

2026 Design Awards

INSTRUCTIONS: How to Create the Jury PDF

1. The Jury PDF is the **ONLY** document the jurors will see.
2. It must be anonymous.
3. **ANY** kind of identification of authorship within the Jury PDF will disqualify the submission.
4. Remove all authorship details from the project statement, drawings, and images.
5. It must remain as one single PDF and not exceed 9 pages (8 pages of content plus 1 completed cover page – See item 6 for cover page template).
6. Page one of the Jury PDF must be [this form](#) filled out entirely.
7. Pages 2 up to 9 are to include:
 - a. Diagrams and/or photographs indicating the project's physical context;
 - b. Photographs showing each exterior facade of the project and any additional exterior and interior views necessary to describe completely the context, extent and quality of the finished project. Exterior views are optional for the Commercial Interiors category. All project photographs must credit the photographer and have rights cleared to allow for their use by the Chapter; and
 - c. Site plans, building plans, sections, and other drawings, to describe the project. Conceptual, sustainable, technical, and programmatic diagrams are encouraged. For projects involving changes to existing structures, documentation of the original conditions is required.
8. Use this file naming convention:
JPDF_[CATEGORY NAME]_[PROJECT NAME].pdf –
 (e.g. JPDF_RESIDENTIAL_SMITH RESIDENCE.pdf)
9. Maximum file size when saved is 12MB - **NO EXCEPTIONS**
10. Page size must be 16:9 and horizontally- oriented. It is recommended to print at 120 dpi with compressed images.
11. To balance readability and file size, the suggested PDF preset is as follows:

Edit PDF Export Preset

Preset Name: Full HD 16x9 120dpi

Standard: None

Compatibility: Acrobat 8/9 (PDF 1.7)

General

Compression

Marks and Bleeds

Output

Advanced

Summary

Compression

Color Images

Bicubic Downsampling to: 120 pixels per inch

for images above: 120 pixels per inch

Compression: Automatic (JPEG)

Tile Size: 128

Image Quality: Maximum

Grayscale Images

Bicubic Downsampling to: 120 pixels per inch

for images above: 120 pixels per inch

Compression: Automatic (JPEG)

Tile Size: 128

Image Quality: Maximum

Monochrome Images

Bicubic Downsampling to: 120 pixels per inch

for images above: 120 pixels per inch

Compression: CCITT Group 4

☒ Compress Text and Line Art

☒ Crop Image Data to Frames