

2025

SOUTHEAST DESIGNERS & ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR

CALL FOR ENTRIES NOW OPEN

ADAC is thrilled to announce that the Call for Entries is now open for the prestigious **2025 Southeast Designers & Architect of the Year Awards**. Each year, ADAC and *VERANDA* recognize firms and individuals from across the Southeast who exemplify the highest level of talent in the categories of Residential Interior Design, Contract Interior Design, and Architecture.

An esteemed panel of three judges will be responsible for the selection of finalists and winners in each of the three categories. Judges include a notable architect, an acclaimed interior designer, and a top editor from *VERANDA*.

Winners will be announced at the ADAC Southeast Designers & Architect of the Year Awards Gala, which is co-sponsored by *VERANDA*. The ceremony will coincide with ADAC's annual spring market, DESIGN ADAC, April 22 – 24, 2025. In addition to being recognized by *VERANDA* and Business of Home, a press release highlighting the finalists and winners will be sent to top-tier national, regional, and local media. Finalists and winners will also be promoted on ADAC social media channels and recognized in celebratory announcements from select media partners.

View past winners at adacatlanta.com/awardwinners

Key Dates:

- Call for Entries Opens: December 6, 2024
- Deadline for Submissions: February 28, 2025, 5 PM ET
- Finalists Announced: Week of March 31, 2025
- Finalist Celebration: April 23, 2025*
- Awards Gala: April 24, 2025*

*At least one principal from each firm that is selected as a finalist is required to attend both the Finalist Celebration and the Awards Gala.

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2025 SEDY AWARDS | CATEGORIES

- **Residential Interior Design:** Entries may include whole homes or singular spaces such as a kitchen, bathroom, or bedroom. Note: There are not separate categories for singular spaces and entries comprised of one space will be judged under the overall Residential Interior Design Category. While showhouse spaces and model homes are acceptable, only one (1) showhouse space or model home is accepted per submission and each award submission must include a minimum of one (1) project for a private client.
- **Contract Interior Design:** Entries should include boutique hospitality projects such as restaurants, offices, spas, hotels, or other specialty interiors.
- **Architecture:** Entries should include residential design and boutique commercial projects.

All design styles are eligible for consideration in each category.

2025 SEDY AWARDS | OFFICIAL RULES

- Eligible projects must have been completed within the past five (5) years.
- Submitted projects cannot have been previously featured in print or digitally by a national publication to ensure that the judging process is blind-coded.
- Submitted projects cannot have been previously submitted to VERANDA for review for publication, regardless of whether the project was published in print or digitally, to ensure that the judging process is blind-coded.
- Firms/Individual must have an office within one of the following states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, or Virginia.
- In the Architecture Category Only: The firm nominated for the award must have a licensed architect on staff.
- Firms/Individuals must submit an entry form and electronic portfolio.
- Firms/Individuals may enter in as many categories as applicable; each category submission requires a separate entry form and electronic project portfolio specific to that category.
- Firms/Individuals creating the submission must have the approval of all parties with legal ownership of the project.
- You may request that ADAC not publish images that are currently under consideration for publication or subject to confidentiality clauses. The images to be kept private, for the Judges' consideration only, must be clearly identified AND there must be a minimum of three (3) images in the submission that can be used publicly if your firm is named a finalist or winner.
- While VERANDA participates in the judging, the Magazine is not granted automatic rights or priority for publishing any project that is submitted. Interest in publishing projects will be communicated directly between VERANDA and the firm or individual after the judging is completed and the winners are revealed.

Note: ADAC reserves the right to use all materials contained within the submission in future printed and digital media for promotional purposes.

2025 SEDY AWARDS | HOW TO ENTER

1. Compile Electronic Portfolio

- Electronic Portfolios must be submitted via WeTransfer. (Submissions from Dropbox and other similar programs will not be accepted)
- Submissions should include up to ten (10) total images representing a maximum of three (3) projects. Do not exceed ten (10) images per submission.
- Of the ten (10) total images, include a minimum of two (2) images per project.
- For each of the projects submitted, include a summary description of work, not to exceed 100 words. The project description(s) must be included with the electronic portfolio formatted as a Word document or PDF. Do NOT submit a printed copy of your project descriptions.
- Clearly indicate which images are associated with each description.
- **IN THE RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY ONLY:** While showhouse spaces and model homes are acceptable, only one (1) showhouse space or model home is accepted per submission and each award submission must include minimum of one (1) project for a private client.
- **IN THE ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY ONLY:** Provide simple Floor Plans with directional arrows. Also, include labeled Elevations. Plans and Elevations will not count toward the ten (10) total project images.
- Do NOT submit 'before' images, as they will cause the submission to be disqualified.
- Submissions with more than ten (10) images will be disqualified.
- Professional photography is highly recommended, but not required.
- Images must be submitted as separate jpeg or tiff files at a recommended dpi of 300. Any other file type will be disqualified (ex: PDF, prepared slides, drawings, sketches, etc.)
- Image size must be less than 10,000kb
- Up to seven (7) images may be kept private and used for judging purposes only. Three (3) images must be able to be shown publicly should the firm or individual be selected as a finalist or winner.
- VERANDA is not granted automatic rights to publish or priority to publish. Interest in any submitted projects will be communicated directly between VERANDA and the firms or individuals once the judging process is complete.
- Images, project descriptions, and file names should not identify the submitting firm, individuals, or project names. Submissions with identifying information will be disqualified. The firm or individual name should only appear on the entry form.
- Entries including a project featured in print or digitally by a national publication will be disqualified.
- Entries including a project that has been submitted to VERANDA for publication, regardless of whether the project was published in print or digitally, will be disqualified.
- A completed entry form must accompany each electronic portfolio submission.

