

Homes by Architects Tour

Small Projects Showcase

Call for Entries

Tour Overview

The Homes by Architects Tour, founded by AIA Minnesota in 2008, is a two-day event and public outreach opportunity where architect-designed homes from around the state are showcased to a public audience.

By showcasing the highest-quality new and remodeled, architect-designed homes from a range of project types, sizes, budgets, and sites, the event strives to demonstrate the value of architect-led residential design and educate the public about the quality and diversity of skills an architect can offer.

Additionally, the tour provides an opportunity for AIA Minnesota members to promote their services, expand their client base, and showcase their high-quality work.

Two thousand twenty-four will be the first year of a two-year Small Projects Showcase pilot. This pilot aims to showcase the value of working with a residential architect for projects that are smaller than those historically shown on the tour.

Event Dates

The Homes by Architects Tour is a hybrid event. Homes will be available to tour in person on Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29, 2024, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm each day. A virtual tour will be available to view online Saturday, September 28–Sunday, October 13.

Small Projects Showcase Overview

Two thousand twenty-four will be the first year of a two-year Small Projects Showcase pilot. In addition to supporting the tour's overall goals above, this pilot aims to showcase the value of working with an architect for projects that are smaller than those historically shown on the tour, with a lower participation fee for the firms.

Core differences between a standard tour home and small project include:

- **Small projects will receive a half-page in the tour program** instead of a full page
- **Firms will have to staff the greeter table**

See a detailed tour project-type comparison at the end of this document.

Small Projects Showcase Eligibility

Residential projects under 600 square feet, designed by a registered architect, or a team where a registered architect is the lead designer, who is a current AIA Minnesota member are eligible. Projects may be new construction supplementary structure (e.g. a pool house), remodels, or additions, and must have been completed within the past six years (as of January 1, 2024) or must be scheduled for completion by July 15, 2024. Tour projects must be located within a one-hour's drive from the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport.

Projects should exemplify the best qualities of an architect's work, demonstrate an innovative use of design solutions and/or materials, and tell a compelling story.

Projects may not be for sale before or during the tour. Custom vacation homes or accessory dwelling units built with the intention to be rented out are allowed.

No firm may have more than 25 percent of the homes on the tour, and no single architect may have more than two projects on the tour.

Firms whose submitted projects are not near another tour home may be asked to resubmit in a future year. See a map of homes already accepted on the tour [here](#).

Step 1: Submission Process

By completing a submission, you are not ensured a spot on the tour (see next section). To submit a project for consideration of inclusion on the tour, the following information is required:

- **Project information:** address, project type, square footage, date of completion, descriptions
- **Entrant information:** firm information, design team names, firm logo, architect headshot or team photo
- **Project images:** high-resolution, print-ready project photos or, if no print-ready photos are available at the time of submission, renderings, sketches, plans, construction photos, or scouting shots; "before" photos required for remodels and additions
- **Floor plan & "flow" plan:** Floor plan(s) indicating a preliminary plan for tour-goer flow through the space. "Before" floor plans required for remodels and additions.
- **Consent forms:** signed Homeowner Consent Form, signed Architect Agreement
- **Supplier Information:** list of all project partners along with contact information for each
- **AIA Framework for Design Excellence:** Paragraph on how the project demonstrates at least one [AIA Framework for Design Excellence category](#)
- **Sustainability:** Description of sustainable design elements and/or processes

Materials must be submitted electronically using [AIA Minnesota's online awards platform](#). The deadline to submit projects without paying a late fee penalty is **Friday, July 12, 2024 by 12:00 pm noon CT**.

After this date, any projects accepted on the tour will be subject to a \$100 late fee.

Step 2: Selection Process & Criteria

A submission is considered complete when all portions of the application are completed and signed, including signed consent from the homeowners to participate in the tour if their home is selected. **By completing a submission, you are not ensured a spot on the tour.**

Members of the AIA Minnesota residential architecture committee will review all submitted small projects by July 26, 2024, and evaluate each one fairly and objectively, with a primary goal of selecting a diverse and representative range of project types, scopes, budgets, and sites that best support the programmatic objectives of the tour. All submissions are subject to final approval by AIA Minnesota staff.

