



Young Talent Architecture Award 2016



Awarding the Best Graduation Projects

RULES

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YTAA Concept

What is it about?

The Young Talent Architecture Award (YTAA) aims to support the talent of recently graduated Architects, Urban Planners and Landscape Architects who will be responsible for transforming our environment in the future. YTAA has emerged from curiosity about and interest in the initial stages in these students' development and a desire to support their talent as they enter into the professional world.

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Schools of architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture (“Schools”) in Europe and other parts of the world provide future professionals with the ability to improve our social, technological and political environment through architecture. In recent years, they have encouraged student and information exchanges under programmes such as Erasmus and Erasmus Mundus. The European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award (the EUMiesAward) also promotes high quality work amongst emerging and established architects through the acknowledgement of the value of good buildings.

YTAA is based on **Graduation Projects** and strives to draw the academic and professional realms closer together. Most of these projects will not be built, but they nevertheless require all the skills that the students have learned during their training: arts, history, aesthetics, technology, sciences, etc. The YTAA is therefore based on results in these disciplines.

YTAA **promotes debates** between students and professors from each participating School to choose those projects that will represent it. The presence of a **YTAA Representative** at each School will be essential in order to summarise this internal debate by nominating the projects that will participate in the award.

The selection process of the **Advisory Committee** members¹ and the decisive debate and decisions of the Jury will reflect the complexity of the next steps: **YTAA Nominees-Shortlist-Finalists-Winners**.

The competition inherent in any prize of this nature and the involvement of professors in the training of future professionals are core aspects that will ensure the success of the YTAA and the selection of three excellent Winners for each edition of the Award. YTAA benefits from the participation of the Architects’ Council of Europe (ACE) along with the universities and the invaluable involvement of the Advisory Committee of the EUMiesAward.

The YTAA seeks to encourage cross-pollination of the output from different Schools and to improve these architects’ skills from the start of their professional careers. It supports entrepreneurial projects by young architects when they enter the professional world, an essential part of the projection of their profiles at this early stage. These first steps of young professionals will allow a two-way understanding of this turning point in the lives of these young professionals.

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1. The Advisory Committee is composed of the most prestigious European cultural entities in the field of architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture, which work closely with the Fundació Mies van der Rohe in the award process.

The Advisory Committee Members are: Architekturzentrum Wien, Vienna; Arkitekturmuseet, Stockholm; The Berlage, Delft; Dansk Arkitektur Center, Copenhagen; DESSA, Ljubljana; Deutsches Architekturmuseum, Frankfurt; CIVA, Brussels; Eesti Arhitektuurimuseum, Tallinn; Fundació Mies van der Rohe, Barcelona; Hungarian Contemporary Architecture Centre, Budapest; Institut français d’architecture, Paris; Museum of Architecture, Wrocław; Museum of Architecture and Design, Ljubljana; Nasjonalmuseet for Kunst, Arkitektur og Design, Oslo; RIBA Trust, London; Suomen Rakennustaitteen Museo, Helsinki; Triennale di Milano, Milan.

YTAA Process

Who & How?

In this first edition the nominated Graduation Projects must be from the 2015-2016 **academic year** and the Schools (architecture, urban planning and landscape architecture) must be from **Europe**. In later editions the territorial span may grow and the participation of other institutions will be encouraged.

Schools will nominate Graduation Projects that will participate in each edition of the YTAA through an internal selection process.

Three Winners will be chosen by an international Jury from among nine Finalists, and a group of Shortlisted Works will also be selected in order to illustrate different ways of working, designing and communicating.

