

# Blue Award 09

Building for an environment worth living in



International Student Competition

Terms of Eligibility

Vienna, October 2009

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## **Competition**

### **A General Information**

#### **A.1 Organizers**

The "Blue Award 09" competition is organized by the Vienna University of Technology, the Institute of Architecture and Design, the Department for Spatial and Sustainable Design, and the Society of Architecture and Spatial Design. The prize is overseen by the UIA (International Union of Architects), represented by its Vice President Albert Dubler.

#### **A.2 Scope of International and Anonymous Competition**

The award's main purpose is to establish and reinforce the topic of sustainability in architecture, regional planning and urbanism in European universities.

The Blue Award shall recognize and award students and teachers dedicated in following this topic in their studies.

The Blue Award intends to organize a collection of student design work which addresses the issue of sustainability in architecture.

The Blue Award shall provide an impulse for improving teachings in the area of sustainability.

The Blue Award aims at making possible and intensifying the exchange between different faculties and architecture schools on an international level.

#### **A.3 Award Description**

The international and anonymous competition is debuting in 2009 and is intended for students of architecture, planning and urbanism.

#### **A.4 Eligibility**

The competition is open to university students, with proof of enrollment in one of the following semesters: Summer Semester 2008, Winter Semester 2008/09, Summer Semester 2009 and Winter Semester 2009/10. The submitted project must be part of a tutored coursework, having taken place during one of the above-mentioned semesters. Professors and assistant professors are not eligible to take part.

#### **A.5 Legal Basis**

The competition documentation, including the answers to the questions submitted in writing, form the legal basis of the competition.

#### **A.6 Prizes**

Prizes totaling 15.000.- Euros will be awarded.

The prize winners will be invited to come to Vienna (travel costs and hotel paid by the organizer). The "Blue Award 09" will be handed out in three categories:

Category 1) Urban Transformation and Development

Category 2) Building with Ecological Systems

Category 3) Building in Existing Structures

## **A.7 Obligations of Organizer**

### **A.7.1 Public Announcement of Prize Winners**

The winning projects along with the projects of honorable mention will be published in a catalog and on the sponsor's website.

### **A.7.2 Copyright and Right of Ownership**

The author of a project shall retain the copyright of the submitted work. The sponsor reserves the right to publish internationally and free charge any submitted work under the stipulation that the author be mentioned. The author likewise reserves the right to publish his/her work.

## **A.8 Jury, Preliminary Evaluation**

The consultation of the jury is not public. All jury members, preliminary evaluators, as well as any persons involved in administering the competition are obligated to keep all information regarding the competition undisclosed until the results of the jury are officially made public. The jury is entitled to decide independently, incontestably and definitively in all relevant questions and topics. The jury is obligated to carry out their work objectively and in accordance with the competition guidelines, and as such carries a responsibility on behalf of the organizer and entrants.

The international jury is composed of three architects, one city planner, one expert in the area of sustainability and one architecture journalist. Half of the jurors, including the presiding juror, shall be professors. Nobody of the organizational team shall take part in the jury. The preliminary evaluation will be executed by a hired team of examiners.

## **A.9 Competition Schedule and Location**

The competition begins on November 10, 2009, 10.00hrs. Questions in writing are to be submitted per email at the latest by Monday, December 4, 2009, addressed to [blueaward@raumgestaltung.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:blueaward@raumgestaltung.tuwien.ac.at). The questions along with their answers will be published no later than December 12, 2009 on the website [www.blueaward.at](http://www.blueaward.at).

Projects will be accepted until Monday, 12 noon, February 1, 2010.

Postal stamps or receipts will not be considered valid. Therefore, participants are responsible in ensuring that projects sent per carrier arrive by the above-mentioned deadline. Projects submitted in person can be dropped off at the Administrative Office, Department for Spatial and Sustainable Design: A-1040 Vienna, Karlsplatz 13/253/3, Stiege 3, 4.OG.