Submissions are evaluated by the committee using the following questions:

- Does the project demonstrate innovative use of design solutions and/or materials?
- Does the project tell a compelling story that would be appealing to a broad audience?
- Does the project illustrate the value of architectural services in the design solutions?
- **New in 2023:** Does the project feature sustainable design elements and/or processes?
- **New in 2023:** Taking into consideration the other tour submissions, how well would this project add variety to the tour?

Firms whose submitted projects are not near another tour home may be asked to resubmit in a future year.

Step 3: Confirmation of Projects & Payment of Participation Fees

Following completion of the selection process, all submitters will be notified of the outcome. Submitters whose projects were selected for inclusion on the tour will be invited to attend an orientation session and participation fees will be collected.

- Small Project Showcase participation fee: \$1,250

Payments will be due August 15, 2024.

Questions

Contact Ann Mayhew at (612) 767-1740 or mayhew@aia-mn.org.

Homes by Architects Tour

Small Projects Showcase

Architect Agreement

The undersigned architect must be a current AIA Minnesota member in good standing and agree to abide by all of the following rules and regulations:

1. The Home/Residence

- 1.1** The firm submitting the home is the firm of record and the architect submitting is a registered architect, lead designer of the home, and a current AIA Minnesota member.
- 1.2** The architect is responsible for completion of the residence by July 15, 2024.
- 1.3** A Certificate of Occupancy (COO) is required for all new construction projects. The architect will provide a copy of the COO by August 15, 2024. The architect will notify AIA Minnesota immediately if a COO is not yet issued by August 15. AIA Minnesota reserves the right to remove a project from the tour and/or refuse ticketholders entry to a project if a COO is not furnished by this deadline.
- 1.4** The home must be owner occupied or a home, such as a vacation rental or accessory dwelling unit, that was designed to be rented out. No home on the tour can be for sale before or during the tour. Absolutely no soliciting of home buyers or renters is allowed before or during the tour.
- 1.5** The final decision on the inclusion of a residence in the tour will be made by AIA Minnesota staff. The participation fee payment will be collected after final home selections have been made.

2. Changes/Cancellation

- 2.1** If the architect withdraws a home from the tour for any reason (including non-completion or lack of certificate of occupancy) prior to August 15, 2024, a refund of 60% of the fee will be issued. All withdrawals must be submitted in writing immediately to AIA Minnesota. After August 15, 2024, the entry fee is non-refundable and must be paid in full. Participation fees may not be transferred to a future tour in the event a home is withdrawn from the tour.

3. The Program Guide/Advertising

- 3.1** The architect must submit any changes to the home profile (including maps, photos, logos or information relating to the project, the architect, the firm or special transportation arrangements) to AIA Minnesota by August 15, 2024. A final proof showing all relevant project information will be given to the architect by August 31. If the proof is not subsequently approved by the architect, any errors in the printed program guide will be the architect's sole responsibility.
- 3.2** If errors or omissions occur in the program guide after the final proof has been approved by the architect (including maps, photos, logos or information relating to the project, the architect, the firm, or special transportation arrangements), AIA Minnesota will make every effort to correct them wherever possible.

Architect Agreement, continued

4. During the Tour

- 4.1** The home will be open to the public for viewing during all hours of the tour: September 28, 2024, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and September 29, 2024, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- 4.2** The architect will adequately staff the residence during all hours of the tour and will be present during tour hours to speak with attendees.
- 4.3** All municipal, county, and MN D.O.T. ordinance rules related to signage, parking and transportation will be followed. If transportation to/from the site is required, the architect is responsible for making all necessary arrangements and informing AIA Minnesota of those arrangements by August 15, 2024.
- 4.4** No third-party advertising is permitted at the residence, with the exception of paid and approved event sponsors. Any companies exhibiting without prior approval will be asked to either pay the appropriate sponsorship fees or will be expected to remove all signage and leave the residence immediately. Failure to comply with sponsorship registration requirements shall result in an additional \$1,000 fee payable by the architect.
- 4.5** All signage will be removed by 10:00 pm on Sunday, September 29, 2024.
- 4.6** Architect agrees to comply with any and all regulations and requirements set forth by AIA Minnesota to ensure the health and safety of ticket holders, clients, volunteers, staff, and architects.

