



# JBC

# MASONRY INNOVATION COMPETITION

## BRIEF



INTERNATIONAL  
MASONRY  
INSTITUTE







## TIMELINE

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**REGISTRATION OPENS:** February 1, 2024

**SUBMISSION OPENS:** February 15, 2024

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** July 15, 2024 (11:59 p.m. EST)

**WINNERS NOTIFIED:** September 2024

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED:** October 2024

## KEY INFORMATION

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**LANGUAGE:** English

**LOCATION:** United States and Canada

**PRIZES:** See Details (page 7)

**COMPETITION WEBSITE:** [imiweb.org/jbcaward](https://imiweb.org/jbcaward)

**SUBMISSION WEBSITE:** [jbc.awardsplatform.com](https://jbc.awardsplatform.com)

**OFFICIAL RULES:** [imiweb.org/jbc-competition-official-rules](https://imiweb.org/jbc-competition-official-rules)

**QUESTIONS:** [jbcaward@imiweb.org](mailto:jbcaward@imiweb.org)

## ABOUT JOAN B. CALAMBOKIDIS

Joan B. Calambokidis served as President of the International Masonry Institute from 1995-2017.

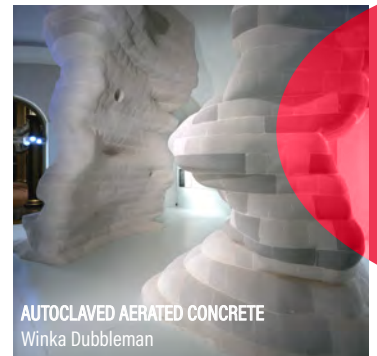
The JBC Masonry Innovation Competition was founded in 2018 to honor Joan's legacy of masonry innovation, including groundbreaking advancements in training, education, research, and technical development.

Joan's leadership was instrumental in creating IMI's renowned training programs for craftworkers, contractors, and design professionals. Her vision for training has helped to bring an unprecedented level of skill, quality, and craft to masonry construction projects across the U.S. and Canada. Joan also led the development of IMI's International Training Center, a multi-building, state-of-the-art facility in Maryland that has educated thousands of craftworkers and design professionals since its opening in 2007.

During Joan's tenure, IMI helped curate *Masonry Variations* in 2003, a National Building Museum exhibit co-sponsored by the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) and IMI. The exhibit featured innovative works by four architects, demonstrating the versatility of stone, terrazzo, brick, and autoclaved aerated concrete. The installations explored the relationship between material, technology, and collaboration.

Joan was also responsible for the creation of *Masonry Camp*, a nationally-recognized IMI program dedicated to building collaboration between designers and craftworkers.

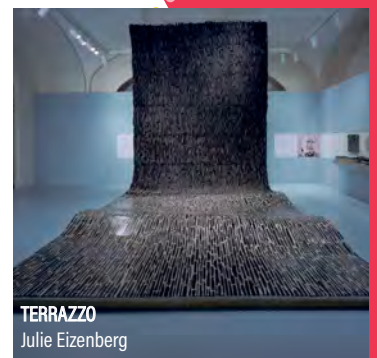
Through the JBC Masonry Innovation Competition, IMI honors and carries on the tradition of innovation that Joan established in the masonry industry.



**AUTOCLAVED AERATED CONCRETE**  
Winka Dubbleman



**STONE**  
Jeanne Gang



**TERRAZZO**  
Julie Eizenberg



**BRICK**  
Carlos Jimenez



## OVERVIEW

# INNOVATION IN MASONRY:

Any solution that adds value, usefulness, appreciation, and relevance to masonry design and construction, whether an improvement of an existing system or a groundbreaking proposal.

The International Masonry Institute's (IMI's) JBC Masonry Innovation Competition wants your ideas for transformative masonry design. We're challenging practicing and aspiring architects and engineers to advance the future of masonry design and construction.

