

# International VELUX Award 2016 for students of architecture

## Scope

Daylight in architecture is an ever-relevant topic. Daylight has been used for centuries as the primary source of light for the interior and architects have always been interested in - and fascinated by daylight; yet daylighting can be a difficult discipline to approach, understand and master.

Daylighting describes the controlled use of natural light in and around buildings. It is the practice of placing windows, or other transparent media and reflective surfaces so that natural light provides effective internal illumination during the day. Successful daylighting requires design considerations at all stages of the building design process, from site planning to architectural, interior and lighting design.

Today buildings are major energy consumers and strategies for reducing energy use and carbon emissions are called for, such as using sunlight as a source of energy and light. Much focus on sustainable buildings has been on energy aspects. However, health is the most precious resource we have, and energy is only one aspect of sustainability. A primary goal for sustainability should be to sustain human life on Earth.

A good indoor climate, with generous daylight levels and provision of fresh air from outside, is the key to making homes, offices, kindergartens and schools healthy places to live and work in. We spend an excessive amount of time inside buildings - and the air that we breathe and the amount of daylight we are exposed to have a great impact on our health and well-being and thereby the quality of our lives. Therefore, we need to consider the right daylighting strategies and solutions for our buildings.

## The award

The International VELUX Award 2016 for Students of Architecture wants to encourage and challenge students of architecture to explore the theme of daylight - and to create a deeper understanding of this specific and ever-relevant source of energy, light and life. The award celebrates and promotes excellence in completed study works. These works can be made as works complying with the prize scope of rethinking the values of conscious daylighting design with focus on people's health in living and working environment. The award encourages projects that celebrate the privilege of being a student; with curiosity and with the willingness to thinking "out of the box" - as well as

considering the social, sociological and environmental dimension of light.

The award wants to acknowledge not only the students but their teachers as well. Therefore, teachers of the projects are also awarded.

## Themes

"Light of Tomorrow" is the overall theme of the International VELUX Award. The award seeks to challenge the future of daylight in the built environment with an open-minded and experimental approach. Therefore, the award seeks to widen the boundaries of daylight in architecture, including aesthetics, functionality, sustainability, and the interaction between buildings and environment.

## Type of Award and Categories

The award is an open ideas competition and it is organized globally in two phases: In the first phase regional prizes will be given to projects from the UIA member regions 1) Western Europe, 2) Eastern Europe and Middle East, 3) Americas, 4) Asia+ Oceania and 5) Africa. In the second phase prizes will be given to overall winners.

The award is not restricted to the use of VELUX products. Projects can, however show innovative thinking and use of specific building components as daylight providers within the scope of the award and the jury will be allowed to give special prizes to the best projects.

The overall theme is Daylight in Architecture and projects should focus on:

### 1) Daylight in buildings

Projects that demonstrate applicable principles for providing daylight and sunlight into buildings - including the effects of building construction and context of the site, shape and dimensions, window openings, screens, shadings, interior divisions, materials and external conditions

Specific focus on architecture for health and wellbeing, and projects that address challenges faced by cities, communities and modern societies, and where daylight and architecture can help create change through better and healthier living environments.

or

### 2) Daylight investigations

Projects that look at the physical properties of light, basics of optics and materials, as well as technological developments, new materials, storage or transportation of daylight.

The use of daylight in public space; for functional, recreational, cultural or spiritual use and its effect on state of mind, health and well-being as well as the dynamics and temporal quality of daylight and its effects on behaviour and spaces over time and seasons.

## Criteria

The jury will evaluate the projects in accordance with the following criteria:

- The work with daylighting as a premise for architecture
- How the project is researched and documented
- How the project addresses contemporary and future challenges
- The level of experimentation and innovation
- The overall graphic presentation of the project, how the project presents itself.

## The jury

All award entries are reviewed by an international jury and their election of the winners is based upon the above criteria. The constellation of the 2016 jury will be announced in January 2016.