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In order to participate, Schools must offer a professional architecture diploma. Architecture includes architecture design, urban design and landscape architecture. Each School will select candidates for the YTAA through an internal debate, which should take into account:

1. The enthusiasm of the student
2. The professorship board
3. The students' board
4. The cultural and communication departments

Nominations for works to be considered for the YTAA will be put forward by the Representative of each School eligible to participate in the YTAA. The number of designs that each School can nominate will be in accordance with the total number of students of the School:²

- Under 1.000 students: 1 design per academic year (2 for each YTAA edition);
- Between 1.000-2.000 students: 2 designs per academic year (4 for each YTAA edition);
- Between 2.000-3.000 students: 3 designs per academic year (6 for each YTAA edition);
- More than 3.000 students: 4 designs per academic year (8 for each YTAA edition).

The works proposed for the Award are not limited by scale or programme and the Jury selection for each biennial edition will represent an extensive overview of quality architectural design with the common denominator being the contribution that these designs make to the built environment. Nominees will therefore be considered after taking their affinities into account.

This broad variety and complexity of projects will be reflected in the YTAA process and list of specifications:

1. The YTAA will be granted to the author(s) of architectural designs made by architecture students of any nationality as their professional Graduation Projects. A maximum of one out of the three Winners will be from a country not participating in the Creative Europe programme.³

2. The YTAA is open to all the designs completed in European Schools within the two-year academic period before the granting ceremony of the YTAA. Every academic year, the designs will be collected by the Fundació Mies van der Rohe and every two years the winning designs will be chosen by the Jury.

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2. The number of students per School relates to the total number of students enrolled/registered in the academic year of the YTAA, including Bachelor and Master studies.

3. Creative Europe is the European Union programme for the cultural and creative sectors, set to last until 2020. Participating countries include:

- Member states of the European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
- EEA countries: Iceland and Norway.
- EU candidate and potential candidate countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.

The first prize-giving ceremony will be held in 2016 and, as the sole exception, it will only collect the Graduation Projects of the 2015-2016 academic year.

3. The YTAA will be awarded every two years based on the decisions of a Jury composed of acknowledged specialists representing diverse Schools and trends in the fields of architecture and architectural criticism.

4. After taking into account the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fundació Mies van der Rohe will appoint the Jury of five members. The Jury will hold one meeting which will be the decisive one.

5. Following the pertinent analysis of information submitted for each of the proposed designs and the subsequent debate, the Advisory Committee will draw up a Shortlist for the Jury to consider.

6. At the Jury meeting, following the pertinent analysis of information submitted for each of the proposed designs and the subsequent debate, the Jury will draw up a list of a maximum of nine finalist designs, three of which will be awarded the YTAA.

7. The works to be awarded the YTAA will be selected by Jury agreement or, if not possible, by absolute majority vote of the Jury members.

8. The Director of the Fundació Mies van der Rohe will carry out the functions of Secretary of the Jury, but without the right to vote.

9. The YTAA may not be declared vacant. There will be three, indivisible awards for each edition. Acceptance by the authors of the Award entails prior acceptance of the Rules.

10. The YTAA will be awarded in a dynamic Granting Ceremony at a specific venue that will be chosen for each edition.

11. For the purpose of selecting Nominees, the following procedure will be followed:

11.1. The Fundació Mies van der Rohe will disseminate the YTAA Rules and will contact the Schools that can participate according to point 2.

11.2. Each School will complete the online "School Registration Form".

11.3. The YTAA Representative of each School will be responsible for nominating the designs for each edition of the YTAA through the online "School Nominees Registration Form".

11.4. The Nominees will be asked to complete the online "Submission of Documentation" document, consisting of basic information and credits for the design and written and graphic documents.

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The authors of the Shortlisted designs will be asked to send higher resolution materials. The exact specifications will be outlined in detail in the "Guidelines for Submission of Collection Documentation", which will be sent to the authors along with the official letter from the Fundació Mies van der Rohe advising them of the shortlisting of their designs.

12. To ensure compliance with the general objectives of the Award, the Jury, subject to consultation and agreement of the holding institutions, may amend these Rules if and when a situation, unforeseen in the aforementioned Articles, deems it necessary.

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YTAA Award

Why participate?

