

# 2026 Excellence Awards - Call for Entries

## ABOUT ASSOCIATION FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The **Association for Learning Environments** is an interdisciplinary association of professionals working at the intersection of learning and place to drive the evolution of learning environments. Our Core Purpose is to strengthen learning for all through better environments.

## THE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Excellence Awards, established in 2005, recognize A4LE's Best in Class school solutions. Past winners exemplify some of the finest school construction projects in the Southeast Region.

## ELIGIBILITY

Entries must meet the following criteria:

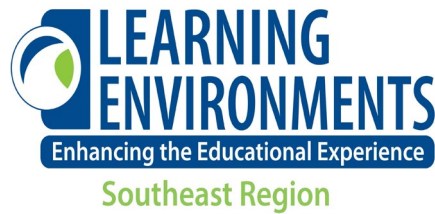
- Schools must be located in the A4LE Southeast Region.
- Construction must have been completed after 8/1/2021.
- Award submittals may be made by the Owner, Architect, Engineer, General Contractor, or Construction Manager. The entity submitting the project must be a member of **Association for Learning Environments SE**.
- Entries must be submitted under one of the following categories:
  - New Construction
  - Addition / Renovation

## SUBMITTALS

Submittals for the Excellence Awards shall be provided as **8 ½ x 11 digital files**. Drawings, photographs, and narratives shall be included in the initial submittal to allow judging to occur prior to the conference. The submitted materials shall be provided as jpeg images compressed and include the entry form as a separate file. The following information shall be included:

1. Project narratives addressing the following:
  - a) Description and definition of the project
  - b) Specific challenges and solutions to the **criteria** noted on the next page
  - c) Collaboration and teamwork among the project team members
2. Photographs of all major elevation views, adequate to illustrate the exterior solution.
3. Photographs of interior spaces, adequate to illustrate the quality of learning environments and solution.
4. Plans and sections, and additional drawings as required illustrating the solution.
5. The electronic submission shall be limited to no more than **twelve jpeg images (8.5 x 11, 300dpi)**, not including the narrative.

**Note: Please do not include any reference to the architectural firm, name of the school or other team members in the submittal. Please complete the attached Entry Form which will remain concealed until the winners are selected.**



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The judges will consider the following criteria in their review:

- 1) Fostering learning opportunities and academic success
- 2) Innovation in programming, technology and design
- 3) Sustainable design and awareness
- 4) Engaging the community
- 5) Architectural excellence

Submittals are due on or by midnight est **March 2, 2026**. There is an Entry Fee of \$300 per school submittal. All checks should be made **payable to Association for Learning Environments SE**.

Please send the check for your design award submittal to:

**Association for Learning Environments SE Awards**  
11445 E Via Linda, Suite 2-440  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259

Or submit payment for your design award submittal online:

[https://www.a4le.org/A4LE/Regions/Southeast/South\\_Carolina/Southeast/South\\_Carolina/South\\_Carolina.aspx?hkey=9bd71f5d-82df-4470-86d2-ceae5cd6d532](https://www.a4le.org/A4LE/Regions/Southeast/South_Carolina/Southeast/South_Carolina/South_Carolina.aspx?hkey=9bd71f5d-82df-4470-86d2-ceae5cd6d532)

Please send your electronic design award submittal / questions via email to:  
803-765-2418

Allen Taylor

[allentaylor@ls3p.com](mailto:allentaylor@ls3p.com)

### **Project Displays (due at the Conference):**

We encourage teams to display your entries. Project displays are due April 1st between 3:30 and 5:30 pm for display during the 2026 Learning Environments SC / SE Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Greenville, SC.

The display shall consist of a 40" X 40" "hardboard on easel" format for each school project submitted for judging. The displays will be showcased throughout the duration of conference. Please adhere to the following guidelines when preparing your display:

- Include a full color overview of the project, including photos, graphics, etc.
- Plans, sections, or elevation drawings may be included; construction photos are optional
- Due to size and location restrictions, displays cannot utilize electricity, tables, or "tradeshow" type booths, but *entrants should bring their own easels to display their boards.*
- You may identify name of project, school district, and architectural firm along the bottom margin of your board this year since judging will occur prior to the conference.

**Displays are to be set up in the designated area at the Conference and award winners will be announced at the Conference**

*Some options for printers in the Greenville, SC area if needed:*

Color Lab  
[www.colorlab.space](http://www.colorlab.space)  
800-922-7594

Express Press of Greenville  
[www.epgvl.com](http://www.epgvl.com)  
864-757-9652

Vision Printing and Graphics  
[www.visionprintingandgraphics.com](http://www.visionprintingandgraphics.com)  
864-271-9992

*\*Association for Learning Environments SC reserves the right to publish entrants' names and pictures of any entry (or part thereof). Entries will become the property of the association and are not returnable.*