

UNI

Bio-Home

Biophilia for the everyday life

<https://uni.xyz/competitions>





Fig: 1 - Humans try to find solace in their natural outgoings.

Premise

Since the beginning of time, humankind has lived in natural settings **surviving on nature's unadulterated bounty**. Harmony with nature was achieved as they understood their **dependency on it for survival and its role in the cycle of life**.

Over time, the complicated working of the world has made us forget about our strong relationship with nature and **we grew apart**. There is **segregation, encroachment, and exploitation of nature** and its resources for the superficial satisfaction of man's desires.

In the current trend of urbanisation, **less and less access to green spaces, natural light, and organic materials is available**. Green spaces are desired by everyone, but even so, initiatives to incorporate greenery into living spaces are rarely seen.

Over our evolutionary time, **an innate desire to associate with nature** is experienced by people. The revival of our inherent connection with nature is significant to humankind's health and well-being.

Can humans find their way back to nature?





Fig: 2 - Dense concrete jungles are devoid of greenery on a large scale.

Current Scenario

Human habitats are built to fulfill their **needs as biological beings**, living in a natural setting. Biophilic designing can be used to fulfill this initiative. It is much more than bringing the outside in, it is about making a **strong connection with all aspects found in nature like plants, light, materials, textures, and patterns.**

Our inclination towards interacting with nature is primal, and we need to strengthen this bond by creating sustained contact in our everyday lives. A majority of our time is spent in our homes, so we need to **embed our living quarters with biophilia.**

The paradox of built environments is such that most places **benefit economically due to their proximity to greenery** or view of natural scenery in the city, but at the same time, new construction projects keep coming up **in want of more land**, so **more nature keeps getting wiped out.**

How can biophilia be used to resolve this paradox?





Fig: 3 - Along with development, a lot of environmental issues have come up in cities.

Brief

Brief: Design a single residence for a family, incorporating biophilic design principles. We need to integrate nature into our built environment so that we can co-exist and live as one.

The interventions proposed as part of the biophilic design must be in **synergy with the wider environmental context of the site. Reduce the negative impact of design** on the environment, by improving building performance, reducing waste, and ensuring comfort for occupants.

The aim of the design is to achieve a **balance between the 'natural' and 'built'** parts of the house. It must provide a **healthy atmosphere** for all living organisms' in space. The effects of the elements on each other must be explored.

Privacy and interaction must be guided in the layout as per the nature of the activity. **Manage aesthetics and functionality**, as well as open and closed spaces. The design must be an **integrated system** suitable to contemporary lifestyles.



Objectives

Humans | Nature: The primary function should be to help humans connect more with nature.

Building | Nature: The building should look to reflect the essence of nature in its make, like form, materials, finishes, etc.

Sustainable: Sustainability in design and construction methods is an underlying objective of Biophilia itself.

Therapeutic: The building should look at the overall well-being and rejuvenation of its inhabitants.

Site



Indonesia is a very populous island country with more than 270 million people. The economy often struggles owing to this which creates poor quality of life for many citizens. **The rapid rate of urbanisation has created issues of high traffic, congestion, and resource scarcity. The land cover and greenery is decreased and dense neighbourhoods are craving for it.**

The site is located in South Jakarta City, Indonesia. Jakarta is a capital city with a flourishing landscape and rich cultural background. **The city is riddled with environmental issues like heavy pollution and is prone to flooding and earthquakes.**

The site is **opposite Mantanya Eye Clinic** and is accessed by the Jl. Tebet Barat Dalam X road. It is sandwiched between two residences on each side and an empty plot on the front. The road in front of the plot is extremely narrow.



Site area = 264 sq.m
Height restriction = 9 metres
Maximum Builtup Area = 132 sq.m
Setbacks (as per CAD plan)
Coordinates: 6°14'31.9"S 106°50'57.5"E

Area Programme

The following programmatic outline is the point to begin your design at. You can add more functions and activities in relevance or modify the below design programme.

- The residence can be built with a **maximum of 2 floors**. The footprint on the **ground floor must be restricted to 40 sq.m** and the rest can be attributed to the higher floors.
- **One master bedroom and 1-3 other guest bedrooms** can be provided in the programme. The areas for the other spaces such as **the living room, kitchen, and bathrooms** can be designated by the participant.

Expectations

Building level

Response to local climate: The climate of the city must be taken under consideration while designing.

