



EAST AFRICA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (EAIA)

Contact office: Mwema & Co. CPA & Auditors, Uchumi Building, Sokoine Road Arusha

P.O Box 10294, Arusha, Tanzania, Tel: +255 768373897

Email: secretarygeneral@eai-architects.org, secretariat@eai-architects.org

THE EAIA PRESIDENT'S AWARD

INTRODUCTION

The EAIA President's Award is an annual competition open to architecture students in universities in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda. The award recognizes and honors outstanding architectural design and innovation while fostering cross-border collaboration and knowledge sharing among future architects. The East Africa Institute of Architects (EAIA) invites students to participate in the 2025 EAIA President's Award, which will challenge participants to develop creative, sustainable, and contextually responsive architectural solutions.

BACKGROUND

The Institute is committed to advancing architectural education and fostering professional growth among students in East Africa. One of its key missions is to support and promote excellence in architectural learning by providing platforms for students to engage in critical thinking, design exploration, and industry collaboration. Through competitions, mentorship programs, and student-focused initiatives, EAIA aims to bridge the gap between academia and professional practice, ensuring that emerging architects are well-prepared to address the evolving challenges of the built environment. The annual architectural competition is a cornerstone of this mission, catalyzing the region's creativity, innovation, and cross-cultural exchange.

THE CHALLENGE

The Institute invites students of architecture to showcase their academic projects, exploring diverse themes in architecture. Without restrictions on subject matter, participants are encouraged to push the boundaries of design, research, and innovation. The competition seeks projects that critically engage with contemporary architectural discourse, address pressing societal needs, and demonstrate excellence in conceptual thinking, sustainability, and execution.

ENTRY CATEGORIES

- **Category 1: East Africa Final Year Architecture Best Project.**
Open to final-year architecture students in tier two of studies. Entries must be final-year projects started and completed between July 2024 and July 2025.
- **Category 2: Intermediate Years Country Member Section Best Project.**
Open to continuing architecture students in intermediate years. Entries must be projects started and completed between July 2024 and July 2025.
- **Category 3: Junior Years Country Member Section Best Project.**
Awarded to the best project from students in junior years of study. Entries must be projects started and completed between July 2024 and July 2025.



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REGISTRATION

- This competition is open to the students of architecture in:
 - Kenya:** University of Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenyatta University, Technical University of Kenya, and Technical University of Mombasa.
 - Uganda:** Uganda Martyrs University, Kyambogo University, Makerere University, International University of East Africa.
 - Tanzania:** Ardhi University, Mbeya University of Science and Technology, University of Dar es Salaam.
 - Rwanda:** University of Rwanda, Institute of Applied Sciences Ruhengeri
- One registration = One entry.
- Upon registration confirmation, entrants shall be assigned unique identification numbers to be included in all their submissions.
- Registration shall be done online.

SCHEDULE

MILESTONE	DATE
<i>Competition announcement</i>	<i>April 8, 2025</i>
<i>Jury Announcement</i>	<i>May 12, 2025</i>
<i>Registration Deadline:</i>	<i>May 23, 2025</i>
<i>Submission Deadline:</i>	<i>June 13, 2025</i>
<i>Shortlisting and Jury Evaluation:</i>	<i>June 20, 2025</i>
<i>Announcement of the winners:</i>	<i>July 11, 2025</i>

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Entrants must submit their proposal not later than **June 13, 2025, 23:59:59 EAT**.

Submission must contain the following:

1. 2no. digital copy sheets with the project information, including plans, elevations, sections, and perspectives. Participants are encouraged to submit all the information they consider necessary to explain their proposal. The sheets should be in A1 LANDSCAPE (841mm x 594mm) format. The resolution of the sheets must be 150 dpi, RGB mode. The upper right corner of each sheet must contain the unique identification number. There should be NO marks or any other form of identification. Naming should take the following format: the unique identification number followed by the sheet number. For example, 0101-1 and 0101-2.
2. A PDF document containing the project statement (600 words max). This file must be named after the unique identification number, followed by the word "statement". For example, 0101-statement.pdf.
3. A PDF document containing the entrants' personal information, including name and admission numbers. This file must be named after the unique identification number, followed by the word "info". For example, 0101-info.pdf.



