

SINCE 2016

MIND RAIN
COMPETITIONS

Presents

ARCHITECTURE COMPETITION

EDITION 06

The Unreal House

An Imaginary Home Design Challenge

#DESIGN BRIEF



*T&C Applies

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Igniting Imagination in Architecture

MIND RAIN is a creative initiative that organizes architecture and photography competitions and workshops designed to **stimulate imagination** and sharpen the minds of emerging designers.

At our core, we believe that powerful design begins with **powerful thinking**. That's why **MIND RAIN** is more than a competition—it's a space to develop **conceptual thinking**, expand your **thought process**, and challenge conventional boundaries.

We aim to nurture the **imaginative potential** of students and young professionals—helping them transform raw ideas into bold, expressive solutions for the real and imagined world.

Join us as we cultivate visionary minds and celebrate the art of thinking beyond the obvious.

MINDRAIN.ORG

9+

Years of Experience

2.3K+

Participants

110+

Winners & Honorable Mentions
Announced

Introduction



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Unleash your creativity and design a house purely from your imagination! This competition challenges you to craft a unique and personal home guided by a strong concept, narrative, and design sensibility.

Let your imagination guide the design while balancing functionality, aesthetics, and storytelling.



The competition

Competition Format & Categories



MIND RAIN offers two distinct competition categories to ensure fair and balanced participation across all academic levels. **Category 1** is designed specifically for students in **1st and 2nd year**, while **Category 2** caters to those in **3rd, 4th and 5th year**. **Category 1** submissions are to be **hand drafted**, while **Category 2** submissions can **be made digitally**. This division allows junior students to showcase their creativity and skills without being overshadowed by the experience and exposure of senior students, promoting a healthy and motivating environment where talent is recognized at every level.

The competition

EDITION 06: **The Unreal House**

Participants are encouraged to explore extreme, speculative, and unconventional forms of habitation. The challenge? To envision a home that defies reality—a place that could exist anywhere and in any form.

Whether it's a house on a moon, a house floating in the air, a subterranean shelter, a spacecraft residence, or something entirely different, participants are encouraged to push their creative limits and explore how architecture can evolve when freed from real-world constraints.

The design should cater to a fictional family: Mr. and Mrs. Vance and their two children. Participants must craft a habitat that responds not just to functional needs but also reflects the unique environment and context of their imagined world.

From atmospheric conditions to emotional symbolism, this is a chance to use architecture as a canvas for storytelling, world-building, and visionary living.

Design the impossible. Build the unimaginable.

Building Program



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Your design must include the following spaces:



Two bedrooms (each with an attached toilet).



One kitchen



One living room



One dining room/area



One study (a quiet area for work or reading)



One drawing room (a formal setting for hosting guests)



Outdoor garden space

(specify the plants, fruit trees and flowering trees you would like to include, highlighting how they enhance the design and atmosphere)



Any additional spaces may be added.



The focus of the design should be on originality, showcasing your ideation process, your thought process, the generation and evolution of your form and design.

Project Proposal Requirements



- Design proposals must center around an *imaginary house* for a fictional family: Mr. and Mrs. Vance, and their son and daughter.
- Proposals should explore **radical ideas of habitation**—challenging conventional norms of architecture.
- The design must be functional **within its own imaginative context**. Participants should think through the family's lifestyle, movement, interactions, privacy, and comfort.
- Proposals should include **living spaces** tailored for the family's needs, but can creatively reinterpret the idea of a "living space" based on the setting—be it anti-gravity chambers, bio-domes, memory rooms, etc.
- Participants are encouraged to consider **climatic conditions, resource generation, and emotional well-being**, even in abstract form. The house must narrate a strong story of survival, imagination, or evolution.
- There is **no limitation on scale, materials, or technology**—everything is welcome, from sci-fi tech to organic growth systems.
- Although the project proposal requirements provide a structure, participants are invited to **break boundaries, propose new typologies**, and celebrate wild creativity in architecture.

The Competition Site



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There is **no defined location** chosen for this competition, and participants are asked to select a hypothetical site.

Prizes



Monetary awards

Total prize fund
₹ 50,000

Winners in each category will receive:

1st Prize

2nd Prize

3rd Prize

Category - I

₹ 11,000

₹ 8,000

₹ 6,000

Category - II

₹ 11,000

₹ 8,000

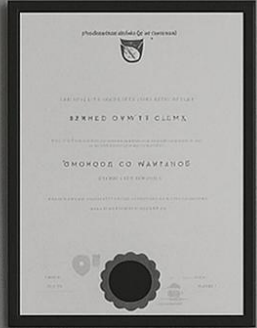
₹ 6,000

And **20+**

Honorable Mentions

Monetary awards are distributed category-wise among Group A participants .

Certificates





- All the winners will be awarded a **certificate of achievement.**
- All the honourable mentions will be awarded a **certificate of appreciation.**
- All the participants will be awarded a **certificate of participation.**

Competition Schedule

Preliminary registration deadlines

 Early Bird Registration
FEBRUARY 19 – MARCH 15

 Regular Registration
MARCH 16 - MAY 31

 Last Minute Registration
JUNE 01 – JUNE 25

It is still possible to participate in this competition after the preliminary deadlines. However, a higher late registration fee will be charged.



Closing date for questions & answers
JUNE 15, 2026

In order to guarantee equal opportunities to all competition participants, no new questions will be answered after this deadline!



