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International Design Challenge

FACADES OF LIFE |

Innovative Designs for Living Architecture 2024

First Edition

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Facades of Life: Innovative Designs for Living Architecture

Introduction

In an era where urban environments are increasingly disconnected from nature, the "Facades of Life" competition invites architects and designers to explore the concept of Living Architecture through innovative commercial building facades. This challenge seeks to redefine how façades can enhance urban landscapes while promoting sustainability, functionality, and community engagement. Participants are encouraged to create designs that seamlessly integrate natural elements into commercial architecture, transforming façades into living, breathing components of the built environment.

Objective

The primary objective of this competition is to challenge participants to design a commercial building facade that embodies the principles of Living Architecture. This includes:

- **Integration of Nature:** Creating facades that incorporate living systems such as vegetation, water features, and natural materials.
- **Sustainability:** Utilizing eco-friendly materials and technologies that minimize environmental impact and promote energy efficiency.
- **Aesthetic Appeal:** Designing visually striking facades that engage and inspire the public while harmonizing with the urban context.
- **Functionality:** Ensuring that the facade serves practical purposes, such as climate control, noise reduction, and enhancing the overall user experience.

Project Proposal Requirements

Submissions must include the following components:

- **Design Concept:** A clear and innovative design proposal that addresses the competition objectives.
- **Visual Representations:** High-quality renderings, sketches, and diagrams illustrating the facade design from various angles.
- **Technical Details:** Information on materials, construction methods, and any integrated technologies.
- **Sustainability Strategy:** A detailed plan outlining how the design promotes sustainability, including energy efficiency and ecological impact.
- **Contextual Analysis:** An assessment of how the design fits within the surrounding urban environment and cultural landscape.
- **Presentation Board:** A single board summarizing the design concept, visuals, and key points for clear communication.

Site

Participants are encouraged to select an urban site within their local context, focusing on:

- **Accessibility:** Ensuring the building is easily accessible via public transport and pedestrian pathways.
- **Contextual Relevance:** Considering the surrounding architectural styles and cultural elements to create a cohesive design.
- **Environmental Considerations:** Assessing the site's climate, sunlight exposure, and wind patterns to inform design decisions.

Sustainability

- Sustainability is a core principle of this challenge. Participants should:
- Incorporate biophilic design elements to enhance the connection between occupants and nature.
- Utilize renewable materials and energy-efficient systems (e.g., solar panels, rainwater harvesting).
- Consider green certifications (e.g., LEED, BREEAM) in their designs, promoting long-term environmental stewardship.

Timeline

- Registration Deadline: 16th January 2026
- Submission Deadline: 26th January 2026
- Winners Announcement: 26th April 2026

Submission Requirements

File Format:

- All entries must be submitted as a single PDF document.

Sheets:

- Minimum of 3 sheets, maximum of 6 sheets.
- Each sheet should include designs, drawings, and views that effectively communicate the project concept.

Text Explanation:

- Each sheet must contain explanatory text that describes and supports your design decisions.
- Text should be clear and concise, highlighting the main ideas and features of the project.

Content to Include (per sheet):

- Design Concepts: Conceptual drawings, diagrams, and sketches.
- Plans, Elevations, and Sections: Architectural plans, cross-sections, and elevations.
- Views and Renderings: 3D views, perspectives, or rendered images of the project.
- Diagrams: Illustrations explaining circulation, spatial relationships, environmental or structural concepts.

Resolution and Quality:

- All sheets should be high-quality, legible, and visually clear.

File Size:

- The total file size should not exceed 20 MB.

Naming Convention:

- The file should be named as: CompetitionName_ParticipationCode.pdf

Anonymity:

- No names, logos, or identifying marks should appear on any of the submitted sheets to ensure anonymity during judging.

Submission Guidelines

Sign in to Your Account:

- Visit the Archiol website and sign in to your account.

Access Your Competition Submissions:

- In the header, click on the arrow beside your profile picture. Select the option labeled "My Competition Submissions."

Submit Your Entry:

- Click on the "Submit My Entry" button.

Select Competition:

- Choose the competition name for which you wish to submit your entry.

Enter Participation Code:

- Input the participation code that was generated during your registration.

Title Your Submission:

- Provide a title for your submission.

Upload Title Image:

- Upload the image that will represent your project.

Upload Design PDF:

- Submit your project in PDF format (ensure it meets the competition's requirements).

Consent:

- Check the box to agree to the competition terms and conditions.

Submit:

- After filling in all required fields, click "Submit."

Confirmation:

- Your submission will appear in "My Competition Submissions" within 24 hours.

Eligibility

The competition is open to all architects, designers, students, and creative individuals globally. There are no restrictions on age or nationality.

Contact Details

For any inquiries or further information, please contact us at:

- Email: info@archiolcompetitions.com
- Website: www.archiolcompetitions.com