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Top honours for beach house

Beachfront shines at 2009 Master Builders Awards

BEACHFRONT properties have dominated this year's Master Builders Sunshine Coast Housing and Construction Awards.

Braeden Constructions has built what is considered the 'quintessential beachfront home' for the Sunshine Coast to take out House of the Year.

Project of the Year is the Plantation, a stunning mixed-use facility by RCQ for residents and visitors on an enviable beachfront position on Rainbow Beach.

They highlighted a record number of entries in this year's awards, held last night at Novotel Twin Waters Resort.

MBA Sunshine Coast manager Stephen Robinson said this year's awards were simply amazing because of the high standard and the number of entries.

"Despite the difficult economic times which have caused a noticeable downturn in the building industry, our members have cast aside the doom and gloom and entered their fantastic projects and homes in this year's awards program.

"We have seen a massive 50% increase in the number of entries, which is testament to the dedication and resilience of our members and the building industry as a whole.

"It also speaks volumes for the Master

Builders Awards program and the value our members place on what is recognised as the premier event of the year."

The Master Builders Housing and Construction Awards were established to promote excellence in workmanship and innovation across the state, Mr Robinson said.

"In 2009, the standard of construction and the quality and diversity of product on the Sunshine Coast has been incredible.

"The four judges were treated to a fantastic collection of stunningly unique homes, renovations and projects which they firmly believe establishes our region as one of the most diverse and innovative in Australia."

As well as the record level of entries, 2009 entrants created another record by competing in more categories than ever before.

Almost all of the possible categories had a substantial number of entries and some of the categories had as many as 13 houses or projects entered.

The spectacular beachfront Noosa home by Braeden Constructions possesses some astonishing features, Mr Robinson said.

"The judges were particularly impressed with the design and liveability aspects of

At a glance

House of the Year: Braeden Constructions
Project of the Year: The Plantation, Rainbow Beach, by RCQ
Women in Building: Di Henshall
Rising Star: Samantha Sheppard
Apprentice of the Year: Christopher Weaver

this outstanding home with its uniquely industrial style and the adventurous use of materials perfectly suited for the relatively harsh environment of a Sunshine Coast beachfront.

"They described the home as 'a superb blend of innovation and practicality which are combined seamlessly to create a modern luxurious beachfront home'.

Other awards last night went to interior designer Di Henshall, who took out Women in Building, while Samantha Sheppard was named Rising Star and Christopher Weaver the Apprentice of the Year.

Property Week



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Walk through two winners

House of the Year

On entering the front gate of this Noosa home you are greeted by a beautiful reflection pond and island deck. Then your attention is immediately taken by the expansive glass door entry with the unsurpassed views of the beaches and Pacific Ocean.

Step through the entry and you are treated to a huge open floor plan, with soaring ceilings and brilliant use of feature materials such as galvanised steel, zinc and polycarbonate sheeting.

The judges were particularly impressed with how the builder responded to the enormous challenge of the environment, design and the extensive use of different materials.

Project of the Year

The Plantation includes 36 luxury apartments overlooking the foreshore and Rainbow Beach. Each apartment takes advantage of the stunning views and exudes quality throughout.

They feature first-rate fittings and appointments with large living and dining

areas, sumptuous ensuites and premium main bedrooms.

One of the highlights of the development is the construction of a strikingly modern Queenslander-style hotel complete with wide verandahs, timber floors and high-pitched ceilings. The development also hosts a range of smart retail outlets set in a piazza and garden precinct.

The judges felt that this project exemplified the benefits that mixed-use development can create for a community.