



LDI National Landscape
Design Awards

Entrant Booklet



Welcome

The Landscape Design Institute’s (LDI) *National Landscape Design Awards*, a prestigious platform for innovation, creativity and professional excellence in landscape design, is now open for entries. It offers a unique opportunity to celebrate and showcase your talent and achievements nationally. It demonstrates the vital contribution that landscape designers make in creating better places to live.

**The deadline for entries is at 5pm
Thursday 26 June 2025**

The general terms and conditions of entry are in this booklet. Please read them carefully before submitting your entry and check the relevant entry requirements.

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About The Awards

The Landscape Design Institute's (LDI) National Landscape Design Awards celebrate and showcase outstanding projects by LDI designers from across Australia.

Members are invited to enter a broad range of categories, from balcony gardens to expansive rural landscapes, and from residential to commercial projects. These categories are designed to reflect the depth of expertise within our membership and the diverse needs of their clients.

As the only national competition dedicated exclusively to landscape designers in Australia, the Awards offer a prestigious platform to recognise and promote innovation, creativity, and excellence in landscape design.

Entries are assessed according to a predetermined judging criteria not in relation to, or against another entry. This means awards will be presented to all entries that achieve the judge's required score, thereby honouring all exceptional work and professional achievement in the field.

- Entering an award is good for your business. It helps sharpen your design and business processes.
- Winning an award is good for business – it raises your profile, wins work – show potential clients your project in magazines.
- People want to be part of something good, so let them know – your clients, your staff, contractors, your family and you!



Eligibility for Entry

Are you eligible to enter?

- To enter the 2025 awards, you must be a current financial member of LDI in either the Student, Member, Professional or Registered member category.
- You must be the principal designer of the project/s you enter. Note that if the design is a joint project by two or more LDI members, you may enter it as a joint project.
- Members who have graduated in the last 4 years are eligible to enter the Emerging Designers category.
- Student members who are currently enrolled at a recognised landscape design course, or similar, can only enter the Student Design category.
- All members can enter community contribution (pro bono) projects.
- Affiliate members are not eligible to enter the awards.

Submitting An Entry

☐ Entry Form:

All entries are to be submitted on the entry form located in the members' area of LDI's website

 <https://www.ldi.org.au/design-awards-aildm/ldi-landscape-design-awards>

☐ Client Permission Form:

Upload the Client Permission form separately as a PDF via email to hello@ldi.com.au.

☐ Payment:

Entry fees are payable when you submit your entry form(s). You will be prompted to pay at the end of the entry form process.

Entry Requirements

IMPORTANT!

Ensure that all your documentation adheres to the following criteria:

- Your name or the name of your business must not appear on any documents submitted. The only identification to be used is your LDI member number. The only exception to this is the client permission form on which your name is stated.
- Include a title for your entry eg. 'St Kilda Project'. This title is to be used on all documents and images relevant to that project.
- If a word count guideline (or max) is stated for documentation, a word count is to be included on the document.

The following essential entry requirements help the judges to understand the site and the design. As judging will be made solely based on submitted material, clarity and detail are important.

All entries must be accompanied with the following information and documents:

1. Client brief and design intent, including the budget given by the client if known.
2. Project analysis and/or site assessment
3. Scope of works
4. Plans and drawings
5. Photographs
6. Client permission

Provide all documentation in PDF format and photos as JPEGs. These are to be uploaded as instructed on the entry form.

1. Client Brief & Design Intent

Maximum of 500 words.

A clear written statement setting out your client's brief, budget given by your client and your design intent.

2. Project Constraints & Opportunities

Approx. 200 words

An explanation of the constraints and opportunities of the site including soil, topography, natural vegetation and climate.

3. Scope of Works

Maximum of 500 words

Information is to include existing features and companies involved in the design process as well as construction, site location, date of design and installation.



Entry Requirements continued...

4. Photographs

A maximum of 14 photos can be submitted based on the following:

- Up to 4 low resolution images can be provided of the site *before* construction
- Up to 10 high resolution images of the *completed* project can be submitted.

