

The Virginia Society AIA, recognizing the importance of both theory and applied research in architecture, the importance of discourse in the architectural process, and the role that discourse plays in both, has created the VSAIA Prize for Design Research & Scholarship. The purpose of this prize is to encourage theoretical awareness, educational exchange, thought and research in architecture, both within academic institutions and within the offices of practicing architects who participate in these pursuits. The resulting exchange of design research and scholarship will encourage another method of collaboration between professors and practitioners.

eligibility

The VSAIA Prize for Design Research & Scholarship will be awarded to a faculty member at a Virginia institution of higher learning OR a licensed practicing architect in Virginia for outstanding design research and/or scholarship in the field of architecture.

Options for submission include:

- Papers or articles that have been published in a journal or conference proceedings within the past two years
- Papers or articles that have been submitted to journals or conferences, but have not yet been accepted
- Research projects completed within the past three years and summarized in a paper or article
- Innovative project case studies, completed within the past three years and summarized in a paper or article

Important Note: This is NOT a prize for design projects, unless the project is being submitted as a representation or extension of the work described in an accompanying paper or article. Design projects should be submitted for consideration through other VSAIA design award programs (i.e., Inform Awards or Virginia Society AIA Awards for Excellence in Architecture).

criteria

This prize will recognize relevant design research and/or scholarship in the field of architecture. It must be timely, preview new trends and/or address industry-wide topics that impact the future of architecture. Work must have the potential to advance architecture or the practice of architecture. (Note: For the 2011 Prize, submissions must be limited to current or forward looking work. A category may be added in future competitions for work based on historical, preservation, or adaptive-reuse issues.) The criteria that will be used to judge the work will include:

Originality — To what extent does the work presented add to the existing body of knowledge?

Impact — Will the work advance architecture or the practice of architecture?

Purpose — Is the purpose clearly stated and is its importance discussed?

Methods — Are the methods sound?

Conclusions — Do the conclusions follow from the results presented?

Topics may relate to theories in design, technology, processes, materials and methods, building codes/standards and specifications. Innovative theories for the practice of architecture will also be considered including firm management, administration, and project management. The advancement of specific building types and technical expertise may also be submitted.

judging

Entries will be reviewed by the jury and one Prize and up to two honorable mentions may be awarded. Entries will be carefully reviewed according to their potential to contribute knowledge to the field of architecture. The jury may elect not to award a prize in any given year if none of the entries are judged to be of sufficient quality.

Jury recognition for the Prize and honorable mentions will be given by the Virginia Society AIA in the form of a \$2,500 award and certificate. Recognition of the award will take place at Architecture Exchange East (ArchEx), the VSAIA annual conference and expo, held November 2-4, 2011, in Richmond. The recipient of the Prize should be prepared to present the work at a session during ArchEx.

The jury will be comprised of prominent architects, educators, and/or researchers from outside Virginia. The jury will meet in August to make final selections. The recipient will be notified in September and the official presentation will be made at ArchEx.

submissions

Entry forms are due Friday, June 10 by 5 p.m. Submissions are due Friday, July 1 by 5 p.m.

Material must be submitted using Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) with a page-size of 8½ x 11 inches. Images are to be at 150 dpi in a jpg format. Each submittal shall contain the following in the order specified below.

Entry Form (this information will be concealed from the jury)

Information Sheet (concise, double spaced, 12-point type):

Title of the paper

The topic of the submission

A maximum 300-word abstract describing the significance of the work and addressing each of the 5 criteria by which the entry is judged.

Paper or Article (there is no limit to length but preferably no more than 4,000 words):
Presentation of the paper or article
Optional supporting diagrams, drawings and/or photography (limited to 10).

VSAIA may seek permission from the author(s) to publish submitted papers or articles. The submitter of the winning entry should be prepared to present the work at Architecture Exchange East, November 2-4, 2011. Individuals who are submitting papers or other entries that have been previously published, are in press, or are under consideration for publication should include any existing copyright restrictions on the work with the submission.

Entries should be submitted electronically, via PDF, to jwalker@aiava.org.



entry form

Submission deadline: July 1, 2011 . Send checks payable to "VSAIA" to PDRS c/o Virginia Society AIA, 2501 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA 23220.

Title of entry: _____

Second entry: _____

Third entry: _____

Name of entrant (Primary Author): _____

Firm/Institution name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

AIA membership number: _____

The material to be presented is cleared for exhibition and publication (if not, please attach copyright restrictions).

Implied agreement: Accuracy is essential in the submission materials, as verification of information is not guaranteed. Each entrant will hold harmless the Virginia Society AIA for any and all damage arising from the use of the information in their submittal. Any errors and omissions are the responsibility of the entrant.

payment

The non-refundable entry fee may be submitted by mail to PDRS c/o VSAIA 2501 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23220 or by fax to (804) 643-4607. Checks or credit card payments are accepted. Checks should be made payable to VSAIA. Payment is due with the entry form by 5 p.m., Friday, June 10. Submissions are due electronically by 5 p.m., Friday, July 1.

Check enclosed American Express MasterCard VISA

Name as it appears on card: _____

Credit card number: _____

Expiration date: _____ Security code: _____

Signature: _____

I am submitting _____ entry(ies) at the AIA member (\$100)/ non-member (\$130) rate and authorize a total charge of \$ _____ to my card.

Questions? Contact Jim Walker at (804) 237-1777 or jwalker@aiaava.org.

registration

Registration Fee

AIA Member: \$100; Non-member: \$130

Deadlines

Entry Form and Fee: 5 p.m., Friday, June 10
Electronic Submission: 5 p.m., Thursday July 1

Send all entries to jwalker@aiaava.org.

Entrants will attest to the fact that all materials submitted are cleared for exhibition and publication (subject to copyright restrictions in the case of work published or submitted for publication to a journal) by the Society.

The submission must not identify the author of the submission; only the entry form will identify the author.

questions

Q: Someone on the research team is a member of the VSAIA, but I am not. Can I submit at the member rate?

A: Yes. If a member of the research team is a member, you may submit at the member rate.

Q: Can Allied members of the VSAIA submit research?

A: Submissions by VSAIA Allied members are welcomed!

Q: I will be submitting 3 research projects. Do I need to send 3 entry forms?

A: You can submit the 3 projects on the same form, but you will also need to submit payment for 3 entries.

Q: Can I include the project name on the Information Sheet portion of our submission?

A: You may include the project name, as long as it doesn't reference the name of author(s) of the submission.

Q: Things are crazy at the office/studio/classroom right now and my submission will be a few days late. Will it still be accepted?

A: Late submissions will not be accepted.

Q: I won't be able to send my submission. Can I get a refund for my entry fee?

A: Entry fees are non-refundable.

Q: Can I mail my submission?

A: Submissions are only accepted electronically. Email your submission in the format described in the Submissions section to jwalker@aiaava.org.

Q: When will the winner be announced?

A: The jury will review the submissions in August and the winner will be announced in September.