



The **small home BIG LIFE** competition aims to promote the small house trend. TAFE and University Building Design, Architecture and Interior Design students are offered the opportunity to participate in this trend by designing and presenting their proposal for a small house that is innovative, functional, energy efficient and buildable. Small house design requires careful attention to how occupants are likely to live, move through and use their small home. Consideration must be given to how the small space will be furnished, where belongings will be stored, how guests will be accommodated and how a smaller-than-normal space can be made to feel inviting rather than confining. The **small home BIG LIFE** competition challenges students to show us how a big life is possible in a small home.

**WHO CAN ENTER**

Current students (full & part time) at TAFE (**Victoria**) studying Building Design or Interior Design or current full & part time students at **Victorian** Universities studying the Bachelor of Design(Architecture) or Bachelor of Interior Design (or equivalent) – all entrants must register before **5 pm 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021** at [smallhomebiglife.com.au](http://smallhomebiglife.com.au) and be enrolled at time of registration. Registrations Open **9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**. Please register early!

**AWARDS**

- Best XXSmall House (up to 45m2) - Macbook Pro, A Cube Bed + Cover, one year subscription to Sanctuary Magazine ,one year Design Matters National Graduate Membership & one month of work experience with Greg Blanch from Detail 3
- Best XSmall House (50 - 60m2) – Macbook Air, one year subscription to Sanctuary Magazine , one year Design Matters National Graduate Membership & one month of work experience with Peter Lombardozzi from Archsign
- Best Small Family Home (up to 100m2) – Apple Ipad Mini, one year subscription to Sanctuary Magazine ,one year Design Matters National Graduate Membership & two hours of Revit/Autocad training with Glenn Barrett from Interscale
- Runner Up Best XXSmall House (up to 45m2) \$100 & one year Design Matters National Graduate Membership
- Runner Up Best XSmall House (50 – 60m2) \$100 & one year Design Matters National Graduate Membership
- Runner Up Best Small Family Home (up to 100m2) \$100 & one year Design Matters National Graduate Membership

All finalists work will be posted on the **small home BIG LIFE** website and finalists and winners work will be displayed at the **2021 Home Show** at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from **20<sup>th</sup> August – 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021**.

**ENTRY DATES**

Registration Opens – **9<sup>th</sup> November 2020** Registration Closes **30<sup>th</sup> May 2021**  
 Design Submissions by **16<sup>th</sup> July 2021** (Soft Copy) Winners Announced **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021**





### STUDENT BRIEF

The competition consists of three separate categories: a proposal for a XXSMALL house (up to 45m<sup>2</sup>), XSMALL house (50m<sup>2</sup> – 60m<sup>2</sup>) or a Small Family House (up to 100m<sup>2</sup>). Note that only one entry per student will be considered. Proposals may be either single or double storey but must meet the maximum m<sup>2</sup> requirement (measured to include wall thicknesses).

The following criteria must be met for an entry to be considered:

- All entries must meet the current BCA / NCC requirements.
- All **XXS** entries **must include a Wall bed or Space Saving Furniture from The Comfort Shop.**
- **All entries must utilise TWO WEATHERTEX external cladding materials in the design (use in combination with other materials is permissible).**
- All entries must include passive solar design principles.

The following minimum spatial requirements must be met for an entry to be considered:

- For XXS & XS categories, at least one bedroom that allows min. double bed, bed side tables and clothes storage. For Small Family Category at least one main bedroom and 2 additional bedrooms (3 in total).
- One bathroom (can be shower only in XXS & XS category but bath and shower required in Small Family size).
- Laundry facilities (can be combined in bathroom).
- Living / dining that allows seating / space for minimum 2 people (4 people for Small Family size) and space for appropriate furniture including television, seating, coffee table/s, dining table & chairs, books / general storage.
- Access to outdoor living area off living space.
- Adequate storage allowing for linen, clothes, brooms, vacuum cleaner etc.
- Space identified for study / computer / phone.
- Kitchen to include sink, hotplate, microwave, fridge, pantry, rangehood and preparation space.
- Provide undercover parking (garage or car park) for the Small Family size (optional for XXS & XS size).



## SITE INFORMATION

### XXS – XS HOUSE CATEGORY

The following site/context information should be assumed:

- The imaginary site is 44 Tiny Avenue, Smallsville and is 150m<sup>2</sup> – orientation of lot is at discretion of entrant but North should be clearly marked. The site is 10m x 15m with the frontage to Tiny Avenue being 10m.
- Assume site is within 20kms of Melbourne CBD.
- Assume there are no overshadowing issues from adjoining sites.

### SMALL FAMILY HOUSE CATEGORY

The following site/context information should be assumed:

- The imaginary site is 56 Petite Street, Smallsville and is 300m<sup>2</sup> – orientation of lot is at discretion of entrant but North should be clearly marked. The site is 12m x 25m with the frontage to Petite Street being 12m.
- Assume site is within 20kms of Melbourne CBD.
- Assume there are no overshadowing issues from adjoining sites.

