



ANNUAL SESSIONS 2026

SLIA DESIGN AWARDS

SUBMISSION CRITERIA

Sri Lanka Institute of Architects
120/ 7, Vidya Mawatha,
Colombo 07

Page 1 of 7

SLIA AWARDS -2026

DESIGN AWARDS

The SLIA wishes to introduce the SLIA Annual Awards Programme for Design for Session 2025/2026. The purpose of the Design Awards is to give recognition to outstanding Projects completed in Sri Lanka or outside Sri Lanka by SLIA Members.

Members are allowed to submit any number of projects designed by them or as a team. However, in the latter case, the submission shall carry the consent from the Author/s.

1.0 Projects Categories

The Entries for the Design Awards could be submitted under the following categories;

#	Category	Description
1.	Personalized Residences/ Circuit Bungalows	Single or multi storied private houses
2.	Residential Apartments	Middle Rise (G + 10 storied)
3.	Residential Apartments	High Rise (Above 10 Floors)
4.	Community Housing	Both Middle and High rise
5.	Public Service Buildings	Public Service and Institutional Facilities, Law Courts and Correctional Centers, Community halls, and social service facilities etc.
6.	Educational Buildings	Universities, Higher Education Institutions, Vocational Training Centers/ Technical Colleges, Primary & Secondary Schools, Libraries.
7.	Commercial Buildings	Shopping Malls, Super & Hyper Markets, Showrooms, Service Centers,
8.	Hospitality Buildings	City Hotels, Motels, Boutique Hotels, Hotel & Resorts.
9	Health Care Buildings	Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Medical Consultation & Laboratories

10.	Events Venues	Banquet Halls, Auditoriums, Theaters, Conference Halls and similar uses.
11.	Leisure, Recreational and Sports Building	Sports and recreation purposes including stadiums, sports centers, recreational clubs, entertainment centers, Cinema Theaters.
12.	Commercial Office Buildings	Office Complexes, Banks & Financial Institutions, mixed office developments etc.
13.	Religious and Cultural Buildings	Religious Buildings, Museums and Cultural Centers
14.	Industrial Buildings	Factories, Warehouses etc.
15.	Interior Design	Interior Design of new / existing Buildings
16.	Landscape Design	Landscape Design of new / existing buildings
17.	Urban Design	Urban design for urban renewal and regeneration.
18.	Infrastructure Development Related Buildings/ Structures	Transport Terminals, Logistics Operations and Road Infrastructure etc.
19.	Adaptive Re-use & Renovations	Adaptive Re-use of existing building, Additions, alternations, renovations of existing buildings

It is entirely up to the Applicant to decide the most suitable category, the applicant should apply considering overall aspects and purpose the project. The Design Awards will be for both local and foreign projects undertaken by the applicant.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

- 2.0** Submissions shall be strictly for projects completed at least 03 months prior on or before the 1st of December 2025
- 2.1** Submissions for awards should be designed by the Member or a group of Members of the SLIA; Corporate or Registered Members. If the submission is by a Sole Proprietorship, Partnership or a Limited liability Company or Government Statutory Bodies such practices should be registered with SLIA.
- 2.2** A project can be submitted for an award under one or two categories, if the applicant so desires, as two separate submissions with adequate supporting documents to highlight the qualities relevant to each category. Entry fees will be charged separately for each category & submission.

- 2.3** A project that had **not** been successful in obtaining an award previously is eligible to be re-submitted under a different category provided it is clearly stated in the application as a re-application. Submissions that were rejected due to technical reasons in previous years will have no restriction on resubmission.
- 2.4** Members who are employed as Architects in private Architectural practices could submit entries through the principal/s of such private practices with the written permission of the principal/s forwarded with the submission. However, the submission shall be listed under the name of the relevant practice (a practice listed in the SLIA practice list) and the award shall be made to that practice and a Certificate of Appreciation will be issued to the Member who made the submission.
- 2.5** Members who are currently employed in the Architectural Divisions of public sector organizations shall submit entries through the heads of such agencies, with the written permission of the head forwarded with the submission. However, the submission shall be listed under the name of the relevant Institute/Corporation or the division of that Institute/Corporation and the award shall be made to that Institute/Corporation and a Certificate of Appreciation will be issued to the Member who made the submission.
- 2.6** The author retains their copyrights, nevertheless SLIA shall have the right to publish and/or display the Award entries in any manner as it seems fit for future publications digital or print.
- 2.7** The SLIA shall have the right to retain and save the submissions as archival material. While the award-winning submissions shall be kept with SLIA for a minimum of three years.
- 2.8** The applicant/s shall be responsible to obtain permission for a visit to the sites where required for any clarification of the Jury.
- 2.9** Any Member of the Jury Panel will not be eligible to apply for any Awards, be nominated, or nominate another member for an award, nor permit submission from his/her practice/agency.

