

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 2022. These events will be either in-person, online, or hybrid, depending on local and national health guidelines this spring. 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.

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: Grounding

Searching for grounding is a sticky, precarious, and stubborn pursuit of our time. In an unpredictable and hybrid world, more focus is needed on how architecture can respond to this condition and how young architects can situate themselves within it.

Through grounding, designers come to terms with complex material realities, sociocultural contingencies, and more fundamental ways of being. Although grounding suggests locality, contemporary environments are invariably embedded in global systems that complicate architecture's relationship with place. Grounding thus means, on one hand, making vital connections to what is already there – materially, socially, and otherwise – and, on the other, contending with placeless, pervasive processes. Navigating the remote and embodied, the nonlocal and local, architecture requires methods of retooling, reappropriation, and transformation to find its grounding.

Engaging with what precedes and underlies, grounding is also about establishing productive contexts for action and bringing design into new orbits of collaboration. Such messy interdependencies pull architecture toward the ground, urging designers to consider contingencies as resources for practice.

This year's Architectural League Prize reflects on the substance of design's foundations. How do young architects tether their work and practices to the grounds upon which they design? How can designers respond to both the particularities of location and the ubiquity of global forces? What are intentional approaches to and forms of grounding?

Submission requirements

Submission requirements
A single digital portfolio in PDF format, no larger than 35MB. It may not contain more than 15 spreads (or 30 pages) in total, excluding the cover page.

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.

If relevant, please also include collaborator acknowledgment and/or partner acknowledgment form(s).

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

For complete eligibility and submission requirements as well as detailed instructions on how to submit materials, please visit archleague.org/competition/LP22.

Entry fee

Each submission must include an entry fee of \$35, to be paid via the online application platform.

THE ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE PRIZE FOR YOUNG ARCHITECTS + DESIGNERS 2022

Competition deadline

February 13, 2022
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 2022.

Jury

Chris T. Cornelius
Carla Juaçaba
Lola Sheppard
Mabel O. Wilson

The Young Architects + Designers Committee

Luis Beltrán del Río García
Tei Carpenter
Gabriel Cuéllar

Architectural League

Program Director
Anne Rieselbach
Program Manager
Rafi Lehmann

Graphics

Pentagram

Funding

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