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2016 Sustainability Awards winners announced: 88 Angel Street named Australia's best green building

Nathan Johnson

The uncompromising efforts of Australia's best architects, builders and designers to improve Australia's built environment was the real cause for celebration at the 2016 Sustainability Awards, held in Sydney on 13 October.

While it was the immensely sustainable 88 Angel Street multi-residential project (<http://www.architectureanddesign.com.au/projects/2016/multi-density-residential/88-angel-street-by-steele-associates-architects>) in Sydney that took the program's top gong, the Best of the Best Award, the biggest achievement was the amount of people who turned out to celebrate and support what was once a fringe issue in Australia's building industry – sustainability.

2016 was the 10th anniversary of the Sustainability Awards and by taking the Best of the Best Award 88 Angel Street by Steele Associates Architects continued a trend for the program set three years ago by being the third multi-residential project in as many years to win the top prize.

In 2014 it was Breathe Architecture's now well-known The Commons apartments (<http://www.architectureanddesign.com.au/awards-1/2014-winners/the-commons-by-breathe-architecture-named-best-of>) that took the trophy, in 2015 it was an Indigenous Australians elders centre (<http://www.architectureanddesign.com.au/projects/multi-residential/walumba-elders-centre-by-iredale-pedersen-hook-arc>) in Western Australia by Iredale Pedersen Hook Architects which shocked the community by winning the coveted honour. But, according to the Awards Jury, the message from 88 Angel Street has the potential to be as significant, if not more significant, as the two Best of Best projects that precede it.

"Never before has sustainable housing been more important to our cities as it is today," said the jury.

"We're urbanising on an unprecedented scale and we need comfortable, playful, socially enriching and environmentally friendly housing options if we want to accommodate our population in a humane and sustainable manner."

"88 Angel Street, in all of its meticulous commitment to best practice sustainable building and material procurement, is certainly one of those options, and we hope that this award will encourage many more inner city developments just like it." (See below for full Judges comments)

BEST OF THE BEST

[88 Angel Street by Steele Associates Architects](#)



Photography by Anna Zhu

Judges Comments

"88 Angel Street continues a trend for the Sustainability Awards program by being the third multi-residential project in as many years to take out the Best of the Best award. In 2014 we had The Commons by Breathe Architecture, a triple-bottom line development which has since become the benchmark for the Nightingale community apartment movement sweeping Victoria.

In 2015 it was an elder's centre in Western Australia by Iredale Pedersen Hook Architects which took our top honour, demonstrating in the process that true sustainable developments must now consider culture and social responsibility at their core. The message from 88 Angel Street has the potential to be as significant, if not more significant, as the two best of best projects that precede it.

Never before has sustainable housing been more important to our cities as it is today. We're urbanising on an unprecedented scale and we need comfortable, playful, socially enriching and environmentally friendly housing options if we want to accommodate our population in a humane and sustainable manner. 88 Angel Street, in all of its meticulous commitment to best practice sustainable building and material procurement, is certainly one of those options, and we hope that this award will encourage many more inner city developments just like it."