Design &Health
International Academy for Design and Health

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia 28 Sep-02 Oct. 2026
Design & Health
15TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

International Academy Awards & Gala Dinner

Setting benchmarks in global health design

The 2026 Design and Health International Academy Awards:
Championing global excellence in research and practice for the creation of healthier built environments.

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International Academy Awards

Award Categories

1. International Research Project
2. International Health Project over 40 000 m2
3. International Health Project under 40 000 m2
4. Mental Health Project
5. Use of Art in Public and Private Spaces
6. Future Healthy Built Environment Project
7. Sustainable Urban and Built Environment
8. Interior Design Project
9. Salutogenic Design Project
10. Lifetime Leadership Award 2025
11. Appreciation Award 2025

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International Academy Awards



Prof. Ray Pentecost
Dr.PH USA, President



Prof. Alan Dilani,
Ph.D. Sweden, Founder

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Sustainable Design Project

Number & Scheme	Overall Concept	Design Approach	Functionality	Implementation	Sustainability	Presentation
	Knowledge/Vision	Clarity of Idea	Community involvement	Buidling Strategy	Green Technology	Accurate Material
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2 4 6 8 10 12 14	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Salutogenesis	Scale / Integration	Services/ activities	Use of Material	Renewable Energy	Well designed
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2 4 6 8 10 12 14	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Ideas and Approach	Stimulating	Lifestyle approach	Energy Efficiency	Waste management	Descriptive
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2 4 6 8 10 12 14	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Wellness Factors	Supportive design	Preventive features	Building technology	Natural Ventilation	Poster / video film
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2 4 6 8 10 12 14	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Urban Ecology	Landmark / Image	Safety / Security	Building Performance	Water Supply	Comprehensive
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2 4 6 8 10 12 14	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Total Score 0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Interior Design Project

Number & Scheme	Creative Approach	Sustainability	Research	Stakeholders	Innovation	Presentation
	Knowledge/Vision	Cost-Benefit Analysis	Research Application	Co-development strateg	Originality	Accurate Material
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Salutogenesis	Use of material	Methodology	Interdisciplinary	Impact	Well designed
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Ideas and Approach	Socio-ecological Equit	Interdisciplinary	Methodology	Practicality	Descriptive
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Preventive Qualities	Meets User Needs	Impact	Integrated Process	Benefits Measurability	Complete
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Wellness Factors	Environmental Quality	Future research (POE)	Community Engagemer	Applicability	Comprehensive
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Total Score 0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Lead judge

Prof. Sahand Abbasi, Ph.D

Kean University, NY

USA

Panel Judge



Dr. Ellie Nahirafree, Ph.D.
Kean University, USA



Dr. Huili Wang, Ph.D. Louisiana State University, USA

Finalists

International Research Project

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International Research Project

Highly Commended

International Research Project



1- Vigneshkumar Chellappa

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Safe Hands: An Empathy-Driven Digital Intervention

2- Moonisah Usman

University of Westminster, London

Vitamin D Status as Potential Indicator of Healthy City



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International Research Project

And the winners are…



Winner

International Research Project

Natalia Ottonello, Architect, M.Sc. Uruguay,



Sabrina Lorusso, Architect, M.Sc. Italy,

Designing Salutogenic Cities: The Impact of Façade Design on Emotional Well-Being and Stress Regulation

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Lead judge

Arch. Tye Farrow
Canada

Panel Judge



Dr. Innocent Okpanum
Africa



Arch. Nadia Tobia, Tobia
Consultant, Canada

International Health Project over 40 000 m2

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Highly Commended

Peninsula University Hospital

Commissioned by

Exemplar Health, VIC Australia

Designed by

Bates Smart and Architectus

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Main entrance lobby

Peninsula University Hospital

BATESSMART

Highly Commended

Pusat Rehabilitasi Perkeso Sultan Nazrin Shah

Commissioned by

Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial

Designed by

RSP Architects SDN BHD, Malaysia

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Highly Commended

New Footscray Hospital

Commissioned by

Victorian Health Building Authority

Designed by

COX Architecture / Billard Leece Partnership

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NEW FOOTSCRAY HOSPITAL – ‘HEALING POWER OF PLACE’

FOOTSCRAY, VICTORIA, AUS

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Highly Commended

Kwai Chung Hospital, Hong Kong

Commissioned by

Architectural Services Department

Designed by

FARRELLS, Hong Kong

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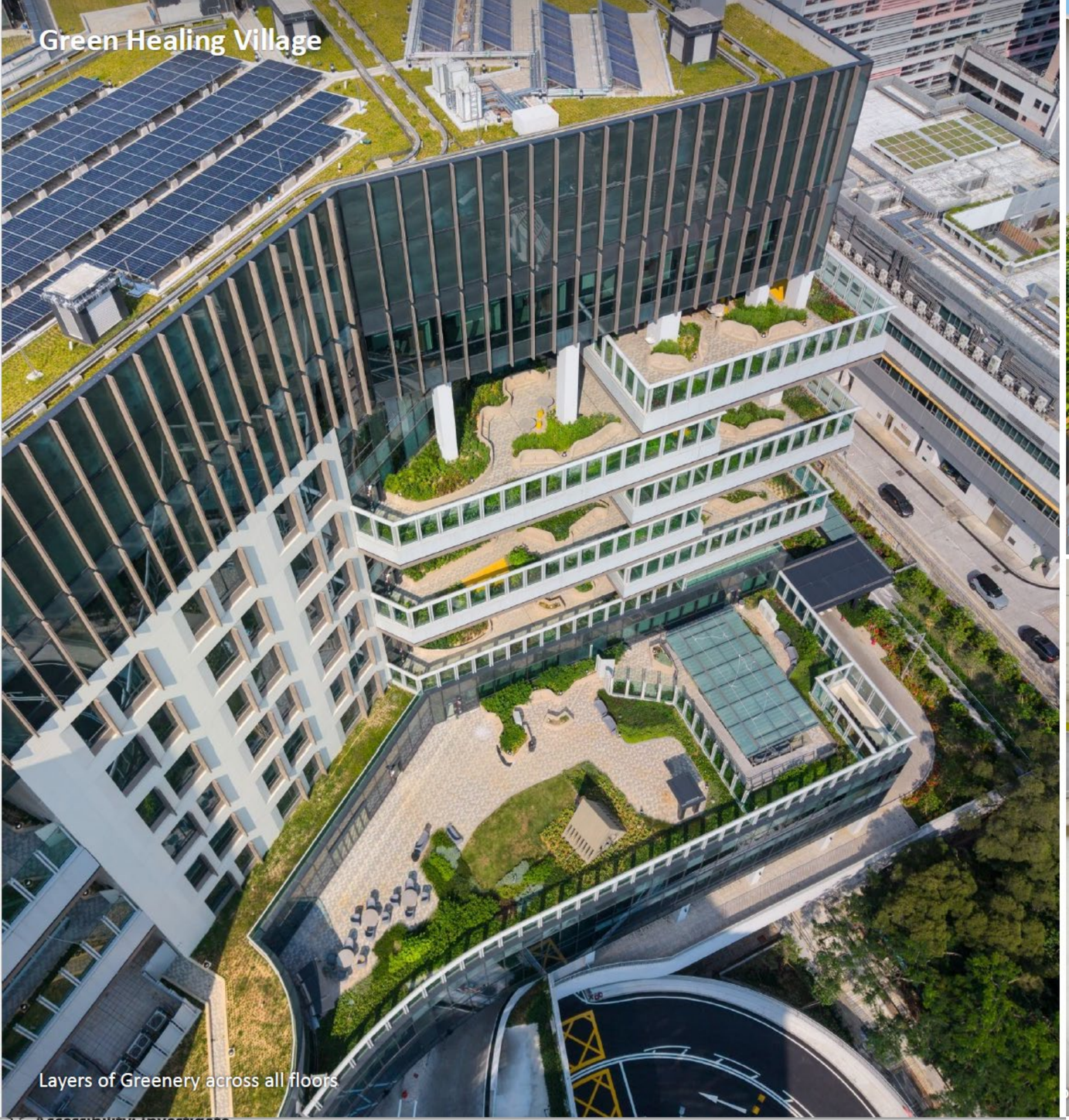
Green Healing Village
Layers of Greenery across all floors


