



# **TREE HOUSE**

## **2021**

Architecture  
Competition

## **\$4000USD**

Total Prize

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To register log on to

**[volumezerocompetitions.com](https://volumezerocompetitions.com)**

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# Introduction



We all have always yearned for our personal space, one that takes us far away from our chaotic and stressful lives; our very own Home rooted in Mother Nature, one that reconnects us to our origins, rejuvenating our mind, body and soul. We all aspire for a home that is not just an extension of our persona but is also an expression of our individuality and freedom.

Our humble abodes are being redefined with every passing day. The world is changing constantly, and along with it, our homes are seeing us spend more time within them. Homes today are versatile entities – doubling up as offices, play areas, work-out zones, spaces for interaction and recreation, as also being an abode for our furry friends and providing for their needs but at the center of all things is essentially a place to escape and rejuvenate our minds.

For most of us, the Tree House has been a childhood dream, triggering our wildest imaginations. As adults, we continue to aspire for our very own Tree House, one that will fulfill our needs to lead productive lives. The Tree House is synonymous with freedom, independence, adventure, creativity, safety, warmth, fun, solitude and many more emotions aspired by children and adults alike. Suspended between the elements of sky and earth, can a Tree House be our primary home?

Can we imagine our own Tree House, nestled in the lap of nature, atop magnificent treetops and under starry skies?

**"A tree is our most intimate contact with nature."**

George Nakashima



# Opportunity



The Pandemic Age is seeing humanity spend more than one year inside their homes, with a possibility of more to come. With consistent lockdowns and tumultuous shifts in our daily routine, many people today are going through pandemic-related emotional stress and anxiety. With little to no contact with our natural surroundings, all of us today are dreaming of running around in a vast field, surrounded by tall trees, breathing fresh, natural air.

Research proves that all living beings need ample sunlight and fresh air to function as happy, productive individuals. A consistent contact with our natural surroundings is proved to make humans happier, while also helping them form better interpersonal relationships. Such a contact with nature also helps invoke positive emotions amongst humans.

We now have the opportunity to explore this vital relationship between ourselves and Mother Nature and the role well-integrated, sustainable architecture can play in amplifying this bond..

The Tree House 2021 looks at redefining a home as an active part of Mother Nature, with all the necessary amenities, resources required for productive living. The Tree House can be visualized to re-imagine sustainability through innovation of maximum usable space in a minimum footprint, suspended between the earth and sky, on spectacular treetops.

This is a chance to relive the childhood dream – a Tree House where we can live with our loved ones.

**"Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you."**

**Frank Lloyd Wright**

American Architect



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# Challenge

We invite you to imagine a way of living in the lap of nature, suspended amongst the magnificent tree, under the starry skies. The design of the Tree House should be innovative and creative, with a sustainable edge. The relation between the exterior surroundings and interior spaces must be taken into consideration. The proposed design should be well-conceptualized.

The Tree House would be the primary residence for 2 individuals and the area of the proposal should not exceed 400 sq. ft built up. Proposals may consider spatial flexibility fulfilling all the needs of their users. The Space program for the proposal must include but is not limited to:

1. Living Area
2. Sleeping Area for 2
3. Cooking and Dining Area
4. Toilet space
5. Workspace
6. Recreation space
7. Any other function that the participant wishes to add to the Tree House

The design should centre around a unique character, one that reinforces and maximises our relationship with Nature.

Client Interaction is one of the critical components of the design proposal. For the purpose of this competition, entrants may assume an individual, couple, or a genre of people, based on the design concept.

The proposed design may also consider modern technological advancements in architecture to make the tree-house archetype adaptive to its surroundings, making it a comfortable home by eliminating any type of hazards.

## Site Selection

Participants are to decide the location for the proposal, such as coastal areas, riverbanks, mountains, forests, or any urban environments. Choose your tree, dare more, design your tree-house.





# Submission

The entrants must complete the online registrations and the submission must include, (but are not limited to) the following required drawings.

Building / Site sections which illustrate key aspects and major spatial or programmatic elements.

Floor plans to show the interior spatial arrangements and program.

Large scale drawings that illustrate innovative details or integrated aspects of design.

Three dimensional representations explaining the design, perspectives and montages which display the character of the project.

Elevations demonstrating qualities such as material, texture, and colour.

All drawings should be presented at a scale appropriate for the design solution and include a graphic scale for reference.

## Format

A single A1 sheet must be submitted in JPEG format (150 DPI Resolution), file size not exceeding 5 MB

The file must be marked with your unique identification number, presented clearly in the top right corner on the A1 sheet.

All text must be in English, with a MAXIMUM of 200 WORDS for project explanation with a readable font size (to be provided on the A1 sheet)

The sheet must not include ANY INFORMATION (Name, Organisation, School, etc.) that may give away your identity.

All dimension should be in imperial or metric unit

Any other submission other than the above mentioned format would not be accepted.