5. Insurance

- 5.1** The Architect will submit to AIA Minnesota a Certificate of Liability Insurance containing commercial general liability insurance coverage of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence, valid from September 28-September 29, 2024.
 - 5.1.1** Said Certificate of Liability Insurance will name as an additional insured **AIA Minnesota, 105 5th Avenue South, Suite 485, Minneapolis, MN 55401.**
 - 5.1.2** Said certificate will contain worker's compensation insurance coverage on the architect, the architect's employees and volunteers.
 - Check the box if the following applies:*
Pursuant to Minnesota Workers Compensation Law, the architect is a Sole Proprietorship, a Small Partnership, or a Closely Held Corporation and the architect chooses not to purchase worker's compensation insurance. The required worker's compensation waiver agreement is signed and enclosed (contact AIA Minnesota for waiver).
- 5.2** The Architect agrees to indemnify and hold AIA Minnesota harmless against any claims that arise out of the Architect's participation in the Homes by Architects Tour, including claims for personal injury or property damage, unless the claim arises out of AIA Minnesota's gross negligence, recklessness or willful misconduct. The Architect's indemnification obligation includes payment of AIA Minnesota's reasonable attorney fees as they are incurred and payment of any sums AIA Minnesota becomes obligated to pay a claimant.

I wish to enter the 2024 Homes by Architects Tour and agree to abide by all of the rules and regulations listed in this agreement. I understand that failure to comply with any of the rules or guidelines in this document may result in a denial of participation privileges for the 2025 tour. In the event of any dispute or contest relating to any part of the tour rules, regulations, or guidelines, the final decision will be made solely by AIA Minnesota.

Architect Signature

Date

Homes by Architects Tour

Small Project Homeowner Consent Form

The undersigned hereby agrees to the following terms:

1. Allow the residence to be available for public viewing for the duration of the event: September 28 and 29, 2024, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.
2. Make a reasonable effort to present the residence at its best during the tour (valuables and prescription medications should be secured or removed). This includes all areas that may be seen by tour goers, even if tour goers will not be allowed to enter that space.
3. Allow photographs of project to be used for publicity by AIA Minnesota.
4. Allow for the display of additional signage in the home during the tour.
5. The home must be owner occupied or a home, such as a vacation rental or accessory dwelling unit, that was designed to be rented out. No home on the tour can be for sale before or during the tour. Absolutely no soliciting of home buyers or renters is allowed before or during the tour.
6. No third-party advertising is allowed on premises during the tour with the exception of paid event sponsors.
7. Ensure pets are secure or in an off-limits area of the home during tour hours, or remove pets or animals from the site if they are not conditioned to feel comfortable around large groups of people.
8. Maintain property owner's insurance containing personal liability coverage. Homeowners should advise their insurance agent of the event and contact their insurance agent with any questions relating to their property owner's insurance. Kraus-Anderson Insurance is the insurance agent for AIA Minnesota.
9. Homeowner agrees to indemnify and hold AIA Minnesota harmless against any claims that arise out of the Homeowner's participation in the Homes by Architects Tour, including claims for personal injury or property damage, unless the claim arises out of AIA Minnesota's gross negligence, recklessness or willful misconduct.

Homeowner name(s): _____

Homeowner signature(s): _____

Project address: _____

Date: _____

Prior to the tour, local television and print media often request to interview homeowners. Please indicate whether you are open to speaking with the media:

Yes

No

List of Suppliers

Suppliers and vendors are an important aspect of the Homes by Architects Tour. Their support is critical to the event's success, and their presence in the homes gives added value to attendees. Please list all of your product suppliers so that we can approach them for sponsorship opportunities. This is a great way for them to participate and represent their work in your home for additional exposure and potential new business. Use additional pages, if necessary.

Builder/Contractor: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Interior Designer: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Landscape Architect: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Engineer: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Window Product/Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Door Product/Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Exterior Siding Product/Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Lighting Company: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Paint Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

A/V Company: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

List of Suppliers (continued)

Suppliers and vendors are an important aspect of the Homes by Architects Tour. Their support is critical to the event's success, and their presence in the homes gives added value to attendees. Please list ALL of your product suppliers so that we can approach them for sponsorship opportunities. This is a great way for them to participate and represent their work in your home for additional exposure and potential new business.

Plumbing Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Fireplace Product/Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Kitchen Appliance Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Countertop Product/Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Hardware Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Tile Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Flooring Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Cabinetry: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Roofing Product/Supplier: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Pool Supplier or Other Exterior Features: _____
Contact person: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

OTHER: List other unique items like security system, metal work, patio furnishings, fencing, etc.

