

Blue Award 2012



International
Student Competition
for Sustainable
Architecture



COMPETITION DOCUMENTATION (Terms of Eligibility)

BLUE AWARD 2012 | Vienna, May 31th, 2011



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COMPETITION DOCUMENTATION BLUE AWARD 2012

A General Information

A.1 Organizers

The “Blue Award 2012” competition is organized by the Vienna University of Technology, the Institute of Architecture and Design, the Department for Spatial and Sustainable Design, and the registered Society of Architecture and Spatial Design.

The prize is overseen by the UIA (International Union of Architects), represented by its Vice President Albert Dubler.

A.2 Purpose of Student Competition

The competition selectively recognizes and awards prizes to design projects (on paper or realized) that deal with the topic of sustainability in architecture, urbanism and regional planning.

A.3 Award Description

The Blue Award 2012 is making its second appearance as an anonymous, international, single-phase competition, and is intended for students of architecture, regional planning and urbanism.

A.4 Intention

The award’s main purpose is to establish and reinforce the topic of sustainability in architecture, urbanism and regional planning in universities worldwide.

The Blue Award shall recognize and award students and teachers dedicated in pursuing this topic in their studies.

The Blue Award intends to organize a collection of student design work, which addresses the issue of sustainability in architecture, urbanism and regional planning.

The Blue Award shall provide an impulse for improving teachings in the area of sustainability.

The Blue Award aims at creating an international network of architecture schools and faculties that have included the topic of sustainability in their teachings.

The Blue Award is supporting and intensifying the international exchange between different faculties and architecture schools that are developing innovative and promising proposals in the area of sustainability.





A.5 Eligibility

The competition is open to university students of Bachelor's and Master's Degree programs, as well as students working on a diploma thesis or dissertation, in the academic fields of architecture, urbanism or regional planning, with proof of enrolment in one of the following semesters: Summer Semester 2010, Winter Semester 2010/11, Summer Semester 2011 and Winter Semester 2011/12.

The submitted project must be part of a supervised coursework, having taken place during one of the above-mentioned semesters. Projects completed by a group of students may also be submitted. Every member of the group must fulfil the terms of eligibility, including proof of enrolment.

Professors and assistant professors are not eligible.

In the Identification Form (Identification Form, Download form online under www.blueaward.at) the professor or academic supervisor confirms the coursework by the participant and the supervision of the project.

A.6 Legal Basis

The competition documentation, including the answers to the questions submitted in writing (FAQ, www.blueaward.at), form the legal basis of the competition.

A.7 Prizes

Prizes totalling 20,000.- Euros will be awarded in three categories.

- Category 1) Urban Development and Transformation, Landscape Development
- Category 2) Ecological Building
- Category 3) Building in Existing Structures

The prize sum of 20,000.- Euros will be divided by the jury among the three categories of the competition. The jury may decide upon a number of honourable mentions.

In addition, independent of the categories, a special award will be handed out by the jury, chosen from among all entries.

A.8 Obligations of Organizers, Copyrights of Participants, Data Protection, Liability

A.8.1 Obligations of Organizers: Public Announcement of Prize Winners

For projects which have been awarded a prize or honorable mention, the organizers are obligated to present these projects in a dedicated publication and on the sponsor's Blue Award website (www.blueaward.at). The opening of an exhibition displaying the prize-winning projects will take place during the awards ceremony at the TU Vienna.





A.8.2 Copyrights of Participants

With the submission of the required competition documents, the participant (or participants, in the case of group entries) declares himself/herself to be eligible according to the competition terms and the sole author of the submitted work.

Intellectual property and copyrights of the project remain with its author.

The participants confirm that the submitted contributions (digital and analogue) are free from third parties' rights. The participants confirm further that in case there are existing third-party rights the agreement of use and publication has given to the participants.

Upon submission of the contributions the participants assign and transfer to the organizers at no charge, a non-exclusive right of use without any limitation as to duration and place. This includes the right to make available in public in printed or digital media, including on the Internet, to disseminate and to use for public relations for the blue Award, provided that the copyright and author (or authors in the case of group entries) is stated.

The author retains the right to publish his/her own project.

A.8.3 Data Protection

The organizers of the Blue Award declare that all personal data, which have to be submitted in the course of the registration and submission, are collected, stored and processed exclusively for the scope within the Blue Award. The submitted data will not be transferred to third parties. Only in the context of the Blue Award the names will be made public, e.g. on the Homepage of the organizers www.blueaward.at, in the catalog, ecc.

Upon submission of the application the participant(s) of the competition agree expressly with the data storage and the publication of the name within the scope of the Blue Award.

A.8.4 Liability

The sponsor of the price does not guarantee that the functions of the website will not be interrupted or that they are free from errors.

