

# The Architectural League Prize for Young Architects+ Designers: Housekeeping

# HOUSEKEEPING

## Call for entries

Young architects and designers are invited to submit work to the annual Architectural League Prize Competition. Projects of all types, either theoretical or real, and executed in any medium, are welcome. The jury will select work for presentation in lectures, digital media, and an exhibition in June 2021. If COVID-19 restrictions are required, the exhibition and lectures might shift to a digital format. Winners will receive a cash prize of \$2,000.

Established in 1981 to recognize visionary work by young practitioners, the Architectural League Prize is an annual competition, lecture series, and exhibition organized by The Architectural League and its Young Architects + Designers Committee. For more information about The Architectural League and work by past winners, please visit [archleague.org/leagueprize](http://archleague.org/leagueprize).

## Eligibility

The competition is open only to current full-time residents (who need not be citizens) of the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Entrants must be ten years or less out of a bachelor's or master's degree program. Current students are ineligible.

## Theme: Housekeeping

Stay-at-home orders have prompted many of us to see our domestic settings anew, and to consider the various ways in which we "keep house." The term "housekeeping" involves restoring the home to its ideal state by scrubbing, disinfecting, and decluttering its surfaces. It evokes the comfort of the familiar, the excitement of the new. For some people, layers of dust went unnoticed until their living rooms had to double as workplaces. In other cases, household chores have provided respite from digital devices that require their own form of upkeep to optimize performance. Housekeeping implies oversight and control, maintenance and responsibility. It is as much a necessity as it is a ritual: an act of labor, but also an act of care. That said, it is impossible to think about housekeeping without considering its constitutive role in systemic oppression on the basis of gender, race, and class.

Architecture has been complicit in social, ecological, and economic crises that demand immediate attention. How should we think about the maintenance of our disciplinary home? What is it about the way designers work that we're so desperate to maintain, preserve, and protect? Architecture is invested in appearances – how we present ourselves and our work – but for whom and why? Could we redirect our efforts toward caring for ourselves, one another, and the environment? How might we have more regard for the actors and agents whose care and labor manifest the appearances we strive for? Is now the appropriate time to housekeep how we housekeep? If and when the dust settles, how do we work together to clean up the mess? Our profession is overdue for some housekeeping.

## Submission requirements

A single digital portfolio in PDF format, no larger than 8.5" x 22" and 20MB. It may not contain more than 15 spreads (or 30 pages) in total, excluding the cover page.

A separate one-page, 8.5" x 11" image-key PDF in landscape format; it should contain thumbnail images of the projects included in the portfolio for reference.

The competition theme is given as a basis for young architects and designers to reflect upon and reevaluate their work. A written statement not to exceed 250 words is required, which defines and considers the work under the rubric of the competition theme. Significant weight is given to how an applicant's work addresses the theme. The written statement must be on the first page of the portfolio.

This is an anonymous competition. Your portfolio and image-key cannot contain any form of identification. Please do not include your name or firm name on your submission materials.

## Entry fee

Each submission must include an entry fee of \$35, to be paid online. Please be sure that the credit card is in the name of one of the entrants; we are unable to accept payments made on behalf of others.

## Entry forms

Each submission must include a digital entry form. To maintain anonymity, no identification of the entrant may appear on any part of the submission, except on the entry form. If relevant, please also include collaborator acknowledgment and/or partner acknowledgement form(s). The portfolio and image-key files should be uploaded on the entry form.

For complete eligibility and submission requirements as well as detailed instructions to submit materials, please visit [archleague.org/competition/lp21](http://archleague.org/competition/lp21).

## Competition deadline

February 8, 2021  
Entries must be received through our online form by 11:59 p.m. EST. There will be no exceptions to this deadline.

## Selection

Winning entrants will be notified by mid-March 2021

## Jury

Tatiana Bilbao  
Peggy Deamer  
Fritz Haeg  
Victor Jones

## The Young Architects + Designers Committee

Ivi Diamantopoulou  
Cyrus Peñarroyo  
Alison Von Glinow

## Architectural League

Program Director  
Anne Rieselbach  
Program Manager  
Catarina Flaksman

## Graphics

Pentagram

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## Sponsors

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