



## GRASSROOTS

### INTRODUCTION

When Rene Descartes said, *'I think, therefore I am'*, he implied that the only way to confirm your existence is through your capability to think.

But is that enough?

Being a good student, a good thinker with good grades is not as important as being a good architect who empathizes with the users, nurtures, and protects the environment, understands the dreams and aspirations of the clients and cares for the workers who build the projects.

The Ethos Trophy engages with the individual's senses, values, and ethos to condition future architects who will make positive contributions to society. To do this, you- the architect of future should engage with and enrich communities around you. This will require proactive leadership and programs at both unit and national levels. The Ethos Trophy is a platform that celebrates the academic as well as extra-curricular work of students and recognizes a star in the making.

The intent of the Ethos Trophy is to enable students to evaluate their abilities and skills, and to encourage a socially responsible attitude. The trophy strives to identify outstanding students from each year of study who balance academic excellence with a versatility that befits his/her evolving role in the journey towards becoming a well-rounded contributor to the society. This is a platform for students to present their passion and ideologies; to showcase not just design skills but attributes such as articulation, communication, sense of aesthetics, analytical and interpretative abilities, documentation, observation, presentation, technical, and other ancillary skills; to present their brightest self.

This year, we are introducing the Best Thesis Award, that aims to nurture exceptional creativity and recognize the tireless efforts of students towards extensive research and thoughts put together for their final academic work before stepping into the professional world. We believe the thesis project represents a student's learning across the academic years and is a reflection of the wisdom gained along the way.

Architect Charles Correa said

*"Certainly, architecture is concerned with much more than its physical attributes. It is a many-layered thing. Beneath and beyond the strata of function and structure, materials and texture, lie the deepest and most compulsive layers of all".*

Architectural education includes an interdisciplinary and multi-faceted curriculum that opens out opportunities in several other fields. The profession is a collaboration across disciplines and networks and cannot exist in isolation. More importantly, through their designs, ethics, and sensibilities, Architects have the power to shape lives. Architecture has the capacity to influence change in the world. Thus, it is important for budding architects to think beyond their ultimate architectural objects and encompass broader and more complex skills and themes.

This edition looks forward to seeing how you use your learning as students of architecture to bring the social context of a shared built environment that should typically fulfil a complex web of needs. We want to prod you to understand the user's view of the situation, reflect on it from their perspective, and design with empathy for the community. Answering questions like

**Who** are the users?

**What** are their needs?

**How** do their needs differ?

**Why** do they need the intervention?

**Where** should it be done? should serve as the basis of your design works. The solution to this problem will stem not just from the design of objects/products but also from what you enable and what the interaction between you and users makes possible.

In this new era of architecture and development, architects engage and participate in people's work rather than asking users to participate in their work. So, feel free to add your extracurricular activities such as volunteering/working with NGOs, attending seminars/workshops/conclaves, participating in competitions, pursuing hobbies, travelling and also include your internship stories showcasing your role in the firm. The focus will be on holistic evaluation. While the projects need to be well defined, they should demonstrate how they are a means to an end- the intent, process and final output are all important. To that extent, the presentations need to be conceptually very powerful even at the cost of finer detailing as long as they're well within the realms of possibilities in the current scenario.

Lastly quoting Jed Bartlet from West Wing

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful and committed individuals cannot change the world. Because that is the only thing that ever has."*

Off to the grassroots!

## ELIGIBILITY

Open to all undergraduate students and fresh graduates of architecture- only academic work of 2020-21 to be submitted (June 2020 to July 2021).

## FORMAT COMPETITION

- It shall be a 2-stage competition.
- **Stage 1:** Soft copy entries to be sent in pdf format. An online jury will shortlist entries at this stage, so make sure your drawings and sheets are readable.
- **Stage 2:** The shortlisted participants will be given time to standardize their submissions in the format given to them. This final submission will then be presented in front of jurors.
- We all bear strong personalities as architects and our progressive growth from what we were to what we are, has transformed deeply, giving us a clear essence of our best versions. As part of stage 2, we require the participants to manifest their journey as students of architecture from what was to what is. The journey can be captured through an audio recording, a song, a video clip of 5 MB, a poem, a 300-word essay, etc. This expression can be in a medium of the student's choice.

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• Your names, year of study and college name needs to be only on the registration form and mail body and **SHOULD NOT** be a part of your submission pdf. If any of these details appear on your sheets, your submission will be subject to **DISQUALIFICATION**.