### SHEET FORMAT



# Schedule

14

May 2021  
Competition  
Starts

16

July 2021  
Early  
Registration Ends

06

August 2021  
Queries  
Deadline

20

August 2021  
Regular  
Registration Ends

27

August 2021  
Submission  
Deadline

29

October 2021  
Announcement  
of Winners

## Note:

All the deadlines mentioned are scheduled at 11:59 pm Indian Standard Time

# Registration

**Early Registrations** 03 May- 16 July

Participants from India : **INR 1800 + 18% tax**

Participants from other countries :

**USD 70 + 18% Tax**

**Regular Registrations** 17 July- 20 August

Participants from India : **INR 2400 + 18% Tax**

Participants from other countries :

**USD 85+ 18% Tax**

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# Judging Criteria

## Concept Innovation:

The participants are to design an Innovative Tree House space with respect to the selected genre of client and justify the same.

## Site Selection:

Participants are to select a site best suited for the house. The entries will be evaluated based on the site justification given.

## Spatial Design:

The entries will be evaluated based on creativity displayed in the spatial design and configuration of areas.

## Responsiveness:

A captivating response given to the physical, environmental and cultural parameters of the context and needs of the client.



# Awards & Prize Money

## \$4000 USD

★  
1st



Prize

Certificate of achievement

★  
2nd



Prize

Certificate of achievement

★  
3rd



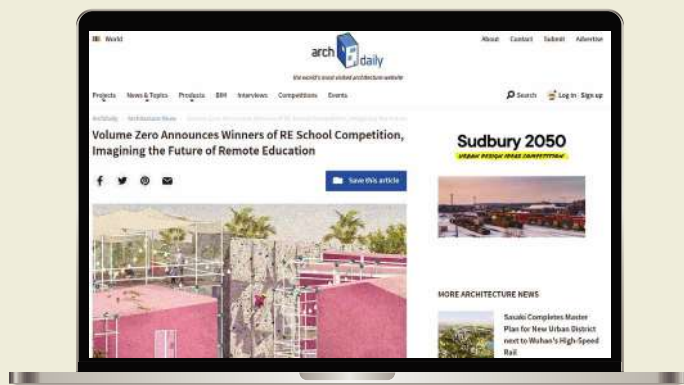
Prize

Certificate of achievement

## Winners Publication & Website Exhibition

The winning designs will be published on Volume Zero Magazine website our international media partner's websites. The winning team will also have an interview published.

## Winners in News



Reschool Competition Winner's  
published on Archdaily.com



Microhousing Competition Winner's  
published on worldarchitecture.org



# FAQ

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**Q: How does a team receive their team unique code?**

All the participants will only receive the team unique code on completion of registration process. You will receive the UIC on your registered email address.

**Q: What is the limit or cap on the number of team members and can anyone participate individually?**

A team can have up to three members and cannot exceed this number. The participants who desire to participate individually can do so by filling and submitting the details for only the team leader on the registration form.

**Q: What should the participants do in case the payments are not available in our country?**

We request the participants to send us their queries on [questions@volumezerocompetitions.com](mailto:questions@volumezerocompetitions.com) to get an alternate payment method. We would send you all the possible payment methods.

**Q: What are the modes of submissions? What should be the submission file size?**

The participants are requested to submit their work on one A1 sheet in JPEG file format in 150 DPI resolutions. The file size should not exceed more than 5MB.

**Q: Where all do the participants need to use their UIC ?**

All the participants would be using their team code on the top right corner of their sheets, as the name of their submission and wherever requested by the organizer. This code will be their only identification for the process related with this competition.

**Q: What is the nature of the competition and is it open for all?**

Tree House 2021 is an open ideas design competition. The competition is open to students and professionals from all walks.

**Q: What does the participant do when they don't get a unique identification code after the payment is made?**

In case of such a problem we request you to send us your payment receipt to [questions@volumezerocompetitions.com](mailto:questions@volumezerocompetitions.com) with the "Unique Identification Code" as subject matter.

**Q: Will participants receive certificates for participation in the competition?**

Yes all the participants would receive a certificate for participation.

# Rules & Regulations

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English is to be used as the language of communication for all drawings.

The deadline for submissions is **11:59 PM IST 27th August 2021**. Submissions after this deadline will not be considered.

The identity of the participants needs to be anonymous. The registration number is the only form of identification for the entries.

The registration fee is non-refundable.

The participants should not contact the jury under any circumstances.

All participants must accept the rules and regulations of the competition.

The participants may face disqualification if any of the rules are not followed.

Volume Zero reserves the right to modify the schedule of the competition.

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# Terms and Conditions

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We invite everyone, irrespective of their professions or qualifications, to join the competition and present their ideas. Participants are free to submit multiple entries but each entry needs to be registered separately.

Alongside individual entries, team entries are also allowed. A team can have a maximum of three participants. Interdisciplinary teams are also welcome to join.

After your registration has been approved, you will be sent a unique identification number for your team / entry which will be necessary to submit your proposal. If you haven't received a confirmation within two business days, please contact us at [questions@volumezerocompetitions.com](mailto:questions@volumezerocompetitions.com) or our Facebook profile.

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# Awards & Prize Money

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Nature  
Sustainability  
Environment  
Calm  
Human  
Trees  
Connect  
Future

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Opportunity  
Unique  
User-centric

## All the best !

Don't forget to follow us on social media and subscribe to our newsletter to be updated about all our news.

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**"We borrow from nature the space upon  
which we build."**

**Tadao Ando**

Japanese Architect