

Media Release

Celebrating 40 years of housing excellence

Master Builders WA has been presenting awards for housing excellence for 40 years and a range of high-class, unique and innovative homes have been honoured in this anniversary year.

Executive director John Gelavis said hundreds of properties with a combined value of more than \$250million were entered in the Master Builders-Bankwest Housing Excellence Awards for 2020.

“A Master Builders award is a sign of outstanding skill which sets a builder apart in the highly competitive market,” he said.

“The projects range from opulent mansions to modest homes for first-time buyers so the real winners are WA homeowners because they can choose a quality builder at any level.”

This year’s Top WA Home is a triumph of design and craftsmanship across three levels starting with a 10-car undercroft and rising to superb living areas with park and ocean views in popular City Beach.

Chief judge Robert Shaw said the top home title was backed up by awards for excellence in plastering, roofing, tiling, external finishes, paving, ceilings, carpentry, painting and the silver trowel prize. The project also won best contract home in the \$2.5-3.5million category.

“People sometimes make the throw-away remark that it’s easy to build a winning home when there’s a lot of money to spend on it but that’s not the case,” Mr Shaw said.

“A builder has different materials and architectural designs to deal with and the challenge is to unite all the elements with craftsmanship and precision to deliver a home of award-winning standard.

“It’s tough to achieve a consistently high level but some do it very well. Congratulations to the builder Tony Tomizzi and all the staff, subcontractors and suppliers. A lot of trades have done exceptional work to create this year’s standout home.

“It’s a very unusual and interesting home and it’s great to see how design has come together beautifully with high-class workmanship across all the trades.”

The Best Country Home award went to McAullay Builders for a custom house on a bush block near Geraldton, where regional judge Charlie Baggetta said a high Bushfire Attack Level rating added complexity to the construction.

“A striking array of external finishes have been used on the home including rammed earth, local granite, corrugated iron and recycled timber. There’s a danger with such a wide range that it could have looked like a muddle but the materials have been brought together with skill and care to make a pleasing first impression,” Mr Baggetta said.

“Moving inside, the rammed earth and recycled timber reappear, creating a link with the exterior. Other features are polished concrete floors and recycled brick in the kitchen.

“The workmanship is excellent throughout and the home has a high energy efficiency rating, with elevated ceilings and lots of glass facing north to capture the winter sun.”

Another significant presentation was the Local Government Best Practice Award, won by the City of Armadale.

“Local governments play an important role in the building industry and the unique Master Builders best practice award is voted by builders, who regularly work with councils,” Mr Gelavis said.

“The City of Armadale delivers timely responses to building applications, provides reliable advice and shows high standards of communication and cooperation.”

The awards were held on February 22 at Crown Perth. The WA winners will compete against the best of other states and territories at the Master Builders national awards in Perth on November 28.

For more information please contact: John Gelavis, Director – w: 9476 9800 m: 0428 884 392