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reenery


spital Street

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International Health Project over 40 000 m2

And the winner is…

Winner

International Health Project over 40 000 m2

Cyberjaya Hospital, Malaysia

Commissioned by

Cyberview Sdn Bhd for the Ministry of Health

Designed by

PAB Architecture Sdn Bhd for Gadang Engineering

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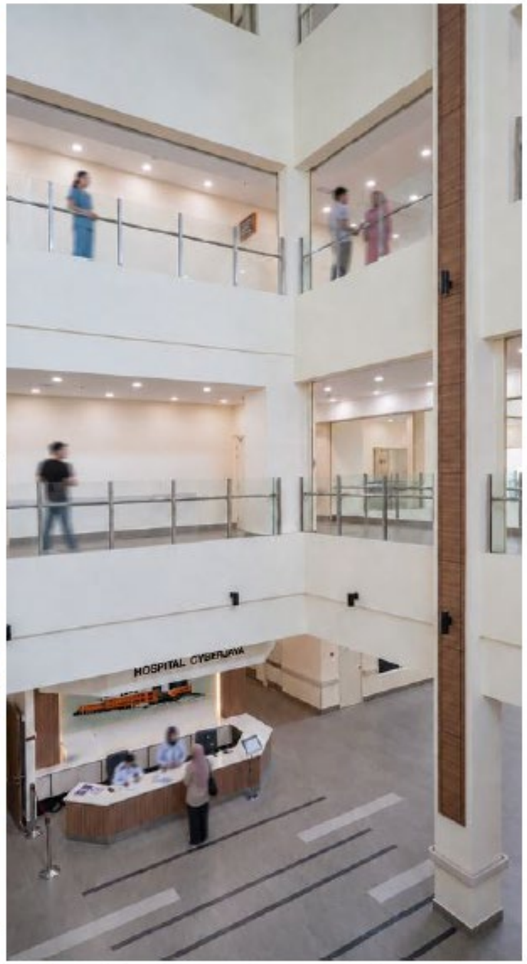
View of pediatric ward



View of nurses' station











Lead Judge

Dev Bagga, BLP, Singapore

Panel Judge



Vivien Mak P&T Group
Hong Kong



David Chin Ye Hock,
Director (Asia), Healthcare
SAA Architects Pte Ltd

International Health Project under 40 000 m2

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Highly Commended

The Solitaire Clinic

Commissioned by

The Solitaire Clinic, Indonesia

Designed by

HKS, Singapore

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International Health Project under 40 000 m2

And the winner is…

Winner

International Health Project under 40 000 m2

Tjilpi Pampaku Ngura Flexible Aged Care

Commissioned by

Australian Regional & Remote Community Services

Designed by

Kaunitz Yeung Architects, Australia

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Panel Judge



Lead Judge

Arch. David Kaunitz,
Kaunitz Yeung Architectur
Australia



Sandra Furtado
Design Director & Co-Founder,
Furtado Sullivan, Australia



Ka Wai Yeung
Kaunitz Yeung Architecture
Australia

Mental Health Project

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Highly Commended

SADONG JAYA Waterfront

Commissioned by

Kota Samarahan Municipal Council

Designed by

Arkiskape Sdn Bhd Malaysia

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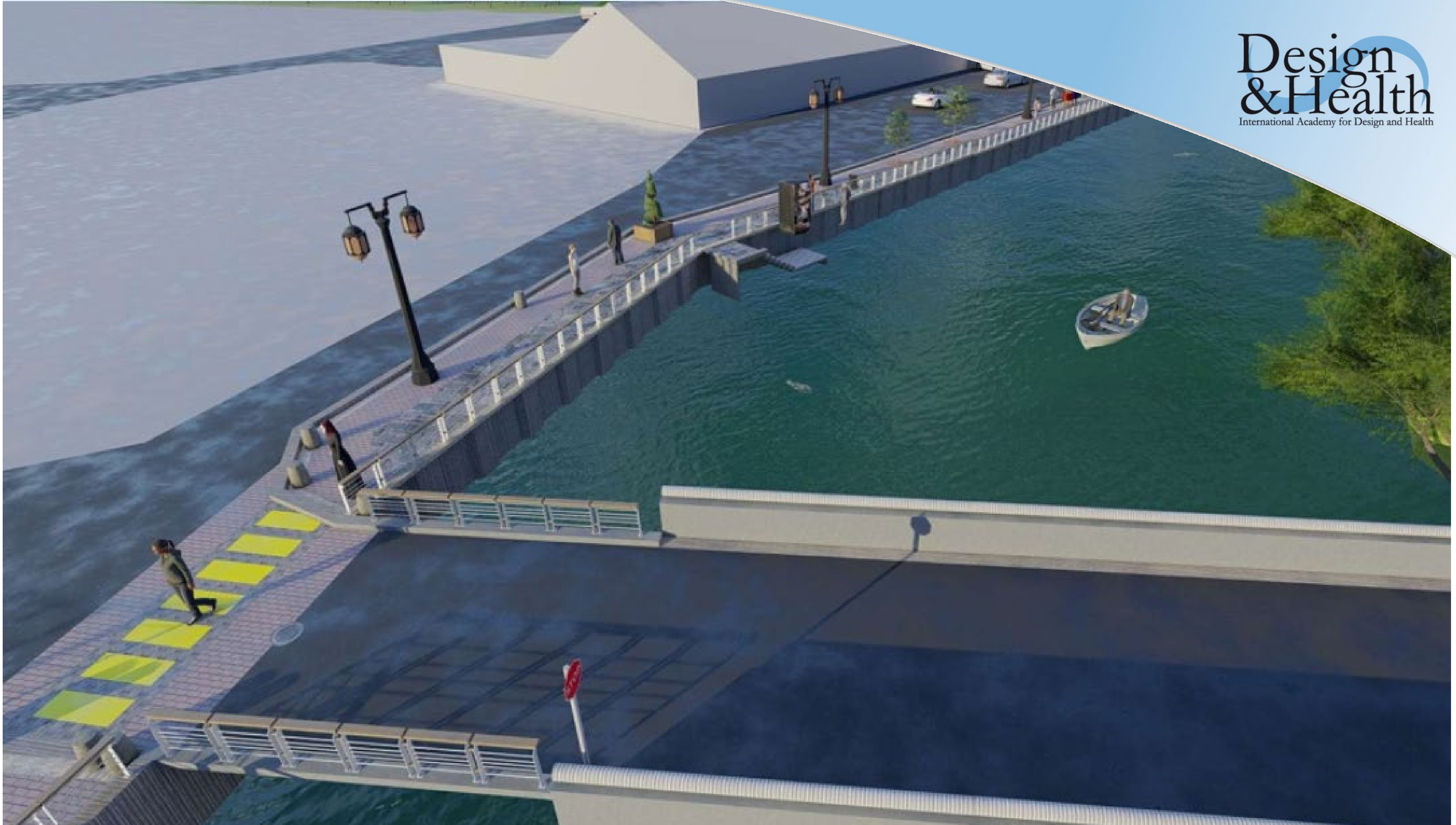

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Highly Commended

Texas Behavioral Health Center, Dallas

Commissioned by

UT Southwestern

Designed by

HKS & architecture+

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Texas Behavioral Health Center

Dallas, Texas



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Spaces for Recovery and Reintegrat

