



ASLA
OREGON

2026 DESIGN AWARDS

CALL FOR ENTRIES

FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AWARDS

SUBMISSION INFORMATION PACKET

www.aslaoregon.org





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SEEKING SUBMISSIONS

ASLA Oregon invites you to participate in the 2026 professional awards program. The Design Awards celebrates professional and student excellence by recognizing the firms, individuals, and agencies responsible for outstanding works of landscape architecture and environmental planning in Oregon and beyond.

ELIGIBILITY

The Awards Program is open to all ASLA members who reside or practice in Oregon. Non-members may also submit. Projects may be located anywhere in the world. Once a project receives an award, it is no longer eligible for entry into future Oregon ASLA Design Awards programs. Entrants are welcome to re-submit non-winning projects from previous years for consideration.

DEADLINE

The deadline for submission is **Thursday, August 13, 2026** at 5:00pm. Submissions must be uploaded by the deadline for consideration. Late entries will not be accepted.

WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR

Based on feedback we've heard from past years, we are changing things up a bit to celebrate and promote all submissions before and after the Design Awards Ceremony. Two new things to accomplish this include the following:

1) Web Presence: All submissions will be displayed on the Oregon ASLA webpage. The content will include project images along with the project statement provided in the submissions. The web presence will be activated a few weeks after the submittal date and remain for years to come as an online archive of all our wonderful work. After the awards have been announced, the winners will be identified and all submissions will remain on the website with firm names added to the submissions. The web presence will also help voters to better review projects for the People's Choice Awards.

2) Presentation Boards: *We are Bringing Back the Boards!!* Submitters are asked to prepare presentation boards to display at the awards ceremony for people to review in person and spark conversation. Presentation Boards are not mandatory but encouraged.

Thank you for your participation. ASLA Oregon
Chapter looks forward to seeing you at the
Design Awards Soirée!

PROCESS

All materials are submitted digitally, using the [Design Awards Submission Form](#).

Step 1: Review this Call for Entries to identify needed information. Select your category, prepare narratives and select images to address your category's criteria.

Step 2: Submit required and optional materials using the online submission form. Each image will be submitted individually and text will be entered directly into the form. A presentation board is encouraged but not required. See page 5 for more information.

Step 3: Pay your fees. Each submission requires a separate payment.

- ASLA Member: \$250.00 per project
- Non-ASLA Member: \$350.00 per project
- New this year: ASLA Oregon is offering needs-based scholarships for entry fees. Please email info@aslaoregon.org to apply for the scholarship.

Step 4: Jurying will happen over the summer. Oregon ASLA recruits a panel of jurors, who will be announced after the submittal deadline has passed. Jurors represent a variety of professional practice types and perspectives. Submissions will be blind-judged on the merits of the criteria outlined in the specific submission category. Jurors review and conduct an initial evaluation of all submissions on their own and then meet as a panel to discuss, deliberate, and determine awards. The Jury has the discretion to award as many awards as they deem worthy of recognition, and are not required to select a winner in each design award submission category.

Step 5: Award winners are announced at the Annual Soiree, held this year on **Friday, October 16, 2026 at Gray Gables Estate in Oak Grove** (just South of Portland). Look for ticket information in your Oregon ASLA Newswire this summer.

QUESTIONS? Contact info@aslaoregon.org

WHICH AWARD CATEGORY SHOULD I CHOOSE ?

- **General Design:** Site-specific works of landscape architecture. Entries in this category must have been built. Environmental restoration projects may be submitted under general design.
- **Urban Design:** Entries in this category should show an exploration of the form and character that demonstrates an elevated role of the Landscape Architect's role of shaping cityscapes. This project type includes design of streetscapes, transportation, waterfronts and other projects in the public, private or institutional realm. Entries in this category should have one phase of implementation built. Unbuilt work should be considered in the Planning and Analysis category.
- **Residential Design – Multi-Family:** Entries in this category must have been built and can be mid-rise, high rise, mixed use, apartment complexes or housing developments.
- **Residential Design – Single-Family:** Entries in this category must have been built and be single family. Projects in this category can include Accessory Dwelling Units or guest houses.
- **Analysis & Planning/Research:** These categories encompass the wide variety of work that leads to, guides and evaluates landscapes and/or cityscapes, such as city or regional plans, cultural resource plans, campus master plans, design guidelines, or management plans.
- **Communications:** Entries may include print, video, audio products and can include public communications programs or projects.
- **Small Budget/Big Impact:** This category is intended for smaller budget projects, whether built work or planning. For built works, projects should have less than \$250,000 in construction costs. For planning or unbuilt projects, design fees should be less than \$50,000. If a project includes pro bono services for all or a portion of the work, please specify. All types of projects may be submitted.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