Postal address:

Vienna University of Technology  
Department of Spatial and Sustainable Design  
Karlsplatz 13/253/3, A-1040 Vienna  
Austria

The awards ceremony will take place on April 22, 2010, 6:00 p.m and an exhibition of the prize winners' works is scheduled to take place from April 23 to April 30, 2010 at the Vienna University of Technology.

## **A.10 Registration**

Participants can register for the „Blue Award 09“ and access competition information at the website [www.blueaward.at](http://www.blueaward.at). Registration ends on February 1, 2010.

## **A.11 Identification Form**

The identification form is to include the following information: an alphanumeric identification code consisting of six figures, the first designating the type of entry (B-Bachelor, M – Master, D-Diploma), the names and addresses of the authors along with an email address for correspondence, the project leader in case of group entries, the name of the university and

advisor/tutor, the project task, the semester in which the work was completed and finally, bank information consisting of the IBAN and BIC codes necessary for transferring funds within the EU.

With the signing of this form, the entrant is declaring that he/she

- acknowledges and accepts the rules and guidelines of the competition,
- is author of the submitted work,
- is eligible to take part as stated by the competition rules and
- grants the right to have his/her project published free of charge.

## **A.12 Inquiries**

Please address all questions per email to Mrs. Anna Lugbauer, Administrative Office, Department of Spatial and Sustainable Design,  
[blueaward@raumgestaltung.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:blueaward@raumgestaltung.tuwien.ac.at)

## **B Specific Information**

### **B.1 Aim and Scope of Competition**

The purpose of this initiative is to expose and promote the efforts in the field of sustainability as applied to the academic areas of architecture, regional planning and urbanism.

Considering its economical, cultural and social dimensions, sustainable development should be treated equally alongside technical and functional issues when solving problems in architecture, regional planning and urbanism.

The competition is an open invitation to present future-oriented and sustainable solutions. How will our built environment present itself in the coming years? Not one-dimensional solutions lead to results, but rather a comprehensive view of the tasks at hand leads to results and an environment worth experiencing.

Entrants can submit projects in the following three categories:

#### **B.1.1 Category 1**

Urban Transformation and Development

The emphasis of this category spans from urban redevelopment, renewal, and restructuring of existing city fabric to development of new housing structures and typologies. Concepts dealing with self-sufficient housing developments, environment friendly forms of mobility, and new interpretations of open/public spaces in urban areas are equally important to this category.

#### **B.1.2 Category 2**

Building with Ecological Systems

Sustainable building touches upon the entire act of form-giving. The submitted projects are to reveal the basic principles of sustainable planning and construction, including its social, economical and ecological factors, in the form of an architectonic design.

#### **B.1.3 Category 3**

Building in Existing Structures

The topics of this category are methods of renovation, adaptation and conversion. Beyond these usual themes, projects will be awarded which succeed in increasing significantly the average longevity and usage capacity of existing structures, as well as projects which reduce the volumetric demand of new construction.

## **B.2 Adjudication Criteria**

The projects presented to the jury shall be judged according to the following criteria:

### **Quality of the Project**

- Spatial Quality

specifically the urban and/or architectural spatial concept, as well as the spatial consistency in realization of the project idea.

- Presentational Quality

specifically the degree and level of development, as well as the choice in pictures, drawings, and text of the project in terms of their relevancy to the topic "Building for an environment worth living in".

### **Sustainability of the Project**

1) Context

specifically the relationship to the surrounding rural, urban, natural and climatic situation. Important approaches to a solution can be found in the following areas: climate-suitable planning, integration of existing spatial, social and cultural structures, and infrastructures, traffic concepts with their effect on open and public spaces...

Development opportunities exist in projects of the smallest scale.

Concepts will be evaluated according to their potential satisfying the criteria of sustainability, as described in section 3-6.

2) Spatial Structure

specifically the placement, orientation, structuring, direction, distribution .... of area, space, use, volume... in connection with the specific site situation (climate, topography, lot, given circumstances,...).

Concepts will be evaluated according to their potential satisfying the criteria of sustainability, as described in section 3-6.

