

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 10PM THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER 2023

Australia's top landscapes revealed at national awards

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) has announced the winners of the 2023 National Awards at an event held in Adelaide. The jury, made up of renowned landscape architects, academics and built environment professionals, honoured 51 winners for their positive impact on the country's regions, towns and cities.

AILA National Awards Jury Chair Claire Martin says the work of landscape architects is more important than ever.

"The need for landscape architecture has never been greater," she says. "Whether by accelerating adaptation, strategising for carbon and flood mitigation, increasing biodiversity or improving the health of our waterways. Likewise, landscape architects can strengthen people's connection with their environment and to each other, improve livelihoods and health outcomes, foster truth telling and simply bring joy to people.

"In an emerging context of increased loss, damage, isolation, inequity and reduced insurability, the 2023 National Award winners offer valuable case studies on the benefits of good design.

"They demonstrate what is possible when, as a community, we invest in living infrastructure now and into the future. The jury commends the winners for their skill, commitment and conviction."

Community spaces win big

Tract and World Trails' **Great Ocean Road Trail Master Plan** took out the top Award of Excellence in the Landscape Planning category and a Regional Achievement Award. The Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail Master Plan guides the future construction of a 90km long walking trail connecting communities from Fairhaven to Skenes Creek. The jury said "The Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail Master Plan raises the bar for comprehensive masterplanning and design in one of Victoria's most iconic stretches of landscape. Its aim is to increase the area's capacity to support a diversity of experiences and user abilities. The jury was impressed by the calibre of thinking and leadership demonstrated by the project, the high quality of its communication and its engaging treatment of content."

Queensland's **Hanlon Park/Bur'uda Waterway Rejuvenation** by the Brisbane City Council, Tract, Bligh Tanner, Epoca Constructions, and AECOM, won an Award of Excellence in the Parks and Open Space category, a Landscape Architecture Award in the Land Management category and a Climate Positive Design Award. The Hanlon Park/Bur'uda Waterway Rejuvenation has returned nature to inner-city Brisbane, following an ambitious council program to holistically rethink the Norman Creek catchment. Previously an underutilised space with a concrete-lined channel, the newly naturalised creek has become a thriving place for people, thanks to a design that responds to Country, community, and ecology. The jury said "The project successfully combines flood and heat mitigation with increased biodiversity, delivering enhanced cultural, social, environmental and economic benefits."

JPE Design Studio's **Thorndon Park Playground** in South Australia took out Australia's best playground, winning an Award of Excellence in the Play Spaces category. The one-of-a-kind playspace offers a varied range of play opportunities for people of all ages and abilities and is inspired by the diverse and plentiful bird life that Thorndon Park is known for. The jury said "Thorndon Park Playground is an exemplary project that illustrates how landscape architects can deliver diverse and unique play experiences while remaining grounded in local site and community needs."

President's Award

The 2023 President's Award is a well-deserved honour bestowed upon Fiona Morrison, who holds the esteemed position of Commissioner of Open Space and Parks at the Department of Planning and Environment in New South Wales.

The award pays tribute to Morrison's outstanding contributions to the field of landscape architecture and, in particular, her remarkable work within the realm of public practice. Over the past five years, Morrison has demonstrated exceptional leadership, significantly shaping government policy and deepening the appreciation for the pivotal role that public spaces occupy at the heart of our communities.

The jury said "Although her primary influence has been in New South Wales, Morrison's impact resonates throughout the nation. She serves as an inspirational figure for the profession, motivating landscape architects to explore roles within public practice and encouraging the establishment of pathways for ecological restoration and environmental reconciliation."

AILA is the peak body for Landscape Architecture in Australia, championing quality design for public open spaces, stronger communities, and greater environmental stewardship.

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AILA National Awards Jury Chair Claire Martin is available for interview. Full awards list on following pages

For more information/high resolution images, please contact:

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Category: Gardens			
Project name	Winner	State	Award type
Banksia House Kings Beach	7b landscapes + interiors	Qld	Award of Excellence
Witchcliffe Ecovillage - Community Gardens	Sustainable Settlements with SW Landscape Collective and Topio Landscape Architecture	WA	Landscape Architecture Award
Category: Parks and Open Space			

