

Andrejsala plans an information centre

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March 9, Rīga. Today, at the closing of the exhibition of blueprints and models for the future building of the Andrejsala information centre, awards were given to the best term projects developed by students of environmental art from the Latvian Academy of Art.

The panel, which consisted of representatives of SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums", chose Gundega Zaķe's Tube ("Caurule"), Juris Vīgners's Andrejosta Station – Railway Carriages ("Pietura Andrejosta") and Ieva Riekstiņa's solution combining cargo and inhabitable containers as the three best designs in the competition.

"Rīga's Andrejsala has become an active hub where events of arts and culture take place, therefore we plan to open a dedicated Andrejsala information centre this summer. At the centre, the public will be able to access information regarding the future development of Andrejsala, upcoming cultural initiatives, possible cooperation in organising of events and activities and related practical matters," says chairman of the board of SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Valters Māziņš.

Initially the centre will operate from the same building that houses the studios of artists in Andrejsala; later, along with the development of the entire area, a modern information facility will be built and equipped.

"In their projects, the young environmental artists have come up with a range of valuable ideas, and we will continue cooperation with the students while progressing with the concept of our information centre," notes Valters Māziņš.

The information centre designs created by the students were evaluated according to their suitability for the local environment, provision of access to the shoreline, functional aspects of the structures and originality of the proposal. The artistic and visual values, as well as technical solutions were also taken into account.

The awarded projects stand out with original ideas and demonstrable ways for connecting the proposals with Andrejsala's industrial scenery, while also not leaving out practical considerations such as mobility and flexibility.

Architect and lecturer at the Latvian Academy of Art Sandra Levāne supervised the academic activity of the 10 students of environmental art who in their term projects developed modern solutions – ranging from more traditional-looking architecture to rather futuristic and materially atypical structures – for the Andrejsala information centre.