



Station 3, Boulder, CO



Station 1 Northbridge, MA



Station 9 Reading, PA



Station 2 St Charles, MO

ANNOUNCING

THE FIRE INDUSTRY EDUCATION RESOURCE ORGANIZATION'S

2026

FIRE FACILITIES DESIGN AWARDS PROGRAM

(Read carefully as there are changes in the submission process and requirements.)

Saturday, September 19th, 2026, the Fire Industry Education Resource Organization (F.I.E.R.O.) will convene its 20th Annual Fire Facilities Design Awards Program Jury. Jurors, drawn from across the US, with professional experience in both design practice and the fire service will review the entries. Their collective firsthand experiences always ensure rigorous project reviews, ensuring respected jury decisions.

In conducting its annual Fire Station Design Awards Program, F.I.E.R.O. seeks to recognize excellence in the design and construction of fire stations and related emergency facilities. F.I.E.R.O. also seeks, by its design awards program, to encourage continued quality investments in this special purpose, "civic-pride" building.

The awards program is open to design firms or emergency services agencies that have brought a facility online during the past seven (7) years or firms that have a project "On-the-Boards" that has not yet been approved for construction by the funding authority. Design awards may also be given for outstanding examples of major fire station addition and/or renovation projects as well as for deactivated iconic fire stations that have been adapted to use for another purpose. Awards can also be earned for noteworthy innovations, noteworthy attention to firefighter health and wellness issues, and for outstanding "legacy" fire stations.

Submissions for the F.I.E.R.O. Design Awards Jury's review may include career, combination, volunteer, industrial brigade, airport, and military fire stations. Submissions may also include other special purpose emergency facility including EMS stations, rescue squads, training centers, apparatus service and repair centers, 911 call receiving centers and EOC facilities.

The companion 24th Annual F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Symposium for 2026 will get underway on the 22nd of September with an opening reception and networking opportunity. Details for the symposium are posted at www.fieroonline.org. An outstanding group of speakers and topics awaits attendees. AIA CEUs have been approved for all symposium sessions for 2026.

DESIGN AWARDS ENTRY TYPES SOUGHT

New Construction	New fire stations and other special purpose emergency facilities that have been placed in service within the last seven (7) years.
Addition and/or Renovation	Existing fire stations and other special purpose emergency facilities where an addition and/or renovation project has been completed within the last seven (7) years.
On-the-Boards	Fire stations and other special purpose emergency facility projects that have been designed but have not yet been approved for construction. (This award category seeks to encourage the funding authority to proceed with the project as designed.)
Adaptation	Buildings originally constructed for other purposes that have been modified within the last seven (7) years for use as a fire station or other special purpose emergency facility.
Preservation	Decommissioned fire stations that have been converted, by thoughtful design, to other uses.
Legacy	Fire stations and other emergency facilities at least 25 years old that have stood the “test of time” by remaining in use for the original purpose, remaining largely as originally designed and have become a building truly noteworthy in promoting community by creating civic “pride of place.”

DESIGN AWARDS

Honor	“Gold” Honor Awards will go to those projects for which 6 jurors agree the project exemplifies excellence in all aspects of planning and design including site plan, floor plan(s), and architectural image.
Merit	“Silver” Merit Awards will go to those projects for which 5 out of 6 jurors agree the project exemplifies excellence in all aspects of planning and design including site plan, floor plan(s), and architectural image.
Recognition	“Bronze” Recognition Awards will go to those projects for which 4 out of 6 jurors agree the project exemplifies excellence in all aspects of planning and design including site plan, floor plan(s), and architectural image.
Commendation	Commendation Awards will go to projects where jurors believe the facility demonstrates particularly insightful design detail that needs to be acknowledged. Examples may include individual rooms within the facility or an entire facility such as an apparatus storage building where the building’s

program does not rise to the level of complexity of typical emergency facilities.

Innovation

Innovation Awards will go to projects where the jurors believe the facility demonstrates a noteworthy solution to a fire station or other emergency facility issue that might have transferrable understanding. Examples of innovation might include programmatic insight, site constrain solutions, economies, flexibility solutions, or incorporation of new technology.

Health and Wellness

Health and Wellness Awards will go to projects recognized by the Jury for noteworthy solutions, that might have transferrable features, that enhance firefighter health, safety, and wellbeing.

There are no preset number of awards to be issued.

Regardless of award status, all F.I.E.R.O. Design Award Program entries will be on display during the entire F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Symposium. F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Award winners will be announced in a "Report from the Jury" during the symposium's opening remarks on Tuesday, September 22. All entrants will receive an email notice from F.I.E.R.O. of the jury results. Award winning projects may gain publication exposure.

THE DESIGN AWARDS JURY

The awards jury will be composed of 6 members. All have had professional careers that have given them experience in the issues involved - from both the fire service side and the design office side of fire facilities design and project management. Jury member bios will be posted on the F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Symposium's website. Jury member bios will also be made available to symposium attendees via the symposium's Resource Document. Jury members will be in attendance throughout the symposium. All in attendance at the symposium will have a chance to meet and engage with the jurors on the jury's award decisions. Again, all juried projects submitted will be on display throughout the symposium.