- **Green Ribbon for Climate Action and Biodiversity:** Now in its fourth year, the Green Ribbon for Climate Action and Biodiversity is a special award that entries in any category may receive. The Green Ribbon evaluates projects through the lens of climate & biodiversity solutions. The aim is to recognize projects that demonstrate an exceptional effort towards designing for a better future in the areas of climate mitigation, climate resiliency, biodiversity, environmental equity, or environmental advocacy.
- **People's Choice Award:** In 2024, Oregon ASLA moved to a digital format for the People's Choice Award. This allows attendees of the Design Awards and people who can't attend the event to vote. This year, we will use the presentation board submitted for voters to review.

A PRIMER ON CRAFTING A WINNING DESIGN AWARD SUBMISSION

We want everyone to be successful in communicating their design intent and details to the jury, so have compiled a list of working 'best practices' that can be helpful as you are developing your submission(s).

1. Be intentional about the category you choose to best represent the type of work, and be mindful of categories beyond General Design.
2. Review winners from previous years to understand the types of projects selected, imagery used, and overall themes.
3. Read the Criteria carefully as this is the guidance the Jury will use in evaluating projects.
4. Provide adequate written and visual context of the locations beyond the project boundary, to show connections to community, watersheds, and other important information the Jury will use in evaluating proposals.
5. Use the captions for images to explain relevance and connection to Criteria.
6. Revise and re-submit work previously entered, as the jury changes each year and the group looks at each entry through the unique perspective of the assembled jury members.
7. Reach out to ASLA Oregon for any questions related to the submittal, awards, and Jury process at: info@aslaoregon.org

REQUIRED SUBMISSION MATERIALS

With the exception of the Online Project Submission Form, materials listed below must not reveal the names of the entrant and/or landscape architects, firms, other designers, students, schools, or photographer. Materials listed below are required. Failure to submit any one of the materials as described will lead to disqualification of entry.

- ☐ Online Project Submission Form: Required submission information includes a short, specific presentation title (containing no abbreviations) that indicates the nature of the presentation. Other requirements in the form include contact information, names of award recipients, and a brief acceptance statement should the project be selected for an award.

Images: Each image will be uploaded as an individual .jpg file. You will be prompted to enter an image title and caption for each uploaded image. Image captions have a maximum character count of 150 characters, including spaces.

- ☐ Category Images: Include at least (1) site plan, (1) plant list (where applicable), plus five (5) but no more than eight (8) drawings and/or photographs for a total of ten (10) single images.
- ☐ Green Ribbon Image: One additional image and caption may be submitted to illustrate the climate and biodiversity aspects of the project.

NOTE: Drawings and photographs must be "8.5x11" format and landscape orientation. Name the .JPG file as follows: Project Title_Image_#.

Image Example: "2nd Avenue_Image_1.JPG"

Narratives: The Project Submission Form has a prompt with space to input each narrative component.

- ☐ Project Statement: In 750 characters or less (including spaces), describe the project and why it is award worthy. ASLA Oregon may use this statement in promotional materials if the project is selected for an award.
- ☐ Project Narrative: Provide text documenting how the project addresses the specific submission criteria, in 3,500 characters or less (including spaces).
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Address how the project meets the criteria in 2,500 characters or less (including spaces).

Fees

- ☐ Pay the Entry Fee (See Page 2).

OPTIONAL SUBMISSION MATERIALS

Materials listed below are optional for submittal.

- ☐ (Optional) Supplemental Material:
NOTE: Only applies to the following categories: Analysis & Planning/Research and Communications. Supplemental material must be anonymous. Redact any names, logos and photos that identify the submitter. One complete .PDF of end-product may be submitted. The file shall not exceed 40 MB. Name the .PDF file as follows: Project Title_Supplemental.

