



My News

Today's Paper

Local

SA

National

World

Opinion

Business

Entertainment

Lifestyle

Sport



## Business

# Australian Institute of Landscape Architects reveals winners of SA best parks, playgrounds and open spaces

SA's best parks and playgrounds have been revealed in an annual list highlighting the top open spaces around the state. See the full list.

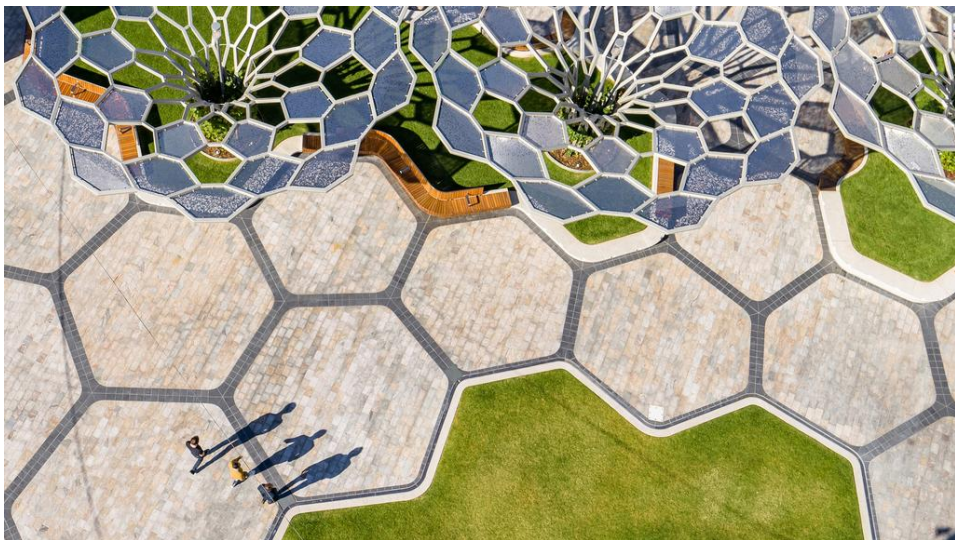


**Giuseppe Tauriello** [Follow](#)

@gtauriello 3 min read  
July 4, 2023 - 12:04PM

The Australian Business Network

0 comments



The Festival Plaza redevelopment was among the major winners at this year's Australian Institute of Landscape Architects SA awards. Picture: Dan Schultz

## Business

Don't miss out on the headlines from Business. Followed categories will be added to My News.

[Follow](#)

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) has revealed the winners of its annual SA awards, showcasing the state's best parks, playgrounds and open spaces.

Major winners this year include the [Kensington Wama/Kensington Gardens Reserve](#), which took out three awards including in the parks and open space category, while the [\\$43m Granite Island causeway](#) was recognised in the cultural heritage and regional achievement categories.

The [\\$15m, 3.2ha wetland in the southern part of Victoria Park](#) and the Thorndon Park Playground in Paradise were among the other winners of multiple awards.

AILA SA jury chair Carina Green said the 28 award winners were recognised for their ability to prepare for and respond to climate change.



The Granite Island causeway was a major winner at this year's Australian Institute of Landscape Architects SA awards. Picture: Sweet Lime Photo

“This year, many projects tackled the imperative for greening and habitat creation, ensuring biodiversity and cooling measures are prevalent while increasing and retaining tree canopy across the state,” she said.

“Through meaningful collaboration and strategic thinking, landscape architects can help communities adapt and plan for change, and even thrive. Understanding the drivers of change, and preparing for them, will create resilient communities.”

Winners at the state awards will go on to compete for the National Landscape Architecture Awards later this year.

**Some of the major winners:**

## **Kensington Wama/Kensington Gardens Reserve**

Designed by ASPECT Studios, Southfront and The City of Burnside

What the jury said: “The project has transformed an unsightly and odorous flood mitigation basin into an idyllic wetland environment, outdoor classroom and inviting meeting place that celebrates the value and importance of water. A destination and a local park, the project has made new and meaningful spaces for all parts of the community, integrating water-sensitive urban design and a new wetland, new play spaces, and sensitively designed public art celebrating the traditional custodians of the lands of the park.”





