Award winners from all national direct-entry categories and Sustainable Architecture and COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture, as well as the winners of the Melbourne Prize and Regional Prize.
- 6.3 The jury shall be comprised of the Chair of Juries and a jury representative from all national direct-entry categories as well as Sustainable Architecture, COLORBOND® Award for Steel Architecture, Melbourne Prize and Regional Prize.
- 6.4 In the first instance, each category representative shall be the respective jury chair.
  - 6.4.1 If a jury chair cannot attend the selection meeting, they may nominate a proxy from their jury to attend.
  - 6.4.2 If a jury chair – or their practice – has a project shortlisted in the Victorian Architecture Awards, they may remain in the meeting during discussion of that category provided their project was not the overall category winner. The Chair of Juries shall remind all jurors to maintain strict confidentiality at all times including with their practice colleagues.
  - 6.4.3 If a jury chair – or their practice – has a project which is an overall category winner in the Victorian Architecture Awards, they shall be required to send a proxy from their jury in their place. The proxy shall be the juror who has been registered as an architect for the greatest number of years provided they are not also conflicted.
- 6.5 The Medal selection meeting shall be chaired by the Chair of Juries. Each jury representative will present their category winner providing application text, entry images and drawings. Site visits will not take place for the purposes of selecting the Medal.