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International Architecture Essay Competition

# **MATERIAL MATTERS I**

## **EXPLORE THE VARIOUS TYPES OF BUILDING MATERIALS**

Second Edition

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the exciting realm of architectural exploration! Archiol Competitions proudly unveils the much-anticipated 2nd edition of the "Material Matters Essay Competition." This distinguished platform invites architects, designers, and scholars to embark on a captivating journey of intellectual discovery, delving into the profound significance of materials in the dynamic world of architecture.

Our competition is more than a call for essays; it is an opportunity for individuals passionate about the built environment to delve into the intricate interplay between materials and architecture. "Material Matters" challenges participants to think critically and foster innovative ideas that elucidate how materials not only shape our physical surroundings but also wield a transformative influence on the future of architectural design.

In this second edition, we aim to inspire thought-provoking narratives that go beyond the conventional boundaries of architectural discourse. The competition beckons participants to explore, analyze, and articulate their perspectives on the diverse roles materials play in the creation and evolution of architectural marvels. As we delve into the realms of sustainability, technological advancements, and cultural nuances, we encourage contributors to push the boundaries of their imagination and provide fresh insights into the materiality of our built world.

Join us in this intellectual voyage as we celebrate the intrinsic connection between materials and architecture, fostering a community of forward-thinking individuals who appreciate the profound impact of material choices on our shared spaces. Archiol Competitions eagerly anticipates the diverse and visionary essays that will emerge from the 2nd edition of the "Material Matters Essay Competition," shaping the discourse on the future of architectural innovation.

## OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the Material Matters Essay Competition is to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for the role materials play in architecture. We aim to inspire participants to reflect on the following key aspects:

- The relationship between materials and architectural design.
- Sustainability and the use of eco-friendly materials.
- Technological advancements and their impact on architectural materials.
- Cultural and historical influences on material choices.
- The emotional and sensory experiences tied to different materials.
- The potential of materials to transform the architectural landscape.

Through this competition, we aim to stimulate discussions, provoke innovative thinking, and bring fresh perspectives to the ever-evolving field of architecture.

## ESSAY STRUCTURE

Participants are required to follow a specific structure in their essays, which should include the following key points:

- **Introduction:** Briefly introduce the topic, the importance of materials in architecture, and provide a clear thesis statement outlining the scope and purpose of the essay.
- **Material Selection:** Discuss the process of material selection in architectural design. Explore the factors that influence material choices, such as aesthetics, functionality, durability, and cost. Consider the cultural and contextual aspects that impact material selection.
- **Innovation in Materials:** Analyze innovative materials and technologies that have revolutionized contemporary architecture. Highlight specific case studies or projects that showcase the use of cutting-edge materials and their impact on design.
- **Sustainability and Materials:** Examine the role of materials in sustainable architecture. Discuss eco-friendly materials, recycling, and the environmental impact of materials throughout their lifecycle. Include examples of sustainable architecture that emphasize the importance of materials in reducing the carbon footprint.
- **Material and Design:** Explore how materials influence architectural design. Discuss the aesthetics, textures, and spatial experiences created by materials. Provide examples of how materials shape the overall design concept in architectural projects.
- **Conclusion:** Summarize the key points discussed in the essay and reiterate the significance of materials in architecture. Conclude with your perspective on the future of materials in architectural practice.

## AWARDS

- Top 3: Certificate + Interview + Publication + score card with inputs
- Honourable mention: Certificate + Publication.
- Shortlisted: Certificate.

## TIMELINE

- Competition Announcement: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- Registration Opens: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- Registration Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024
- Submission Deadline: 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Winners Announcement: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

## REGISTRATION FEES

A fixed fee of **\$2** (international) / **₹150** (Indian)

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Participants are required to submit the following materials:

- **Essay:**

Essays must be written in English.

  - The essay should be original, well-researched, and thought-provoking.
  - Word count: Minimum 1000 words, Maximum 3000 words.
  - Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
  - Font: Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri
  - Font size: 12pt
  - Line spacing: Double-spaced
  - Margins: 1-inch margins on all sides
  - Include a title for your essay centered at the top of the first page.
  
- **Image**
  - Along with your essay, submit one high-resolution image that complements or illustrates your essay's theme. This could be a photograph, diagram, illustration, or any other visual representation relevant to your topic.
  - Image format: JPEG or PNG
  - Image resolution: Minimum 300 DPI (dots per inch)
  - Include a brief caption or description for the image.
  
- **Submission Format & Guidelines:**
  - File format: Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) for the essay; JPEG or PNG for the image.
  - Label your files with your participation code and competition name (e.g., participationcode\_MaterialMattersEssay.docx, participationcode\_MaterialMattersImage.jpg).
  - Zip Folder Creation:
    - Compile all your Essay and the Image into a single zip folder for ease of submission.
  - Zip Folder Naming:
    - Name your zip folder using your assigned participation code. This ensures accurate identification and association of your submission with your team or individual entry.
  - Submission Platform:
    - Utilize Google Drive as the submission platform. Upload the zip folder containing your Essay and Image to your Google Drive account.
  - Accessibility of Google Drive Link:
    - Ensure that the shared Google Drive link is accessible. Inaccessibility may result in the non-consideration of your submission. Double-check permissions to guarantee seamless access for the competition organizers.
  - Email Submission:
    - Submit your entry by sending an email to [submit@archiol.com](mailto:submit@archiol.com). Include the shared Google Drive link in the body of the email. It is crucial to comply with this step for your submission to be valid.
    - Email Subject Format:
      - In the subject line of your email, clearly state the competition name followed by your participation code. This standardized format streamlines the organization's handling of numerous submissions.
    - Email Body Content:
      - The body of the email should contain the shared Google Drive link along with essential information, such as the name of the team leader. Additionally, attach the payment receipt or screenshot to verify the completion of the registration process.
  
- **Terms and Conditions:**
  - By submitting your essay and image, you agree that they are your original work.
  - You grant permission for the organizers to publish your essay and image on their website or in promotional materials related to the competition.
  - Plagiarism will result in disqualification.

## JURY

We collaborate with leading architects, designers, and academicians of international repute to participate as jury members in our competitions.

## EIGIBILITY

The competition is open to architects, designers, artists, and creative thinkers from around the world. Participants can enter as individuals or in teams (max. 4 members in one team).

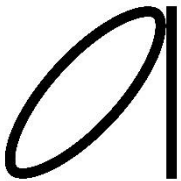
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## CONTACT DETAILS



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