THE BUNNY MELLON LANDSCAPE DESIGN PRIZE

Statement of Prize’s Intent:

To recognize the excellence and creativity of a project from an emerging 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 architecture, design, craftsmanship, and landscape 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 Prize 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 Garden Symposium, with weekend and travel expenses paid. Their work will be exhibited at the Garden Symposium and announced on ICAA social media, our website, and other media and promotional materials to be determined. The top three finalists will receive the recognition of “Highly Commended” from the jury.

The ICAA is very grateful to the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation for its generous support of this program, along with the Curricula’s Lead Co-Sponsor Edmund D. Hollander Landscape Architecture Design, Bunny Mellon Landscape Design Prize Co-Sponsor Harrison Design, and Garden Symposium Co-Sponsor Kathryn M. and Ronald J. Herman Charitable Foundation.

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
3. Project submission:
   a. Required: PDF with a maximum of (5) 11x17 sheets of a single project that includes plans for natural landscape and any additional hardscape features or structures, as applicable
      i. must describe entrants' role and others’ roles, if applicable
      ii. Sheets can include hand sketches, photographs of in progress or completed projects, digital renderings, etc.
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 Prize

6. **Interview:** with member of the education team and jury chair (interviews only offered to top five short list candidates)

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**Eligibility**

1. Architects, landscape architects, design professionals, horticulturists, urban planners, 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 2019 **OR** be within the first seven years of their relevant design career. Alumni from the ICAA and Oak Spring Garden Foundation are encouraged to apply.

5. Entrants must have been the primary or significant contributor on projects that were worked on by a team. 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 projects in progress.

8. Projects for consideration may include new construction, historic preservation/restoration projects, or reimaginations of existing architectural and landscape sites.

9. All entry materials must be submitted between September 1st, 2020 and December 15th, 2020. Incomplete entries or entries received after December 15th, 2020 will not be considered. Entries will be reviewed by the jury in January and finalists and winners will be notified early spring 2021.

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**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

2. Include the design of a new architectural element(s) that is seamlessly integrated into the natural landscape design OR feature a landscape design that complements an existing built structure.
   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 (e.g. residences, neighborhood, nearby urban landscape)
   b. Landscape must demonstrate thoughtful linkages between surrounding physical structures, hardscape elements, and natural environs

3. Demonstrate inventiveness, adaptability, and creativity in landscape design to ensure its suitability and sensitivity to its climate, local surroundings, and specific site with:
   a. Awareness and design that considers the landscape’s perennial appearance
   b. Strategic horticultural choices (e.g. native planting strategies, environmentally sensitive solutions, etc.)

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.)