## Who can participate?

The award is open to any registered student of architecture – individual or team – all over the world. We encourage multi-disciplinary teams including e.g. engineering, design and landscaping. Every student or student team must be backed and granted submission by a teacher from a school of architecture.

The award welcomes projects from individuals or groups of students, who are students during the study year 2015/16.

There is no limit to the number of entries from each school, but participating schools should ensure the quality of submitted study projects, e.g. by making a pre-judgment. VELUX employees cannot participate.

## Registration

Only students who have registered for the Award before 1 April 2016 can participate. To register, go to [iva.velux.com](http://iva.velux.com) and follow the instructions.

## Anonymity

To ensure anonymity, no names of entrants, teachers, schools or countries are allowed on any part of the submitted material. The registration and submission system of the International VELUX Award has been constructed to ensure anonymity of the participant through the process from registration to after the jury meeting.

The award, given every second year since 2004, is organised in co-operation with UIA, International Union of Architects, and the competition concept it based on UIA rules for international competitions.

## Submission

You submit your project on [iva.velux.com](http://iva.velux.com) using the IVA account that you create when you register. Deadline for submission is 15 June 2016.

Your project can only be delivered digitally and only by the person who has registered.

The jury evaluation is performed online and you should take into account, that your project should present itself digitally.

You submit:

- One image file, which depicts your project.
- A description of your project, no longer than 800 words in English.

Further specifications and inspiration is available on [iva.velux.com](http://iva.velux.com).

## Image specifications

File format	JPEG
File extension	.jpg
JPEG quality	Maximum
JPEG format options	Baseline ("Standard")
Color space	RGB (Preferred destination/mode Adobe RGB 1998)
Color depth	8 bit (per channel, three channels)
Aspect Ratio	16:9
Pixel aspect ratio	1:1 (Square)
Effective resolution	300 ppi (pixels per inch)
Maximum file size	150 MB
Dimensions	9600 pixels wide x 5400 pixels high (32 x 18 inch in 300 ppi)
Layout	Landscape
Layers	None Alpha channels None
Clipping paths	None

## Prizes

The total prize money is at least 30,000 €. According to the results of the International Jury, a Grand Prize of 5.000,00 Euro per category will be awarded (4.000 Euro for the student and 1.000 Euro for the teacher) for the most outstanding projects. Depending on the results for each region, a prize of 1,250 € per category will be awarded for the best projects (1,000 € to the student and 250 € to the teacher). The jury will be allowed to give a number of special prizes – hereunder prizes for innovative use of VELUX products.

## Winners' announcement

The winners of the International VELUX Award 2016 for Students of Architecture will be announced in October 2016.

All submitted projects will be displayed at [iva.velux.com](http://iva.velux.com) after the winners' announcement.

## Further information and questions

Further information, specification and inspiration will be available on [iva.velux.com](http://iva.velux.com).

Questions about the award can be submitted to [iva@velux.com](mailto:iva@velux.com) until 15 April 2016. Answers to questions will be thematised and published under FAQ on [iva.velux.com](http://iva.velux.com)

## Public announcement

Communication on and photos and films of winners, winning projects and honorable mentions will be released to architectural magazines, newspapers, web-pages and other relevant media after the winners' announcement.

By entering the International VELUX Award, the participants accept that the UIA and the organizer – the VELUX Group – may publish and disseminate the submitted projects and photos of the participants in analogue and digital form.

## Schedule

November 2015: Registration opens

1 April 2016: Registration closes; submission period opens

15 April 2016: Deadline for questions

15 June 2016: Submission deadline; project upload

June 2016: Jury meeting – evaluation of all submitted projects

October 2016: Winners announcement and online exhibition

Registration opens  
November 2015

Registration closes;  
submission period opens  
1 April 2016

Submission deadline;  
project upload  
15 June 2016

Winners announcement  
and online exhibition  
October 2016

Deadline for  
questions  
15 April 2016

Jury meeting – evaluation of  
all submitted projects  
June 2016

**VELUX®**