

SHINING A LIGHT ON VIC EXCELLENCE

THEY wowed the judges with their innovative homes. And now they've been officially recognised for their excellence.

Victorian builders scooped up a swag of awards last night at the 2016 HIA-CSR Victorian Housing and Kitchen & Bathroom Awards.

The awards were open to Housing Industry Association (HIA) members. HIA (Victoria) executive director Gil King described them as the most prestigious in the building industry and said they recognised high standards of workmanship, including design, visual appeal, innovation and environmental sustainability.

The judges travelled across Victoria to judge all the entries.

There was a wide number of entry categories, including the ever-popular HIA *Herald Sun* Readers' Choice Award.

Here, we shine a light on some of the major category winners.



NEUMODE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

OVERALL RENOVATION/ ADDITION PROJECT OF THE YEAR

RENOVATION/ADDITION PROJECT OVER \$1.5 MILLION

THIS Art Deco building, which has heritage overlay, has undergone a major renovation.

Originally configured as two separate apartments, this beauty has been superbly transformed into one large family home.

It has five bedrooms, a study, three bathrooms, two living areas, on-site garage parking for two cars, smart wiring, electric solar panels (so the house can be off-grid during the day) and an underground 7000-litre concrete water tank.

At a little more than 400sq m, the site was reasonably small to fit such a large home.

The design allows adults and family to occupy the ground floor, with the first floor devoted to the children's bedrooms and two bathrooms in addition to a flexible rumpus space, which opens on to a large outdoor terrace.

The use of black steel-framed, double-glazed windows and evocative curved walls further enhance the Art Deco architectural style of the original building.

A sweeping internal staircase showcases a beautiful handmade wrought-iron balustrade, which was sculpted on-site.