

## **2010 Mel Ferris Scholarship FAQ**

- ***History of the California Architectural Foundation***
  - o The Foundation originated in 1979, primarily with the purpose of administering grants and scholarships relating to the architectural profession and education in California. The Foundation administers the Mel Ferris Scholarship, the Built Environment Education Program (BEEP), and the William Turnbull Jr., FAIA, Environmental Education Grant, and the Nathaniel A. Owings Award. The Foundation is the link between the profession and academia.
  
- ***What is the Mel Ferris Scholarship?***
  - o Each year the California Architectural Foundation awards Mel Ferris Scholarships to qualified architecture students at California universities who have demonstrated financial need and exemplary academic and design achievements. The scholarship was named for the late Mel Ferris, Hon. AIA, who served as executive director of the AIA California Council from 1953 until his retirement in 1978. The scholarship is funded by contributions from California architects and firms who have joined efforts to recognize Ferris' contribution to the profession of architecture and to California architects.
  
- ***How many scholarships have been awarded over the years?***
  - o Through the administration of the Mel Ferris Scholarship, the Foundation has awarded over 91 scholarships (ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each) since its inception in 1991, to university-level architectural students in California who have needed financial assistance to complete their education. Notices announcing the scholarship process are disseminated to all ten accredited architecture universities in California on annual basis.
  
- o ***Who were last year's winners and where can I see their submittals?***
  - o Submittals are available on the CAF website at [www.caf-e.org](http://www.caf-e.org).
  
  - o Michael Leung, USC - \$5,000  
Luis Alonso Torres, Cal Poly Pomona - \$4,000  
Katherine Cong, SCI-ARC - \$3,000  
Brenda Hernandez, Cal Poly Pomona - \$3,000
  
  - o Dean's Choice:
    - Mary Telling, Academy of Art University
    - Aaron Taylor Harvey, California College of the Arts
    - Erin Colshan, Cal Poly Pomona
    - Kevin Bussett, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
    - Mario Marquez, NewSchool of Art and Architecture
    - Julian Brummitt, SCI-ARC
    - Ying Song, UCLA
    - Brian Knecht, UC Berkeley
    - Devin Lewis, USC
    - Yong Tan, Woodbury University
  
  - o Savings By Design Energy Efficiency Integration Award - \$2500:
    - Sarah Dapper, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

- ***What schools are allowed to submit?***
  - o Academy of Art University
  - o California College of the Arts, San Francisco
  - o California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
  - o California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo
  - o NewSchool of Art and Architecture
  - o Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-ARC)
  - o University of California, Los Angeles
  - o University of California, Berkeley
  - o University of Southern California
  - o Woodbury University (Burbank and San Diego locations)
  
- ***What are this year's prize amounts?***
  - o First place - \$5000
  - o Second place - \$4000
  - o Third Place - \$3000 (two third place awards will be awarded)
  - o Deans Choice Award, the California Architectural Foundation increased its scholarship awards over the past two years, and included this new award. The Deans Choice Award is a \$500 prize award that will be available to the Dean of each of the ten accredited architectural schools in California. The Dean will then choose among the applicants from their school, and award one applicant a \$500 scholarship.
  - o New – Savings By Design Energy Efficiency Integration Award. This award is provided by Savings By Design (SBD is comprised of the five major utility companies in California), to the student who best demonstrates conservation and energy efficiency in their portfolio.
  
- ***When are they due?***
  - o By 5:00 pm February 16, 2010, in the California Architectural Foundation office
  - o You may mail or drop the submission off in person – emailed submissions will not be accepted.
  - o Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Please carefully review your packets checklist to ensure accuracy of content.
  
- ***Where do I send my portfolio?***
  - o 2010 Mel Ferris Scholarship  
c/o Melissa Harper-Barton  
California Architectural Foundation  
1303 J Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95814

- ***How many graphics can I have?***

- Applicants must submit **10** graphics that best illustrate their work. **Only 10** graphics will be accepted, **additional graphics will be deleted without discretion.**
- Art and photography may be included in addition to architecture within the 10 graphic limit.
- Optional: include self photo in electronic format (also included in the 10 graphic limit)
  - Saved at level-10 quality
  - In .jpg format at 72 dpi
  - 3" x 5" size

- ***Do I get the money or does the school?***

- YES – the check is cut directly to the student, and **should be** used for school expenses: books, parking, tuition, gas to go to school, etc.

- ***What format do I submit my presentation in?***

- **All submittal content MUST be on a single CD-ROM** in PowerPoint format. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- **Please merge all materials into ONE PowerPoint file. Do not have multiple files in one folder, we will not be able to determine what order to put them in, and will return it to the sender.**
- Label jewel case with **10-MFS-last name, first initial, school name.**(example: 10-MFS – Smith,A.\_UCLA)

- ***What is the Dean's Choice Award?***

- . The Deans Choice Award is a \$500 prize award that will be available to the Dean of each of the ten accredited architectural schools in California. The Dean will then choose among the applicants from their school, and award one applicant a \$500 scholarship.

- ***Can the same person win the Deans Choice Award, if they win one of the top 4 awards?***

- That is up to the Dean, they may choose any one of the applicants from their schools to receive at their own discretion.

***What is Savings By Design?***

- Savings By Design (SBD) is comprised of the five major utility companies in California: Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas and Electric, Southern California Edison Company, Southern California Gas Company and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District.
- SBD will be awarding a \$5000 prize to the student who best demonstrates conservation and energy efficiency into their portfolio.

***Am I required to integrate conservation and energy efficiency into my portfolio?***

- The California Architectural Foundation's mission emphasizes their dedication to the advancement of sustainable communities through support of research and education. The Foundation would like to strongly remind our communities that choices made today have consequences tomorrow. With that, it is not required content, but encouraged that students demonstrate their efforts in building a sustainable environment.
- You are not required to include conservation and energy efficiency into your portfolio, but your chances of receiving the Savings By Design award would increase.

***What if I am a past award winner. Am I still eligible to apply?***

- As long as you still meet the criteria outlined in the application packet, you are eligible to apply for the 2010 Mel Ferris Scholarship program.

***I have challenges with PowerPoint or my computer. What are my options?***

- Here are a few options to consider:
  - Ask a friend for help
  - Borrow a computer
  - Ask a librarian for help
  - Ask an advisor or department assistant for help
  - Use a search engine to locate a PowerPoint tutorial
  - Visit a computer center like Kinkos
  - Download or borrow a copy of the PowerPoint program
- There are many viable options. Thinking ahead and preparing in advance is always beneficial in case you run into problems later. The submissions must be in the format requested in order to be considered, no exceptions.

***What are the odds of winning one of these awards?***

- 2009 was a record breaking year for the Mel Ferris Scholarship competition bringing in 104 entries, and representation from every school.
- This year there will be 15 total awards including the top awards, Savings By Design award, and the Dean's Choice award. Stay optimistic – there are many awards to be delivered.