Homes by Architects Tour 2024: Home Types Comparison

This is not an exhaustive list of deadlines, requirements, or expectations for firms submitting homes to the tour. For firms planning to submit homes, they should also refer to the Call for Entries and Architect Agreement for full details.

	Standard Tour Home	NEW: Small Projects	Virtual Home
Eligibility			
Designer	Designed by a registered architect, or a team where a registered architect is the lead designer, who is a current AIA Minnesota member		
Project Type	New construction OR significant remodels or additions (majority of house was changed)	Under 600 sf	New construction OR significant remodels or additions (majority of house was changed)
Project Completion Date	Completed within the past six years (as of January 1, 2024) or scheduled for completion by July 15, 2024		
Additional Requirements	<p>No firm may have more than 25 percent of the homes on the tour, and no single architect may have more than two projects on the tour.</p> <p>Home must be owner-occupied or a vacation rental. Homes cannot be for sale before or during the tour.</p>	<p>No firm may have more than 25 percent of the homes on the tour, and no single architect may have more than two projects on the tour.</p> <p>Home must be owner-occupied or a vacation rental. Homes cannot be for sale before or during the tour.</p>	<p>No firm may have more than 25 percent of the homes on the tour, and no single architect may have more than two projects on the tour.</p> <p>Home must be owner-occupied or a vacation rental. Homes cannot be for sale before or during the tour.</p>
Fee			
Submission Fee	\$0		
Participation Fee	\$2,600	\$1,250	\$400 + firm will need to pay for the Matterport scanning (variable)
Architecture Firm Responsibilities			
Documentation	Required to provide: COO (new construction); Certificate of Liability with AIA Minnesota as additional insured; Architect Agreement; Homeowner Consent Form; Vendor List	Required to provide: COO (new construction); Certificate of Liability with AIA Minnesota as additional insured; Architect Agreement; Homeowner Consent Form; Vendor List "Before" photos and a "flow" plan are REQUIRED to demonstrate the architectural enhancements in the submission.	Required to provide: Architect Agreement; Homeowner Consent Form; Vendor List
Staffing/volunteers	Provides staff inside home	Provides staff inside home AND greeter volunteers; greeter volunteers agree to attend volunteer training	n/a

Home preparation	Home must be clean and presentable with valuables removed or secured for tour; firm may create any desired signage or takeaways (following sponsor rules)	Home must be clean and presentable with valuables removed or secured for tour — INCLUDING all areas visible on tour guests' path to/from the addition/remodeled space; firm may create any desired signage or takeaways (following sponsor rules)	Home must be clean and presentable for Matterport scan
AIA Minnesota Responsibilities			
Staffing/volunteers	Provides greeter volunteers	None	n/a
Signage	Provides wayfinding signage & house number sign; provides optional printable signs of tour rules for firm to print & place inside home		n/a
Submission Review Criteria			
Does the project demonstrate innovative use of design solutions and/or materials?			
Does the project tell a compelling story that would be appealing to a broad audience?			
Does the project illustrate the value of architectural services in the design solutions?			
Does this project demonstrate sustainable design?			
Publicity			
Printed & PDF tour program	full-page	half-page	full-page
Website	Individual page on public site; photo gallery on virtual tour	Individual page on public site; photo gallery on virtual tour	Individual page on public site; featured on virtual tour with Matterport, photo gallery, and optional videos
Social media	# of posts spotlighting individual project consistent with other standard and virtual projects, based on total number of projects	reduced number of posts spotlighting individual projects in comparison to standard & virtual homes; greater inclusion in posts highlighting multiple small projects	# of posts spotlighting individual project consistent with other standard and virtual projects, based on total number of projects
Marketing	may be featured in advertisements based on PR firm's discretion	may be featured in advertisements based on PR firm's discretion	may be featured in advertisements based on PR firm's discretion
Virtual Tour Presence*			
Photo gallery	Yes	Yes	Yes
Matterport	No	No	Yes
Architect and/or client interview	No	No	Yes; optional
Virtual event with Matterport walk-through & Q&A	No	No	Yes; optional
Option to add additional videos provided by architecture firm	No	No	Yes; optional
<i>*Standard Tour Homes may opt to be both virtual and in-person.</i>			