MORE ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM AND GREENVILLE

The symposium will be held at the Greenville, SC Hyatt-Regency Hotel on North Main Street. A City operated parking deck is directly behind and linked to the hotel. The city is served by the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport (GSP). (GSP was designed by SOM's New York office.) Amtrak's Crescent also makes a stop in Greenville. Greenville's tree-lined Main Street, designed by landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, runs from north of the Hyatt-Regency to the Drive's baseball stadium in the West-End. Main Street is fabulously pedestrian friendly and replete with shops and restaurants of all descriptions. A few blocks down Main Street, the street crosses the Reedy River. To the left of the river crossing is Falls Park with a curved pedestrian suspension bridge overlooking the Reedy River Falls. Upstream about 4 blocks from Main are Unity Park and

the starting point for The Swamp Rabbit Trail. The Swamp Rabbit Trail is a paved path following an old railroad grade running from downtown Greenville north for 22 miles to the village of Travelers Rest.

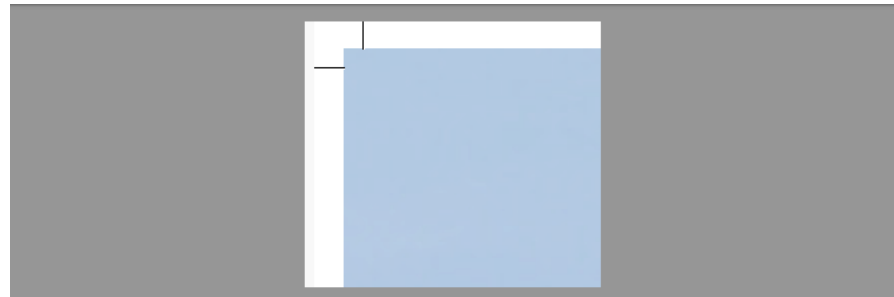
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTRY AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

2025 Submissions

Submission Format Part 1

A maximum of two presentation “story board” panel layouts per project submission shall be submitted as instructed below. The content and design composition of the panel(s) is left to the discretion of the entrant.

Each finished panel shall be 47” wide and 30” tall, requiring ¼” full bleed dimensions of 47.5” wide 30.5” tall with crossmarks as shown on the diagram below. All images used shall be 150-300 ppi.



If 2 panels are used in a submission, images and/or graphics shall not overlap the 2 panels. (This will facilitate hanging the boards both side by side or one under the other. If more than one panel is submitted for an entry, in the lower righthand corners, place a “1” or “2” to designate the panel’s intended display order.

The panel(s) layout may contain photos, diagrams, text, etc. to explain and demonstrate the project. On the display panel(s), you may wish to include some of the project data information required in Part 2.4 of the Submission Format. Any such information included on the boards does not have to follow the same format requested on the Part 2.4 data sheet.

The composition layout must show the site plan and floor plan(s) along with a north arrow and appropriate graphic scales.

To facilitate sharing of the entry panel(s) via the jury member’s computer screens and possible inclusion in the *Report from the Jury*, there will be **no exceptions** to the horizontal orientation of the panel(s).

Be reminded again that jurors with design education backgrounds and professional experience in design practice, including graphic design, will be reviewing the entries. The graphic layout and design of the panels may condition their response to the project. Graphic layout may also be a factor in attracting symposium attendees to your project presentation.

The name of the project, the name of the using agency or department, the name of the design firm, the name of the design firm of record if different and the firm name or name of any fire station design consultant involved shall appear as an integral part of the composition of the panel(s). The F.I.E.R.O. Symposium's display of the projects is a "showcase" opportunity for the firms involved.

PDF files of the 47" x 30" display board composition(s) shall be sent to Heritage Printing and Graphics in Charlotte, NC for printing, mounting and delivery to F.I.E.R.O. for transport to the jury venue. The layout composition(s) will be printed on photo quality stock and mounted on 3/16" stiff display board(s).

No other project entry delivery method will be recognized. Having one vendor complete the printing and mounting ensures that all the boards are the same 47" x 30" dimension, orientation and the surface finish of the mounted composition is the same for each entrant.

For any questions about print service requirements or file transfers, contact Susannah Haskell at Heritage Printing.

susannah.haskell@heritageprinting.com

Be prepared to provide the following information when placing your print order with Heritage:

1. Company Name
2. Company Billing Address
3. Contact Name
4. Phone Number
5. Email Address
6. Number of boards to be printed

Large files may be uploaded to:

<https://heritageprinting.com/send-files.php>

A link will be sent by Heritage for online payment.

Part 1 Due Date

PDF files for the presentation board shall be sent to Susannah Haskell at Heritage Print and Graphics no later than **5 PM (Eastern), Friday, August 14, 2026**, to ensure sufficient time for Heritage to make an ontime delivery to F.I.E.R.O. without undue system stress. (No exceptions to the due date without Heritage's approval.)

