



SLC3 SHOW ME AWARDS

"2026 Design Firm of the Year"

The **Design Firm of the Year Award** recognizes an exceptional design firm whose work demonstrates excellence, creativity, and leadership across the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) industry. This award honors firms specializing in architecture, engineering, interior design, lighting design, landscape architecture, and related disciplines that shape the built environment through innovation, technical expertise, and thoughtful design.

Eligible firms may be recognized for design excellence, successful project delivery, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the ability to balance aesthetics, functionality, sustainability, and performance. Consideration is given to firms that advance industry standards through innovative approaches, emerging technologies, and integrated design solutions.

The award also highlights organizations that invest in talent development, foster inclusive and collaborative cultures, and contribute to their communities and the profession through leadership, mentorship, and industry engagement. The Design Firm of the Year represents the vision, creativity, and technical excellence that elevate the AEC industry and improve the spaces where people live, work, and gather.

Please complete the nomination form for this award below. This Form **MUST** accompany your submission.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

SUBMITTED BY	ORGANIZATION DETAILS	CONTACT INFO
Name	Full Name	Work
Role	Services:	Email
SLC3 Membership Type/Status:	Principal Contact:	Email

ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026 @NOON

SLC3 AEC SHOW ME AWARDS – APRIL 8, 2026

ST. LOUIS COUNCIL OF CONSTRUCTION CONSUMERS

301 Sovereign Court | Suite 101 | Ballwin, MO 63011 | info@slc3.org | slccc.net



Please provide the Awards Selection Committee with a response to the following criteria to be considered. Note, that we will determine finalists, which will be announced before the event. The winner is to be announced at the Awards Gala. Responses need to match the criteria. Provide examples and supporting information to criteria requests. All criteria are weighted, and the highest-scoring submission will be the winner. Finalists will be announced and honored.

Criteria:

1. Approach to Design Projects (20%)

Description: Explain your overall philosophy and approach to design. Highlight how this approach aligns with your company's values and addresses the unique needs of clients.

Key Points to Include:

- Design principles and how they are applied.
- Methods for understanding and exceeding client expectations.
- Incorporation of functionality, aesthetics, and context in designs.

2. Project Processes and Management (15%)

Description: Outline how you plan, manage, and execute design projects efficiently.

Key Points to Include:

- Collaboration strategies with stakeholders (clients, contractors, consultants).
- Quality control and review processes to ensure design excellence.
- Strategies for staying on schedule and within budget.

3. Creativity and Innovation (20%)

Description: Demonstrate how your designs showcase creativity, originality, and innovative problem-solving.

Key Points to Include:

- Unique design elements or creative solutions to complex challenges.
- Use of advanced technologies (e.g., BIM, VR/AR, parametric design).
- Examples of groundbreaking ideas or approaches that push boundaries.

4. Commitment to Sustainable Practices (15%)

Description: Showcase how sustainability is embedded in your design approach.

Key Points to Include:

- Use of sustainable materials and resources.
 - Energy-efficient or low-carbon design strategies.
 - Contributions to LEED or other sustainability certifications.
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5. Adherence to Schedule and Budget (10%)

Description: Provide evidence of your ability to deliver projects on time and within budget while maintaining high-quality design standards.

Key Points to Include:

- Examples of successful project delivery.
- Strategies for mitigating delays or cost overruns.
- Testimonials from clients on budget and schedule performance.

6. Awards and Recognitions (10%)

Description: Highlight any accolades, certifications, or industry recognitions your team has received.

Key Points to Include:

- Design awards from reputable organizations.
- Recognition for innovation, sustainability, or technical excellence.
- Inclusion in publications or industry rankings.

7. Areas of Specialty (10%)

Description: Describe the unique expertise or specialization that sets your company apart.

Key Points to Include:

- Focus areas such as healthcare, commercial, infrastructure, or residential design.
- Technical specialties or niche markets served.
- How your specialization delivers added value to clients.

Submission Guidelines

Written Narrative (Maximum 2,000 words): Address each criterion with specific examples, project highlights, and measurable outcomes.

Portfolio: Include high-quality images or renderings of completed projects.

Client Testimonials: Provide quotes or references from satisfied clients.

Supporting Documents: Share awards certificates, sustainability certifications, or other relevant recognitions.

Why This Design Firm (AE/E/A) Deserves Recognition

Each submission will be evaluated for how it demonstrates excellence, innovation, and a meaningful impact on clients, communities, and the industry.

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The winning design firm will embody exceptional creativity, technical skill, and leadership in advancing design excellence.

Evaluation: **Scoring and Evaluation Process**

Weighted Criteria: We will assign weight to each criterion based on its importance to our organization.

Panel Review: A diverse panel of judges representing different industry perspectives will be used to complete impartial evaluations. Highest score will win the award. Nominees will likely be finalists.

Award nominations **MUST** be submitted by **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026**. Please submit your nomination form and response to info@slc3.org. For questions regarding this nomination or the event, call the SLC3 office at 636.394.6200.

SPONSORSHIP: If interested in sponsoring this Award, please contact Rebecca Hale at rhale@slc3.org. Sponsorship is \$500 with sponsor recognition included on the invitation, program, and announced at the event.

By submitting this award nomination, you understand that we may list you as a finalist and will want to see you at our Awards Gala. All finalists and winners will be shared in all our communications and shared by partners of the SLC3. Our communications reach local owners, architects, engineers, consultants, program managers, construction managers, suppliers, labor unions etc.

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