All nominated designs will be published online and will become part of the Archive of the YTAA as recognition of their authors and the Schools. The three Winners will be supported in the **creation of a network** with the architects and critics involved in the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award (the EUMiesAward). They will also receive 5.000€ each, a profile in World Architects, a Vectorworks license, their designs will be exhibited at the EUMiesAward and they will receive a diploma. Finalists and Shortlisted participants will also be awarded and acknowledged and the Schools will receive special recognition.

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YTAA will connect the best recently graduated architects with the most active and enthusiastic professionals who are building and creating debate in Europe. Following the participative nature of the YTAA, all those involved will be acknowledged:

YTAA Participant Schools

YTAA stimulates debates and links between Schools and architecture institutions, strengthening their prestige and identification across the European territory. YTAA will give special recognition to the Schools of the three Winning projects.

YTAA Nominees

All designs will be published online and will become part of the Archive of the YTAA as recognition to their authors.

YTAA Shortlist

The Shortlisted designs will:

- receive a profile in World Architects
- be referenced at the EUMiesAward exhibition
- receive a diploma

Nine YTAA Finalists

The Finalist designs will:

- receive a profile in World Architects
- take part in the EUMiesAward exhibition
- receive a Vectorworks license
- receive a diploma

Three YTAA Winners

The Winning designs will:

- be supported in the creation of a network with the architects and critics involved in the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award. To support it they will receive 5.000€ each, and
- receive a profile in World Architects
- take part in the EUMiesAward exhibition
- receive a Vectorworks license
- receive a diploma

Each Winner will define a **YTAA Plan of Action**, which they will present on reception of the Award, along with a **YTAA Final Report** outlining their experience at the end of the year-long experience.

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School

Faculty, institution, or department specializing in architecture, urban planning or landscape architecture.

Graduation Projects

Designs developed by students at Schools that enable them to become Architects, Urban Planners and/or Landscape Architects. Graduation Projects for the YTAA cannot be written essays.

YTAA Representative

Each participating School should propose a person in charge of coordinating the process at the School and coordinate the results with the YTAA team.

Advisory Committee

YTAA functions in association with the Advisory Committee of the European Union Prize for Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award. It advises the YTAA team offering innovative views and dynamic perspectives and is directly involved in the award process by drawing up the Shortlist and participating in the Jury.

YTAA Nominee

A candidate for election for the YTAA chosen by each School. The number of Nominees for each School and academic year is described in the "YTAA Process Who and How?" chapter of the Rules.

YTAA Shortlist

Selection of nominated Graduation Projects drawn up by the Advisory Committee. Approximately 10% of the Nominated designs will make up the Shortlist.

YTAA Finalists

Selected candidates from the Shortlist by the Jury, which potentially qualify as Winners.

The number of Finalists for each edition of the YTAA is nine.

YTAA Winners

The Graduation Projects chosen by the Jury to win each edition of the YTAA. The number of Winners for each edition of the YTAA is three.

Academic year

The period of the year during which students attend School, usually reckoned from the beginning of the autumn term to the end of the summer term.

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Europe

The continent that comprises the westernmost part of Eurasia. YTAA recognises as European all those Schools in cities within this geographic territory or those cities in territories that are not integral parts of Europe or have special political status.

YTAA Plan of Action

The written document that will contain the sequence of steps that the three winners will follow, including activities to perform and strategies to follow. It will be presented to the Fundació Mies van der Rohe one month after receiving the Award and should reflect how they will use the tools that they will be provided with. The document will have a maximum length of 4,500 characters with spaces.

YTAA Final Report

The written document that will contain all the necessary information to recreate all the steps taken by each of the three Winners in the year-long professional experience after receiving the award. The report will have a maximum length of 4,500 characters with spaces and will contain the following sections: Abstract, Implementation of the Plan of Action and Results and Discussion.

YTAA Team

The award organising team at the Fundació Mies van der Rohe in Barcelona led by the YTAA Coordinator.

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