## SUBMISSION

Submit entry electronically in pdf format (one file, no separate pdf's), via competition email using Dropbox link. Use following naming convention for digital submission; Student name, TAFE or Uni, student number and either the XXSmall, XSmall or Small category (ie John Smith Gordon Institute 345678921 XSmall).

- 1 x A3 presentation plan with overall dimensions, landscaping and internal furniture layout - 1:50 or 1:100.
- 1 x A3 presentation elevations indicating material and landscaping including trees, people etc. to give sense of scale - 1:50 or 1:100.
- 1 x A3 presentation section with furniture and people – 1:50.
- 1 x A3 presentation of 3Ds – one internal and one external shot minimum.
- 1 x A4 written summary of design concept/approach, description of proposal, passive solar design attributes, construction information and any relevant points that will assist judges in understanding proposal.
- High resolution separate jpegs of 3D images.

Submit entry to [competition@smallhomebiglife.com.au](mailto:competition@smallhomebiglife.com.au)



## SHORT LISTED ENTRIES

If shortlisted, you will be notified by **3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021** and required to print and mount your submission on foam core board to be included in an exhibition at the 2021 Home Show (maximum 4 x A3, 1 x A4). Hard copy work **MUST** be submitted by **13<sup>th</sup> August 2021** to be included in the **2021 HIA HOME SHOW 20<sup>th</sup> August – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021**. Announcement of the winners and runners up will be on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August** and students will be expected to attend the Home Show for the announcement. Please seek assistance from your lecturers, as early as possible, to mount your work to a high standard as it will be on public display for 3 days.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Judges will base their assessment of complying entries on the following criteria:

- Innovative - does the home deal with the problem of small space living in a unique and clever way? Does the home use the Weathertex cladding product /s effectively or in a new way? Does the XXS home utilise the Wall Bed or Space Saving furniture?
- Functional – do the spaces work? Does the XXS home utilise the Wall Bed or Space Saving Furniture to maximise function and use space efficiently.
- Energy efficient/sustainable – is it likely the small home could achieve a 7 star or greater energy rating?
- Buildable – is it likely that the small home could be built using conventional skills and materials?

## JUGING PROCESS

A panel of judges will assess the submissions and shortlist 15 of the most successful designs. Students that have been shortlisted will be contacted via email by **3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021** and asked to provide hard copies of their submissions (see 'short listed entries').

## JUDGES

Gavin Wilson – Weathertex

Barry Du Bois – Co Host 'The Living Room', Builder and Author

Shelley Penn – Architect, past president Australian Institute of Architects

Geoff Hoare – Building Designer - Graaph Design Pty Ltd, past president BDAV

Sally Wills – Small Change Design and Construction Pty Ltd, Registered Builder

## SPONSORS

[Weathertex](#)

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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By submitting an entry to the *small home BIG LIFE* competition, participants agree to the following:

Submissions must be original work and not previously published or submitted to another competition. By entering the competition, participants accept that their work may be used to promote the *small home BIG LIFE* competition, the small house trend generally and Small Change Design and Construction Pty Ltd and agree to have their submission displayed online and in print.

Entries that do not comply with the criteria and which have not been submitted by the closing date **16<sup>th</sup> July 2021** will not be taken into consideration. All entrants must first register before they are eligible to submit their work. The ownership and copyright of all entry material submitted remains with their respective creators. However, by participating in the competition, all entrants authorise the organiser (Small Change Design & Construction Pty Ltd) the right to display, publish and otherwise exhibit all materials submitted in magazines, books, websites and other media to be determined.

Designers will be fully credited when their work is used.

By registering for this competition the student agrees that their registration details – name, institute and contact details may be shared with the sponsors of this competition.

The judges reserve the right to not award prizes for the entries not meeting the criteria defined. No partner, associate or employees of any judge or sponsor may participate in the competition.

## ABOUT THE ORGANISER

Small Change Design and Construction Pty Ltd is a design and construction company that specialises in small houses. Apart from marketing our own range of small homes, Small Change aims to promote small housing more generally to address issues of affordability and sustainability. We have successfully lobbied the Victorian State Government to change the current granny flat rules to allow 60m<sup>2</sup> permanent secondary dwellings to be built behind existing homes with a fast track Vic Smart planning permit. This is now being trialed in 4 Local Government Areas in Victoria.

We believe that there is a housing crisis – long waiting lists for social housing, major affordability issues for young people looking to either rent or buy and an escalating homelessness problem. The ***small home BIG LIFE*** competition is a vehicle for promoting small housing as a way to solve these problems and to introduce our next wave of building designers and architects to the advantages of designing small homes.