



2023 Honor Awards Nominations

Silver Medal for Firm of the Year

Eligibility

This award is the highest honor bestowed by AIA Atlanta on a firm for its general excellence in its practice of architecture and design. It is open to any Architecture Firm within AIA Atlanta's chapter jurisdiction. The Silver Medal Award honors a firm (single practitioner up to a large entity) that has sustained outstanding performance as evidenced by a consistently high level of design quality, a demonstrated community, political or public awareness contribution to architecture, or AIA leadership in the interests of the profession. The firm must have been in practice for a minimum of five years, and cannot have received this award in the previous 10 years.

Candidates from firms that have offices in multiple cities should only include those activities, awards, and leadership roles that are attributed to their offices in the Atlanta chapter area.

Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on information submitted as it excels in two or more of the following:

1. The firm shall have been widely recognized, awarded, or known for the consistent quality of its designs.
2. The individuals within the firm shall have made significant leadership contributions to AIA Atlanta or its affiliated organizations (AIA Georgia, AIA NE Section, Equity in Architecture, the ADC, AFGA, NOMA, ULI, etc).
3. The firm shall have demonstrated a commitment to the continuing education of architects through participation in conferences or local, state, regional or national programs of continuing education, through employee participation as speakers, panel moderators, event organizers, etc., or through firm sponsorship of such events.
4. The firm shall have demonstrated a commitment to developing the next generation of leaders in the profession through an investment in emerging professionals' skills and leadership development (such as the Christopher Kelley Leadership Development Program), a formal program encouraging architectural licensing, engagement with one of the three architecture schools in Georgia, and/or participation in a K-12 pipeline program.
5. The firm shall have made significant contributions to any other civic or business area of interest related to architecture in Atlanta, Georgia or the community at large.
6. To a demonstrable extent, the firm shall be committed to AIA's core values of a) building an economic, regulatory and business environment friendly to architecture, b) addressing issues of sustainability, and/or c) taking action inside the firm and in the broader industry/profession to improve issues of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.

Additionally, the activities made by the firm for the selected of the six areas of criteria should have occurred in the preceding 10 year time period.

AIA Atlanta recognizes that many modern firms engage in a diverse array of practices, such as engineering, planning, or landscape architecture. The jury for the Silver Medal Award will be instructed that their analysis of the contributions of the nominee will be limited to the activities of the architecture



2023 Honor Awards Nominations

Silver Medal for Firm of the Year

practice. Concomitantly, nominees should limit their nominations materials to only the activities of their architecture practice in Atlanta/Georgia.

Submission

A nomination of a firm for this award can be made by the firm itself, or by any AIA Atlanta member, AIA staff member and/or any individual who worked directly with the candidate or who was impacted by the contributions of the candidate's efforts.

Compile all documents into a single PDF document in the order listed. The nomination should highlight the candidate's achievements and contributions and shall contain the following:

- A nomination letter, not to exceed one page.
- A statement on company letterhead, signed by the managing partner of the firm, that the firm is in compliance with [AIA's Statement on the Use of Unpaid Intern Labor](#).
- A brief biography of all firm principals and a history of the firm, not to exceed four pages.
- A list of the firm's achievements in the selected areas from the criteria list (above), with appropriate documentation provided – not to exceed ten (10) pages. This section should also include a description of any individuals at the firm serving (or served in the 10 year time window) in leadership roles at any level of AIA, NOMA, the Architecture Foundation of Georgia, or any other affiliated organization or professional association related to the AEC industry.

The firms of AIA members serving on the Honors Awards Jury are not eligible for nomination for the Silver Medal Award.