The sponsor of the price shall not be liable for the quality and functionality of the connection to the server nor is the sponsor liable for the loss of electricity or the breakdown of the server not within the sponsor's control.

The sponsor of the price shall in no case be liable for the loss or damage of the submitted contributions.

The participants shall be liable for the violation of the Terms and Conditions of the competition and indemnify and hold the sponsor harmless from and against any claims of third parties in this respect.

A.9 Jury, Preliminary Evaluation

Objectivity

The jury is committed to objectivity, its individual members not being bound by directives: the jury is entitled to decide independently, incontestably and definitively in all relevant questions and matters. The jury is obligated to carry out their work objectively and in accordance with the competition guidelines, and as such assumes a responsibility on behalf of the organizers and participants.





Obligation to Confidentiality

The consultation of the jury is not public. All jury members, preliminary evaluators, as well as any persons involved in administrating the competition are obligated to keep all information regarding the competition strictly undisclosed until the results of the jury are officially made public.

Exclusion from Evaluation

Submissions that do not fulfil the conditions of the competition are to be excluded from evaluation by the examiners or jury.

Decisions made by the jury are incontestably, the decisions shall be final and not appealable.

The right to exercise legal recourse is excluded.

Jury Members

Honorary President of the Jury, Architect:	Sir Michael Hopkins
Member of the UIA, represented by its Vice President:	Arch. Albert Dubler
Journalist of architecture and specialist for sustainability:	Arch. Dominique Gauzin-Müller
Professor of Regional Planning, TU Vienna:	Prof. Rudolf Scheuvs
Urban Planner and Director of Pavillon de l' Arsenal Paris:	Arch. Dominique Alba
Architect and Director UIA work program ARES:	Arch. Nikos Fintikakis
Prsider and Moderator of Jury (not entitled to vote):	Dr. Robert Korab

No person from the organizational staff is to participate in the jury.

The preliminary evaluation is to be carried out by an assigned team of examiners.

A.10 Competition Schedule and Location

The competition documentation will be announced on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 on the homepage www.blueaward.at.

Registration begins on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 and ends on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, 23.59 UTC.

All questions are to be submitted per email in writing at the latest by Thursday, December 1st, 2011, and addressed to office@blueaward.at. The questions along with their answers will be published on the www.blueaward.at (FAQ) website no later than Monday, December 12th, 2011.

Projects will be accepted within the time beginning from Saturday, October 1, 2011 until exactly Wednesday, February 1, 2012, 23.59 UTC.

Postal stamps or receipts will not be considered. Participants are responsible in ensuring that projects sent per carrier arrive by the deadline of Wednesday, February 1, 2012. This also applies to projects submitted in person.

Projects submitted in person can be dropped off at the Administrative Office, Department of Spatial and Sustainable Design, TU Vienna: A-1040 Vienna, Karlsplatz 13/253/3, Stiege 3, 4.0G.

Postal address:

Vienna University of Technology, Department for Spatial and Sustainable Design
"BLUE AWARD 2012"
Karlsplatz 13/253/3
1040 Vienna / Austria

The awards ceremony will take place at the TU Vienna on April 26, 2012.





A.11 Registration

Registration for the Blue Award 2012 has to be done online under www.blueaward.at (*Registration*). Participants can access online registration forms (*Registration*) and competition documentation for the Blue Award 2012 on the website www.blueaward.at, beginning with May 31, 2011. Registration ends on Wednesday, February 1, 2012.

A.12 Submissions

Competition documentation and forms (*Identification Form*, *Project Description*) are available on the website www.blueaward.at. The time period for submitting projects begins on Saturday, October 1, 2011 and ends on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, 23.59 UTC.

With the submission the entrant is declaring that he/she acknowledges and accepts the rules and guidelines of the competition (competition documentation). A claim for reimbursement of costs does not exist.

A.13 Identification Form (Download *Identification Form* under www.blueaward.at)

Entries must include the *Identification Form* in a separate and sealed envelope.

The identification form is to include the following information:

- an alphanumeric identification code consisting of two letters and four numbers, the letters designating the type of entry (BA – bachelor's degree, MA – master's degree, DS – diploma study, DT – diploma thesis, DI – dissertation); the alphanumeric identification code will be automatically regenerated after the online-registration and be returned by mail to the participant via e-mail with the registration confirmation (in case of group entries, to the registered project leader),
- the names and addresses of the authors along with an email address, the name of the project leader in the case of group entries
- project title
- the names and addresses of the university and confirmation of the academic instructor/supervisor
- the project task
- the semester in which the work was completed
- bank information, including the IBAN and BIC codes necessary for transferring funds within the EU

With the signing of this form, the entrant is declaring that he/she

- acknowledges and accepts the rules and guidelines of the competition (competition documentation),
- is author of the submitted work,
- is eligible to take part as stated by the competition rules and
- grants the right to have his/her project and documentation published free of charge in connection with the Blue Award

A.14 Inquiries

Please address all questions concerning Blue Award 2012 per email to: office@blueaward.at





B Specific Information

B.1 Aim and Scope of Competition

The purpose of this initiative is to expose and promote the efforts in the field of sustainability in the academic areas of architecture, regional planning and urbanism.