Submission Format Part 2

One file folder only shall be transferred via a **Dropbox™ link** only to Head Juror **Jim Zwerg** at **<jzwerg@fieroonline.org>**. No other folder transfer platform or method will be accepted. The file folder's label shall be the name of the entrant/project.

The properly labeled single folder must contain the following 5 folders using only the folder naming conventions shown here:

2.1. Panel Images

The first folder labeled "1. Panels" shall contain a pdf copy of the image file(s) for the panel composition(s). The Panel Images folders will become part of the F.I.E.R.O. Archives.

2.2. Slide Presentation

The second folder labeled "2. Slide Presentation" is to contain a PowerPoint™ presentation about the project with no more than 20 additional images not used on the panel(s). The PowerPoint™ images may be context information or diagrams, program notes, site analysis drawings, concept diagrams, schematic evolution, design development issues, construction progress images, etc.; in short, any additional information that will help explain to the jury the design team's approach to the project's solution and the expected results.

In addition to the expository images, import into the beginning of the slide presentation the presentation panel(s) as the first (and second) slide image followed by a blank slide.

2.3. Images

The third folder labeled "3. Images" shall contain each individual image and plan used in the panel composition and each image used in the PowerPoint™ presentation. All plans and images shall only be in jpg format. The submitted images may be used to facilitate the production of a F.I.E.R.O.-generated PowerPoint™ presentation of the award winners. The images may be used by F.I.E.R.O. in other media outlets to promote the symposium, the awards program or to otherwise encourage progress in fire station design.

2.4. "Money Shots"

The fourth folder labeled "4. Money Shots" shall contain at least 1 and no more than 3 "Money Shot" images that can be used by F.I.E.R.O. for publication. "Money Shot(s)" must be at 300 dpi or higher.

2.5. Project Data

The fifth folder labeled “5. Project Data” shall contain a Word file and a pdf file format document listing the project’s data. All project data listed shall comply with the format and sequence shown on the next page. If for some reason the data cannot be provided, leave the category blank.

Project Name	GCFD Fire Station 4 (as example)
Fire Agency Name	Greenville City Fire Department (as example)
Fire Agency Type	Career Fire Service (as example)
Project Location (City or County/State)	Greenville, South Carolina (as example)
Architectural Firm for Design	ABC Architects (as example)
Architectural Firm of Record if different	CBA Architects (as example)
Fire Station Design Consultant	etc.
Noteworthy Team Members or Consultants	
Contractor	
Site Size	
Building Square Footage	
Budget for Land	
Budget for Building and Site Improvement	
Actual Cost for Land	
Actual Cost for Building & Site Improvements	
Completion Month and Year	
Size of Typical Duty Crew	
Crew Capacity	
Number of Bay/ Number and Type of Apparatus	
Number of Sleeping Units	
Principal Structure Type	
Principal Exterior Building Materials	
Principal Interior Building Materials	
Green Initiatives	
Health, Safety and Wellness Initiatives	
Unexpected Problems Encountered	
Special Programmatic Issues of Project	

Think of the above layout like the format for the credits at the end of a movie. Contact Don Collins at collind@clermson.edu or Jim Zwerg at jzwerg@fieronline.org for further explanation and/or a data sheet template.

Each entrant shall confirm receipt of the Drop Box Link transferred folder by the jury organizer via a follow up email or phone call to Jim Zwerg jzwerg@fieronline.org (602.402.1714).

- Submission Due Date 2** Dropbox™ entry folder transfer must be accomplished no later than 5 PM (Eastern), Friday, August 21, 2026. Sooner is better!
- Entry Fee and Payment:** \$675.00 (US) for each entry (US dollars only) payable to F.I.E.R.O. by credit card through the symposium's web site www.fieronline.org no later than Tuesday August 25, 2026.
- Questions about payment should be directed to Robert Tutterow at [<info@fieronline.org>](mailto:info@fieronline.org)

ADDITIONAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Submission Display** By entering the awards program, a submitter agrees to have their submission(s) displayed at the 2026 F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Symposium and possible additional venues as selected and arranged by F.I.E.R.O. A submitter further agrees to allow F.I.E.R.O. to submit their project(s) for publication and display as F.I.E.R.O. deems appropriate.
- Publication Release** By entering, a submitter agrees that any images submitted may be used by F.I.E.R.O. or by any other entity that may be deemed appropriate and assigned by F.I.E.R.O. to promote any future F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Symposia.
- By entering the awards program, the submitter, and their project photographer(s), whether in-house or outside contracted, shall by so entering grant tacit approval to any future publication of the images contained in the submission package if and as assigned to other entities that may be deemed appropriate by F.I.E.R.O.
- Questions?** Questions about the F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Awards Program should be directed to Jim Zwerg, awards program organizer, via email at [<jzwerg@fieronline.org>](mailto:jzwerg@fieronline.org) or via voice at 602.402.1714.

