



**AIA** Chicago  
Foundation

# Dubin Young Architect Award Demystified

2020 Awards Season



# Important dates

## **September 10, 2020**

- Submissions due by midnight CST
- No exceptions to deadline
- Don't wait until the last minute

## **Early October**

- Applicants receive decision notification



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# 2020 Jury

AIA Chicago Foundation Board Members



# Eligibility

- Between the ages of twenty-five (25) and thirty-nine (39) OR licensed ten (10) years or fewer
- Licensed to practice architecture in the United States
- Actively practicing in the Chicagoland area
- Member of the AIA Chicago
- Sitting AIA Chicago and AIA Chicago Foundation board members are not eligible to apply



# Nominations

## **You can be nominated by the following:**

- AIA Chapter
- Fellows
- Knowledge Community Members
- AIA Chicago Board Members
- Self Nomination

# Final uploads

## Upload 1

- Resume and Statement of Contributions
- Project Information
- Declaration of Responsibility
- Reference Letters

## Upload 2

- Interview video



# Resume and statement of contributions

- Include your summary statement (25-35 words)
- Be short, concise, direct
- Should read like an amplified resume
- Don't forget awards, publications, community and AIA involvement
- Show how multifaceted you are
- Highlight your strongest contributions focusing on 3 main points
- Offer explanations if there are gaps



# Project information

At least four (4) and no more than six (6)

- Outline pertinent information about the project, but use text to explain your specific role
- Emphasize YOUR contributions. This profession is collaborative, but this is about YOU
- Discuss how your involvement made the project better
- Put your strongest projects first
- Projects may include: volunteering; publications; demonstrations of leadership – does not have to be just about design.
- Include Declaration of Responsibility on each project page.





# One way video interview

- Do not read your answers
- Jot down key points rather than paragraphs
- Tell clear and concise stories that are examples of your accomplishments.
- Do not exceed 6 minutes
- Practice
- Be yourself

# Declaration of responsibility

- Declaration of Responsibility statement page is included in the Dubin Award guidelines for use
- Place Declaration of Responsibility on each project page
- Signers do not have to be architects
  - Must be someone who can attest to the contributions you are listing
  - Can be a client, owner, public official, etc.
  - Seek out multiple signers to show a wide range of support

# Reference letters

- Each reference should specifically focus on one or more aspects of your contributions already highlighted previously in the submission
- Letters should speak directly about YOUR work
- References should have a direct connection to YOU and YOUR work
- Avoid “big name” architects offering no substance

# What the jury is looking for

- Strong, specific reference letters
- High-quality images/exhibits
- Clarity
- Consistency
- Leadership
- Well roundedness-work, AIA involvement, connection to your community, etc.

# Floating fallacies

- Awards are not given for purely architectural design

# Overall, remember

- Clear, concise presentation
- Consistent orientation
- Legible font size and colors; page numbers
- White space is not the enemy
- Strong/specific references
- Support for summary statement
- Focus on results/achievements
- Demonstrate influence to date in profession

# Resources

- Site: <https://www.aiachicago.org/awards/award-programs/>
- Contact:  
Allison Garwood Freedland: [afreedland@aiachicago.org](mailto:afreedland@aiachicago.org), 312.376.2725