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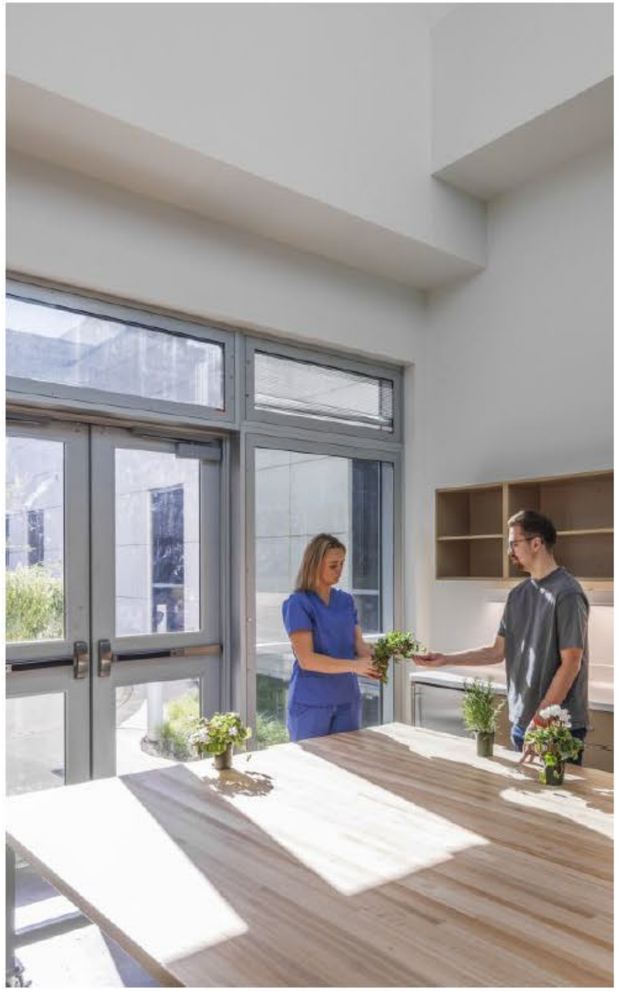
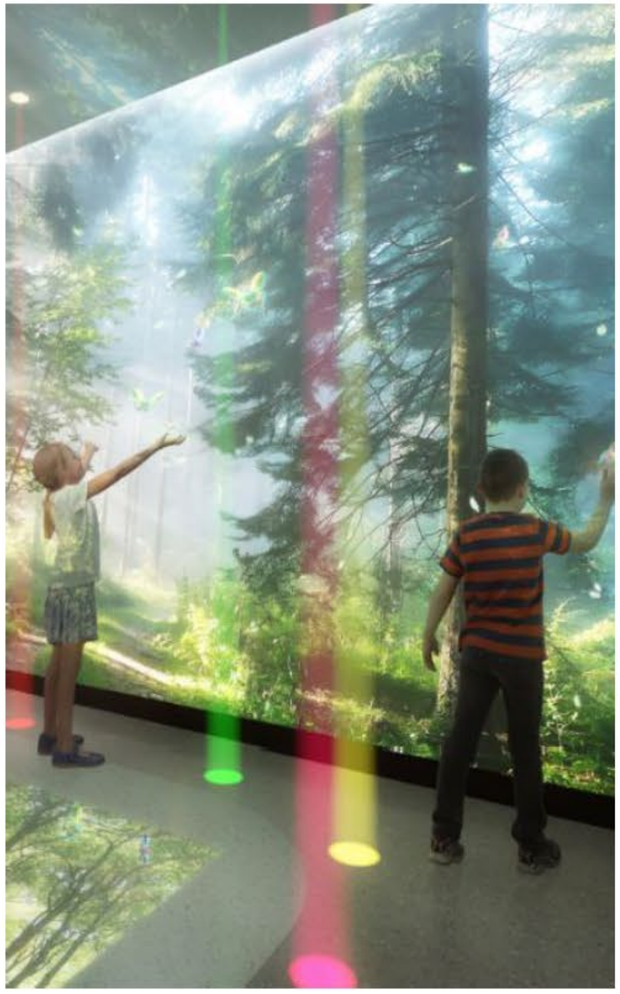


Horticulture Therapy

Allows patient to interact with nature in the building



Sensory Therapy

Includes interactive imagery, sensory walls, patient safe furniture, and adjustable lighting



Play Therapy

Encourages patient activity and interaction



Art Therapy

Encourages creativity amongst patients

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Mental Health Project

And the winner is…

Winner

Mental Health Project

Kwai Chung Hospital, Hong Kong

Commissioned by

Architectural Services Department

Designed by

FARRELLS, Hong Kong

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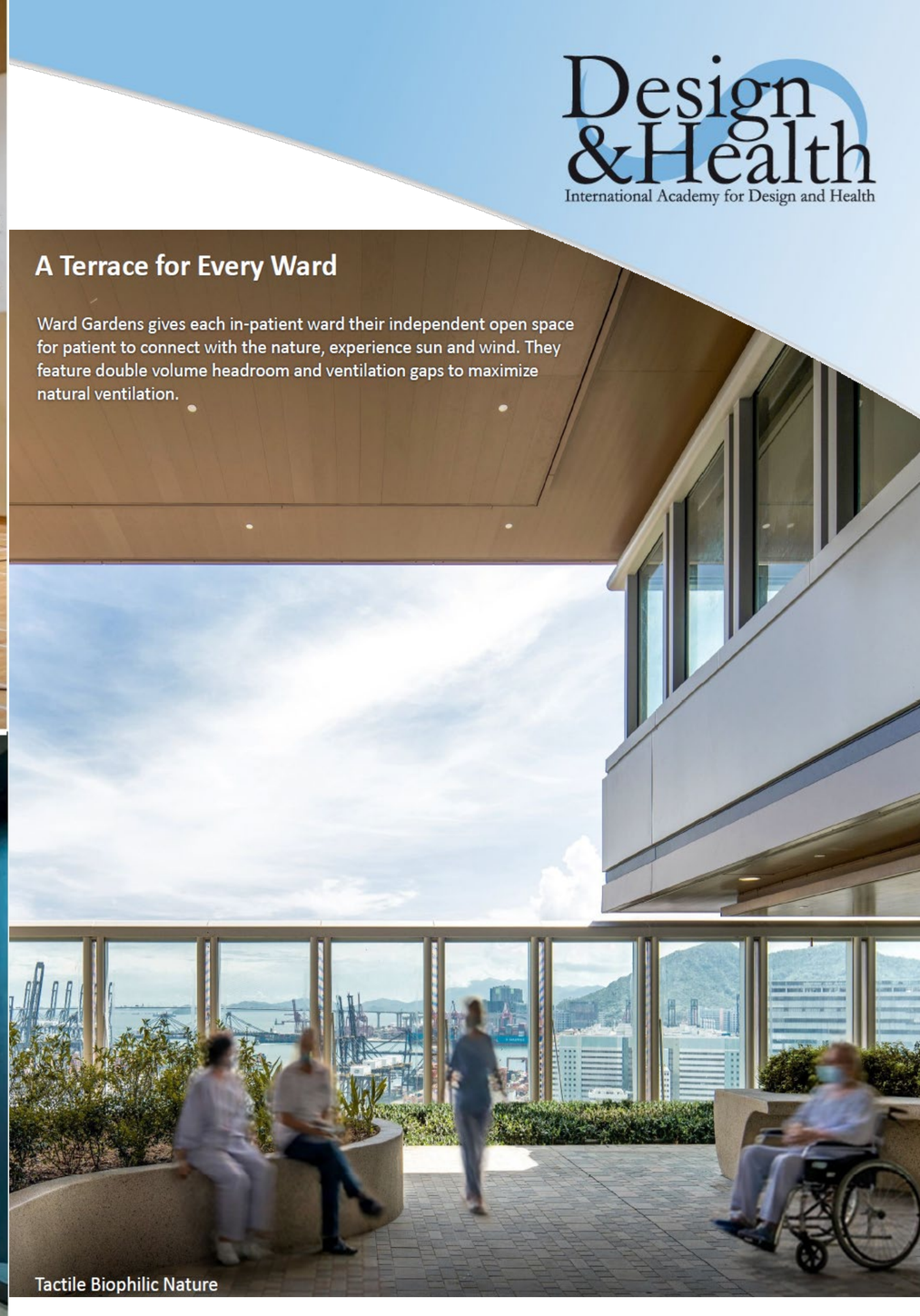
A Terrace for Every Ward

Ward Gardens gives each in-patient ward their independent open space for patient to connect with the nature, experience sun and wind. They feature double volume headroom and ventilation gaps to maximize natural ventilation.



