

DAM Architectural Book Award 2026

COMPETITION INVITATION

In 2026, the Frankfurt Book Fair and Deutsche Architekturmuseum are once again inviting all art and architecture book publishers worldwide to participate. The submissions are evaluated by a rotating expert jury made up of representatives of Deutsche Architekturmuseum and external experts according to criteria such as design, conception, material and processing quality, degree of innovation and topicality. All art and architecture book publishers from Germany and abroad can take part.

Even in this era of growing competition through new media and communication methods, books on architecture still remain the basic architectural medium. Identifying the best architectural books published in the current year by way of this competition and presenting them to architecture enthusiasts is thus a fundamental task of the DAM Architectural Book Award. As an honorary award, it does not involve any award money. The prize winners are being presented at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

Ever since the DAM Architectural Book Award was presented for the first time in 2009, it has experienced a steadily growing global response. This year's Architecture Book Prize is also deliberately aimed at an international field of participants.

This year's guest country at the Frankfurt Book Fair will be the **Czech Republic**. Therefore, the jury of DAM Architectural Book Award will additionally determine the most appealing submission from the Czech Republic.

The DAM would like to thank the Society of Friends of the DAM for its generous support of the prize.

TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

All architecture books that have an ISBN and were published between June 2025 and the submissions deadline of July 31st 2026 are eligible as entries for the DAM Architectural Book Award. In case of book series and multi-volume works a single volume or the entire work may be submitted.

Publications compiled primarily for marketing purposes, may not take part. Furthermore, magazines, calendars, journals and online publications will not be considered; e-books are not allowed. Unpublished books and those with very small print runs are not eligible either. Publications that have already been submitted in 2025 cannot be submitted again.

The architectural books submitted will be judged according to the following or similar categories/topics:

- architectural monographs
- architectural theory
- construction monographs
- illustrated book
- documentation
- (contemporary) history
- children's book
- landscape architecture
- textbook
- materials science
- urban planning
- special subject

When in session the jury reserves the right to make a fresh decision on categorization of the entries.

By participating in the DAM Architectural Book Award 2026, the sender agrees to the transfer of the submitted books to the library of the DAM.

Deutsches Architekturmuseum cannot assume any customs charges. For non-EU senders, it is therefore advisable to use a courier service or to adequately declare the goods being sent. For a successful submission, please make sure that the postage costs are fully covered.

JURY

In principle, the jury will determine prize winners and award recognitions. The jury consists of external experts (publishers, photographers, book designers, architecture critics) and DAM staff members. The decisions of the jury are free and not subject to appeal.

PUBLICATION OF THE AWARD WINNERS / LEGAL STIPULATIONS

In the event that one of the publications is awarded a prize, the sender agrees to:

- the award-winning book being presented at the DAM stand at the Frankfurt Book Fair and at additional book fairs worldwide through the Frankfurt Book Fair
- the award winners being presented in DAM

- the cover and book contents, as well as illustrations from the book being published on the DAM website. To this end the cover and significant (double) pages from the publication (book contents) must be made available to Deutsches Architekturmuseum as a file in PDF or JPG format

For the presentations at the Frankfurt Book Fair as well as at international German collective stands of the Frankfurt Book Fair, about six (to ten) additional copies of the award-winning books must be made available free of charge to DAM.

Furthermore, the sender declares that he is the owner of all necessary rights. In the event of claims for fees being made by third parties the sender shall exempt Deutsches Architekturmuseum from the cost of any legal action and / or the cost of subsequent demands for fees made by third parties.

Deutsches Architekturmuseum in collaboration with Frankfurt Book Fair is the organizer of the DAM Architectural Book Award.

SCHEDULE

Entries to be submitted

February 1st – July 31st 2026

Please note that entries submitted later than July 31st 2026 cannot be considered.

Entries to:

Deutsches Architekturmuseum DAM

DAM Architectural Book Award 2026

z.H. Confiyet Aydin

Schaumainkai 43

D - 60596 Frankfurt am Main

Jury session

Thursday, August 13th 2026

The session will be held in camera.

Public award-giving ceremony & media conference

Public award-giving ceremony: Wednesday, October 17th 2026

In case of questions, please contact:

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