



## 2026 AIA Montana Design Awards Program

To encourage excellence in architectural design and planning and to provide an avenue through which architects may gain recognition by their peers and the public. The ultimate goal is to raise the standards of architectural design excellence for both the architectural community and the public. The 2026 AIA Montana Awards Program Committee would like to emphasize that all entrants have an equal opportunity for recognition, regardless of project type, scale or budget. The jury process has been designed to review projects on the basis of individual merit.

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### **Schedule:**

**Submissions: Open April 15 – Close June 15**

**All entries will be received no later than 5:00 p.m. MST June 15, 2026 via an online submittal system.**

Entrants will be notified by August 15, 2026 whether or not their submissions were chosen for an award.

Montana Fall Conference Awards Celebration: September 24, 2026 - Helena, MT

### **Eligibility and Authorship :**

To be eligible for an Award, an entry must be a building or a complex completed since January 1, 2021. "Completion" is synonymous with "substantial completion" as defined in the standard AIA Documents governing construction. Non-built projects are not eligible for this competition.

Submittals will be accepted from individual AIA Montana Chapter primary members only and may be constructed anywhere. Second chapter members may submit, but the project must then be constructed in Montana.

All submissions must be submitted by the lead Architect. When one architect is not the sole author, all other participants substantially contributing to the design of the project must be given credit as part of the submission, regardless of professional discipline.

You may submit multiple projects. Entry fee for each project will be \$150.00. No refunds of entry fees will be made.

### **Publicity:**

The AIA Montana Chapter will provide notification of Awards to regional and national publications.

The digital drawings, digital materials, and photographs of each winning entry will be used for unrestricted publicity. All digital photographs, digital materials, and drawings included in the submission must be cleared for reproduction for publicity and for use in articles related to not only this program, but also similar regional, national, and international programs. Entrants are responsible for any royalties, copyright, or photographic fees.

### **Awards:**

A professional jury will evaluate the entries on their own merit. Entries will be judged individually, not in competition with each other based on the AIA Framework for Design Excellence:

Design of Integration  
Design for Water  
Design for Well-being  
Design for Discovery

Design for Equitable Communities  
Design for Economy  
Design for Resources

Design for Ecosystems  
Design for Energy  
Design for Change

The primary resources for the jury will be the brief written material and photographs, as described herein, which are submitted by all entrants. The Awards Jury shall solely determine the number of awards. A representative of the professional jury will present the awards at the 2026 AIA Montana Fall Conference in Billings, Montana. A copy of the Award Certificate will be made available at the award ceremony or shortly thereafter.

### **KEY DATES:**

All entries must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. MST, June 15, 2026.