Site landscaping: Greenery on-site in a dense setting.

Materials: Palette chosen as per the local context

Spatial level

Space layout: The programme is to design a residence for a single family.

Furniture and provisions: Their placement and design indicating the requisite usage of space provided.

Services: Dependence on mechanical systems must be minimized and justified.

Indoor greenery: Greenery incorporated in all facets.



How to submit?

Read all the competition rules and details from the sidebar, and hit **register**. You can pay the entry fee and book your registration right away. The additional resources directly unlock as soon as you register on your dashboard. Once you are ready with your project - begin uploading from the dashboard and follow this tutorial to submit. You can add your team members to your project while submitting it.

Discover the full submission tutorial here: <https://to.uni.xyz/uploadtutorial>



Submission Requirements

You have to deliver an architectural design outcome on the following site, based on the given outlines.

1. Recommended number of sheets/presentation images/boards:
3 (Three) of size [2800px x 3500px] in portrait digital format (JPEG only).
2. Minimum 3 (Three) & No maximum sheet limit. Each image should be less than 15MB.
(Do not submit PNG format)
3. Minimum requisite submission are sheets/boards + Cover image containing:
 - a. Site plan
 - b. 1 x Key concept section
 - c. 3D views x 4
 - d. Additional cover image of 2000px x 1000px
 - e. Write an article/story in the Journal section[#] of the project (of about 700-1000 words) answering the questions given in the guide pdf.

#Journal Section appears midway in the project submission portal. More instructions in the additional resources.

Additional Resources

This competition contains additional resources that contain a set of files useful to complete the competition submission. This folder is made available on your profile dashboard automatically as soon as you register.

This additional resource folder of this competition contains:

Submission Format files in PSD | AI | InDD, Guide to Journal Section + Questions, Site Images, High-Resolution Site Map, and CAD file of the Site plan.

Learn more on: <https://uni.xyz/competitions/bio-home/info/about>



Base Rules

- + The competitions are open for students and professionals from all the disciplines of design.
- + The team limit for this competition is 4 members maximum per team.
- + You can register more than one team but they have to be registered separately.
- + Ensure that the final sheets submitted do not include your name or any other mark of identification.
- + Your submission is linked to your UNI user account which stands as your identification, we do not have any identification codes.
- + This is a design idea challenge only. There is no built commission/realization associated with the problem.
- + In case of publication in the yearbook we will reach out separately for selected entries.

Pro Tips

- + Use exploded views to discuss multi-leveled conceptual models better.
- + Mention sheet number on the corner of every sheet.
- + Plagiarism of any idea/form/design/image will be disqualified with a notice.
- + All the sheets or images will be viewed on a digital device. e.g. Laptop screen or projector. Uploaded sheets or images will not be physically printed for evaluation. The submission hence should be prepared for digital viewing only.
- + Submit JPEG images only. (PNG will not function)

Judging Criteria

The entries will be judged by an international jury of the competition on the following criterions:

Presentation: The fundamental to a good entry is a visual delivery of ideas.

Concept/Idea: Quality of thought and intent in the pre-design phase.

Programme/Spaces: How the spaces are conceived along with the programme.

Design Outcome The final architectural outcome of the solution.

The judging panel can also add other criterions based on their internal discussions - which will be in line with the problem statement. Participants are advised to fulfill the above-given criterions first in their design. Names of the jury panel will be announced soon.



Disqualification

The competition is protected by our [disqualification policy](#) to support fair play in a competitive environment like UNI. Participants are requested to stick to the details in the brief and connect with the curatorial committee on contact@uni.xyz in case of doubts or revisions.

Please check the link above for details. Failure to adherence may lead to soft or hard disqualification based on the violation.

Yearbook



Winners of this competition will get published in our annual publication known as **UNI Design Explorer** which is released every year. This particular publication is one of the most important design resources released every year for the design community on UNI. Earn these bragging rights by participating in this competition. The project titles featured in this publication series are Winner, Runner-up*, Honorable Mention*, People's Choice, and Editor's Choice.

*These titles vary from competition to competition. Please refer to the Award & Fees section for more information.

Prizes / Deadlines / Registration

For complete information on active prizes and details on the entry fee, visit the Awards & Fees section of the competition here: [Awards&Fees](#)

Learn more about this competition here: <https://uni.xyz/competitions/bio-home/info/about>

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