3) Social and Cultural Dimensions of the Project

Cities, settlements and buildings incorporate not only raw materials and energy, they also store a cultural identity and shape the everyday, the way people interact with one another. Your submission is important in defining the cultural and social structures behind a comprehensive sustainable concept.

4) Resources, Emissions – Consumption, Usage, Reclamation

Resources such as land, water, raw materials, energy, .... are limited in their availability. Temporal and spatial concepts as well as concepts in usage, planning processes, construction, choice of materials,... all have an effect on the consumption of resources along with their associated waste and emissions. Sustainable concepts of spatial structures account for the consumption of resources along with their emissions during the phases of production, usage and reclamation. They occupy themselves with the possibilities in conversion and reclamation of spent resources or waste, as well as with the ideas and solutions that ensure a resource allocation of duration and longevity.

5) Comfort and Health

specifically the comfort in terms of visual, spatial, acoustical characteristics,... a comfort that brings a positive balance in the user's sense of well-being. Health aspects affect locally every form of a user's health, from the available amount of private and/or public green spaces to the levels of contaminants in incorporated building materials.

6) Fauna and Flora

Urbanism and architecture displace natural habitats along with their biodiversity. Specific methods can allow newly developed spaces to become those fostering development of plant and animal species.

### **Innovation of Projects**

Solutions will be evaluated as innovative on various scales, those fostering, encouraging and allowing a comprehensive approach towards an environment worth living in. Innovative solutions can be found in the planning approach, the planning process, the structures of settlements and buildings, in construction or in material application. Technical innovation is to be considered here as one of many possible forms of innovation.

### **B.3 Scope of Submitted Work**

All documents and drawings are to be identified with a six-digit code, located in the upper right-hand corner and having the dimensions of 1 cm in height by 6 cm in width. The first sign of the code characterizes the form of the project (B - Bachelor, M - Master, D – Diploma). Following documents are required from the participants:

#### **B.3.1 Drawing Documentation**

Two panels/sheets are available for drawings, each DIN A1 format, 59.4 x 84.1 cm. The submitted project is to be presented in a comprehensive and understandable fashion by means of:

- site plans
- floor plans
- sections
- elevations
- 3D illustrations (renderings, model photos)
- all comments and texts are to be in English.

#### **B.3.2 Project Description**

A short and concise description of the project (max. 2000 characters in English) shall outline the key features of the design. The fundamental ideas behind the design are to be stated here.

- architectonic aspects
- functional aspects
- urban aspects
- economical and ecological aspects
- social aspects, etc.

#### **B.3.3 Curriculum Vitae**

A brief biographical résumé (max. 1500 characters in English), including a passport photo (3 x 4 cm as JPEG) of the participant.

#### **B.3.4 Identification Form**

This form is to be completed, signed, enclosed in an envelope on which outside only the six-digit identification code appears, and submitted along with the other documents. In this form, the professor confirms the supervision of the project.

#### **B.3.5 List of Contents**

A list of all documents submitted is also to be enclosed.

### **B.4 Format of Submitted Documents**

#### **B.4.1 Analog Documents**

All drawings are to be submitted on white paper, unfolded and un-mounted (drawing tubes are to be wrapped and labeled with the six-digit identification code and the title "Blue Award 09"). Drawing size and number are limited to a maximum of 2 sheets, each 59.4 x 84.1 cm DIN-A1 portrait orientation.

- Drawings 2x DIN A1 portrait orientation
- Project description 1 DIN A4
- Curriculum vitae (CV) 1 DIN A4
- List of contents 1 DIN A4

#### **B.4.2 Digital Documents**

All documents are to be submitted in digital form as a project CD (please label the CD with only the six-digit identification code).

- Drawings as PDF files (300dpi)
- Project description 1 DIN A4 as .DOC (.DOX)

- Curriculum vitae (CV) 1 DIN A4 as .DOC (.DOX)
- List of contents 1 DIN A4 as .DOC (.DOX)

### **B.5 Competition Documentation**

Competition documentation, including the identification form, are available only in digital form and can be downloaded at the following link:

[www.blueaward.at](http://www.blueaward.at)