Considering its economical, cultural and social dimensions, sustainable development should be treated equally alongside technical and functional issues when solving problems in architecture, regional planning and urbanism. The competition is an open invitation to demonstrate future-oriented and sustainable solutions. How will our built environment present itself in the coming years? Not a one-dimensional approach but rather a comprehensive view of the tasks at hand leads to results and an environment worth experiencing.

The Blue Award will be handed out in three categories.

The Blue Award 2012 will particularly emphasize and support architectural efforts in hot and dry climates. Projects located in crisis areas and in areas environmentally threatened will be given special consideration. This, however, forms no grounds for exclusion or discrimination of projects that deal with other topics in sustainability.

Participants can submit projects in the following three categories:

B.1.1 Category 1: Urban Development and Transformation, Landscape Development

The emphasis of this category spans from urban renewal and restructuring of existing city fabric to development of new housing structures and building typologies. Concepts dealing with energy self-sufficient housing structures, environment friendly forms of mobility, and new interpretations of open/public spaces in urban areas belong also to this category.

B.1.2 Category 2: Ecological Building

Sustainable building touches upon the entire act of form-giving. The submitted projects are to reveal the basic principles of sustainable planning and construction, including its social, economical and ecological factors, in the form of an architectonic design.

B.1.3 Category 3: Building in Existing Structures (Urban Renewal)

The topics of this category are methods of renovation, adaptation and renewal. Beyond these established themes, projects will be awarded which significantly increase the average longevity and usage capacity of existing structures, as well as projects, which reduce the volumetric demand of new construction.





B.2 Adjudication Criteria

The projects presented to the jury shall be judged by the following criteria:

B.2.2 Quality of the Project

1) Spatial Quality

Specifically the urban and/or architectural spatial concept, as well as the spatial consistency in the realization of the project idea.

2) Presentational Quality

Specifically the degree and level of development, as well as the choice in pictures, drawings, and text of the project in terms of relevancy to the competition theme.

B.2.3. Sustainability of the Project

1) Context: Incorporating the Project's Environment

The interaction with existing housing and urban elements and structures, the incorporation of special preconditions and potentialities inherent in the site (spatial situation, traffic, supply/disposal, arrangement of existing economical, social and cultural factors).

The relation to the surrounding landscape, urban and natural spaces are to be given particular attention. The environmental friendly approach in planning should stem from the local conditions. Consideration should be given to incorporating existing spatial, social and cultural structures. Infrastructure that corresponds with traffic concepts, local supplies, social dependencies, and recreation is taken into account. The interdependency between buildings and open spaces is an essential part of the project.

2) Suitability of Spatial Structure

To be evaluated: composition, orientation, structuring as well as arrangement and distribution of areas, volumes, spaces and uses, in relation to the special situation of the site; suitability of the program to function and purpose of the building, including demands of the user. Responding to distinctive features such as morphology (relief), geology, climate, as well as to other geographical factors of the territory or site.

3) Enrichment of the Social and Cultural Environment

Cities, housing communities and buildings not only employ raw materials and energy, they also embody the cultural identity and shape the daily lives and interactions of a given society. The submitted project is a contribution to the development of cultural and social structures: project concept and realization should pay particular attention to the needs of every group, regardless of age or background. Multicultural aspects. Special consideration towards increasing social opportunities, social and cultural wealth, while simultaneously reducing any ensuing requirements in mobility. Creating zones for exchange and communication.

4) Environmentally Conscious and Suitable Application of Materials

Longevity and/or reusability of the applied materials, the exploitation of their specific strengths: carrying capacity, specific weight, strength, thermal properties, surface properties, etc. The incorporation of renewable raw materials and the use of local and regional materials, both in raw and processed forms.

5) Intelligent and Efficient Use of Energy and Resources

Resources such as land, water, raw materials and energy are limited in their availability. The project not only demonstrates temporal and spatial concepts but also ideas concerning usage, planning processes, construction methods and material choice, all towards minimizing the consumption of resources, waste production and emissions:

the consideration and optimization of energy and material expenditure as well as costs connected with the life-cycle of the project or object. Less consumption of energy and water resources as well as optimal application of materials in production and operation of the project or object. A large percentage of renewable energy sources and raw materials.





6) Designing with the Natural Surroundings

Responding to the natural conditions of the site. Taking into consideration the macro- and microclimatic factors during the development of the project or object.