## AWARDS

The Ethos Trophy has 6 awards which includes 5 awards - one each for every academic year and a Best Thesis Award.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

- First Impression (5%)
- Design (40%)
  - Response to design problem/ Concept
  - Context
  - Research/ case studies done, and conclusions drawn (if applicable)
  - Evolution of design from concept to conclusion
  - Environmental, economic, and social responsibilities (if applicable)
  - Attention to detail
  - Design Philosophy
- Technical skills (15%)
  - Building construction and materials
  - Working Drawings
  - Measured Drawings
  - Acoustics
  - Climatology
  - Construction Management
  - Site study
  - Estimation
- Articulation & Presentation skills (10%)
- Ancillary and Allied skills (20%)
  - Analytical skills
  - Soft skills
  - Observational skills
  - Practical knowledge
- Co-curricular Activities (10%)
  - Include pictures, write-ups, graphics etc. of any relevant activity in your presentation.
  - Participation in non-academic activities (Competitions, Exposure programmes, workshops, seminars, research etc.)
  - Leadership skills
  - Team player
  - All-rounder personality

## EVALUATION CRITERIA – Best Thesis Award

- First Impression and choice of design problem (5%)
- Design (40%)
  - Response to design problem/ Concept
  - Context

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- Research/ case studies done, and conclusions drawn (if applicable)
- Evolution of design from concept to conclusion
- Environmental, economic, and social responsibilities (if applicable)
- Attention to detail
- Design Philosophy
- Technical skills (35%)
  - Building construction and materials
  - Working Drawings
  - Measured Drawings
  - Acoustics
  - Climatology
  - Construction Management
  - Site study
  - Estimation
- Articulation & Presentation skills (20%)

## JUDGING CRITERIA:

We will look at the submissions as a holistic one and look at them from two approaches:

- **Tangibles-** This comprises what the portfolio should contain as mentioned in detail above.
- **Intangibles-** We all have a certain personality of ourselves, and to an extent, it is reflected in our ideologies and designs. But in this competition, we hope to tap into a saga of traits in you that makes you a certain way. In simpler words, the soul of your designs, its sensitivity towards the environment and community, expression through the choice of colors and composition, the values hidden in the design, the design process and the learning curve will also be looked into.

## SUBMISSION FORMAT

### • Introduction sheet:

This is your opportunity to make a terrific first impression! It's a teaser for what the judges will see in the following sheets, when you'll tell us a little about yourself, your academics, and your extracurricular activities.

This sheet will **NOT** contain your name, college name or any other personal details.

### • The portfolio:

The submission format is a combined pdf file which is a maximum of 8 sheets 16:9 ratio (landscape format). Maximum file size is 15MB.

**Academic:** The projects undertaken in the year 2020- 2021. The portfolio would carry a range of academic work from design to working drawings, to building construction and understanding of structure and material. The academic section of the portfolio will be a showcase of all that you learnt and gathered in the past year.

**Thesis:** The title taken for your thesis should be well explained from concept to the design. (Only for Best Thesis Award)

**Extra-curricular:** The projects undertaken in the year 2020 2021.

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Please note that while this part of the portfolio holds weightage, it isn't mandatory. You may choose to only put in academic work in the portfolio.

## • Pointers for portfolio:

- Prioritize! Prioritize! Prioritize! – Let your best work come in first!
- Spell-check
- "Pictures speak a thousand words" – Remember to keep your word limits to a minimum and explain your ideas graphically.
- Only individual work shall make it to the portfolio/ submission.
- No internship work can be put in the portfolio/ submission.
- Any other format, in addition to the sheets is also welcomed.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Only individual work.
- Only projects done in the year 2020-2021 to be submitted.
- No internship work shall be submitted.
- Include a North point and graphical scale
- Your names, year of study and college name needs to be only on the registration form and mail body and **SHOULD NOT** be a part of your submission pdf. If any of these details appear on your sheets, your submission will be subject to **DISQUALIFICATION**.
- Registrations and submissions are open to students in NASA India website before the deadline.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Authenticating letter from college HoD for each entry the work submitted is genuine and they have endorsed copyrights for the same and with the name of Participant and stating the unit shall abide by whatever may be the final results.
- Declaration by the participant stating the work submitted is genuine and they have endorsed copyrights for the same and to adhere to all the rules and regulations, Jury process and the results.
- The soft copy (non-editable format) of the sheets should be uploaded on the website failing which the submission will be considered incomplete and the entry shall be disqualified. If the soft copy file of the sheets is damaged or in low resolution, the entry shall be disqualified.
- Editable format of the sheets has to be submitted during the Annual NASA Convention (Applicable only for shortlisted failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete.

## PRIZE

The Winning participants shall receive a certificate and be part of the rolling trophy. The rolling trophy will be awarded to a unit that has had the winning participants consecutively for 4 years from the respective unit.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- The release of brief – **12th November 2021**
- Registrations open - **30th January 2022, 18:00 IST**
- Registration closes on – **15th January 2022**
- Queries till – **25th January 2022**
- Submission deadline – **15th February 2022, 18:00 IST**

## SHEET & NASA INDIA LOGO GUIDELINES

*Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.*

- NASA India Internal Logo shall always be placed on the right-hand bottom corner of the sheet.
- NASA India logo should not be merged, overlapped etc. with any sort of text, graphic, image, etc.
- NASA India logo should be in true black with a perfectly white background.
- The sheet template to be followed is available at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PI7QhEnOYGeC0XA3wEvZtETA9iJzBS7r?usp=sharing>

## OTHER INFORMATION

- **Any number of entries can be submitted per unit. Students can directly register from the website.**
- Queries can be put forward through the trophy page on the website <https://www.nasaindia.co/>
- Registration should be done on the NASA India website before the registration deadline.
- Registration of the trophies will be final and cannot be changed or withdrawn henceforth.
- Late Registration and submission will not be entertained and henceforth the defaulters shall be disqualified.