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4. All the files must be placed in a ZIP folder named after your unique identification number. For example, 0101.zip.

THE JURY

Muyiwa Oki (President, RIBA | Senior Architectural Manager, Mace Group)

Muyiwa Oki is an architect, built-environment leader, and the youngest-ever President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). A champion for inclusivity, sustainability, and innovation, he has redefined RIBA's mission, shaping policies on education, climate action, and building safety through technology adoption.

As a Senior Architectural Manager at Mace Group, he specializes in mitigating design, financial, and operational risks for complex global projects, including Euston HS2, North London Heat and Power Project, and KSA Vision 2030. His expertise in digital technologies and whole-life carbon analysis has led to scalable, high-value infrastructure solutions.

Beyond his professional work, Muyiwa mentors aspiring architects and promotes youth engagement through the Mayor of London's Design Future London Challenge. He has contributed to global forums such as COP28 and CHOGM Roundtable, advocating for architecture's role in sustainability. A design thinker and storyteller, he enjoys cycling through cities, exploring contemporary art, and immersing himself in highlife music.

Omar Degan (Founder & Principal DO Architecture Group | Architect | Educator | Cultural Strategist)

Omar Degan is a Somali-Italian architect and the founder of DO Architecture Group, with offices in Somalia, Italy, and the United States. His practice is grounded in post-conflict reconstruction, sustainable design, and emergency architecture, with a strong emphasis on cultural identity and resilience. Through his work, he advocates for design that uplifts marginalized communities and restores dignity to displaced populations.

Omar's design philosophy blends traditional knowledge with contemporary innovation, as seen in projects like the Salsabiil building in Mogadishu—an architectural tribute to Somali heritage. He holds a degree in architecture from the Politecnico di Torino and a master's in sustainability from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

In addition to his architectural practice, Omar is a lecturer and public speaker who actively participates in global conversations on architecture and social justice. Named an Obama Leader in 2022, he continues to use architecture as a tool for healing, empowerment, and cultural preservation across fragile and post-crisis contexts



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Stephanie Vaz Ferreira (Associate at Gensler | Architect | Community Planner | DEI Champion)

Stephanie Vaz Ferreira is an architect and design leader at Gensler, bringing a fresh and creative perspective to architecture, policy, and advocacy. With a deep passion for serving marginalized communities and tackling socially complex issues, she is dedicated to discovering innovative solutions that address the needs of clients, end-users, and the broader community.

With expertise in K-12 school and aviation design, as well as community planning and engagement, Stephanie integrates sustainability, equity, and inclusivity into her work. She co-leads Equity and Inclusion initiatives in Gensler's Northwest Region, where she actively champions efforts to create a more just and diverse architectural profession. Her commitment to participatory design and grassroots planning ensures that the communities she works with have a voice in shaping their environments.

A native of Guinea-Bissau, Stephanie is passionate about elevating the voices, expertise, and innovation emerging from the African continent. Her work blends design excellence with advocacy, storytelling, and international policy, making her a driving force in shaping equitable and sustainable cities for the future.

AWARDS

Category One: East Africa Final Year Architecture Best Project

1st place	USD 1,500
1st runner(s) up	USD 1,000
2nd runner(s) up	USD 500

Category Two: Intermediate Years Country Member Section Best Project

Kenya	USD 500
Uganda	USD 500
Tanzania	USD 500
Rwanda	USD 500

Category Three: Junior Years Country Member Section Best Project

Kenya	USD 250
Uganda	USD 250
Tanzania	USD 250
Rwanda	USD 250

Winners, honorable mentions, and selected projects will be displayed on the web pages and social media of the Pan-African University and the Department of Architecture, JKUAT.



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REGULATIONS

1. This is an anonymous competition, and the unique identification number is the only means of identification.
2. The official language of the competition is English.
3. Contacting the Jury is prohibited.
4. EAIA, as the competition organizer, reserves the right to modify the competition schedule if deemed necessary.
5. The organizer is granted permission to publish in print and digital publications all projects submitted to the competition.
6. All submissions shall become the property of EAIA.
7. Entrants will be disqualified if any of the competition rules are not followed.
8. Participation assumes acceptance of the regulations.

Signed:

Date: April 5, 2025

Tsalwa Waburiri, Arch.

President