High aesthetic quality, effective designing of green and open spaces, both functionally and ecologically. Measures to protect and integrate land, groundwater, fauna and flora.

7) Climate Protection

Technical and structural measures of precaution to ensure a long-term and lasting prevention or reduction of emissions harmful to the climate. The project's contribution in reaching climate protection targets, regional and global. Contribution to fostering awareness in the area of climate protection and to promulgating environment-friendly modes of living and production.

8) Comfort and Health

Spatial and visual comfort, achieving a milieu free of any contaminants or emissions. High level of optical comfort; good exposure to sunlight, daylight, and ventilation; barrier free accessibility; etc..

B.2.4 Innovation Content and Development Potential of Projects

Solutions will be evaluated on various scales: innovative solutions in the planning approach, in the planning process, in building and housing structures, in constructive or material applications. Equally important are contributions to the existing environment, in terms of a further economical, technological, social and/or cultural development.

B.3 Scope of Submitted Work

Competition Language: The official competition language is English.

All documents, texts, legends as well as commentaries, etc. are to be in English.

Identification Code

After the online-registration under www.blueaward.at an alphanumeric identification code (six figures) will be automatically regenerated and be returned by mail to the participant via e-mail with the registration confirmation (in case of group entries, to the registered project leader).

All documents and drawings are to be tagged with this alphanumeric code of six figures, located in the upper right-hand corner and having the dimensions of 1 cm in height by 6 cm in width. The first two figures are letters indicating the type of work (BA – bachelor's, MA- master's degree, DS – diploma study, DT – diploma thesis, DI - dissertation). Example: BA-1234

Following documents are required:

B.3.1 Drawing Documentation

Two panels/sheets are available for drawings, each of DIN A1 format, 59.4 x 84.1 cm (width/height).

The submitted project is to be presented in a comprehensive and understandable fashion by means of:

- site plans
- floor plans
- sections
- elevations
- 3D illustrations (renderings, model photos)
- all comments and texts are to be in English





B.3.2 Project Description – official form in download area

A short and concise description of the project shall outline the key features of the design. The fundamental ideas/considerations behind the design are to be stated here.

- architectural aspects
- functional aspects
- urban aspects
- economical and ecological aspects
- social aspects, etc.

B.3.3 Curriculum Vitae

A brief biographical résumé (max. 1,500 characters in English), including a passport photo of the participant, is to be submitted. The contents are to be enclosed in a separate and sealed envelope on which outside only the six-figure identification code and the label “curriculum vitae” appear.

B.3.4 Identification Form – official form in download area

The provided form is to be completed, signed, and enclosed in an envelope on which outside only the six-figure identification code appears, and submitted along with the other documents.

In the identification form, the professor also confirms that he/she has supervised the work.

B.3.5 List of Contents

A list of all submitted documents is to be enclosed.

B.4 Format of Submitted Documents

B.4.1 Submission - Analogue Documents

All drawings are to be submitted on white paper, unfolded and un-mounted (drawing tubes are to be wrapped and labelled with the six-figure identification code and the title “Blue Award 2012”).

Drawing size and number are limited to a maximum of 2 sheets, each 59.4 x 84.1 cm DIN-A1 portrait orientation.

- Drawings 2x DIN A1 portrait orientation
- Drawings 2x DIN A3 portrait orientation, as reductions of the A1 drawings
- Illustration or representative graphic depicting the project
- Project description DIN A3 (download form)
- Curriculum vitae (CV) 1 DIN A4, enclosed in an envelope with identification code
- Identification form 1 DIN A4, enclosed in an envelope with identification code (download form)
- List of contents 1 DIN A4





B.4.2 Submission - Digital Documents

All documents have to be uploaded in digital form on the homepage www.blueaward.at.

- Drawings 2x DIN A1 portrait orientation as .PDFs (300 dpi)
- Drawings 2x DIN A3 portrait orientation as .PDFs (300 dpi), as reductions of the A1 drawings
- Illustration or representative graphic depicting the project, high resolution as .PDFs, .TIFFs or .JEPGs (mind. 300 dpi)
- All drawings, illustrations and texts present in the A1 drawings are also to be provided as separate files (drawings as vector format, illustrations as .TIFFs or .JEPGs (mind. 300 dpi), texts as .PDFs)
- Project description DIN A3 as .XLS (.XLSX)
- Curriculum vitae (CV) 1 DIN A4 as .DOC (.DOX) incl. portrait as .JEPG or .TIFF (mind. 300 dpi)
- List of contents 1 DIN A4 as .DOC (.DOX)

B.5 Competition Documentation

Competition documentation, including the identification form and the form for project description, are available in digital form only at: www.blueaward.at

