

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Landscape Architecture Awards for the Nation's Capital revealed for 2022

AILA ACT has today announced the winners of the 2022 Landscape Architecture Awards, celebrating projects with a key focus on urban greening and community engagement.

13 project submissions were entered, with exciting submissions spanning across categories such as Civic Landscape, Urban Design, Landscape Planning and Community Contribution.

Across the submissions, the ACT Jury were impressed to see a focus on the renewal and renovation of many Canberra-based parks and landscapes. They highlighted the community and civic nature of landscape architects across the state.

Every two years, AILA ACT runs the Landscape Architecture Awards to showcase compelling work. Today, AILA ACT has revealed the official winners of each category in their state.

Across the 13 project submissions, a total of 10 projects were awarded for their outstanding and positive contributions to Australian Capital Territory's landscape architecture industry.

The entries included the creation of pollinator-friendly habitats, the reimagining of a traditional cemetery, and the revitalisation of an urban space, designed for social connection.

AILA ACT 2022 Awards Jury Chair Julian Raxworthy said Canberra has landscape architecture in its DNA, with the profession founded within the state, with its current urban form having been shaped by landscape architects over the last 100 years.

"With such a rich history in landscape architecture, it is unsurprising that the winning projects in this year's Australian Institute of Landscape Architects ACT Chapter Awards were concerned with tweaking, upgrading, or adding new layers to existing landscape architecture projects in Canberra," Mr Raxworthy said.

Canberra's popular City Park Walk received the Landscape Architecture Award, recognising the reinvigoration of the space, and a unique approach to create different layers of use.

"The enhancements at City Park Walk are particularly wonderful in the way it offers visitors a variety of spaces and places in which they can congregate and gather, from a large formal expanse of grass dotted with seating to more intimate spaces incorporating raised garden beds and diverse planting, which prodigy welcome relief from an otherwise hard-scaped and heat island-affected urban setting," Mr Raxworthy said.

Southern Memorial Park has also been acknowledged with an Award of Excellence for the reimagining of a traditional cemetery through unique landscape interventions and a focus on sustainability principles.

"The project demonstrates a great depth of thinking in terms of how the internment precincts have been configured, with careful consideration for a landscape setting designed to offer space for reflection and bereavement," Mr Raxworthy said.

Further impressive projects can be found in the official list of winners.

Please see <u>AILA ACT 2022 Landscape Architecture Winners attachment</u> + accompanying imagery here\*

\*Photographer credits have been provided in the file names of the images.

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) is the peak body for the landscape architectural profession, representing 3,000 members in professional practice, education and government within Australia and overseas. They are dedicated to enhancing the built and natural environment and promote sustainable and responsible design and advocacy on behalf of the profession, for the benefit of all communities in Australia.

AlLA's vision and mission is embedded in the commitment to lead a dynamic and respected profession, and creating places that support a healthy and liveable planet. The Institute's key priorities encompass climate positive design, connection to country, and gender equity.

AlLA's Chief Executive Officer, Ben Stockwin, has emphasised the significance of AlLA's work and their contribution to important dialogues: "our values are imbued in everything that we do, and we are excited to showcase the winning projects of this year's Landscape Architecture Awards as a living manifestation of our goals, our purpose for existing, and our vital contribution to the community."

"Landscape Architecture plays such an important role in the national debate of climate change, sustainability, and First Nations recognition. These Awards serve as another reminder of the sector's significance and impact." Mr. Stockwin said.

## For further information or to arrange media interviews, please get in touch:

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