

Original design objects to enrich Andrejsala's outdoor environment

March 28, 2007: real estate development company SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" announces a call for submissions in a new international competition "Creation of outdoor functional design objects for Andrejsala". At the end of the competition, the best submissions will be implemented, thus contributing to the overall design of the public outdoor space in Andrejsala.

"The objective of our competition is creation of design objects that are original, enhance the urban environment of Andrejsala and improve the quality of life for the local people, while also contributing to the progress in the area of design in Latvia. Emphasis on arts, culture and design is the trademark of Andrejsala, which will ensure that it becomes a favoured tourism, recreation and residential area," comments chairman of the board of SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Valters Māziņš.

The competition invites design professionals and students who are creatively motivated to generate unique environmental designs. In this year's competition, there are two categories: systems of signage and guideposts (illuminated and non-illuminated); outdoor benches and litter bins.

"We expect that the contestants will submit integrated and comprehensive designs that show appropriate concern for the local natural environment, use of technology, marketability and respect the existing vibrant cultural heritage, resulting in an aesthetic and practical evolution of the identity of Andrejsala," explains Valters Māziņš.

Evaluation of the submissions will be based on the following criteria: originality of the concept; suitability of the design objects for the future environment of Andrejsala; functional aspects; practicality of production and material requirements. Adherence to best practices of environmental concern during the manufacturing phase and the lifecycle of the objects will also be taken into account.

The evaluation panel consists of the following specialists: architect Ieva Zībārte, designer Holgers Elers, architect Uldis Lukševics, head of the Urban Environment Design Department of the Rīga City Building Authority Arta Goldberga, landscape architect Silvija Rubene, Head of Exhibitions of the University of Art and Design Helsinki, Tuuli Sotamaa, project manager of "Dizaina informācijas centrs" Inese Pētersone and chairman of the board of SIA "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Valters Māziņš.

The competition is arranged in two rounds taking place from March 28 until June 21 and from July 9 until September 14, respectively. The authors of the winning submissions will be awarded prizes during the Design Days happening in Andrejsala in October 2007. At the same time, the submitted designs will be shown at a dedicated exhibition. The competition charter is available online at www.andrejsala.lv.

Andrejsala plans to organise design competitions on an annual basis in the future. As the Andrejsala project expands, a proprietary architectural design code for future buildings in the area is under development.