Example: "2nd Avenue_Supplemental.PDF"

- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Boards: Prepare a 24x36" presentation board in landscape format containing images, graphics, and a brief narrative. Bring your board along with an easel to the Design Awards to display in the lobby. Boards are optional, yet encouraged.

General Design

Recognizes built, site-specific works of landscape architecture.

Typical entries include public, institutional, or private landscapes of all kinds (except residential—see residential categories); historic preservation, reclamation, conservation; green roofs, green streets, stormwater management design, sustainable design; landscape art or installation; interior landscape design; and more.

Criteria:

The Jury will consider:

- Quality of design and execution
- Response to design context
- Environmental sensitivity and responsiveness
- Value to client, community and other designers

Specific Submission Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Provide materials to address the specific category criteria: project location, scope and size, site and context investigation, design program, design intent, materials and installation methods, environmental protection, impact, restoration, and concerns, collaboration with the client, stakeholders, and other designers, community process, and other significant issues.
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).

Urban Design

Recognizes multi-site or large scale projects in the urban realm that may be fully built or implemented in phases. At least one phase must be built.

Typical entries include constructed or partially constructed urban projects spatially greater than one block in the realm of public, institutional, or private landscapes; includes transit streets and stations, streetscapes; pedestrian and bicycle corridors; campuses, waterfronts, redevelopment areas and civic improvements.

Criteria:

The Jury will consider:

- Quality of planning, design and execution
- Response to planning and design context
- Environmental sensitivity and responsiveness
- Value to client, community and other designers

Specific Submission Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Provide materials to address the specific category criteria: project location, scope and size, site and context investigation, design program, design intent, materials and installation methods, environmental protection, impact, restoration, and concerns, collaboration with the client and other designers, and other significant issues.
- ☐ Biodiversity & Climate Action Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).

Residential Design - Multi-Family

Recognizes built, site-specific works of landscape architecture that have been designed for multi-family residences.

Typical entries include multi-family residential projects and associated shared spaces for entertaining, recreation, or relaxation; mixed use projects with a significant residential component; new construction or renovation projects; historic preservation or adaptive reuse; affordable housing and innovations; and more.

Criteria:

The Jury will consider:

- Quality of design and execution
- Response to design context
- Environmental sensitivity and responsiveness
- Value to client, community and other designers

Specific Submittal Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Provide materials to address the specific category criteria: project location, scope and size, site and context investigation, design program, design intent, materials and installation methods, environmental protection, impact, restoration, and concerns, collaboration with the client, stakeholders, and other designers, community process, and other significant issues.
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).

Residential Design - Single-Family

Recognizes built, site-specific works of landscape architecture that have been designed for single-family residences.

Typical entries include single-family residential projects that have been built. Projects in this category can include accessory dwelling units or guest houses added to a single family residence.

Criteria:

The Jury will consider:

- Quality of design and execution
- Response to design context
- Environmental sensitivity and responsiveness
- Value to client and other designers, general value as a precedent for advancing the field of landscape architecture

Specific Submission Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Provide materials to address the specific category criteria: project location, scope and size, site and context investigation, design program, design intent, materials and installation methods, environmental protection, impact, restoration, and concerns, collaboration with the client and other designers, and other significant issues.
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).

Analysis + Planning / Research

Recognizes a wide variety project types that lead to, guide, and evaluate landscape architecture design. Entries in this category are not required to be built or implemented.

Typical entries include Analysis & Planning projects include urban, suburban, rural, or regional planning efforts; development guidelines; transportation, town, or campus planning; plans for reclamation of brownfield sites; environmental planning in relation to legislative or policy initiatives or regulatory controls; cultural resource reports; natural resources protection; historic preservation planning; and research projects.

Criteria:

For analysis and planning submissions, the Jury will consider:

- Planning and design process
- Response to context
- How the effort incorporated environmental, climate, and equity considerations
- Clarity and design of final product
- Value to client, community, and general value as a precedent for advancing the field of landscape architecture

For research submissions, the Jury will consider:

- The research questions and process
- Potential applications to practice
- Clarity of presentation
- Appropriate research design and use of rigorous methods of inquiry

Specific Submission Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Describe the project's goals & objectives, including what kinds of environmental and social data were collected and analyzed, methods of analysis how options were considered, how interested parties were involved in the project, how design was used in the process, how the project was or would be implemented, & how project is or will be administered and/or monitored, applicability to landscape architecture practice, and/or other significant issues.
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).
- ☐ Supplemental Material: One complete PDF of the end product may be submitted for Jury reference, not to exceed 40 MB.