Basketball Court - Safe and comfortable Recreational Space





Tactile Biophilic Nature



Ward Garden - Reachable Greenery



Lead judge

Dr. Innocent Okpanum
Africa

Panel Judge



Arch. Ijeoma Uboma,
M.Sc.
Nigiera



Maria Nadia Riolfo
NR Studio Design
Italy

Use of Art in Public and Private Spaces

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Highly Commended

Explore, Dream, Discover Pediatric Center

Commissioned by

Wojewodzki Szpital Specjalistyczny

Designed by

Medical Design Studio, Poznan, Polen

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„PODRÓŻUJ, ŚNIJ, ODKRYWAJ."
MARK TWAIN
EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVE
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następuj mnie!
REDEFINING
THE ROLE OF ART
IN CHILDREN'S
HEALTHCARE



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Highly Commended

Tjilpi Pampaku Ngura Flexible Aged Care

Commissioned by

Australian Regional & Remote Community Services

Designed by

Kaunitz Yeung Architects, Australia

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Highly Commended

The Bin Art Project

Commissioned by

Kuching, Sarawak Malysia

Designed by

Dr Mohamad Faizuan Bin Mat

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Winner

Use of Art in Public and Private Spaces

Campbelltown Hospital Redevelopment

Commissioned by

Health Infrastructure NSW, Australia

Designed by

Billard Leece Partnership Pty Ltd

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ART AS WAYFINDING







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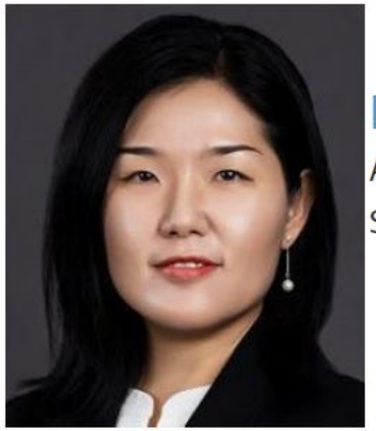

Lead judge

Arch. Angel Neo, CPG

Singapore

Panel Judge



Arch. Natalie Pitt,

Studio STH, Australia



Prof. Fung John Chye,

National University of Singapore

Future Healthy Built Environment Project

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Highly Commended

SADONG JAYA Waterfront

Commissioned by

Kota Samarahan Municipal Council

Designed by

Arkiskape Sdn Bhd

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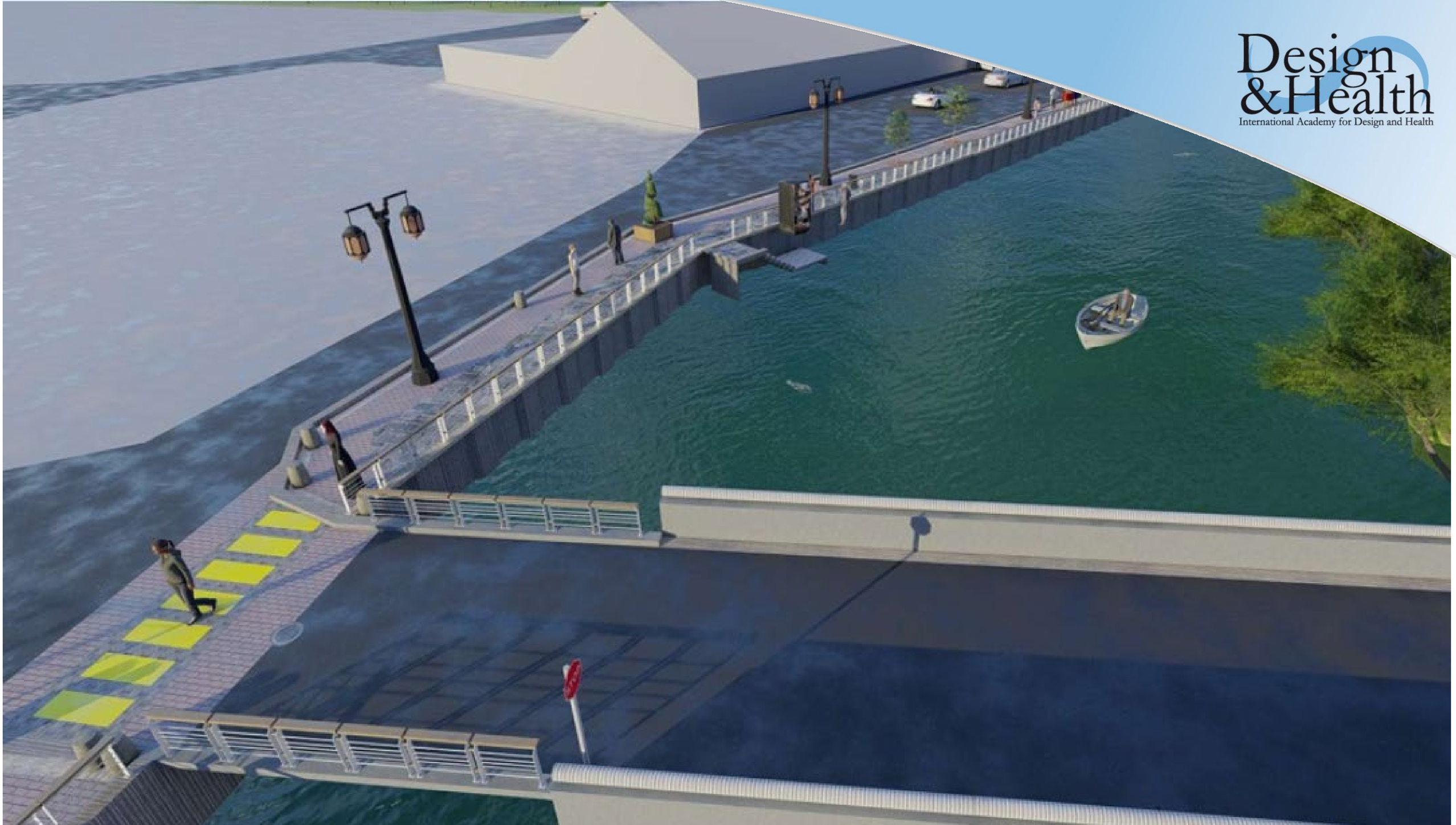

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Highly Commended

KORI / Salutogenic Social Housing, Uruguay

Commissioned by

Group Caral

Designed by

Guevara Ottonello

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Guevara Ottone





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Future Healthy Built Environment Project

And the winner is…

Winner

United World College SEA Tengah Campus

Commissioned by

Tengah New Town

Designed by

HKS, Singapore

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ontext

Salutogenic Environments







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Panel Judge



Lead judge

Natalia Ottonello, M.Sc.

