ARCHITEAM

MEDIA RELEASE

SUBJECT:	**ARCHITEAM 2026 AWARDS** ARCHITEAM REVEALS 2026 AWARDS FINALISTS CELEBRATING THE BEST OF AUSTRALIA'S SMALL PRACTICE ARCHITECTURE
FROM:	Phoebe La Gerche-Wijsman
DATE:	5 October 2026

With more than 1,000 members nationally, ArchiTeam has championed small practice architects for more than three decades, with a mission to empower and support small practice architects to thrive.

The 2026 Awards attracted an impressive collection of projects from ArchiTeam members across Australia, judged by a distinguished panel of architects and design professionals from across the country.

This year's jury was chaired by ArchiTeam member Phillip Stejskal | Stejskal Architecture (WA) and included:

- Phillip Culpan | Jackson Clements Burrow (QLD)
- Chris Barnes | Field Office Architecture (VIC)
- Yvonne Meng | Circle Studio (VIC)
- Anne Taylor | Taylor Buchtmann Architecture (SA)
- Stuart Tanner | Tanner Architects (TAS)
- Catherine Downie | Downie North (NSW)
- Madeleine Swain | Niche Media (National) – Media Judge
- Jean Graham | ArchiTeam Awards Director

A showcase of small practice architecture at its best
The 2026 Awards span an exciting range of architectural work, from residential alterations and additions through to new homes, heritage, commercial, community and public projects, unbuilt work and architectural innovation.

New for 2026 is the **Early Career Award** (sponsored by **Co-architecture**), recognising architects in the first five years of their registration and celebrating the next generation of small practice talent.

The Awards also include the **Innovation & Contribution Award** (sponsored by **The University of Melbourne / Melbourne School of Design (MSD)**, recognising work that extends beyond building design to encompass advocacy, research, education, placemaking and other initiatives that make a meaningful contribution to architecture and the wider community.

In its second year, the **Heritage Award** (proudly supported by the **National Trust of Australia (Victoria)** & The Australian Council of National Trusts (ACNT)), saw an increase in entries, highlighting the breadth of expertise among ArchiTeam members. The projects demonstrate that heritage architecture is about more than restoration, showcasing innovative approaches to adaptive reuse, sustainability and sensitive contemporary design that gives existing buildings a new life and continued relevance.

Other partners include **Colorbond**, **AWS**, **No1 Roofing**, and **Bookshop by Uro** while the **Australian Passivhaus Association** continues to offer the Passivhaus Award to ArchiTeam members.

And the winners are...
The finalists will now go head-to-head, with the winners to be revealed at the **ArchiTeam 2026 Awards Opening Night on Wednesday 18 November at Collingwood Yards in Melbourne**.

Alongside the category winners, the night will reveal the recipients of the coveted Small Project Medal, Sustainability Medal and ArchiTeam Medal.

The **ArchiTeam 2026 People's Choice Award**, sponsored by **Lights Lights Lights**, is also still up for grabs, with public voting open until **5pm Wednesday 21 October**.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTING HERE

ArchiTeam CEO **Phoebe La Gerche-Wijsman** said the Awards provide an important opportunity to recognise the enormous contribution small practice architects make to Australia's built environment.

"The ArchiTeam Awards are always a wonderful reminder of the breadth and quality of work being produced by small practices across Australia.

"Our members are doing extraordinary work, often with small teams, limited resources and incredibly close relationships with their clients. The result is architecture that is thoughtful, highly considered and deeply connected to people and place.

"We're incredibly proud to celebrate our finalists and can't wait to reveal the winners in November."

Tickets for the Awards Opening Night will support **Foodbank Australia** , with ticket payments donated to help fight hunger in Australia.

Join us on Wednesday 18 November to celebrate the finalists, discover the winners and raise a glass to the architects behind some of Australia's most thoughtful small-practice architecture.

Book your tickets to the ArchiTeam 2026 Awards Opening Night

ARCHITEAM AWARD CATEGORY FINALISTS

RESIDENTIAL NEW AWARD

Finalists of this category recognise projects that push the boundaries of modern living while responding sensitively to their context. Projects should showcase innovative approaches to residential design, demonstrating how new builds can create meaningful, sustainable, and beautiful living spaces that enhance both occupant wellbeing and the broader community fabric.

