



INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL  
ARCHITECTURE & ART

## THE BUNNY MELLON LANDSCAPE DESIGN PRIZE

### Statement of Prize's Intent:

To recognize the excellence and creativity of a project from an emerging garden, landscape or architectural design professional whose work is inspired by classical or traditional design, holistically considers the symbiosis between outdoor environments and physical structures, and interweaves garden and architectural elements within their design. This prize is to acknowledge exceptional work that furthers the ICAA's mission that the intertwining of design and craftsmanship are vital to lasting and meaningful places, and is in the spirit of Bunny Mellon's "ceaseless interest, passion, and pleasure" in gardens, horticulture, and design. This Award is presented annually as part of the Bunny Mellon Landscape Curricula at the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art.

There is one Bunny Mellon Landscape Design Prize awarded each year to the emerging professional for a singular project that best meets the prize's criteria. The winner will receive a \$1,500 dollar cash prize, and will be recognized at the annual Bunny Mellon Curricula Weekend Seminar, with weekend and travel expenses paid. Their work will be exhibited at the Curricula Seminar, included in the Curricula Seminar's digital catalog, and announced on ICAA social media, our website, and other media and promotional materials to be determined. The runner-up will receive the recognition of "Highly Commended" from the jury as they see fit.

### Entry Materials

1. **Entry Form**
2. **Professional Statement:** In 500 words or less, describe the project submitted for consideration, how it fits the prize criteria, and the ICAA and Bunny Mellon's mission of recognizing holistic work that intertwines architecture, design, and the natural landscape
  - a. For professional projects completed as part of the firm, entrants should include an additional 150 words that clearly outlines their specific role in the project and specifies any contributions made to the design by others besides the entrants.
3. **Project submission:**
  - a. Required: PDF with a **up to twelve 11x17 sheets** of a single project that includes plans for natural landscape and any additional hardscape features or structures, as applicable
    - i. Indicate the maker of any included drawings or renderings
    - ii. Sheets can include hand sketches, photographs of in progress or completed projects, digital renderings, etc.



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- iii. For applicable projects, sheets should include either a pre-construction survey, site plan, or before/after images to demonstrate what existed prior to the design being implemented
- iv. At least one sheet must include a planting plan that outlines specific horticultural choices, including
  - b. Beneficial but not required: (1) **video of a 3-D project model, and/or 1 photograph of a 3-D project model**
4. **CV:** (maximum 2 pages)
5. **Letter of Recommendation:** from an academic or professional contact describing the characteristics that make the entrant and their work deserving of the Landscape Design Award
6. **Interview:** with member of the education team and jury chair (interviews only offered to top five short list candidates)

### Eligibility

1. Garden designers, landscape architects, design professionals, horticulturists, urban planners, architects, students, and interested people with relevant experience can participate in this prize.
2. Both international and domestic US entrants will be considered.
3. Entrants may submit up to 2 projects for consideration.
4. All entrants must have been 35 years old or younger on 31st December 2020 **OR** be within the first seven years of their relevant design career, which is measured from graduation date from a related secondary education program or another relevant parameter. Entrants will be asked to provide proof of age or confirm their eligibility with ICAA staff.
5. Entrants must have been the primary or significant contributor on projects that were worked on by a team, and should be able to demonstrate that the final design is primarily their own. Entry materials must specify the entrant's role in the project and that of other contributors. Only one prize is given to an individual, so additional team members besides the entrant will not be recognized.
6. Entries are required as digital files only. Hard copies of drawings or models will not be accepted.
7. Projects for consideration may include completed projects or conceptual projects. Both should include information about the existing site previous to design.
8. Projects for consideration may include new construction, historic preservation/restoration projects, or reimaginings of existing architectural and landscape sites.
9. All entry materials must be submitted between September 1st, 2022 and December 15th, 2022. Incomplete entries or entries received after December 15th, 2022 will not be



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considered. Entries will be reviewed by the jury in January and finalists and winners will be notified early spring 2022.

## Judging Criteria

Competitive projects must:

1. Demonstrate an understanding and exploration of historical garden and landscape precedents within their work, with:
  - a. An eye towards historical design precedents such as:
    - i. Geometric layout
    - ii. Proportion and balance
    - iii. Conception of focal points
    - iv. Sensitivity to color palette
    - v. Historic example
    - vi. Horticultural choices
2. Demonstrate inventiveness, adaptability, and creativity in planting choices and garden design to ensure its suitability and sensitivity to its specific site, climate, and local surroundings with:
  - a. Awareness and design that considers the landscape's perennial appearance, with clear attention paid to bloom periods, plant textures, color schemes, etc.
  - b. Strategic horticultural choices that respond to native planting strategies and environmentally sensitive solutions
3. Feature a garden and landscape design that complements an existing built structure **OR** include the design of a new architectural element(s) that is seamlessly integrated into the landscape design and horticultural plan
  - a. Architectural elements must demonstrate a sensitivity to traditional and classical architectural design principles (e.g. a residence, or hardscape elements like a folly, garden structure, park archway, etc.)
    - i. Hardscape features must consider and complement existing surrounding structures (eg. residences, neighborhood, nearby urban landscape)
  - b. Landscape and planting choices must demonstrate thoughtful linkages between surrounding physical structures, hardscape elements, and natural environs
4. Demonstrate a thoughtful response to the interactive relationship between humans and the natural landscape.
  - a. Create a space that welcomes human usage of the landscape
    - i. Accomplish the specific human-centered goals of the project space (e.g. creating a space that addresses the way people may use the specific landscape, such as contemplation, space to entertain, horticultural interests, eco-friendly/sustainable goals, mastery of technical formality, public/civic purposes, etc.)