The Kensington Wama / Kensington Gardens Reserve. Picture: Dan Schultz

## Granite Island Causeway

Designed by Tract in collaboration with Cox

What the jury said: “An outstanding example of meaningful, genuine engagement of First Nations. Celebrating the cultural heritage of the Ngarrindjeri and Ramindjeri peoples, it brings to life their dreaming stories, and reveals the natural history of the site. It bridges the divide between the past and present. An ever-popular tourist destination, in its historic coastal setting, this is a once in a lifetime project that seamlessly integrates the history and honours the memories of the precinct, leaving an enduring mark for future generations.”



The new Granite Island causeway opened in 2021. Picture: Sweet Lime Photo

## South Parklands Wetland

Designed by TCL

What the jury said: “The South Parklands Wetland demonstrates expert planning, engineering and design, transforming over 3 hectares of a previously under-utilised and degraded part of Adelaide’s nationally significant Park Lands. With a sensitivity toward environmental protection, balancing recreational and water management objectives, and with an authentic representation of First Nations people throughout the project, T. C. L and their design team has delivered a

project which is an exemplar for green infrastructure, and the enhancement of natural ecosystems in the city.”



The South Parklands Wetland. Picture: Jackie Gu

## Thorndon Park Playground

Designed by JPE Design Studio

What the jury said: “Thorndon Park Playground provides the City of Campbelltown with an iconic all-ages destination play space. The playground stays true to its goal of creating ‘something for everyone’ whilst delivering an engaging and iconic playscape for the Adelaide suburbs.”



Thorndon Park playground. Picture: David Sievers

## ALL THE WINNERS

Awards of Excellence are the highest award given in each category.

Landscape Architecture Awards are the second tier of awards given in each category.

**Civic Landscape**

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Adelaide Festival Plaza Stage 1

Magill Village Redevelopment

### **Cultural Heritage**

*Award of Excellence:*

Granite Island Causeway

### **Landscape Planning**

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Adelaide Garden Guide for New Homes

### **Health & Education Landscape**

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Aldinga Payinthe College Campus

Blackfriars Priory School Jubilee Walkway

St Joseph's School Tranmere

### **Infrastructure**

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Dover Street Reserve

### **Land Management**

*Award of Excellence:*

South Parklands Wetlands

### **Parks and Open Space**

*Award of Excellence:*

Kensington Wama/Kensington Gardens Reserve

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Pasadena Biodiversity Corridor

### **Play Spaces**

*Award of Excellence:*

Thorndon Park Playground

## **Small Projects**

*Award of Excellence:*

Fire Circle

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Wilberforce Walk

## **Urban Design**

*Landscape Architecture Award:*

Adelaide Festival Plaza Stage 1

Adelaide City Skatepark

Prospect Road Regeneration Project

## **Regional Achievement Award**

Granite Island Causeway

## **ShadeSmart Award**

Adelaide Garden Guide for New Homes

Thorndon Park Playground

## **Water for Life Award**

*Award:*

Kensington Wama Wetland/Kensington Gardens Reserve

*Commendation:*

Aldinga Payinthe College Campus

Revitalising Duthy Street

## **Healthy Parks Healthy People SA Award**

*Award:*

Kensington Wama Wetland/Kensington Gardens Reserve

South Parklands Wetlands

*Commendation:*

Wilberforce Walk

*Special Mention:*

Pasadena Biodiversity Corridor

**SA Grown People's Choice Award**

Aldinga Payinthe College Campus

**AILA SA President's Award**

City Design – City of Unley

---

## More Coverage

[Kids need trees, not devices](#)

[25 things all Adelaide kids should do before they're 12](#)

---

### SA Business Journal Newsletter

Hi Lindy, get trusted business news delivered direct to your inbox.

[Sign up](#)



[Join the conversation \(0 comments\)](#)

---

### More related stories



Business

### A bittersweet end of financial year

The end of the financial year sadly brought with it the end of a long-standing business support initiative, Business SA says.