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Closing date for registration
JUNE 25, 2026



Closing date for submission
JUNE 30, 2026 (11:59 p.m. IST)



Announcement of the winners
AUG 01, 2026

Registration Fees



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DETAILS	INDIAN APPLICATIONS (Opting for Monetary awards)		INDIAN APPLICATIONS (NOT Opting for Monetary awards)		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS	
	SOLO	GROUP	SOLO	GROUP	SOLO	GROUP
Early Bird Registration	₹549	₹999	₹275	₹559	\$ 35	\$79
Regular Registration	₹699	₹1,499	₹275	₹559	\$ 45	\$99
Last Minute Registration	₹999	₹1,999	₹375	₹819	\$ 69	\$149

Maximum 3 participants in a group.

NOT Opting for Monetary awards is intended for participants who wish to compete for exposure only.

Late Registrations will be charged higher registration fees; Contact Support Team for Availability.

Discount



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Participate and avail discount **Flat 35%**.

The Mind Rain Competition Team welcomes participation from **universities, colleges, and design schools across the world.**

Students can avail exclusive discounts through group registration offers (valid for **30 or more** participants registering from the same institution).

This is a great opportunity for faculty and mentors to encourage students to think creatively and explore imaginative architecture beyond textbooks.

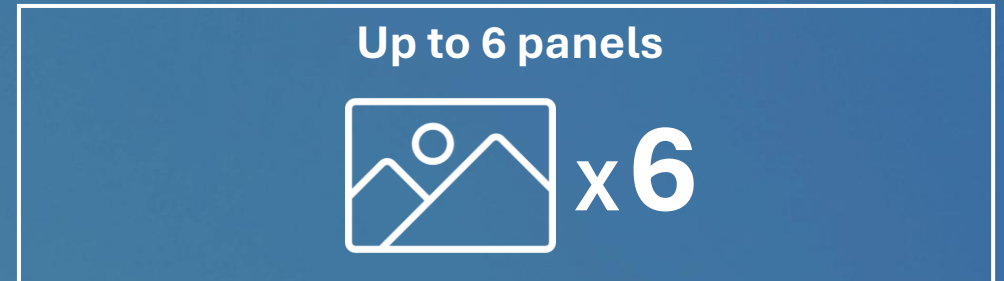
To apply for student discounts:

- Email us from your official university e-mail ID
- Include your university name, your role, and number of participants
- Only recognized university representatives (professors/staff) are eligible to request discounted access on behalf of students

Submission Requirement



- Participants are required to **upload up-to six (6) A2 landscape-oriented presentation boards** (In single PDF format; Max. 35MB) with **sketches, renderings, conceptual diagrams, spatial representations, material imaginations, or other creative tools** to express their imaginary house design.
- Although this is a conceptual design competition, entries should present **clear and imaginative spatial logic, visual clarity, and speculative buildability**. Submissions must reflect a deep exploration of the theme, even if the idea defies real-world practicality.
- Each board must be **self-explanatory**, showcasing ideas such as environmental response, user experience, narrative essence, and design innovation.



- No video submissions are permitted.
- All textual information must be in **English**.
- Write your **MIND ID on the lower right corner** (will be provided post registration) with panel number(s).
- **Do not include** any names, logos, or identifiable information of the participant/team on the boards.
- **Category 1** submissions are to be **hand-drafted**, while **Category 2** submissions **can be made digitally**.
- Submission path –
log in to mindrain.org > go to profile > click on participated competitions > click on submission button.
You will be redirected to google form, Enter your MIND ID and Upload PDF file.

Submissions that fail to meet the above requirements will be disqualified without refund.

Recommended Submission Content



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Participants must submit:

1. Site analysis
2. Concept (design narrative that explains your design process, form evolution, and the story behind your design.)
3. Site plan
4. Floor plan(s)
5. Elevation(s) and Section(s)
6. Perspective(s) / View(s)

Judging Criteria



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The submitted entries will be evaluated on the following criteria –

- Originality and **creativity in design**.
- Clarity, depth, and development of **design process and thinking**.
- Thoughtful logical space planning and **form generation**.
- Attention to detail and accuracy in presentation drawings (hand-drafted or software-rendered according to category).
- Integration of the outdoor garden space with the house design.

Eligibility



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The competition is open to all undergraduate design students.

Groups define prize eligibility, while categories define academic year levels.

Group A (Opting for Monetary awards) - For Indian Nationals and International Registrations Both

Category 1 - 1st & 2nd year students

Category 2 - 3rd, 4th & 5th year students

Group B (NOT Opting for Monetary awards) - **Only** for Indian Nationals

Category 1 - 1st & 2nd year students

Category 2 - 3rd, 4th & 5th year students

Publicity Campaign

Interview & Feature Film

After participants submit their entries, they will have the opportunity to upload a video link (uploaded on Google Drive OR YouTube) about their project and themselves on our official website mindrain.org till 20th of JULY

This video submission is **OPTIONAL** but highly encouraged—especially for winners—to boost exposure, celebrate creativity, and amplify work across media.

Videos will be featured for all selected participants on the competition's **official YouTube channel & Instagram page.**



MIND RAIN
SOCIAL MEDIA

Videos will be published for winners and honorable mentions on the competition website.

This videos will **NOT** be considered as part of submission.