Guevara Ottonello Architects

Uruguay



Arch. Ian Guevara

Uruguay



Arch. Sabrina Lorusso,

MSc Italy

Sustainable Urban and Built Environment

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Highly Commended

SADONG JAYA Waterfront

Commissioned by

Kota Samarahan Municipal Council

Designed by

Arkiskape Sdn Bhd

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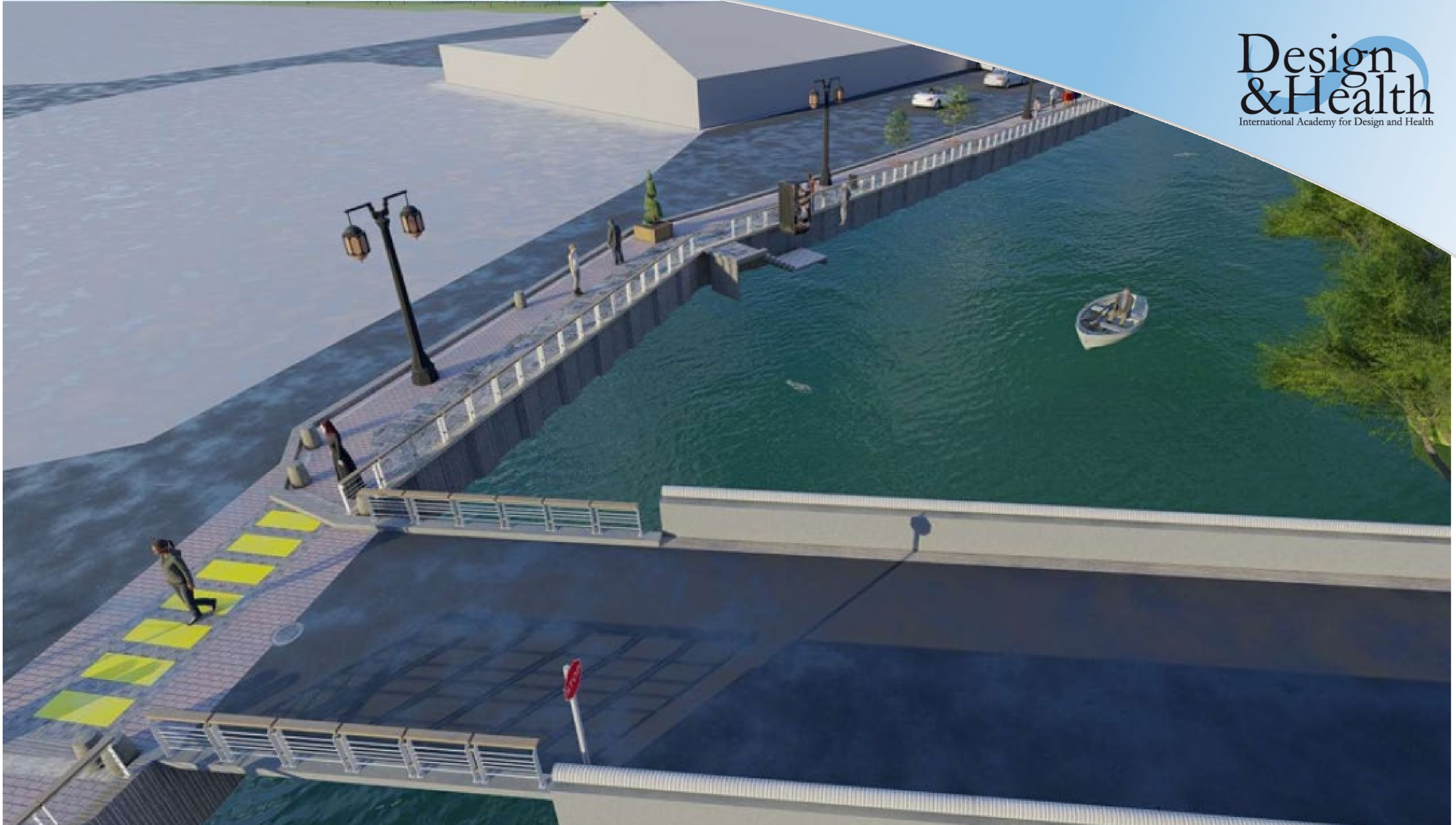

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Batu Kawa Riverfront Park

Commissioned by

Majlis Perbandaran Padawan

Designed by

Landscape Design Associates

LAr. Catherine Lau Lee Sieng

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Figure 14: Observatory platform with 7 'Gateways to Heaven' at level +33.0 of Sky Window.

(iii) SKY & RIVER PROMENADE



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International Academy Awards

Sustainable Urban and Built Environment

And the winner is…

Winner

Sustainable Urban and Built Environment

Tjilpi Pampaku Ngura Flexible Aged Care

Commissioned by

Australian Regional & Remote Community Services

Designed by

Kaunitz Yeung Architects, Australia

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FLEXI
AGED
CARE





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Lead Judge

Prof. Hessam Ghamari, USA



Panel Judges



Ass. Prof. Nasrin Golshany, Ph.D. USA



Dr. Saman Jamshidi, Ph.D.
University of Nevada, USA

Interior Design Project

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International Academy for Design and Health
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Highly Commended

Peninsula University Hospital, Australia

Commissioned by

Exemplar Health, Australia

Designed by

Bates Smart and Architectus, VIC Australia

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Main entrance lobby

Peninsula University Hospital

BATESSMART



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International Academy for Design and Health

Staff breakout area

Peninsula University Hospital
BATESSMART

Highly Commended

P&P Healthcare & Radiology Specialist Center

Commissioned by

P&P Diagnostic Center

Designed by

SQR Interior Architecture, Malaysia

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SQR
INTERIOR
ARCHITECTURE


Design
&Health
International Academy for Design and Health
SQR
INTERIOR
ARCHITECTURE

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Interior Design Project

And the winner is…

Winner

Interior Design Project

Tjilpi Pampaku Ngura Flexible Aged Care

Commissioned by

Australian Regional & Remote Community Services

Designed by

Kaunitz Yeung Architects, Australia

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Lead Judge

Prof. Ray Pentecost, Texas A&M University, USA



Panel Judges



Bill Hercules, AIA, Architect, WJH Health, USA



Peter L. Bardwell, FAIA, Architect, USA

Salutogenic Design Project

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Fonder’s Honor

NCSM MBPP Home of Hope

Commissioned by

City Council of Penang Island

Designed by

Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM)

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MAJLIS BANDARAYA PULAU PINANG

National Cancer Society Malaysia

Giving Hope Celebrating Life

NCSM - MBPP

HOME OF HOPE

NO.8 LEBUHRAYA ROSE,
10350, GEORGE TOWN, PULAU PINANG



Design &Health





Fonder’s Honor

Senior Citizens Activity Center (PAWE)

Commissioned by

City Council of Penang Island

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HANDS-ON SESSIONS

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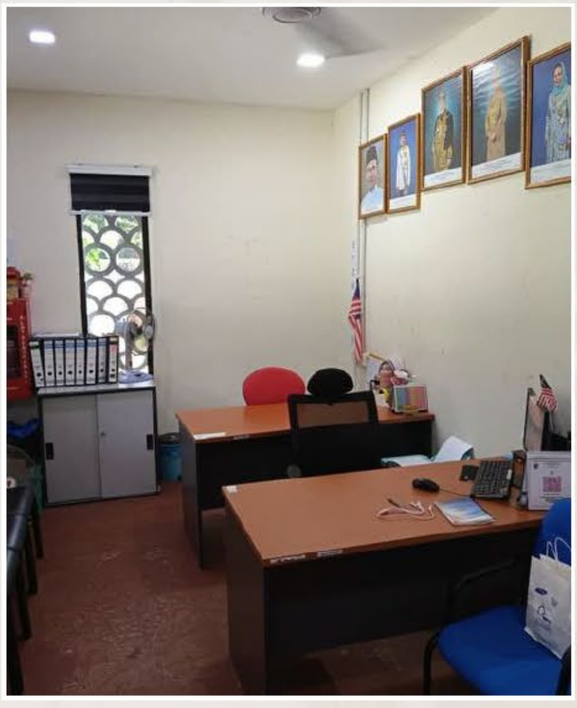