Communications

Recognizes achievements in communicating landscape architecture works, techniques, technologies, history, or theory, and the lesson value to an intended audience.

Typical entries include print media, film, video, audio, CD, or DVD formats; digital communications; public engagement, interpretive design; exhibition design; and more.

Criteria:

The Jury will consider:

- The effectiveness of message presentation
- Quality and execution of the communications products
- Innovation in approach or delivery
- Value to the intended audience

Specific Submission Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Provide materials to address the specific category criteria. Describe the intended purpose, audience, message(s), impact and effectiveness, distribution method (commercial bookstores, Internet, etc.), circulation/distribution (number), and other issues as appropriate.
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).
- ☐ Supplemental Material: One complete PDF of communications publication or end product may be submitted for Jury reference, not to exceed 40 MB.
- ☐ If applicable, one video or audio file may also be submitted for Jury reference. Name the video/audio file as follows:

"Project Title_Supplemental"

NOTE: Video/audio files can be accepted in a variety of formats: .mp4, .mov, .wmv, etc.

Small Budget/Big Impact

Recognizes projects of all types (built, unbuilt, planning) with modest budgets.

Typical entries include smaller budget projects, whether built work or planning. For built works, projects should have less than \$250,000 in construction costs. For planning or unbuilt projects, design fees should be less than \$50,000. If a project includes pro bono services for all or a portion of the work, please be specific about this. All types of projects may be submitted.

The Jury will consider:

- Creativity in responding to project scope/budget
- Response to context
- Environmental sensitivity and sustainability
- Quality of design

Specific Submission Requirements:

- ☐ Project Summary, Narrative and Images: Provide materials to address the specific category criteria. Describe the project's goals and objectives, how interested parties were involved in the project, how design was used in the process, how the project was or would be implemented, and how project is or will be administered and/or monitored, and other significant issues. Note that you may submit fewer than 10 images for this category.
- ☐ Climate Action & Biodiversity Narrative: Addressing the specific category criteria, describe how the project furthers the goals of the ASLA Climate Action and Biodiversity Plan. Refer to Page 7 for more information.
- ☐ (Optional) Presentation Board (as noted on Page 5).

GREEN RIBBON FOR CLIMATE ACTION AND BIODIVERSITY

Narrative Requirements

The Green Ribbon for Biodiversity and Climate Action is a special award designation category. Including this narrative provides additional information for the Jury and the ASLA Oregon Climate Action and Biodiversity Committee in evaluating projects through the lens of climate & biodiversity solutions. This award echoes the call to action issued by ASLA in the Climate Action Plan.

Climate projections for Oregon include more extreme temperatures and storms, resulting in more heat waves and deep freezes, periodic drought, damaging fire seasons, and water cycle changes causing localized flooding and sea level rise in coastal communities. Biodiversity impacts include loss of invertebrates, impacts to forests & fisheries, and stresses on ecosystems statewide from shifting climate patterns.

Green Ribbons will be awarded at the discretion of the ASLA Oregon Climate Action and Biodiversity Committee to recognize projects that demonstrate significant efforts towards shared biodiversity and climate goals, and serve as a worthy example for what the profession can achieve. Describe how considerations of following elements factored into planning and design decisions:

- Carbon Drawdown: how materials choices, planting choices, or other practices implemented on site contribute to carbon drawdown through sequestration and achieving zero embodied operational emissions.
- Climate Resiliency: design and planning to remain resilient in the face of future climate scenarios, fostering stewardship and mitigating impacts to public health, safety, and healthy growth.
- Ecosystem Services: employing strategies to restore the function of natural systems
- Community Empowerment: addressing climate injustices, creation of green jobs and increasing equitable distribution of climate investments for all people.
- Biodiversity: how project elements provide habitat and contribute to a net gain in biodiversity.