Ensure the following criteria is met:

- A range of photographs to fully cover the elements which are included in the entry.
- Use the project title & image number as filenames when uploading all images eg. BONDI_01.jpeg or WILSON_07.jpeg
- Where a designer enters multiple project entries, suffix the project title with -1, -2, etc... e.g. BONDI-2_05.jpeg
- Images must be supplied in JPEG format at 300 dpi, and to be 3,500 (min) pixels wide and 5,000 (max) pixels wide.
- Images should be a minimum of 1MB, and a maximum of 10MB in size.
- Captions for each image must be provided in a separate sheet and must adhere to copyright and moral right laws.
- Please make sure your photographs do not identify the applicant, including through truck or clothing signage.
- If your photographs have been taken by a photographer other than the entrant, please label them accordingly so we can acknowledge them correctly.

5. Plans & Drawings

Plans and drawings are to clearly illustrate the design. All plans must be to scale, and the scale must be shown.

Please note – these are landscape design awards, not landscape construction awards, so there is no need to submit any working drawings. You can submit documents to show how the design will work or to show how constraints have been met.

We require:

- Landscape plan including specified materials
- Planting plan & plant schedule
- Materials Schedule
- Section/elevations or 3D image

6. Permission & Acknowledgement

All entrants must obtain their client's permission to submit the project for the Awards, including consent to use project images on LDI platforms and in related publications. *Note: No address details will be shared publicly in any promotional material.*

Entrants are also required to provide the names—and, if available, social media links—of any businesses or individuals who made a significant contribution to the construction of the design, as well as the photographer responsible for the submitted images.

Please note: These contributors will be acknowledged in media promotions but will not be named on the award itself

Entry Fees

The fees for the **main categories** are as follows:

- \$300 per entry for the 1st and 2nd entries
- \$250 per entry for 3rd and 4th entries
- \$200 per entry for 5th and subsequent entries

For example, if you are submitting 5 projects, the calculation would be as follows:

2 x \$300 for 1st and 2nd project = \$600

2 x \$250 for 3rd and 4th project = \$500

1 x \$200 for 5th project = \$200

Total to be paid = \$1,300

The entry fee for the **Emerging Designers** are:

- \$200 per entry
- \$150 for 2nd entry
- \$100 for 3rd and all subsequent entries

Entry fees of payable when you submit your entry form(s). You may pay for each entry as you go, or you may pay for multiple entries at once. You will automatically be prompted to pay at the end of the entry form process.



Awards 2025

Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards will be presented for each category for designs that achieve the required scores by the judging panel. These awards are listed on the following page.

It is important to note that gold, silver and bronze may be presented to multiple entries in each category, based on the individual merit of each design. Entries are not judged in comparison to one another, but rather, assessed independently against a defined scoring criteria set by the judging panel. Awards will only be given where the required standard is met; it is possible that no awards are presented in a particular level.

Note that the major awards will only be awarded if there are sufficient entries for the individual categories.

Refer to page 12 for information on the Allan Correy award.



Awards Categories 2025

	Award Categories	Description
	CATEGORY AWARDS:	
1	RESIDENTIAL – Courtyard, rooftop & balcony	
2	RESIDENTIAL – Small garden	Residential garden areas 35m ² – 100m ² (Note: size refers to the garden not the size of property/lot)
3	RESIDENTIAL – Mid-size or large garden	Residential garden areas over 100m ²
4	RESIDENTIAL – Rural or regional garden	For a garden area over 1,000m ² – a property located in a regional or rural area, not adjacent to a built-up area, separated from its neighbours by acreage
5	PLANTSCAPE – Courtyards, rooftop & balcony	A project with plants as an integral and prominent basis of the design
6.	PLANTSCAPE – Residential	
7	PLANTSCAPE – Commercial	
8	COMMERCIAL	A commercial landscape design for any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public space design & Government projects • Playspace & educational facilities • Retail & office space • Industrial properties
9	EMERGING DESIGNER	Refer page 4 for eligibility
10	COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION	Designs for community involvement, diverse needs or pro bono work
11	DESIGN DOCUMENTATION	Excellence in project documentation and drafting work
	MAJOR AWARDS: These are selected by the judges from the above category award winners	
12	EMERGING LANDSCAPE DESIGNER OF THE YEAR	
13	LANDSCAPE DESIGNER OF THE YEAR – RESIDENTIAL	
14	LANDSCAPE DESIGNER OF THE YEAR – COMMERCIAL	
15	LANDSCAPE DESIGNER OF THE YEAR – PLANTSCAPE	
16	ALLAN CORREY AWARD	Refer page 12

