

GIL NICOL BIENNIAL AWARD

2017

Named in honour of one of Western Australia's great architects whose work was inspired by international experiences, the Gil Nicol Biennial Award recognises a local registered architect who is in the early stages of their career and is making or has the potential to make a significant impact on the State's built environment.

The Award was established in 2013 and is offered every two years. The winner receives \$15,000 which can be used for travel, research or study associated with the discipline of architecture.

Gilbert Ridgway Nicol was a senior partner in the award winning Perth based practice Cameron Chisholm and Nicol from the 1950s until his retirement in 1986. Together with Ross Chisholm, Gil built the practice to become a leader in Perth architecture designing such landmarks as Allendale Square, the Wesfarmers offices and Alexander Library. Gil was an inspiration to those who knew him and a man with enormous talent and vision. His commanding presence and rational argument for a scheme or a design solution was particularly formidable and he was responsible for a major part of the extensive success experienced by Cameron Chisholm and Nicol. He loved talking architecture and always encouraged young people to broaden their knowledge overseas, as he had done. This was the genesis of the award.

Gil passed away in September 2010. The generosity of his widow Mrs Jenny Nicol (Shannon) as sole benefactor of this award is greatly appreciated. A former practising architect herself, Jenny's passion for good design and shared love of architecture left her in no doubt about the value of such an award. It has been her absolute pleasure to set up the initiative with the Australian Institute of Architects in Western Australia.



Eligibility Criteria

- Entrants must be a member of the Australian Institute of Architects, WA Chapter
- Entrants must be a current registered architect in Western Australia;
- Entrants must be aged 40 or under as at the closing date for submissions;
- Entrants must not be a previous winner of the award;
- Entries from partnerships will be accepted provided each partner meets all eligibility criteria listed above.

Entry Requirements

- A creative written statement outlining the travel, and or research;
- Curriculum Vitae (four pages maximum);
- Two references from either an employer or client;
- Photograph of the entrant;
- Cost Plan and nominal time frame indicating when the funds will be acquitted;
- Additional material upon request from the jury;
- Interview by the jury.

Conditions of Award

- A minimum of three (3) eligible entries must be received by the closing date or the jury may decide not to award a winner;
- Travel, research or study must be undertaken by 31 December 2018;
- The recipient will be required to share their experiences with Institute members either through a verbal presentation or in a written piece to be published in the Spring 2018 edition of The Architect.

Jury Panel Makeup

- The Chapter President or nominated representative;
- Mrs Jenny Nicol;
- The previous winner of the award;
- Other representative deemed suitable by the Chapter President.

Judging Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria, conveyed through the written application and on presentation in the interview:

- Distinctiveness of the applicant's proposal and demonstrated relevance of the travel/research/ study program
- Benefits that the proposed program will bring to the applicant's contributions to architecture and the community in Western Australia
- Feasibility of achieving the aims of the proposed program in terms of outcomes, budget and time frame
- Applicant's ability to communicate the program outcomes to an architectural audience, through either a verbal or written presentation
- Quality and content of the written statement. It is important that you include references to your ambitions and how your proposal will benefit architecture and the profession;
- Quality, content and performance at the oral presentation and interview.

How to Enter

- Written submission must be received by the Australian Institute of Architects, WA Chapter by 4.00pm on Friday, 28 April 2017.
- Judging will take place in May 2017.
- Winner announced at the WA Architecture Awards Presentation Evening on Saturday 23 June 2017.

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