MDES RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Award   Commemorating the 30th anniversary of the MDes Program, the award supports research and development of projects in the multiple formats and media of the MDes Program vision, offering an opportunity unique to MDes students for experimentation, immersion, and discovery. The Award supports travel to archives, fieldwork, project development, material experiments, and occasionally supports conference presentations.

Amount $1,000 Total Funding per Area, annually
At the discretion of the Committee, the Award may be shared across 1 to 4 awardees per Area.

Schedule   Proposals are reviewed once each year, on an annual basis

Feb 22   Submission of 1-Page Proposal (300-word) to MDes Office (5 pm)
          Liz Thorstenson, Program Coordinator (thorstenson@gsd.harvard.edu)
Mar 8   Awards announced

Evaluation   Proposals will be evaluated for the quality, clarity and originality of the proposed research, project activity, and projected outcomes. Specificity regarding project budgets and use of requested funds is an important consideration. Late or incomplete proposals will not be considered. Jury will be composed of Area Heads and Program Director.

Proposal   A description of the research/project/paper and the role of the MDes Research & Development Award are to be included in the proposal. Using a clear and simple budget, the proposal should specify how the funds would be used, the outcome and proposed venues of presentation or dissemination. The proposal must be limited to a single page of not more than 300 words. Students may work individually or in teams, though only one grant may be awarded per proposal.

Outcome   The results of the project/research award should be presented publicly or in an official scholarly or professional forum. This could include the MDes Thesis Reviews presentation or some other presentation at the GSD, an exhibition, or in a professional or scholarly conference or journal. The award funds will be issued to the student by the Academic Programs Business Office.

Committee   John May, Program Director
Krzysztof Wodiczko & Malkit Shoshan - Art, Design, and the Public Domain
Susan Snyder & George Thomas - Critical Conservation
Holly Samuelson & Ali Malkawi - Energy and Environment
John May - History and Philosophy of Design and Media
Bing Wang & Matthew Kiefer - Real Estate & the Built Environment
Allen Sayegh, Robert Pietrusko, Andrew Witt & Sawako Kaijima - Technology
Diane Davis & Dilip da Cunha - Risk and Resilience
Charles Waldheim & Alex Wall - Urbanism, Landscape, Ecology

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