This category has been broken down into the following subcategories based on budget.
a) Resi New: Up to $1m (**Sponsored by AWS**)
b) Resi New: $1m+ (**Sponsored by No1 Roofing**)

Resi New: Up to $1m
Finalists:

- *Chewton House* - Bush Studio
- *St Kilda East House* - Ben Lance Architects
- *Scent of Wood* - Kasumi Architecture

Resi New: $1m+
Finalists:

- *House RaRa* - Berresford Architecture
- *House of Shadows* - Atelier Marks Gaal
- *Mansfield House* - Field Office Architecture
- *Sorrento House* - Victoria Merrett Architects
- *Taranaki* - Foomann Architects
- *Wrighty Tighty Hause* - Envirotecture
- *Yowani* - Atelier Marks Gaal

RESIDENTIAL ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS AWARD
As above, finalists of this category have shown outstanding transformations of existing residential buildings, celebrating projects that breathe new life into existing structures while respecting their original character. It highlights the creative solutions required to work within established constraints, demonstrating how thoughtful interventions can dramatically improve living spaces while maintaining connection to the building's history.

This category has been broken down into the following subcategories
a) Resi Alts + Adds: Up to $500k
b) Resi Alts + Adds: $500k - $1m
c) Resi Alts + Adds: Over $1m+ **(Sponsored by Colorbond)**

Resi Alts and Ads Up to $500k
Finalists:

- *Campbell House* - Nuud Studio
- *Collingwood Cottage* - Architects Design Office
- *Living at Cloudstone* - Up to Something
- *Merry* - Circle Studio Architects
- *Not Firewood* - Warc Studio Architects
- *Soft Light Apartment* - Tsai Design

Resi Alts and Ads $500k-$1m
Finalists:

- *Front House Back House* - ioa studio
- *Thornbury Eucalypt House* – CARD
- *This is Monet* - Pepper & Well
- *Toorak House* - Pop Architecture
- *Princes Hill House* - BENT Architecture

Resi Alts and Ads Over $1m+
Finalist:

- *Borland Crossman House* - WOWOWA Architecture
- *Eleanor* - Topology Studio
- *Haines II* - Foomann Architects
- *Home Calling* - Blair Smith Architecture
- *Yarra House* - Fowler and Ward

COMMERCIAL AWARD
Finalists of this category celebrate excellence in commercial architecture, recognising projects that enhance public life, foster engagement, and create meaningful spaces for work, gathering, and commerce. It highlights the

architect's role in shaping dynamic environments that contribute to the built fabric while meeting functional and operational needs.

Finalists:

- *Astrid: Byron Bay* - Alte. Studio
- *Bayswater Warehouse* - AMASS Architects
- *Birkenstock at the Maltstore* - Melbourne Design Studios

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC AWARD
Finalists of this category celebrate projects that enhance public life and community engagement, recognising designs that create meaningful spaces for work, gathering, and civic interaction. It emphasises the architect's role in shaping shared spaces that contribute to the social fabric of our communities while meeting complex functional requirements.

Finalists:

- *Alma Road Townhouses* – Davidov
- *Keysborough Gardens Primary School* – Mihaly Slocombe
- *Queenborough Oval Facilities Upgrade* - Gaetano Palmese Architects
- *WWHS Rupanyup New Aged Care Wing* - EBD Architects
- *Yarra Ranges Special Development School* - Architecture architecture

HERITAGE AWARD – (proudly supported by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and The Australian Council of National Trusts (ACNT))

Entries in the Heritage Award are to highlight excellence in conserving, adapting, and revitalising heritage structures with sensitivity and innovation. Projects should demonstrate thoughtful integration of new elements, respect for historical integrity, and sustainable approaches that enhance long-term viability. Consideration is given to research, material authenticity, and evidence-based conservation methods, alongside the project's impact on the community and cultural landscape.

- *A Rare Survivor: The Thomas Messenger & Co. Glasshouse* - Creese Architecture
- *Borland Crossman House* – WOWOWA Architecture
- *Oakover* - AMASS Architects
- *Sky Terrace* - Ben Callery Architects
- *This is Monet* - Pepper & Well
- *Yarra House* – Fowler & Ward

UNBUILT AWARD

Finalists of this category celebrate the power of architectural imagination and theoretical exploration, providing a platform for projects that push the boundaries of what's possible. It recognises that unbuilt works can be powerful catalysts for change in architectural thinking and practice, whether they're competition entries, speculative proposals, or projects awaiting realisation.

Finalist:

- *Minka Residence* - Atlas Architects
- *The Unconditioned House* - Sunlight & Shelter

INNOVATION & CONTRIBUTION AWARD - (sponsored by The University of Melbourne / Melbourne School of Design (MSD),

This category recognises exceptional contributions to architecture beyond building design, celebrating initiatives, research, advocacy, and other work that advances the profession. It highlights the diverse ways architects can influence the built environment and society through thought leadership, education, and innovative practice.

- *Riverside Modern (walking tours and book)* - Jake Taylor Architecture
- *Spec Rep Help Desk*- Andever | Michael Smith

Social Handles:

ArchiTeam FB: https://www.facebook.com/architeam/
ArchiTeam Insta: @architeam_cooperative

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