Judging

Entries are judged based on the following:

- ❖ Site analysis and response to client brief
- ❖ Quality of documentation, instructions & communication
- ❖ Creativity and innovation in design, including selection of plants and materials
- ❖ Sustainability looking at items such as water conservation, selection of materials & soil health

The Awards Committee has appointed a diverse judging panel with extensive experience and expertise across all areas of the landscape industry. To ensure impartiality, judges are not permitted to be in the current LDI Awards competition. To ensure equitable evaluation and judging of projects, a consistent set of judging criteria has been developed. Judges understand that a project may not encompass all aspects of criteria.

Please note the following:

- ❖ If a project is entered into more than one category, it may be assessed by different judges.
- ❖ A minimum number of entries is required for each category to proceed to judging. If this threshold is not met, categories may be combined.
- ❖ An award may not be given in every category. In such cases, the Awards Committee will notify the entrant(s) prior to the awards night.
- ❖ Projects that have previously received an AILDM or LDI award are not eligible for re-entry. Submissions for the same client or location must demonstrate significant differences from prior entries and must not include any elements previously judged.



Judging continued . . .

Jurors

Adjudication will be undertaken by jurors appointed by LDI. For each category of entry, a jury will be convened comprising both members of non-members of LDI. LDI will assist the jurors where required.

The jurors will review and select entries for the awards from each of the award categories, where appropriate. Should the judging panels feel that none of the work meets the required standard then no award must be given.

One piece of work from the award-winning entries will select for the presentation of the Major Awards.

All decisions are final

The decision of the judging panels are final, and no correspondence will be entered into before or after the event. The results of the LDI National Landscape Design Awards will be announced and the presentation made at the Awards Ceremony 2025.

Copies of entry materials

LDI strongly recommends that you make an electronic copy of all materials submitted as part of your entry. Submitted material will be retained by LDI and successful entries will be kept in the library for future reference.

Promotional and public use of your images

Any images you submit may be used in publicity for the Awards and other LDI publications and promotional materials. As a result, the provenance must be stated, and the images must be publishable and publishable (give source).

Confidentiality

All material entered will be treated by the Awards Committee and judges as confidential.



Judging of the Allan Correy Award

The Landscape Design Institute (LDI) was honoured to have Allan Correy as its Patron until he stepped down in 2012 due to ill health. Sadly, Allan passed away in May 2016. In his memory, the Allan Correy Award is presented to the entrant whose work most strongly reflects the values he championed throughout his career.

Judging Guidelines:

All entries are eligible for consideration for the Allan Correy Award, which is judged independently of the main awards. The LDI Board recommends whether this award may be presented to the member whose submission best embodies the following values, drawn from Allan Correy's legacy:

- Does the design soothe the human spirit?
- Does it celebrate nature and foster a connection with the landscape?
- Does the project sit gently on the land, demonstrating sensitivity to place?
- Is there something distinctive, special, or unique about the work?
- Has the site been evaluated with environmental responsibility, considering potential impacts?
- Is the design compatible with both the built and natural environments?
- Does the project address the long-term sustainability of the site? Does it consider longevity and enduring value, rather than temporary appeal?
- Does it provide for natural habitat and promote ecological health?
- Is water retention thoughtfully integrated into the site strategy?
- Does the design function well in practice?
- Does the project demonstrate innovation and introduce fresh ideas to the field of landscape design?

The Allan Correy Award will only be presented if a submission is deemed by the LDI Board to meet these specific criteria.



Entry Checklist

- ☐ Have you included the following for each submission in PDF format?
 - Client Brief
 - Design Intent
 - Constraints & Opportunities
 - Scope of Works
 - Landscape Plan & Materials/Finishes Schedule
 - Planting Plan & Plant Schedule
- ☐ Have you removed all references to you and your company from all submitted documents and images?
- ☐ Have you included photographs that show the elements of your design?
- ☐ Have you emailed the Client Permission form(s) to LDI's Administration Officer?



If you have any questions about the award entry procedure please contact our Administrator, Courtney Roebuck:

courtney@ldi.org.au

Ph. 0422 970 618