Designers have the power to help create resilient, healthy, just, and equitable communities. But solving global challenges to improve our world demands innovation. We want to see your bold new concepts that show how masonry can better our built environment. We also want to see new ideas that have the potential to change the way we design and build with masonry and create growth opportunities for our industry.

Whether you have a great idea that addresses how infrastructure like schools and healthcare facilities will change in a post-pandemic world, thoughts on how to address the climate crisis, insights on improving equity, or another innovative plan, we want to hear from you. Solutions can also explore innovations in materials, the construction process, new business models, or simply show a unique aesthetic and functional use of masonry.

Whatever direction you decide to take, your innovative solution should add value, usefulness, appreciation, and relevance to masonry design and construction. It can be either an improvement of an existing system or a groundbreaking proposal.

Imagined, proposed, and completed structures and systems are welcomed. The scale, size, program, and location are left up to your imagination, but your concepts should be both clear and constructible. We encourage you to model your solution in BIM and use BIM for Masonry (BIM-M) plugins and tools to make the most of your design.

At the end of the day, IMI wants to see more masonry structures built by highly skilled, trained, and qualified union craftworkers and contractors. As a labor-management partnership, we've always fought for economic and social justice by bringing workers and employers together to negotiate fair pay, good benefits, and safer jobsites for all. Not only that, but IMI and the International Masonry Training and Education Foundation's state-of-the-art training programs for contractors and craftworkers help prepare them to tackle complex construction projects and build high-performance structures.

Together with innovative architects and engineers, we can create a better built world for everyone. Show us your innovative solutions!

## MASONRY MATERIALS:

- Brick
- Concrete Block
- Tile
- Marble
- Terrazzo
- Stone
- Plaster
- Rainscreen

# WHO CAN ENTER

**ARCHITECTS**

**ENGINEERS**

**UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

**ARCHITECTURAL/  
ENGINEERING  
FIRMS**

**SEISMIC BLOCK**  
2020 Student Winner



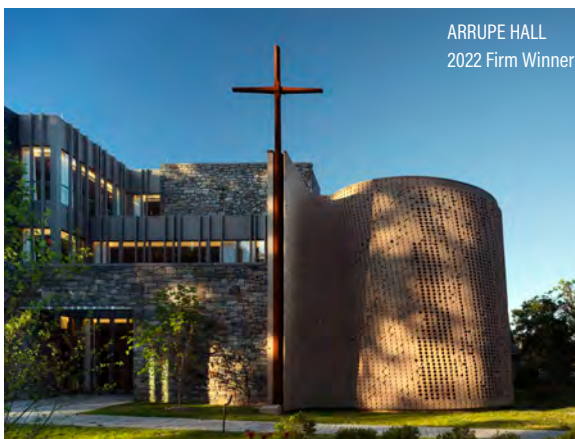
**SHEDDING WATER**  
2022 Student Winner



**SPATIAL MASONRY**  
2020 Young Architect/Engineer Winner



[View past winners at imiweb.org/jbcawards.](http://imiweb.org/jbcawards)



**ARRUPE HALL**  
2022 Firm Winner



**LAKEWOOD FIRE STATION**  
2022 Young Architect Winner



**GUSTO 501**  
2020 Firm Winner

## ENTRY CATEGORIES

There are three (3) entry categories:

### STUDENT

Undergraduate or graduate students enrolled in an accredited design, architecture, or engineering school.

### YOUNG ARCHITECT/ENGINEER

Any architects or engineers under the age of 40.

### A/E FIRM, INDIVIDUAL ARCHITECT/ ENGINEER, & CROSS-CATEGORY

Architecture/engineering firms, architects, and engineers age 40 and over, and cross-category teams.

Multidisciplinary teams are encouraged in all categories to help facilitate a well-conceived solution, but individual entries are also permitted. There are no restrictions on team size.