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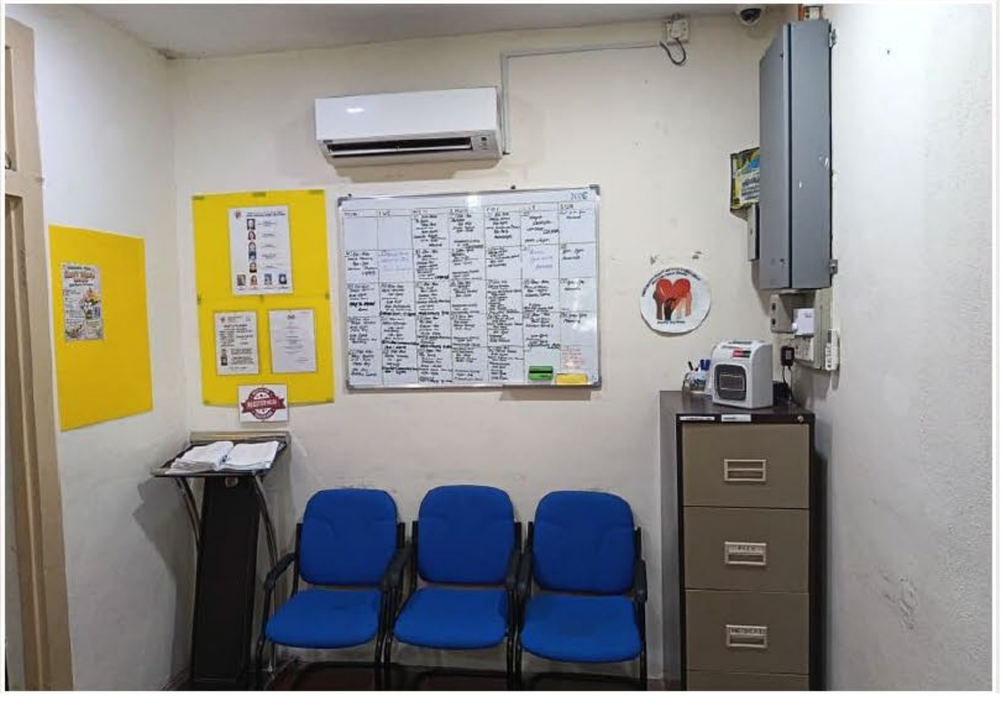

Highly Commended

Mandai North Crematorium

Commissioned by

National Environment Agency (NEA)

Designed by

CPG Consultants Pte Ltd Singapore

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International Academy Awards



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Dappled light in the Service Hall creates a calm and





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Salutogenic Design Project

And the winner is…

Winner

Salutogenic Design Project

Tjilpi Pampaku Ngura Flexible Aged Care

Commissioned by

Australian Regional & Remote Community Services

Designed by

Kaunitz Yeung Architects, Australia

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CARE

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Prof. Alan Dilani, Ph.D.
Sweden



Prof. Ray Pentecost
Dr.PH USA, President

Lifetime Leadership Award 2026



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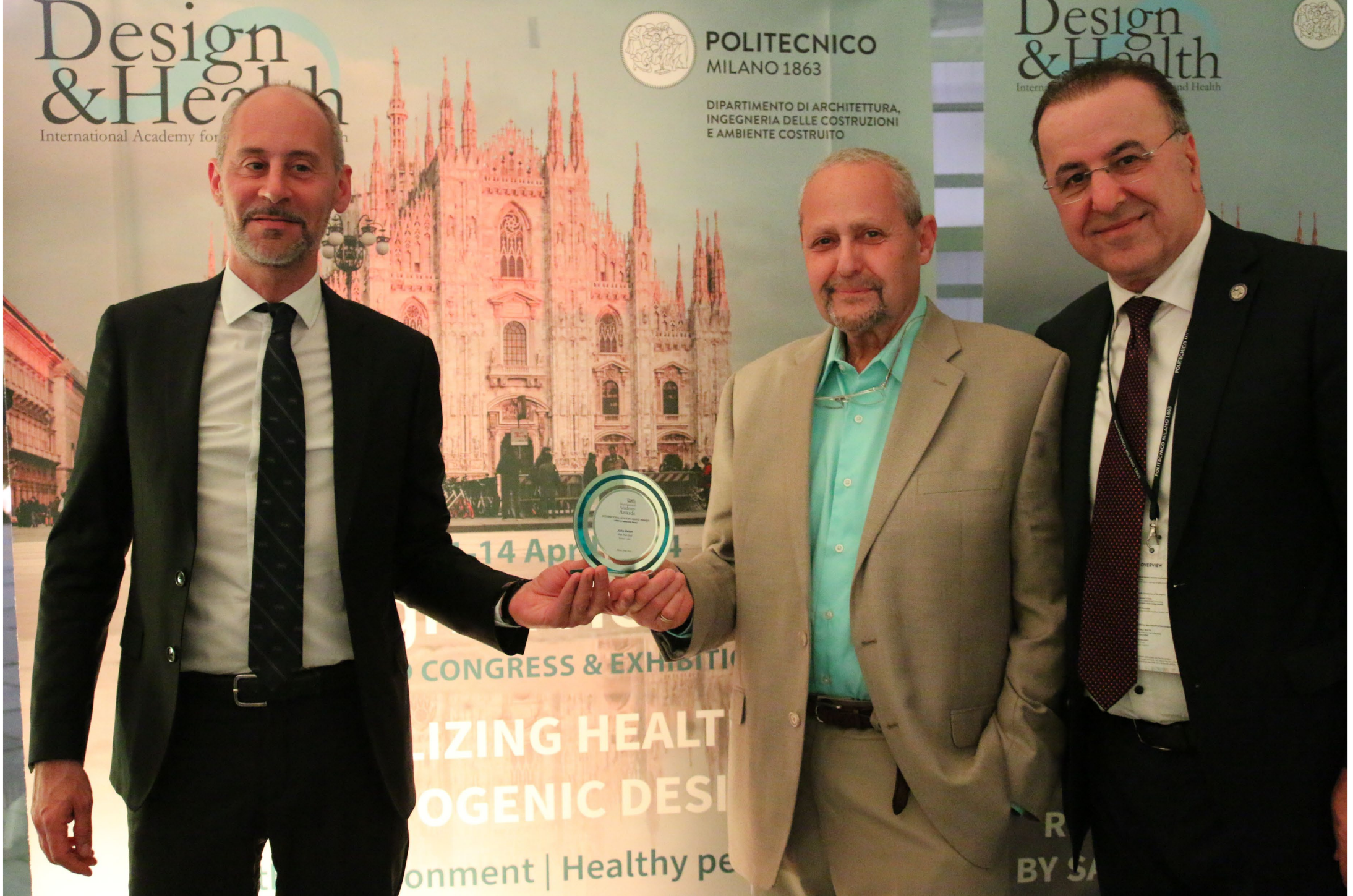
Design
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POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863
DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA,
INGEGNERIA DELLE COSTRUZIONI
E AMBIENTE COSTRUITO
CONGRESS & EXHIBITIO
LIZING HEALT
OGENIC DESI
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Design
&Health
BY SA


International
Academy
Awards
Certificate of Awards Winner
The Winner
Design & Health

Design &Health
International Academy for Design and Health
International Academy Awards

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia 28 Sep-02 Oct. 2026
Design & Health
15TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

Winner

Lifetime Leadership Award 2026

And the winner is…

Winner

Lifetime Leadership Award 2026

Dr. Ken Yeang

For his lifelong leadership and pioneering contribution to ecological architecture, health, and well-being.



