

2025 AIA JAPAN DESIGN AWARD PROGRAM CALL FOR ENTRIES



(Above: MARUWA Seto Factory, 2023 Winner)

The AIA Japan Chapter invites **AIA members assigned to the Japan Chapter, as well as AIA members working on projects in Japan**, who are in good standing, including **Architect members, International Associate AIA (Int. Assoc. AIA) members, and AIA Honorary members**, to submit their projects for the 2025 AIA Japan Design Award Program. The 2025 AIA Japan Design Award Ceremony is scheduled for December 13, 2025.

MISSION:

The mission of the AIA Japan Design Awards Program is to encourage excellence in architectural design and planning, and to provide a platform through which architects can gain recognition from both their peers and the public. The goal is to elevate the standards of architectural design excellence for the benefit of the architectural community and society at large.

ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY FEE:

Entrants must be AIA members assigned to the Japan Chapter or AIA members with a project in Japan, in good standing, including Architect members, International Associate AIA (Int. Assoc. AIA) members, and AIA Honorary members. Membership must be valid and active as of November 15, 2025. **Entrants must also be able to claim authorship or significant authorship of the project being submitted.**

ENTRY FEE:

- Domestic Entry Fee: 10,000 JPY **per entry**.
- Overseas Entry Fee: 100 USD **per entry**, which includes international transaction and currency conversion charges.
- Multiple entries by the same individual are allowed.

JURORS:

Jurors will be announced on the website.

AWARD:**AIA Japan Award (優秀賞)、Honorable Mention (佳作賞)**

The jury will determine the number of awards in each category. They may also decide not to award any submitted projects in a category. Awards are based on quality, not competition, and there is no limit on the number of awards.

ENTRY CATEGORIES:

Entries must be submitted in one of the four categories. Built projects may be submitted in any category, while unbuilt projects are only eligible under the Urban Planning category. These categories help clarify the specific entry requirements. Submission of the same project in multiple categories is permitted where applicable.

Eligibility Note: Only AIA Architect members, International Associate AIA (Int. Assoc. AIA) members, and AIA Honorary members, in good standing may submit entries. Associate members (Int. Assoc. AIA) are not eligible to submit.

1. Architecture Small Project (single-family detached home or less than 500 m² gross floor area)

- Eligible entries may be either new construction or renovation/restoration. Projects must be built work completed between **January 1, 2020, and October 31, 2025.**
- For multiple-building projects, the submitting Architect (or portion thereof) must provide detailed evidence of authorship for the relevant portion.

2. Architecture Large Project (more than 500 m² gross floor area)

- Eligible entries may be either new construction or renovation/restoration. Projects must be built work completed between **January 1, 2020, and October 31, 2025.**
- For multiple-building projects, the submitting Architect (or portion thereof) must provide detailed evidence of authorship for the relevant portion.

3. Interior Architecture

- Eligible entries may be large or small in scope and may involve new construction, renovation, or preservation/restoration. Projects must be built work completed between **January 1, 2020, and October 31, 2025.**

4. Urban Planning

- Eligible entries may include urban design projects, planning projects, civic amenity improvements, campus plans, environmental programs, or redevelopment projects. Projects should not be individual buildings.
- Incomplete or ongoing projects may be recognized if a significant portion has been completed or implemented by a local authority since **January 1, 2015.**

5. Special Entry

- Includes one-year AIA membership with free entry; follows the same rules as the four categories above and **entrants must register with AIA Japan.**
- Entrants are required to complete a membership application and purchase one membership for the current year via the AIA website. If submitting multiple projects, only one accompanying membership application is required. NB: you will be required to produce evidence that you have applied for AIA membership as part of the submission review process.
- **Membership Application:** <https://www.aia.org/membership>

COMPLETE SUBMISSIONS:**1. Digital File Submission**

All entries must be submitted as a single web-based digital file, including the following materials:

- A. Images: A minimum of six and a maximum of 15 images, including photographs and graphic information such as floor plans, site plans, building sections, and diagrams. Images must be high-resolution (300 dpi or higher), at least A5 size, and in JPG format.
- B. Featured Images: Indicate two images that best represent the project. These images may be displayed at the Award Ceremony.
- C. Project Description: A text description (narrative and/or bullet points, without illustrations) of 50–300 words, in English only. Submissions must include both Word and PDF formats.
- D. Copyright Release: A PDF file containing release forms signed by all copyright holders of the submitted images and photographs. Refer to the “Publication” section for details.

2. File Naming

The submission file must be named using the architect’s last and first name, submission category, and year.

Example: ANNA_ANIKEEV_ARCHITECTURE_2025

3. Submission Checklist

Attach a completed list of submitted items with each project entry.

Important Notes:

- Ensure that no identifying information appears on submitted images or in the written description.
- Project descriptions must be written in English.
- **Violation of these rules may result in disqualification of the submission without prior notice.**

COPYRIGHT AND RELEASE RESPONSIBILITY:

- The entrant is responsible for securing all necessary copyrights for drawings, images, and photographs included in the submission for publicity purposes. This includes any applicable royalties, copyright fees, or photographer fees.
- Entrants must provide a signed release statement confirming that all copyright holders, such as authors of drawings or photographers, have authorized the use of their materials for publication.
- Drawings and photographs of winning entries may be used for unrestricted publicity by the AIA Japan Chapter and/or AIA. Entrants should indicate any required credit lines or copyright notices to be included on published materials.

SCHEDULE:**Step 1: Submission of Entry Form and Entry Fee**

Deadline: By 5:00 PM, Friday, October 31, 2025

- The Entry Form must be submitted by the deadline. The Entry Fee must also be remitted by this date.
- E-mailed Letter of Intent with proof of electronic remittance to the designated bank account is acceptable.
- Upon receipt of the completed Entry Form, each entrant will be e-mailed an acknowledgment, release form, and a list of required submission items.
- Entry fees are non-refundable once remitted to AIA Japan.

Submission E-mail:

AIA Japan Design Awards Program

aiaj.design.awards@gmail.com



a chapter of The American Institute of Architects

Entry Fee Remittance:

- **Bank:** Mizuho Bank, Ebisu Branch
- **Account Name:** AIA Japan
- **Account Type:** Regular savings (Futsu-Kouza)
- **Account Number:** 3009319

Note: Include your name and the word “award” in your remittance details.

Step 2: Submission of Complete Entry Materials

Deadline: By 5:00 PM, Friday, October 31, 2025

- Late submission of Entry Forms or Entry Fees is allowed but will incur an **additional fee of 10,000 JPY or 100 USD.**
- Complete submission materials must be received by the deadline without exception.
- Files should be sent via web-based file transfer to the e-mail address listed above.

Step 3: Award Ceremony

- Awards will be presented during the Year-End Event on **Saturday, December 13, 2025.**
- Award winners are required to present their project for 5–10 minutes at the ceremony.
- AIA Japan Chapter encourages all entrants to attend the AIA Japan Design Award Ceremony.

FOR INQUIRY:

- Please contact the Award Program Coordinator or a Committee Member for further information.
- **Email:** aiaj.design.awards@gmail.com

AIA JAPAN CHAPTER LOOKS FORWARD TO YOUR PARTICIPATION.