

# 2025 Home of the Month

Through this partnership between AIA Minnesota and the *Star Tribune*, each year 12 architect-designed residential projects are selected from among a competitive pool of submissions to be the subject of a monthly article in the *Star Tribune*. The objectives of the program are to educate the public about the value of architect-led residential design; to showcase a range of project types, styles, and budgets; and to support Minnesota's vibrant residential architecture community through increased exposure to a public audience.

The 2025 program begins in June and ends in May 2026. The articles appear in the *Star Tribune's* digital and print publications. With both digital and print, the *Star Tribune* reaches about 3.5 million readers each month. Since 2020, AIA Minnesota has also published a Look Book featuring all Home of the Month submissions. The Look Book is distributed in print to all Home of the Month event attendees, and digitally to all past Home of the Month event and Homes by Architects Tour attendees.

## UPDATES RELATED TO THE STAR TRIBUNE'S 2024 REORG:

In 2024, the *Star Tribune* underwent a reorganization to focus resources on their digital publication, where the majority of their readership growth is occurring. As part of this reorganization, there is no longer a standalone print Homes & Gardens section. Home of the Month print articles now appear in the Variety section on a Sunday in the month, but not necessarily the first Sunday as in the past and not necessarily on the front page. Since the reorganization, no *Star Tribune* articles are guaranteed to be in color in print, including their own investigative reporting, and this rule applies to Home of the Month articles as well. Home of the Month photography will always be in color online.

## Entry Fee

**\$140** per project.

## Eligibility

To be eligible, submitted projects must follow these guidelines, regardless of budget, style, or project type:

- The project must have been designed by a current AIA Minnesota member at the AIA level, or by a team of professionals where the lead designer is an AIA Minnesota member at the AIA level;
- The project must have been designed by an AIA Minnesota member practicing in accordance with Minnesota architecture registration laws and complying with federal wage and labor laws by not employing unpaid intern architects;
- The project must be a single-family, new construction project OR a radical transformation of an existing single-family residence in Minnesota or western Wisconsin. The transformation must include significant change to the existing dwelling as well as new construction;
- The project must have been completed within the last five years (since January 1, 2020);
- The project must not have been featured previously in the *Star Tribune* (entry **may** be a previous winner of a RAVE, BLEND, or AIA Minnesota Honor Award and may have been previously published in other publications or magazines);
- To ensure the highest editorial quality, the *Star Tribune* writer must be able speak with, quote and name the homeowner(s) within the article. It is the *Star Tribune's* editorial policy to identify all quoted sources using first and last names.

## Submission Deadline

Submit all required materials and information and pay the entry fee using [AIA Minnesota's online awards platform](#) by the entry deadline of **Friday, March 21, 2025 at 12:00 pm CT**.

# 2025 Home of the Month

## Selection of Projects

A panel of professionals will be gathered to review submissions and select the 12 Home of the Month projects following the entry deadline. Panel will be comprised of at least one *Star Tribune* representative and four additional panelists to be determined by the AIA Minnesota Committee on Design.

The review and selection process will be monitored by an AIA Minnesota staff member and will be blind with regard to the number of projects that are selected from any one firm. Each member of the panel will have equal weight in the selection process. Project authorship will remain concealed throughout the deliberations of the selection panel.

## Selection Criteria

The Home of the Month program is not an awards program, but rather seeks to showcase a broad range of residential project styles, types, and budgets. The elements of the submission should convey a compelling story and illustrate the architectural innovation, response to the program, and distinguishing features of the project. Avoid lengthy descriptions of features described via graphic images. Panelists will evaluate each project based on adherence to submission guidelines and requirements.

Project authorship must be concealed in all submission materials. It is the entrant's responsibility to make sure the architect's name and/or firm name is not revealed on file names, in narratives, or on floorplans. Failure to follow this requirement may result in the entry being disqualified.

## Submission Requirements

All entry materials should be submitted electronically using [AIA Minnesota's online awards platform](#). The following items are required as part of the complete submission:

- **Entrant details:** lead architect and all project team member names; firm information
- **Project details:** project type, size, location, completion date
- **Project description** of 700 words or less
- **Signed consent from the homeowner(s)** giving approval to submit the project for consideration
- **Project images:** Each entry must include at least 3 interior photo images, 1 exterior photo image (for new build projects), floor plans, and a site plan, with the total number of images and plans submitted not to exceed 12. Image files should not exceed 10MB in size and be at least 5 inches wide at 300 dpi.

## Submission of Images

Any images submitted may be used for the Home of the Month announcement, the Home of the Month event, or in other promotions.

Photo rights must be obtained by the entrant. Each submitted photo must list a photo credit. If the submitting architect is the photographer, list "photo by architect." Entrants are responsible for any royalties or copyright photography fees as related to the submission. If your project is selected, you will be asked to provide proof of photo rights to reproduce the photos.

## Save the Date: Home of the Month Virtual Event

The *Star Tribune* and AIA Minnesota will host an event on the evening of Wednesday, April 30, at [Glass House](#), to recognize the Home of the Month program and to offer a preview of the next slate of selected projects to be featured. Your submission entitles you to one (1) complimentary ticket to this event.

Contact Ann Mayhew with questions; [mayhew@aia-mn.org](mailto:mayhew@aia-mn.org) or (612) 767-1740.