*Each team or individual may only submit one entry.*



## PRIZES

Monetary awards will be provided to 1st place winners in each of the three entry categories. In addition to monetary prizes, winners will receive special publicity opportunities, including the opportunity to present their designs on IMI's popular webinar series, which regularly draws hundreds of attendees across the country. Winners will also be highlighted in digital publications and honored during an awards ceremony.

### STUDENT CATEGORY

**\$5,000** awarded to student(s). An additional **\$5,000** awarded to the specific school program in which the student(s) is enrolled. If student team members are from different programs, colleges or universities, the \$5,000 award will be split among the different programs, colleges, or universities.

### YOUNG ARCHITECT/ ENGINEER CATEGORY (UNDER 40)

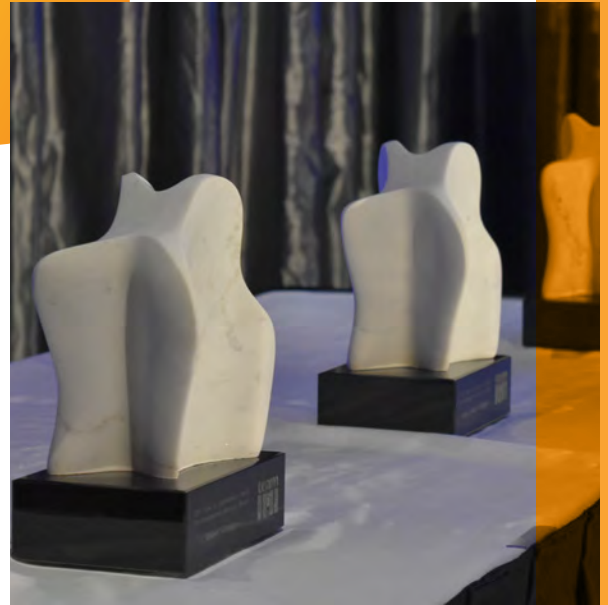
**\$10,000**

### A/E FIRM, INDIVIDUAL ARCHITECT/ENGINEER, & CROSS-CATEGORY

**\$10,000**

### HONORABLE MENTION

Honorable mentions may also be awarded in each of the three categories, with recognition to include special publication and promotion opportunities.



Inaugural winners with Joan B. Calambokidis, from left: Anh Nguyen, Shawn Chinudomsub, Joan B. Calambokidis, Erin Hunt, and Leslie Forehand.

# HOW TO ENTER

## REGISTRATION

To enter the competition, you must register an account at [jbc.awardsplatform.com](https://jbc.awardsplatform.com).

The process is quick and easy: only basic contact information is collected and there's no cost to register. If entering as a team, please choose a team lead to register an account.

After registering, you'll receive an email asking you to confirm your account by clicking the provided link. You must confirm your account to complete registration.

## SUBMISSION

The online entry and submission system will open on February 15, 2024 and is accessible at [jbc.awardsplatform.com](https://jbc.awardsplatform.com). You can start and save your entry in-progress and return at any time using the login created during registration.

## DEADLINE

Completed entries must be submitted by July 15, 2024 (11:59 p.m. EST). The submission system will automatically stop accepting entries after this time, and no extensions will be granted.

## DELIVERABLES

You'll need to submit the following deliverables through the online submission system at [jbc.awardsplatform.com](https://jbc.awardsplatform.com).

- **Two digital presentation boards depicting your project.** Include plans, sections, details, BIM images, 3D images, and any other information needed to explain your design solution. Digital boards should be landscape-oriented at 24"(h) X 36"(w) and saved as JPEGs at 150 dpi resolution in RGB mode.
- **A project statement (1200 words max.) that explains how your concept rethinks the innovative potential of masonry and addresses program requirements outlined in the competition brief.**
- **Technology used in your solution, as requested on the entry form.** Participants are highly encouraged to use BIM for Masonry (BIM-M) tools to develop their concepts. Get detailed information and links to BIM-M plugins and resources in the "Designing Your Solution" section below.
- **Contact information, as requested on the entry form.**
- **For Student Category Entrants Only:** Proof of current enrollment in a design, architecture, or engineering program.

