

AIA South Carolina Announces 2026 Design and Chapter Award Recipients

May 28, 2026

Columbia, SC – The American Institute of Architects, South Carolina Chapter (AIA SC) is pleased to announce the 2026 recipients of the AIA SC Design and Chapter Awards. This annual juried competition encourages and recognizes design excellence throughout South Carolina and promotes public awareness of the role architects play in shaping the quality of life in their communities.

This year's awards ceremony, held on Thursday April 30, 2026, at Cannon Green in Charleston, was attended by the AIA SC board of directors, chapter membership, colleagues, and honored guests.

2026 Jury Chair Heather McKinney, FAIA announced the 20 design awards. In addition, the AIA SC Board of Directors conferred three individual chapter awards. Also presenting awards were AIA SC Board Chair Jonathan Garvin, AIA SC Design Awards Director Kris Feldmann, and Executive Producer of American ByDesign Mike Chapman.

“Receiving an award from AIA SC is a prestigious acknowledgment by one’s peers. The achievement sets new standards to innovation and the overall pursuit of design excellence.”

- Jonathan Garvin, 2026 AIA SC Board Chair

Awarded projects were granted “Honor,” (highest) “Merit,” or “Citation,” and were selected based on design quality, response to its context and community, program resolution, innovation, thoughtfulness, and technique. Submitted projects were completed by AIA SC architects practicing in South Carolina or South Carolina projects designed by architects/designers based elsewhere.

Awarded and submitted projects will be featured in the upcoming 2026 SCA Design Issue (summer 2026), which will include project images, notes from the jurors, and a review of their discussion.

DESIGN AWARDS

Student Design

- Merit, Students: Matthew Ngango and Jared Cook
Clemson University, Richard A. McMahan School of Architecture
Project: Anderson Community High School
- Citation, Students: Lily Wolf and Shane McGoldrick
Clemson University, Richard A. McMahan School of Architecture
Project: Shell-tered

Unbuilt

- Merit, Firm: Hord Coplan Macht
Project: Athletic Locker Facility

Small Projects

- Merit, Firm: Fathom Firm
Client: Justin Liepman
Project: Jake Frame
- Citation
Firm: Teague Studio
Client: Lynn & David Proctor
Project: Lakeside Outdoor Living
- Citation, Firm: Craig Gaulden Davis | PBK (CGD | PBK)
Client: York County
Project: South Carolina Ebenezer Park

Interior Architecture

- Citation, Firm: DP3 Architects, Ltd.,
Client: Dunean Capital Management
Project: The Daniel

Adaptive Reuse or Historic Preservation

- Honor, Firm: Young + Wales Architects
Client: Edisto Island Open Land Trust
Project: Hutchinson House Reconstruction

- Merit, Firm: Studio 2LR
Client: Avant Holdings, LLC
Project: The Laundry
- Citation, Firm: McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture
Client: The Furman Company
Project: The Borden Building

Robert Mills Residential Award < Residential New Construction under \$1,000,000

- Merit, Firm: Frederick + Frederick Architects
Client: Steve & Beth Stansell
Project: Wild Marsh Cottage
- Citation, Firm: Fortress Architecture Studio
Client: Julie and Scott Keyes
Project: Firewatch House

Robert Mills Residential Award > Residential New Construction over \$1,000,000

- Citation, Firm: Architecture 224 LLC
Client: Jeff and Katherine Day
Project: Watersheds
- Citation, Firm: MHK Architecture
Client: Southern Living
Project: Sea Island Farm House

New Construction > New Construction/Substantial Renovation over 5,000SF

- Honor, Firm: Studio 2LR, in association with Shea Studio
Client: Laurens County Public Library
Project: Clinton Public Library
- Merit, Firm: McMillan Pazdan Smith
Client: Greenville Technical College
Project: Prisma Center for Health and Life Sciences
- Merit, Firm: Goodwyn Mills Cawood
Client: Richland School District Two
Project: South Carolina Pontiac Elementary
- Citation, Firm: McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture
Client: United Community Bank
Project: United Community Bank
- Citation, Firm: Hanbury
Client: Western Carolina University
Project: Western Carolina University Lower Campus Residence Halls

- Citation, Firm: Quackenbush Architects + Planners
Client: Central Carolina Technical College
Project: Academic & Student Services Building

CHAPTER AWARDS

- 25 Year Award
Jeffrey Rosenblum Architect
Project: Bankers Trust Branch Bank
- Firm Award
BOUDREAUX
- Social Justice Award
Metanoia SC
- Presidential Citation
Laura Middleton, AIA

2026 DESIGN AWARDS JURY

- Chair: Heather McKinney, FAIA, Founding Principal of McKinney York Architects
- Michael Hsu, FAIA, Founder and Principal of Michael Hsu Office of Architecture
- Wendy Dunnam Tita, FAIA, Principal, Chief Practice Officer at Page (now Stantec)
- Murray Legge, FAIA

SPONSORS

Special thanks to the 2026 award partners: Hill Construction (premiere sponsor), Terracon (celebration sponsor), PAC Clad/Petersen Aluminum (new construction award sponsor), Delta Millworks (residential award sponsor), Trident Construction (adaptive reuse/preservation sponsor), and First Community Bank.

[ACCESS AWARDS CELEBRATION AND CEREMONY PHOTOS HERE](#)

ABOUT AIA SOUTH CAROLINA

Established in 1913, the South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA SC) is a professional association dedicated to providing its 1000+ members with opportunities to expand knowledge through continuing education, advocate with one voice for public health, safety and welfare, and serve their communities as design professionals.

Through its leadership, committees, and programs, the chapter advocates for the profession and promotes civic engagement, continuing education, equity, environmental sustainability, resiliency, and inspired, thoughtful design.