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International Design Challenge

YEARNING TO BREATHE 2025

Fourth Edition

Register Now!

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YEARNING TO BREATHE 2025

Where Urban Living Meets the Serenity of Nature

Introduction

Welcome to the "Yearning to Breathe 2025" design competition. This competition invites innovative minds to reimagine the urban home by embracing the principles of biophilic design. Biophilia emphasizes the human connection with nature, integrating natural elements, materials, and patterns into the built environment. Your challenge is to design a residential space that harmoniously integrates biophilic principles, providing a serene, restorative living experience within the complexities of an urban context.

Design Objectives

The primary objective is to craft an urban home that bridges the gap between urban living and nature, enhancing the residents' physical and mental well-being while meeting functional and aesthetic needs. The design should focus on the following goals:

- **Biophilic Integration:** Incorporate natural light, greenery, water features, natural materials, and views of nature into the design. Enhance the well-being, comfort, and overall quality of life for the residents through these biophilic elements.
- **Sustainability:** Prioritize eco-friendly materials, energy-efficient systems, water conservation strategies, and passive design techniques. Strive to minimize the environmental footprint by incorporating renewable energy sources and sustainable practices.
- **Functionality and Comfort:** Develop a layout that optimizes space usage, provides ample storage, and ensures comfort in daily living. Balance private areas, communal zones, and spaces for relaxation or creative activities to suit the needs of modern urban dwellers.
- **Urban Context:** Address the challenges and opportunities presented by the urban environment. Design with spatial efficiency, privacy, and innovative ways to integrate natural elements in mind while respecting the constraints of the site.
- **Aesthetics:** Blend modern design sensibilities with the organic warmth of biophilic elements. Create a visually appealing design that complements the surrounding urban fabric while celebrating the beauty of nature.

The Building Programme

The design should include the following components:

- **Private Spaces:** Comfortable and functional bedrooms that offer privacy and tranquility.
- **Communal Areas:** Open-plan living and dining spaces that foster interaction and connection.
- **Nature Integration:** Indoor and outdoor spaces featuring greenery, natural materials, or water elements.
- **Utility Spaces:** A functional kitchen, storage areas, and bathrooms designed with sustainability in mind.
- **Multi-Purpose Areas:** Flexible spaces that can adapt to hobbies, work, or relaxation.

Design Flexibility

While a core set of objectives and program requirements is provided, participants are encouraged to innovate and think creatively. Use design flexibility to address the unique challenges of the chosen site and context. Your proposal can introduce unconventional solutions, provided they align with the principles of biophilic design and sustainable living.

Project Proposal Requirements

To participate in the competition, your submission must include the following:

- **Design Proposal**
Detailed plans, sections, and elevations demonstrating the layout, spatial organization, and integration of biophilic elements.
- **Renderings and Visualizations**
High-quality 3D renderings, illustrations, or VR representations showcasing the ambiance, atmosphere, and integration of nature within the design.
- **Design Explanation**
A written description of the design concept, the rationale behind the biophilic choices, and how the design addresses the objectives and challenges of the competition.

- Sustainability Features
A list of sustainable materials, systems, and practices integrated into the design, along with an explanation of their environmental benefits.
Site Context
- A site plan or analysis that highlights how the design responds to the specific urban characteristics and constraints of the chosen location.

Submissions will be evaluated based on creativity, practicality, adherence to biophilic principles, sustainability, and the overall design quality. Let your imagination soar as you craft a vision of urban living that yearns to breathe!

Timeline

- Registration Deadline: 28th February 2026
- Submission Deadline: 20th March 2026
- Winners Announcement: 15th July 2026

Registration Fees

Level Name	Start Date	End Date	Fees (INR)
1. Early Bird	01 Jan 2025	31 Jan 2025	₹1,500
2. Super Saver	01 Feb 2025	29 Feb 2025	₹2,000
3. Advanced Saver	01 Mar 2025	31 Mar 2025	₹2,500
4. Smart Saver	01 Apr 2025	30 Apr 2025	₹3,000
5. Budget Entry	01 May 2025	31 May 2025	₹3,500
6. Standard Entry	01 Jun 2025	30 Jun 2025	₹4,000
7. Regular Entry	01 Jul 2025	31 Jul 2025	₹4,500
8. Classic Entry	01 Aug 2025	31 Aug 2025	₹5,000
9. Priority Entry	01 Sep 2025	30 Sep 2025	₹5,500
10. Final Phase 1	01 Oct 2025	31 Oct 2025	₹6,000
11. Final Phase 2	01 Nov 2025	31 Dec 2025	₹6,500
12. Last Call	01 Jan 2026	29 Feb 2026	₹7,000

Discounts

Our conceptual design competition is excited to announce exclusive discounts for university students. These discounts are intended to promote extensive participation and nurture a spirit of creativity and innovation among students. We believe that by providing these incentives, we can create a dynamic and inspiring environment for young designers to thrive. Here are the details of the discounts available based on the number of individual or team participants registered from a single university:

Discount Tiers

- 5% Discount: Available for universities that register 10 individual or team participants.
- 10% Discount: Available for universities that register 20 individual or team participants.
- 30% Discount: Available for universities that register 40 individual or team participants.

Submission Requirements

File Format:

- All entries must be submitted as a single PDF document.

Sheets:

- Minimum of 3 sheets, maximum of 6 sheets.
- Each sheet should include designs, drawings, and views that effectively communicate the project concept.

Text Explanation:

- Each sheet must contain explanatory text that describes and supports your design decisions.
- Text should be clear and concise, highlighting the main ideas and features of the project.

Content to Include (per sheet):

- Design Concepts: Conceptual drawings, diagrams, and sketches.
- Plans, Elevations, and Sections: Architectural plans, cross-sections, and elevations.
- Views and Renderings: 3D views, perspectives, or rendered images of the project.
- Diagrams: Illustrations explaining circulation, spatial relationships, environmental or structural concepts.

Resolution and Quality:

- All sheets should be high-quality, legible, and visually clear.

File Size:

- The total file size should not exceed 20 MB.

Naming Convention:

- The file should be named as: CompetitionName_ParticipationCode.pdf

Anonymity:

- No names, logos, or identifying marks should appear on any of the submitted sheets to ensure anonymity during judging.

Submission Guidelines

Sign in to Your Account:

- Visit the Archiol website and sign in to your account.

Access Your Competition Submissions:

- In the header, click on the arrow beside your profile picture. Select the option labeled "My Competition Submissions."

Submit Your Entry:

- Click on the "Submit My Entry" button.

Select Competition:

- Choose the competition name for which you wish to submit your entry.

Enter Participation Code:

- Input the participation code that was generated during your registration.

Title Your Submission:

- Provide a title for your submission.

Upload Title Image:

- Upload the image that will represent your project.

Upload Design PDF:

- Submit your project in PDF format (ensure it meets the competition's requirements).

Consent:

- Check the box to agree to the competition terms and conditions.

Submit:

- After filling in all required fields, click "Submit."

Confirmation:

- Your submission will appear in "My Competition Submissions" within 24 hours.

Eligibility

The competition is open to all architects. There are no restrictions on age or nationality.

Contact Details

For any inquiries or further information, please contact us at:

- Email: info@archiolcompetitions.com
- Website: www.archiolcompetitions.com
- Competition Link: <https://www.archiolcompetitions.com/annual-competitions/yearning-to-breathe-2025>