3.0 JUDGING

- 3.1** The judging process will be in two stages:

Stage One

The elected Jury Panel shall select submissions of those Panels deems to be suitable for the second stage evaluation. The short-listed submissions will be announced in January 2026, Final Awards will be announced at the Inauguration Ceremony of the Annual Sessions 2026 (in February 2026). The Jury Panel will comprise the following:

- a. The Convener
- b. A Past President
- c. A practicing architect with at least 20 years of experience
- d. A Member who is the recipient of a SLIA Design Award or SLIA Young Architect Award or a design award awarded by a foreign architectural institution, ARCASIA, UIA or CAA
- e. A non-architect who is reputed to possess an interest in art and architecture (Optional) or substitute by a member

For categories 15, 16, 17 and 19, Member with additional qualifications in the respective category will be included. Names to be included with qualification.

Stage Two

The Jury Panel may visit the short-listed buildings (except those for category 21, if the submission is a foreign project a 3-5 min high Resolution video clip is compulsory). The architect of short-listed projects will be requested to submit a short video clip of not more than 5 minutes (if jury panel unable to visit to the sites physically on request). The architect or his nominee and the client must be present at the site visit of the Jury Panel

The Jury Panel will include a reputed Architect from an ARCASIA country in addition to the members of the Stage One Jury panel subject to travelling possibilities / availability.

- 3.2** The Judging panel shall be convened by the Senior Vice President via Online or physical meeting collectively. The entries will be judged collectively by the panel of jurors who are nominated by the awards committee and approved by the Council. In the event of a Juror being an applicant for an award, he/she shall withdraw from the judging process, giving sufficient notice to the Senior Vice President. The Senior Vice President shall be a Juror and chair the meetings, have a casting vote, and administer implementation of procedures and criteria approved by Council take on-the-spot decisions to ensure smooth functioning of the Panel and be responsible to Council.

The judges reserve the right not to make an award if, in the opinion of the judges, the submissions do not come up to the required standards.

4.0 PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION / NOMINATION

- 4.1** Announcement of the SLIA AWARDS 2026 will be sent by the SLIA through a General Circular to the membership.
- 4.2** An application with a submission for an Award shall be made by a Corporate Member of the SLIA on the prescribed form together with the non-refundable entry fee on or before the closing date as notified by such circular of SLIA.
- 4.3** Each applicant may submit one or more projects directly via the online awards application portal only www.awards.slia.lk. All forms and documents (Application, Declaration form and the Design Submission) must be submitted online via the portal. No submissions via courier or email will be accepted. Each submission must comply with the Scope of the Competition and the Right to participate stated above, and all required information shall be submitted for each project separately. **The name of the Member participating shall be stated only in the online Declaration Form.**

The Technical Committee shall have the right to reject any application that does not conform to these guidelines & technical criteria stated above.

5.0 SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS (refer online submission portal via below link)

5.1 The Design Submission should consist of the following;

a. Project Information

1. Project Name and Location
2. Project Floor Area
3. Project Cost
4. Duration of Construction
5. Relevance to Category
6. Statutory Approvals (if applicable)

b. Design Approach, Drawings and Photographs

1. A brief description of the project, architectural brief, **concept and design approach**, project merits etc, Drawings including plans, sections and elevations adequate to explain the project.
2. Photographic record of the project to be in colour (the number of photographic submissions between 1 or 2 maximum in each panel (10 Panels maximum), provided there is clarity in presentation)

The name of the Project in a suitable font, size 14 with the Sheet number in a suitable font, size 18 marked at the top right hand corner on each sheet.

c. Image files (Design Submission) :

1. Resolutions should be in 72dpi (web version)
2. Landscape image width should be No more than 1300px. height can be according to the image ratio.
3. Portrait image height should be not more than 1300px. width can be according to the image ratio.
4. There are several image fields. Upload image numbers are given in relevant fields.
5. Permissible Image formats are JPG, JPEG, PNG.

d. PDF's (portable document format)

1. Application and Declaration form should be compressed to the minimum size as possible. 2MB to 5MB.
2. Where available provide PDF of COC
3. Additional Documents to be in the format of PDF's.
4. Drawings and other documents can be images or pdfs.

5.0 NON- REFUNDABLE ENTRY FEE OF RS.27,500.00/ =TO BE PAID WITH EACH SUBMISSION.
SUBMISSIONS WILL CLOSE AT 16.00 HRS ON WEDNESDAY 31st DECEMBER 2025.
PLEASE NOTE THAT NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GIVEN ON THE SUBMISSION TIME AND DATE.

6.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The short-listed nominations will be announced immediately after shortlisting and Council ratification. The winners of the awards will be presented with a memento and a certificate depending on the type of award, at Inauguration Ceremony/the Award Ceremony in 2026.

7.0 CLARIFICATIONS

- 7.1 Applicants may seek written clarification on the submission procedure from the Senior Vice President of the SLIA via svp@architects.lk
- 7.2 The decision of the Judges on Architects Design Awards 2026 is final and conclusive.

Archt. Prasanna Silva, FIA (SL)

Senior Vice President

Chairman Awards Committee

SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS