



«best architects 25» competition

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- **occasion** The best architects award will for the nineteenth time honour the best architects and architecture firms. European architects and architecture firms that have realised exceptional projects are hence called upon to submit their work to the «best architects 25» competition. A distinguished international jury will select the best works and present them in the publication «best architects 25». The best architects award is an independent prize that recognises outstanding architectural achievements and makes them accessible to a broad public. With an ever-increasing number of submissions of extremely high quality, the award has developed into an important event on the architecture scene. Due not least to the showcase publication, which extensively documents all the winning projects, the award offers potential clients valuable guidance and makes an important contribution to the discourse on building culture. The award gives the recognised architects and architecture firms a mark of distinction in the market while positioning them at the forefront of the international architecture scene.
- **organiser** The corporate communications agency »zinnobergruen« is the initiator and organiser of the award.
- **type of competition** Award
- **area of eligibility** Europe
- **eligible to participate** architects, interior designers, engineers/technical planners based in Europe
- **awards** The label «best architects 25» will be bestowed on all of the winning architects or architecture firms. The best project in each category will be awarded the label «best architects 25» in gold. The winning projects will be presented in the internationally available publication «best architects 25» and on www.bestarchitects.de. The jury decides on the number of awards given based on the quality of the submissions.
- **jury / judging** The submitted projects will be assessed by an independent international jury whose members include:
 - **Prof. Dr. Matthias Castorph**, LEHMANN, TABILLION & CASTORPH, Munich, D
 - **Maria Saiz**, Rapin Saiz Architectes, Vevey, CH
 - **Michael Salvi**, Schenker Salvi Weber, Vienna, ATThe jury meets privately. It decides by a simple majority. The jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal. There shall be no right of appeal.
Each Participant admitted to the competition shall be notified of the jury's decision with regard to her or his entry. The jury is not obliged to justify its decisions.

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→ **competition requirements** Eligible to compete are all buildings completed after 1 January 2017.

The submitted project must be accompanied by plans and photos arranged as a project board on a DIN A2-sized sheet (portrait or landscape format, as PDF file). The style of presentation is up to the discretion of each participant, but should be chosen to present the project in the best light. A concise description of the project in English (max. 1,500 characters incl. spaces) must be included for each project submitted, as well as an application form with the Declaration of Authorship.

→ **category** Each project must be submitted for a specific category.

- Renovation and addition
- Residential
- Office and administrative buildings
- Commercial and industrial buildings
- Education buildings
- Public buildings
- Infrastructure buildings
- Other buildings
- Interior design

The Organiser reserves the right to reassign, either before or during judging, a project submitted in a specific category to another category in order to optimise the evaluation process for that project.

→ **application** **Applications for the competition must be submitted online at www.bestarchitects.de**

Several projects may be submitted by an applicant, but a separate application is required for each project.

→ **documents to be submitted**

1. via data upload

- **Project board in DIN A2 size as a PDF file** (420 x 594 mm – portrait or landscape format, without crop marks, **project number indicated at the upper right**, approx. 5 mm high).
You will receive the project number via email after your application.
- **Explanatory text in English** (max. 1,500 characters incl. spaces)
- **All image and plan data** for the project board as well as supplementary image and plan data for the project (EPS, TIF or JPG files [uncompressed], in the highest available resolution [minimum 300 ppi], Plan data as vector-based EPS or PDF files in black and white)

2. via email

- **Signed application and Declaration of Authorship via:**
email: submit@bestarchitects.de

→ **assessment criteria**

- Architectural and design quality
- Spatial concept
- Functionality
- Technical implementation

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- **screening** The organiser will screen the submitted projects. This screening is limited to a check for completeness and for formal and substantive accuracy.
- **exclusion criteria** Works that do not meet the eligibility criteria may be excluded from competing. The documents must be submitted on time and in full as stipulated. They must comply in all points with both the formal and content requirements for the competition. We would like to emphasise that no deadline extensions or subsequent submissions are possible. A further condition for participation in the competition is that the entry fee is paid on time.
- **dates**
 - Submission deadline (online) → by 27 May 2024**
 - Jury session → 10/11 June 2024
 - Announcement of awards → 23 July 2024
 - Date of publication of the book «best architects 25» → November 2024

→ fees | costs for application

The application fees vary depending on the registration date and are as follows:

Registration period 2022	Application fee	plus production A2 project sheet	Total
Early Bird – by 4 March	195 Euro	65 Euro	260 Euro
Regular – 5 March to 27 May	265 Euro	65 Euro	330 Euro

The fees | costs include the preparation of the digitally uploaded data, the creation of a jury dossier as well as the production and presentation of the DIN A2 project sheet during the jury session.