You're encouraged to submit all the information you consider necessary to explain your solution beyond the required deliverables, including, but not limited to, video, images, written, or multimedia content.

All entries must be submitted in English.





# DESIGNING YOUR SOLUTION

## BIM FOR MASONRY (BIM-M)

You're encouraged to [use BIM for Masonry \(BIM-M\) tools](#) when designing your solution.

## HIVE: IMI MASONRY LIBRARY

IMI's free Masonry Content Pack for HIVE offers a variety of contract-document-ready assets for REVIT modeling, including:

- Brick units, walls, and bonding patterns
- Concrete masonry units and walls
- Rainscreen wall systems (terra cotta, porcelain tile, and slate)
- Bond beams
- Vertical grouted cells
- Masonry anchors and accessories

If you're already using HIVE, your BIM manager can add IMI's Masonry Content Pack from the Public Libraries.

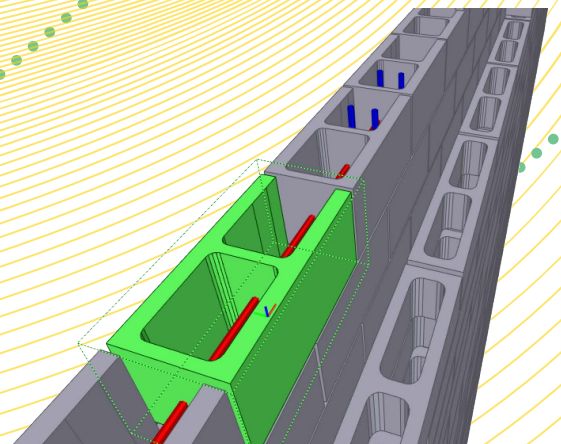
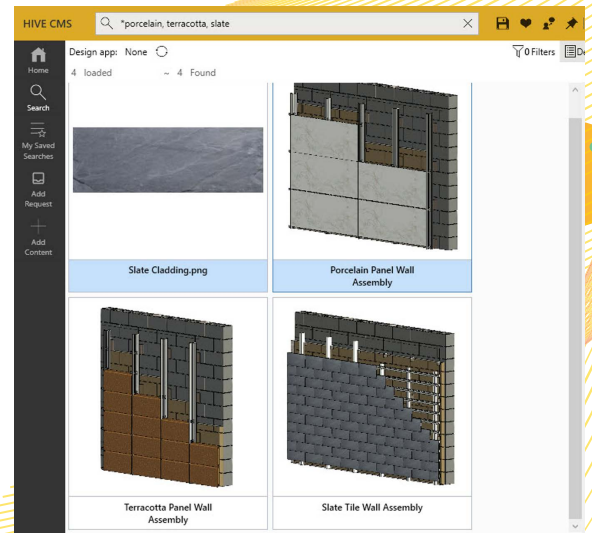
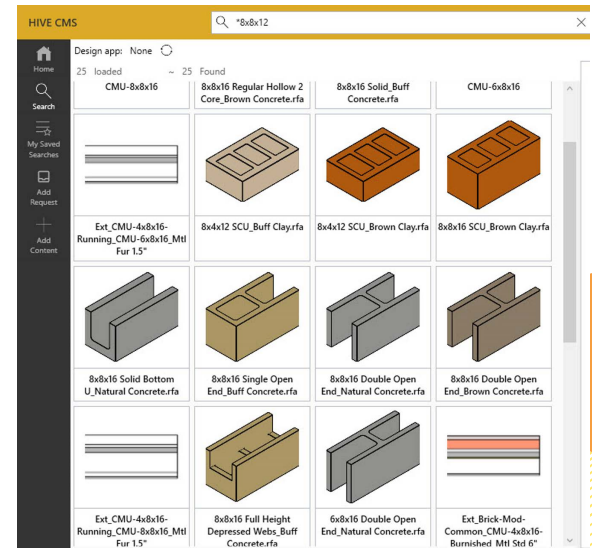
[Get HIVE](#)