2. Submit Entry Form and Portfolio via WeTransfer to Cami Adair Maddox at cadair@adacatlanta.com, with the subject line: 2025 SEDY Submission.

Submissions must be received on or before **Friday, February 28, 2025, 5PM ET**

QUESTIONS?

Contact Cami Adair Maddox at cadair@adacatlanta.com

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EXAMPLES

Project A

A busy creative needed a home that would serve as a retreat from hectic travels, as well as a place to work and entertain informally. The compact structure was fitted onto a petite site, taking advantage of city views via a terrace and small pool. A neutral palate was selected that would be calm and serene. Clean simple interiors of sleek plaster walls and stone floors contrast with whitewashed wood plank ceilings, to create a backdrop for his collection of relics and artifacts.

File Names: Project A - Image 1, Project A – Image 2, Project A – Image 3, Project A – Image 4

Project B

This restaurant in a renovated mid-century dry cleaner has a fresh color palette of warm white, moss green, and slate grey against open brickwork walls, walnut, and leather banquettes and book matched marble counter tops. Three custom-designed chandeliers hang from a reclaimed oak parquet ceiling hang over the focal point of the space; a semi-circular hand-burnished brass countertop showcasing an expansive oyster bar.

File Names: Project B - Image 5, Project B – Image 6, Project B – Image 7

Project C

The master bedroom suite I had in mind was for the lady of the house, whom I “imagined to be strong and decisive but able to tap into her feminine side when she gets home.” A soft palette of pale gray-green and ivory creates a peaceful atmosphere, while further tranquility is provided by the canopy bed, a veritable room within room that is dressed in 140 yards of fabric. To accent the room, I used a few dark accessories, such as a large chinoiserie screen, placed above a custom sofa, and a striking photo over the mantel.

File Names: Project C - Image 8, Project C – Image 9, Project C – Image 10

2025 OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL AND ACCOMPANY YOUR PORTFOLIO LINK (using WeTransfer). THE FIRST TWO ITEMS MUST BE CLEARLY SIGNED, OTHERWISE YOU WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

I affirm project(s) submitted has/have not been published in print or digitally by a national or international publication.

Signature: _____

I affirm project(s) submitted has/have not been to VERANDA to review for publication, regardless of whether the project was published in print or digitally.

Signature: _____

Submission for (Choose one per entry form):

Residential Design

Contract Design (Boutique Hospitality)

Architecture

Name of Firm: _____

Name Principal(s) Who Would Receive the Award: _____

Name of Person Preparing Submission: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Company Address: _____

Company Website: _____

2025 OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

PROJECT SUBMISSIONS:

- Ten (10) total images representing a maximum of three projects. Of the ten (10) total images, include a minimum of two (2) images per project
- For each of the projects submitted, include a summary description of work, not to exceed 100 words.
 - IN THE RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY ONLY: While showhouse spaces and model homes are acceptable, award submissions must include a minimum of one (1) project for a private client.
 - IN THE ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY ONLY: Provide simple Floor Plans with directional arrows. Also, include labeled Elevations. Plans and Elevations will not count toward the ten (10) total project images.
- Indicate file names associated with each project.
- Project Descriptions should be included in your WeTransfer Portfolio as a Word Document or PDF.

Project A

Description: *Project A Description*

File Names: *Project A - Image 1, Project A - Image 2, etc.*

Project B (if applicable)

Description: *Project B Description*

File Names: *Project B - Image 1, Project B - Image 2, etc.*

Project C (if applicable)

Description: *Project C Description*

File Names: *Project C - Image 1, Project C - Image 2, etc.*

Submit Entry Form and Portfolio via WeTransfer to Cami Adair Maddox, cadair@adacatlanta.com, with the subject line: 2025 SEDY Submission.

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