



**For Immediate Release:**

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## **About the 2022 ICF Builder Awards**

The ICF Builder Awards are held annually to recognize the best in insulated concrete construction. This construction method uses rigid polystyrene foam and reinforced concrete to create structures that are beautiful, yet disaster-proof, energy-efficient, and remarkably affordable.

Begun in 2005, the annual project-of-the-year competition showcases the innovation, quality, and craftsmanship possible with this construction method. It is the most prestigious award offered to ICF professionals.

This year's contest attracted dozens of top-notch entries of all types, including pools, a car wash, a medical laboratory, offices, schools, and residential projects of every shape, size, and style. A successful feature of the awards program introduced last year was opening up voting to the magazine's readers and the larger community. The People's Choice Awards allowed anyone to view details about the top three projects in each category and vote for their favorites. 5,502 votes were cast over just more than a week's time — a great turnout! Two of the ten People's Choice Award winners were ones that ICF Builder Award judges also chose as winners.

"It's impossible to over-emphasize the variety and scale of projects that are constructed with ICFs," says Vanessa Salvia, editorial director of ICF Builder Magazine and one of the organizers and judges of the competition. "Each project is unique but each one builds upon and takes advantage of the known benefits of ICF construction, namely durability, energy efficiency, and disaster resistance. It's our honor to be able to gather these fine examples in one place and recognize the professionals associated with them and let others know about these remarkable projects."

Winners were chosen in 10 categories: Pools, Specialty Applications, Light Commercial, Heavy Commercial, MultiFamily, MultiFamily Low-Rise, Education, and three residential divisions. The awards received enough entries this time to add three additional categories of Pools, Education, and MultiFamily Low-Rise, which is comprised of multifamily buildings of less than five stories. The residential entries were categorized base on their square footage, with breaks at 3,000 and 6,000 square feet. Commercial projects with a total cost of less than \$5 million competed in the Light Commercial category. Larger projects competed in Heavy Commercial.

Projects were judged on their performance in six areas, including architecture, complexity, craftsmanship, size, significance, and sustainability.

This year's award's presentation was a return to the in-person format as it has always been done pre-pandemic. Last year's was done a little differently than in the previous 15 years, out of necessity due to in-person events being canceled. As in years past, the announcement of the winners and the presentation of plaques commemorating the occasion was done in person as part of the World of Concrete trade show in Las Vegas. Also as in year's past, the winning projects will be listed in the March/April 2022 issue of ICF Builder Magazine, and will be comprehensively featured in articles throughout the year.

"While we know that the demand for ICF-constructed buildings is growing every day, because we work in the industry, we also know that there are a lot of people who have never seen or heard of an ICF-constructed building before," said Salvia. "These homes and commercial buildings serve as our most effective ambassadors, generating interest and curiosity during the construction phase, then serving as real-world examples of the durability, energy-efficiency, and beauty for which ICF structures have become famous."

ICF is an acronym for insulated concrete form, a construction method in which hollow foam blocks are stacked like building blocks to form the walls of a structure, then braced and filled with reinforced concrete to create a building that is energy-efficient, environmentally friendly, and virtually indestructible.

For more information about the Builder Awards visit [www.builderawards.com](http://www.builderawards.com) and for more information about ICF Builder Magazine and information about ICF construction in general, visit [www.icfmag.com](http://www.icfmag.com).