## 3DIQ'S MASONRY IQ SOFTWARE

Masonry IQ is a smart masonry tool inside Revit that improves modeling productivity with features that allow users to:

- Study modularity
- Generate sweeps
- Generate coursed wall sections
- View properly bonded corners
- See cuts at openings
- Explore masonry patterns
- Place bond beams

[Connect with 3DiQ](#)



# EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to judge submissions:

- **INNOVATION (45%):** The idea provides a groundbreaking proposal for positioning masonry. The idea generates added value or usefulness, improvement, or increases masonry's relevance.
- **EXECUTION OF IDEA (30%):** The idea is clearly communicated and understood.
- **CREATIVITY (25%):** The solution shows original thinking.





## ABOUT IMI

The International Masonry Institute (IMI) works to promote and advance the union masonry and tile industry. As the labor-management partnership between members of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) and the contractors who employ them, IMI is committed to growing the market share of work for union contracting companies and their employees.

Above all, we stand for quality construction, safety, and skilled labor. That's why IMI facilitates state-of-the-art training for BAC signatory contractors and their employees.

We also offer free education and assistance to architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) professionals to help them design and build effectively with masonry. Together, these services uniquely position IMI, BAC, and its signatory contractors to contribute to beautiful, long-lasting structures in communities across the U.S. and Canada.

## OUR SERVICES FOR THE AEC COMMUNITY

IMI's team of experts provides free technical support for masonry design and construction projects, including:

- Continuing education
- Drawing and specification review
- Design and detailing assistance
- Job site troubleshooting
- Hands-on material workshops

## ADVANCING THE INDUSTRY

To advance the understanding and practical application of masonry materials, systems, and construction, IMI partners with leading design firms, universities, research institutions, startups, and manufacturers to examine important issues like:

- Constructability
- Sustainable, resilient masonry and tile solutions
- Embodied carbon impact
- Seismic design
- Impact resistance and storm shelter design
- Fire safety
- Codes and standards
- New and emerging products





## WORKING WITH QUALIFIED INSTALLERS

IMI also represents qualified masonry contractors and installers who stay up-to-date on industry standards and techniques through rigorous training and education programs.

The International Masonry Training and Education Foundation (IMTEF) – IMI's partner organization – provides lifelong learning to BAC members through a grant from IMI. All BAC installers go through a multi-year registered apprenticeship program that combines classroom and hands-on learning with real-world experience, totaling over 8,500 hours of training. That translates to expert, quality installations on projects.

Additionally, we offer certifications that advance and verify installers' knowledge and ability in specialized skill areas. In fact, designers and specifiers can include IMI certifications in project specifications to guarantee a skilled workforce.

IMI is also the leading source of professional education for BAC signatory contractors, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to bid and build complete walls systems, from interior to exterior. BAC signatory contractors have expertise in new building construction and restoration, focusing on an array of materials and systems:

- Brick
- Concrete
- Terrazzo
- Block
- Plaster
- Mosaic
- Stone
- Terra cotta
- Rainscreen
- Marble
- Tile
- Air and Vapor Barrier





## THE UNION DIFFERENCE

Our contractors design and build with communities – and the people who live and work in them – in mind. BAC signatory contractors are committed to providing middle class jobs, paying fair wages, and providing excellent healthcare, retirement benefits, and paid leave.

Plus, organized workplaces are proven to be safer than their non-union counterparts. In fact, the labor movement has a long history of leading the way in protecting workers from injury, illness, and death on the job. Not only that, but construction unions like BAC are known for their innovation in safety, quality, and training. We take pride in what we do: building projects and landmarks that shape our communities.

### THAT'S THE UNION DIFFERENCE.

*IMI is a strategic partnership between members of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) and the contractors who employ them.*



## CONTACT

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Questions should be submitted via email to [jbcaward@imiweb.org](mailto:jbcaward@imiweb.org).