Hanlon Park/Bur'uda Waterway Rejuvenation	Brisbane City Council, Tract, Bligh Tanner, Epoca Constructions, and AECOM	Qld	Award of Excellence
Kensington Wama/Kensington Gardens Reserve	ASPECT Studios, Southfront, The City of Burnside	SA	Landscape Architecture Award
South Parklands Wetland	T.C.L	SA	Landscape Architecture Award
Koolambidi Woola - Bunbury Youth Precinct	Playce Pty Ltd	WA	Landscape Architecture Award
Adelaide City Skatepark	Convic	SA	Landscape Architecture Award
<u>Category: Landscape Planning</u>			
Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail Master Plan	Tract and World Trails	Vic	Award of Excellence
<u>Category: Small Projects</u>			
The Victorian Family Violence Memorial	MUIR+OPENWORK	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
Fire Circle	T.C.L	SA	Landscape Architecture Award
Long Reef Surf Life Saving Club Courtyard	TYRRELLSTUDIO	NSW	Landscape Architecture Award
The Corner - Cairns School of Distance Education	Landplan Landscape Architecture	Qld	Landscape Architecture Award
The Calling Over Nagula	MudMap Studio, Michael Jalaru Torres, Jacky Cheng	WA	Landscape Architecture Award
<u>Category: Land Management</u>			
Shoreline Drive Landscape Plan	ASPECT Studios	Vic	Award of Excellence
Hanlon Park/Bur'uda Waterway Rejuvenation	Brisbane City Council, Tract, Bligh Tanner, Epoca Constructions, and AECOM	Qld	Landscape Architecture Award
Jacksons Creek biik wurdha Regional Parklands	Fitzgerald Frisby Landscape Architecture	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
<u>Category: Play Spaces</u>			
Thorndon Park Playground	JPE Design Studio	SA	Award of Excellence
Bob Gordon Playspace	City of Melville	WA	Landscape Architecture Award

Discovery Early Learning Centre	Playstreet	Tas	Landscape Architecture Award
Guide Park Playspace	Orchard Design with SBLA Studio	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
Hinterland Adventure Playground	Urbis	Qld	Landscape Architecture Award
<u>Category: Tourism</u>			
Lake Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan	ASPECT Studios	Vic	Award of Excellence
Cape Solander Whale Watching Facilities	OCULUS with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service	NSW	Landscape Architecture Award
<u>Category: Civic Landscape</u>			
Transforming Southbank Boulevard	City Design, City of Melbourne with TCL and Mike Hewson	Vic	Award of Excellence
Wangaratta Railway Precinct - Stage 01	Hassell Studio	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
Inveresk Urban Realm	REALMstudios	Tas	Landscape Architecture Award
<u>Category: Community Contribution</u>			
Yalinguth	Yalinguth Working Group	Vic	Award of Excellence
<u>Category: Cultural Heritage</u>			
Cultural Heritage @ Guwarri and Jiljirgun	MudMap Studio	WA	Award of Excellence
<u>Category: Infrastructure</u>			
Witchcliffe Ecovillage - Community Gardens	Sustainable Settlements with SW Landscape Collective and Topio Landscape Architecture	WA	Award of Excellence
North Williamstown Station LXP	Hassell Studio	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
Reimagining Tarralla Creek	GHDWoodhead	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
The Drying Green	McGregor Coxall with the City of Sydney	NSW	Landscape Architecture

	and Regal Innovations		Award
Category: Urban Design			
South Eveleigh	ASPECT Studios	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
Melbourne Connect	ASPECT Studios	Vic	Landscape Architecture Award
Category: Health and Education Landscape			
The School of Design & Built Environment - Curtin University	REALMstudios in collaboration with Apparatus Public Art + Cultural Services & Noongar Artist Kamsani Bin Salleh	WA	Award of Excellence
Karingal Green Health and Aged Care Community	Hassell	WA	Landscape Architecture Award
Category: Research, Policy and Communications			
Biourbanism :: Cities as Nature	McGregor Coxall	NSW	Award of Excellence
Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct Living Infrastructure Strategy	School of Built Environment, UNSW Sydney with the Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct partners	NSW	Landscape Architecture Award
Category: International			
Project name	Winner	Country	Award type
Bosjes	Square One Landscape Architects	South Africa	Landscape Architecture Award
Category: International continued			
Sapa & Surrounds: Lao Cai Province Urban Resilience Development Project	Hansen Partnership	Vietnam	Landscape Architecture Award
West Bund Riverfront Upgrade	Hassell	China	Landscape Architecture Award

Climate Positive Design Awards		
Project name	Winner	State

Hanlon Park/Bur'uda Waterway Rejuvenation	Brisbane City Council, Tract, Bligh Tanner, Epoca Constructions, and AECOM	Qld
South Parklands Wetland	T.C.L	SA
Sustainable streets – tree diversity and resilience planning through our Street tree master plan and species list	Arterra Design Pty Ltd	NSW
Vanam	Tanya Wood Landscape Architecture	NSW

<u>Regional Achievement Awards</u>		
Project name	Winner	State
Cultural Heritage @ Guwarri and Jiljirgun	MudMap Studio	WA
Great Ocean Road Coastal Trail Master Plan	Tract and World Trails	Vic
Lake Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan	ASPECT Studios	Vic
Hinterland Adventure Playground	Urbis	Qld
Wangaratta Railway Precinct - Stage 01	Hassell Studio	Vic

<u>President's Award</u>	
Winner	State
Fiona Morrison	NSW

Jury:

- Claire Martin (Jury Chair)
- Janelle Arbon
- Jack Qian
- Kaylie Salvatori
- Rosie Halsmith
- Alan Hoban

Please visit www.aila.org.au for more information.