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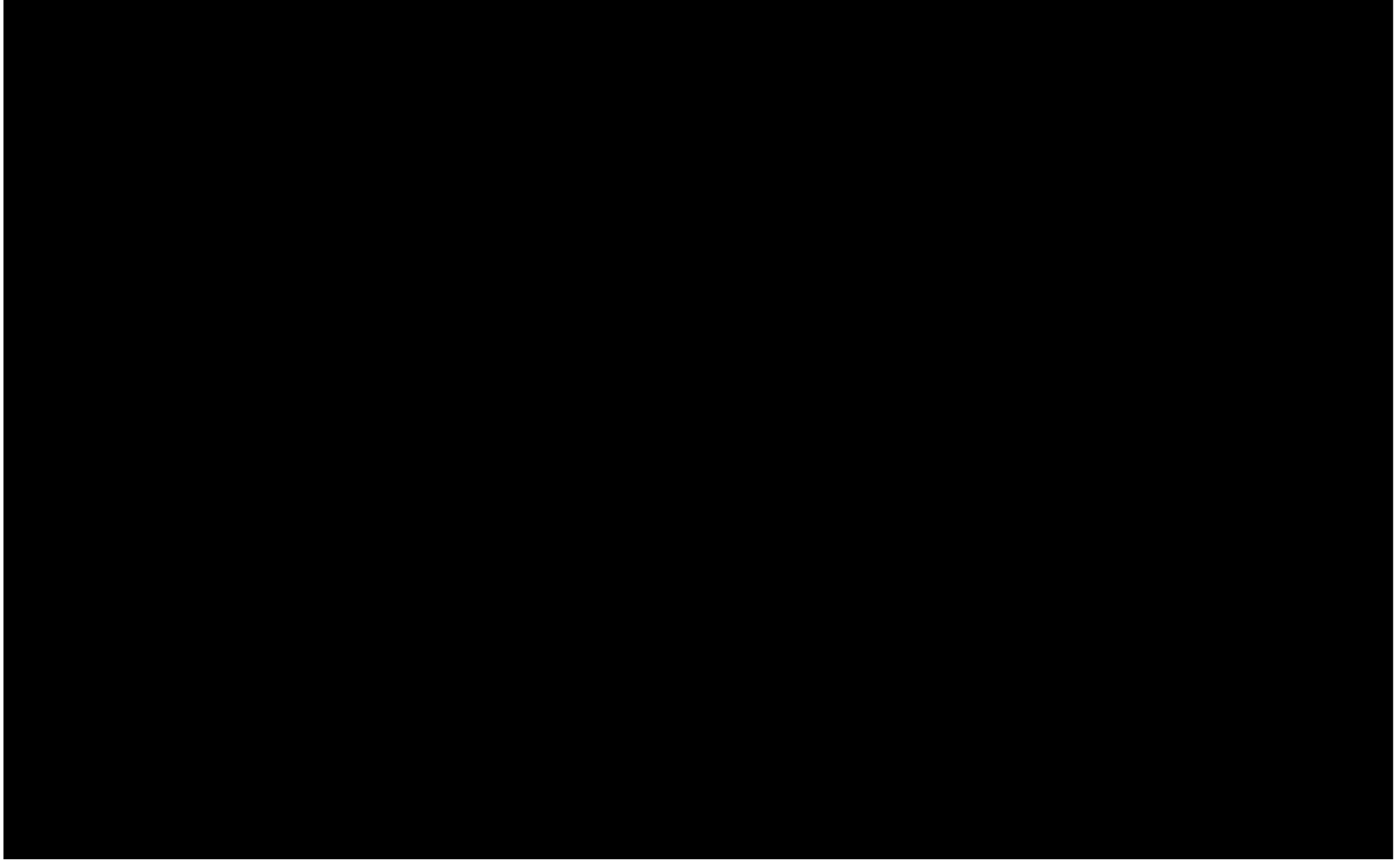
International Academy for Design & Health Lifetime Leadership Award, 2026
Nomination for Dr Ken Yeang, architect and ecologist

Ken Yeang is an architect, ecologist and author recognised for pioneering work on sustainable architecture (since 1971). The architecture is differentiated by its nature-centric design that integrates ecology-based principles with architectural structures as Applied Ecology. He is regarded to have invented an authentic green architecture, defined as ‘constructed ecosystems’. Credibility is in his built work recognised by the many awards that include the Aga Khan Award (Geneva), Prinz Claus Award (Netherlands), Auguste Perret Award (UIA), LiangSiCheng Award (Architectural Society of China), Merdeka Award (Government of Malaysia), PAM Gold Medal (Malaysia Institute of Architects), and accolades from his peers and leading figures in the field. His built work includes: Mesiniaga Tower (IBM) (Malaysia), Suasana Putrajaya (Malaysia), Solaris Tower (Singapore), Great Ormond Street Children’s Hospital Extension (London), Nitte University Masterplan (Mangalore, India), National Library (Singapore) and others. Ken trained at the Architectural Association School (London). His doctorate (Cambridge University) is published as ‘Designing With Nature’, (McGraw-Hill, 1985). He is Fellow (Hon.) of Wolfson College (Cambridge), Corporate Member RIBA, Fellow (Hon.) American Institute Architects, Fellow Singapore Institute of Architects, Past-President Malaysia Institute of Architects. The Guardian recognises him as one of the 50 people who could save the Planet.





credit video: Youtube Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM)

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International Academy for Design and Health

International Academy Awards

Singapore, 29 Oct - 02 Nov 2025
Design & Health
14TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

Special Awards 2026

And the winner is…

Winner

Healthy Cities Leadership Award 2026

Presented to Prof. Dr Andrew Kiyu



For his lifelong leadership and pioneering contribution to healthy cities, health, and well-being.

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International Academy Awards

Design &Health
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International Academy Awards

Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia 28 Sep-02 Oct. 2026
Design & Health
15TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

Appreciation Awards 2026

And the winner is…

Winner
Appreciation Awards 2025

UNIMAS
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK

Presented to Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, UNIMAS under the leadership of Dr. Rosalia Saimon in organizing the congress and advancing the Academy's mission.



Design & Health
International Academy for Design and Health
International Academy Awards

Announcement of the Next Congress 2027

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Sydney- Australia 17-21 November 2027

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16TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

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First Announcement & Call for Abstracts

Sydney- Australia 17-21 November 2027

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16TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION

Reinforcing Australian Health Systems
Through Salutogenic Design, Equity, and Sustainability

Deadline for Abstracts 30 January 2027

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Message from Minister for Health

On behalf of the New South Wales Government, I am delighted to welcome you to the 16th World Congress & Exhibition on Design and Health in Sydney, Australia, from 17–21 November 2027.

Sydney is an ideal host city for this global gathering, bringing together leaders in healthcare, design, research, and policy to advance the science and practice of Salutogenesis. As the relationship between people, place, and wellbeing becomes increasingly important, the Congress provides a unique opportunity to explore how health-promoting environments can support physical, mental, social, and ecological wellbeing.

NSW Health is delivering one of the largest health infrastructure programs in Australia, guided by principles of patient-centred care, sustainability, resilience, and wellbeing. Across hospitals, mental health facilities, community health services, and regional healthcare settings, we are increasingly applying salutogenic design approaches that foster healing, dignity, connection, and positive health outcomes.

The World Congress on Design and Health provides a unique platform for international collaboration and knowledge exchange. It will bring together global expertise to explore the latest scientific developments in Salutogenesis and to examine how the built environment can contribute to healthier individuals, organisations, and societies.

I wholeheartedly support WCDH2027 and look forward to welcoming delegates from around the world to Sydney to help shape the future of salutogenic design and healthier built environments.



Hon. Ryan Park MP.
NSW Minister for Health,
Minister for Regional Health

Reinforcing Australian Health Systems Through Salutogenic Design, Equity, and Sustainability

The International Academy for Design and Health (IADH), in partnership with the New South Wales Government, leading universities, health industry partners, and Australian Health Design Council proudly announces the 16th Design and Health World Congress & Exhibition, to be held from 17–21 November 2027 in Sydney at the Hyatt Regency.

This milestone event marks the 30th anniversary of the International Academy for Design & Health (IADH), following its inaugural Congress in Trondheim, Norway, in 1997—an occasion that established a global benchmark for leadership, innovation, research, and practice at the field of design and health.
As we celebrate three decades of achievements, international collaboration, and the advancement of salutogenic design, we also look confidently toward the future.

This historic anniversary will mark the official transition of the IADH from Sweden to the United States, with the Academy becoming part of Texas A&M University. This new chapter represents an important evolution of the organization while preserving the values, knowledge, and international legacy established over the past 30 years.

Thirty years of IADH: honoring our legacy, celebrating our achievements, and imagining the next 30 years of design and health with Texas A&M University.

Your participation and contribution are highly valued as we collectively explore the challenges and transformations shaping contemporary health systems. Together, we will examine innovative, design-led solutions that respond to the evolving needs of Australia's population and support the delivery of more sustainable, equitable, and future-focused healthcare environments.

Healthcare systems are undergoing a fundamental transformation in response to fiscal constraints, demographic change, environmental pressures, and evolving expectations of care. These forces are accelerating a shift away from hospital-centric models toward distributed, preventative, and human-centered systems of care.

