

SAIA Mpumalanga Celebrates Architectural Excellence at the 2025 Regional Awards

The South African Institute for Architecture Mpumalanga (SAIA Mpumalanga) proudly hosted its 2025 Regional Awards Ceremony on 27 November at the elegant Weylandts Showroom in Mbombela. As a voluntary association affiliated with the South African Institute of Architects and recognised by the South African Council for the Architectural Profession, SAIA Mpumalanga continues to champion the voice of the architectural profession while serving as a valuable resource for the public. The organisation is committed to transformation within the built environment through education, awareness, and the promotion of architectural excellence.

The regional awards program was proudly sponsored, for the first time, by Corobrik and Coverland, with Corobrik offering a R10000 prize to the project with the best use of clay bricks, and Coverland offering attendance to the World Architecture Festival 2026, to the national project winning the Coverland Concrete Roof Tile Award for Excellence.

The 2025 SAIA Mpumalanga Regional Awards form the first stage of this national programme. Each Regional Institute issues a call for submissions, appoints a panel of expert adjudicators, and assesses entries through a rigorous peer-review process. According to the current President of SAIA Mpumalanga, Architect Nicholas Els, the aim of the Regional Awards is to celebrate projects within the province that demonstrate good design, technical proficiency, innovation, and a meaningful contribution to the architectural landscape. Projects receiving an award at Regional level enter the second stage of the awards program, that being the Corobrik SAIA Awards of Merit and for Excellence in partnership with Coverland, taking place in 2026 where eligible projects are considered alongside work from across the country. “We are very proud of the projects that will represent Mpumalanga next year”.

This year’s adjudication revealed outstanding contributions across residential, commercial, conservation, and hospitality sectors. The 2025 SAIA Mpumalanga Regional Awards Recipients are:

Award of Excellence

Unbound

By: W Design Architecture Studio

Awards of Merit

1. Fox Lane – House Truter

By: AnchelG Architect

2. Agricultural Security Pavilion

By: Mathews and Associates Architects

3. Lowveld Family Home

By: Giitd Architects

4. Skukuza Rondavels Upgrades

By:kwpCREATE Architects and Landscape Architects

5. Singita Ebony Lodge

By:GAPP Architects & Urban Designers

Commendations

1. Mayfern Offices

By: Bespoke Architects

2. New Nature Conservation Building

By: Ikemeleng Architects

3. House Nemo

By: EarthSwitch Architects

Corobrik awards for best use of clay bricks

Fox Lane – House Truter

By: AnchelG Architect

Unfortunately, there were no projects that qualified for the Coverland award this year, but SAIA Mpumalanga look forward to receiving entries for this category in 2027.

The 2025 Regional Awards once again highlighted the rich diversity of architectural talent in Mpumalanga, ranging from innovative private residences to thoughtful conservation upgrades and contemporary commercial developments. "SAIA Mpumalanga extends its warm congratulations to all our talented architects, sponsors and participants for their remarkable contributions for the Awards," Nicholas concluded.

The Institute looks forward to continuing its mission of promoting excellence, fostering growth, and supporting transformation within the architectural profession across the province. To view the projects that received awards please visit the SAIA Mpumalanga website, where a video presentation is available.