



Memorandum

Date: March 17, 2009

To: Nominators for the Gold Medal

From: Robin Lee, Hon. AIA
Senior Director, Honors and Awards

Subject: Gold Medal Nomination

Thank you for your request for information on the 2010 Gold Medal. The Gold Medal is the highest honor that The American Institute of Architects can bestow on an individual. It is conferred by the national AIA Board of Directors in recognition of a significant body of work of lasting influence on the theory and practice of architecture. Any individual (not necessarily an American or an architect), living or dead, whom the Board believes qualified is eligible to receive the Gold Medal. No more than one such award shall be made in any year.

New this year is the requirement that all submissions be provided on a disk, not in a binder. The nomination shall include all supporting documentation as a single PDF file, smaller than 6MB, and submitted on a disk. Submissions will be reviewed online only; therefore digital images shall be low resolution.

Nominations that are made by an AIA component, Knowledge Community, or a member of the Institute's Board of Directors will be accepted for review by the Gold Medal/Firm Award Advisory Jury. The jury will also accept nominations by petition if a nominee receives signatures from either 5 Fellows or any 10 AIA members in good standing. Petition signers may not be a principal and/or employee of the nominee or the nominee's firm.

All nominations should demonstrate how the nominee's achievements address the eligibility criteria as outlined below.

Criteria

Nominees will be evaluated on how well they meet the program criteria as established by the Board, which may include:

- The nominee shall have evidenced great depth, having a cumulative effect on the profession of architecture.
- The nominee shall have evidenced great breadth, having influenced the direction/profession of architecture.
- The nominee shall be an individual whose contributions to the profession of architecture have consistently been directed toward the future as well as respectful of the past.
- The nominee shall have evidenced the ability to transcend specific areas of expertise or shall have made connections between areas, in the event that the nominee's areas of focus might be considered circumscribed.
- The nominee shall be widely known by the quality of his or her products: by those who practice architecture, by those who teach architecture, and by those who perhaps do neither.

Additional Considerations

Throughout the submission, where applicable and to the extent possible, you are encouraged to highlight any aspects of the nominee's work or life experience that may have reflected contributions or sensitivity concerning areas of special interest to the Institute, its members, and the architecture profession, including but not limited to the Policy and Position Statements of the AIA. These might include such areas as diversity, sustainability, or the mentoring of emerging professionals, to the degree the nominee has had the opportunity to address them, or as these topics may enhance the nominee's presentation.

Please complete the forms and fulfill the requirements as outlined on the Summary Sheet. The nomination sheet, petition (if applicable), intern declaration, release form and individual's photograph shall all be included on the disk in a separate file from the 6 MB .PDF submission.

Nomination disks must be **received no later than July 10, 2009**. This date is firm and no exceptions will be made.

Mail completed submission disk to:

Honors and Awards Department
2010 Gold Medal
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006-5292

Should the nominee be selected as a finalist by the Gold Medal/Firm Award Advisory Jury, a presentation on the nominee's behalf will be made to the Institute's Board of Directors at its December meeting. The presentation must be made by an individual AIA

member in good standing (not a principal or employee of the nominee's firm). Additional submission materials will be required which may include, but are not limited to, up to 40 digital images/slides suitable for a PowerPoint presentation. We also encourage you, as part of the final presentation, to highlight any aspects of the nominee's work or life experience that may have reflected contributions or sensitivity concerning areas of special interest to the Institute, its members, and the architecture profession. These might include such areas as diversity, sustainability, or the mentoring of emerging professionals, to the degree the nominee has had the opportunity to address them.

Please note that if the nominee is selected as the Gold Medal recipient, he/she will be expected to attend the following:

- The 2010 Accent on Architecture Gala, **February 5, 2010** at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC.
- A Gold Medal Seminar, **February 6, 2010** at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC.
- The 2010 AIA National Convention and Design Expo, June 10-12, 2010 in Miami.

It is important that you explain these expectations to your nominee so they may tentatively reserve these dates on their calendar now in the event they are selected.

Please contact honorsawards@aia.org if you have any questions about the Gold Medal nomination and selection process.

Thank you.

RL:hl
Attachments