A key challenge within this transition is the strategic allocation of limited capital investment. Greater emphasis must be placed on high-need areas such as aged care, mental health, and subacute services—particularly in Australia, where subacute care remains underfunded despite its critical role in alleviating demand on acute hospitals. At the same time, the continued expansion of acute infrastructure is increasingly being questioned.

merging models of care are more distributed and integrated, extending beyond hospitals into homes and communities. Approaches such as hub-and-spoke systems demonstrate how coordinated networks can enhance access, efficiency, and continuity of care while supporting the delivery of care in place. This shift is enabled by advances in technology - including wearable devices, artificial intelligence, and remote monitoring which facilitate personalization, preventative care, and improved system performance through data-driven insights.

Concurrently, there is a growing emphasis on prevention and public health, supported by salutogenic design principles that position the built environment as an active contributor to wellbeing. This perspective recognizes that health outcomes are shaped not only by healthcare services, but also by broader social and environmental determinants, including housing, water access, air quality, and climate conditions. As such, planetary sustainability is increasingly understood as integral to healthcare, with climate-responsive design and environmental stewardship essential to both ecological and public health outcomes.

Equity and inclusion are central to this transformation. Persistent disparities—particularly among First Nations communities and populations in remote areas—highlight the need for more accessible, culturally appropriate, and context-responsive models of care. Embedding cultural safety and addressing social determinants are critical to achieving meaningful and equitable health outcomes.

In parallel, there is increasing recognition of the importance of the human experience of care. The integration of arts, creativity, and flexible design can enhance psychological wellbeing, dignity, and patient autonomy, yet remains underutilized in many healthcare settings. Incorporating lived experience through interdisciplinary and non-hierarchical collaboration further strengthens the relevance and responsiveness of design outcomes.
Despite these advances, systemic barriers persist. Risk-averse cultures, fragmented governance, and restrictive policy and funding frameworks continue to constrain innovation and integration. Addressing these challenges requires system-level reform, including the simplification of processes, strengthened cross-sector collaboration, and the development of enabling policy environments.

In summary, the future of healthcare lies in systems that are distributed, preventative, equitable, and sustainable supported by technology and grounded in salutogenic design. Achieving this vision requires not only the redesigning of healthcare infrastructure, but the reimagining of the entire care ecosystem, aligning investment, policy, and design with long-term health, social, and environmental objectives.

We warmly invite you to contribute to this important dialogue and submit your abstract for consideration. Abstract submissions are due by 30 January 2027.



Prof. Alan Dilani, PhD
Founder of Academy



Prof. Ray Pentecost DrPH, FAIA
President of Academy



Kate Copeland
Australian Health Design Council

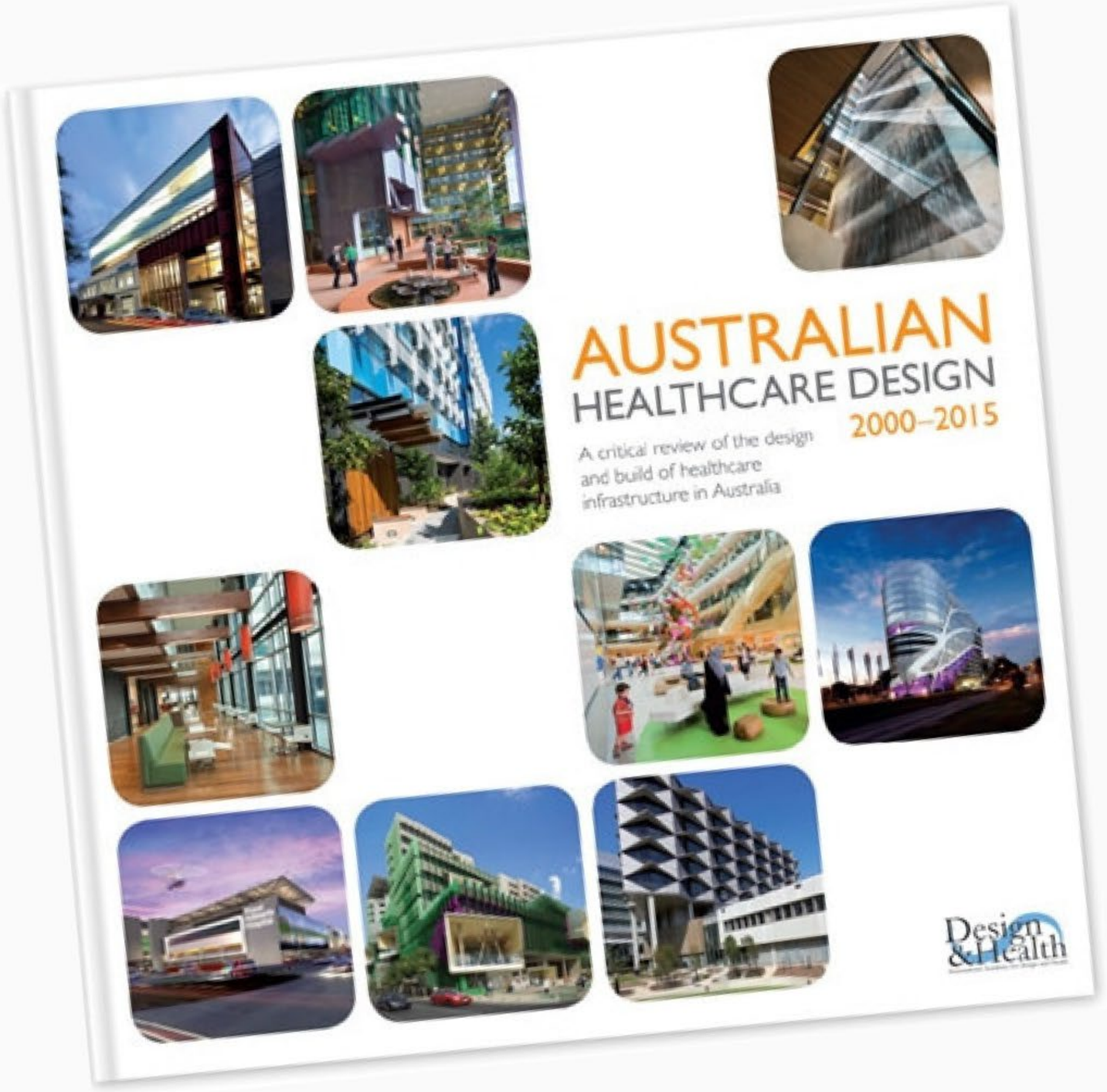
Theme

Reimagining Australian Health Systems Through Salutogenic Design, Equity, and Sustainability

Key Topics of Interest

We welcome submissions that engage with, but are not limited to:

- Salutogenic and preventative design approaches
- Health equity, First Nations health, and cultural safety
- Sustainable, climate-responsive, and low-carbon healthcare design
- Community-based, home-based, and virtual care models
- Subacute care, aged care, and mental health infrastructure
- Integration of digital technologies (AI, robotics, data systems)
- Patient experience, dignity, and the role of arts and creativity
- Policy innovation, funding models, and systems reform
- Interdisciplinary collaboration and co-design approaches



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Why Sydney

Sydney: where people and ideas come together

Sydney is rapidly emerging as a global leader in innovation, driven by its top-tier academic research institutions, world-class innovation districts, and cutting-edge digital technologies.

Our city has a highly skilled and multicultural workforce, making it a powerhouse of talent and creativity. With a thriving start-up and scale-up scene, Sydney's key growth industries include Digital Technologies, Financial Services and FinTech, Biomedical Technologies and Life Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing, and Net Zero and Clean Energy Technology.

Known for its unrivalled natural and man-made beauty, world-class congress facilities and venues, and robust government support, Sydney stands out as the ideal destination for global innovation and business events.

Watch:
Sydney highlights video



[Destination Sydney Video with ICC Sydney | Videos & Movies on Vimeo]