

MEDIA RELEASE

Finalists unveiled for the Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canberra, ACT | Tuesday, 2 June 2026

Master Builders ACT has today announced the finalists for the hotly contested 2026 Master Builders and Asset Construction Hire Excellence Awards. This year's awards program highlights exceptional talent, quality and innovation in ACT building and construction, with a record 236 finalists across 59 competitive categories.

Marking 36 years of recognising excellence in building and construction, the 2026 awards season has seen a remarkable surge in participation, with a record total of 250 entries.

'The Excellence Awards reflect our members' commitment to quality and excellence. Being a finalist or a winner in these awards remains a hallmark of quality in our industry,' said Anna Neelagama, CEO of Master Builders ACT.

'We are thrilled to see such an impressive number of entries this year. The finalists represent the very best of Canberra's building industry, and we are immensely proud of their hard work that truly rivals the best building and construction projects to be found around the country.'

The winners will be announced on Friday 11 September at the National Convention Centre in what has come to be known as Canberra's biggest and most prestigious black tie event.

'The competition this year is one of the most intense we have seen to date,' said Ms. Neelagama.

'Our members have yet again raised the bar, and we anticipate a truly spectacular event in September.

'We wish all finalists the best of luck.'



Finalist highlights

Young Builder of the Year finalists

For information about each finalist click [here](#).

- Karel Sterner, Sterne Homes
- Mark Cole, Freedom Built
- Nathan Exton, Group One Residential
- Nathan Ferris, Quality Built Co
- Richard McGrath, D3 Projects

Construction Woman of the Year finalists

For information about each finalist click [here](#).

- Abbie Forrester, Canberra Contractors
- Chloe Templeton, Construction Control Australia
- Chen Chen, Kolak Living
- Satomi Honda, Lendlease Construction
- Matine Osa, Joss Construction
- Suthinee Muangsaen, Design Construct Industries
- Charlotte Thompson, Projex Building Group
- Nipuni Kasturi Arachchi, Sunny Homes ACT
- Kristin Budsworth, BMD Group

All other finalists

Details for all finalists and projects can be found on the [awards finalist hub website](#).

Tickets

Tickets are now on sale for the awards night on Friday 11 September, with earlybird tickets available until Friday 12 June. Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

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Media enquiries:

Tara Nichols | Communications & Marketing Manager
tnichols@mba.org.au | 0430 026 612