The early bird discount is only granted if the fee is paid by 7th March. If you pay later, the regular fee will be charged – regardless of the registration period. All prices are per registered project plus VAT.

→ costs if the project wins an award

In case of an award, it is obligatory to purchase the »Winner Package«.

Winner Package	Costs per awarded project (excl. of VAT.)
Award «best architects 25»	2,200 Euro
Award «best architects 25» in gold	2,400 Euro

The Winner Package includes the following services:

- **Label «best architects 25» | «best architects 25» in gold**
Unlimited use of the label «best architects 25» | «best architects 25» in gold
- **«best architects 25» publication**
Presentation of the winning project on 2 double-page spreads in the publication «best architects 25»
- **Two personalised «best architects 25» award certificates**
- **Editing/translation** of the explanatory text for the project
- **Courtesy copy of the «best architects 25» publication**
One courtesy copy of the publication free of charge and special rates when ordering additional copies
- **www.bestarchitects.de**
Online presentation of the winning project with image and text on www.bestarchitects.de
- **Press announcements**

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- **award | label usage** The award winner may not communicate his or her award to third parties until the Organiser has made a public announcement of the winners. The award winner will be specifically notified of that date by the Organiser. Only with the payment of the fee for the »Winner Package«, the award winner acquires the right to communicate the best architects award and to use the best architects winner label.

- **«best architects 25» publication** After the awards are announced, the organiser will begin to produce the book «best architects 25». Each winning project will be presented on two double-page spreads. The layout for each project will be decided by the organiser according to the design template for the book. Each participant will be sent a galley proof of the print-ready page as a PDF file for a final check.

- **participant obligations | usage rights** By submitting a project, the participant tacitly commits to observing the Competition Requirements in full. By signing the application and Declaration of Authorship, the architect or architecture firm declares that he/it holds the copyright to the project in question and is in possession of the necessary usage rights for the submitted photographs, texts and plans and is permitted to dispose of such rights within the scope of participation in the «best architects 25» award. In particular, the architect or architecture firm guarantees that he/it is authorised by the copyright holder of the submitted documents to use them in this way and that corresponding agreements have been made. The architect/architecture firm at the same time grants the organiser and, if applicable, any successors or assigns of individual (e.g., in the form of an asset deal), free of charge the unrestricted, non-exclusive use and utilization of photographs, texts and plans in connection with the best architects award in terms of time, space and content, in particular permission to publish these documents in the press and in other media, e.g. on the internet, social media, as well as in the context of the book «best architects 25». The organiser is entitled to pass on the documents provided to the press and other comparable bodies for the purpose of reporting on the best architects award. Participants who do not want said documents contributions to be released for publication or distribution as defined above shall inform the Organiser in writing – to be sent by letter only. The effective date starting from which the Organiser shall respect such a request from a Participant is the date of receipt of the letter.

- **indemnification of the organiser** Should any third-party rights be violated or corresponding claims be made by third parties against the organiser in connection with the use and in particular the publication of the submitted photographs and plan documents – contrary to the express warranty of the architect or architecture firm – the architect or architecture firm shall indemnify the organiser upon first request from any and all resulting damages and expenses.

- **property | return | copyright | liability** The submitted documents or other materials become the property of the organiser. They will not be returned to the participant. The organiser assumes no liability for damage or loss of competition work provided it has applied the same due diligence it customarily applies in its own matters.

- **additional competition procedures** The organiser will conduct the competition privately, to the exclusion of the public. The jury's decision is final.

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- **data protection** The participant agree to the data they provide in the registration form being gathered, stored and used exclusively for the purpose of managing the «best architects 25» award. The data shall not be made available to third parties. The data shall be saved temporarily and deleted at the latest when the «best architects 25» award ends. The participant expressly agree to their data being gathered for this purpose. Disagreement with these data protection provisions shall automatically lead to exclusion from the «best architects 25» award.
- **questions** If you have any questions, please contact Tobias Schwarzer:
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