BCA AWARDS 2026

UNIVERSAL DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARD

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The BCA Universal Design Excellence Award (UDEA) recognises exemplary projects, developers and architects for their pursuit of Universal Design (UD) implementation in their building projects and innovations in user-friendly designs.

Through the UDEA, BCA hopes to encourage the building industry to adopt UD – a design philosophy for creating a more inclusive and accessible living environment for everyone including the young, the old and persons with different abilities.

The UDEA recipients are shortlisted from projects which have achieved a rating of 'A' under the Universal Design index self-assessment framework.

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Award Winners of BCA UDEA 2026

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Enabling Village Extension (Vista Building)

Great World Mall

Harmony Village @ Bukit Batok

Rainforest Wild Adventure EAST

Enabling Village Extension (Vista Building)

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"The extension builds on its beginnings in 2015 to reaffirm that **our built environment can enable opportunities for everyone to belong and be together.**"
– Ar Phua Hong Wei, Director, WOHA Architects



Photo Credit to Darren Soh

Developer SG Enable Ltd
Architect WOHA Architects Pte Ltd

PROJECT DETAILS

The Vista building is a new 4-storey extension to the existing Enabling Village. Located at the southern end of the existing campus, the extension connects the rustic Redhill neighbourhood to the busy Jalan Bukit Merah belt, creating a sheltered accessible linkway from Redhill MRT to Jalan Bukit Merah via the Village. Designed as a vertical village of inclusive education and employment, Vista strengthens support for persons with disabilities and their caregivers, while serving the wider community.

KEY UD FEATURES

- **Seamless Vertical Accessibility:** Wide corridors across all storeys provide clear and intuitive circulation. Wide lift cars feature large, easy-to-operate buttons, with audio cues and tactile labelling. All washrooms are fully accessible. Height-adjustable basins and changing facilities provided on the lower floors to support users with diverse mobility needs.
- **Inclusive Learning Spaces:** Enabling Academy classrooms feature hearing enhancement systems, configurable furniture and dedicated calm rooms with sensory chairs, enabling seamless transitions between different learning and training configurations.
- **Community-Centric Design:** Sheltered Garden Amphitheatre and accessible Garden Terrace serve as inclusive gathering spaces for the neighbourhood.
- **Village-Wide Wayfinding:** A new "Enable Lane" with tactile contrast surfaces and freestanding sign totems establishes a clear, intuitive north-south axis connecting Redhill Road to Jalan Bukit Merah.

"Enabling Village is more than an accessible space. With Vista, we are building on its vision as a national showcase for innovation in disability inclusion and demonstrating what an inclusive Singapore can look like: a place where persons with disabilities, caregivers, businesses, and the wider community can learn, work, and connect with each other.
We hope Enabling Village will continue to inspire how spaces and communities across Singapore can be designed so that everyone can belong and thrive."
– Lee May Gee, Chief Executive Officer, SG Enable

Great World Mall

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"Great World City Mall proves that universal design and modern retail do not need to be separate ideas — they can be **harmoniously designed together to create an inclusive, intuitive, and people-centric community hub**." — RSP Architects Planners & Engineers Pte Ltd



Photo Credit to RSP Architects Planners & Engineers (Pte) Ltd

Developer Allgreen Properties Limited
Architect RSP Architects Planners & Engineers (Pte) Ltd

PROJECT DETAILS

Through its Asset Enhancement Initiative (AEI), Great World City Mall has been reimagined as an inclusive urban community destination guided by universal design principles. Strategically located within a mature residential precinct, the mall prioritises accessibility, intuitive wayfinding, and seamless connectivity for users of all ages and abilities, including families with young children, seniors, and persons with mobility needs.

KEY UD FEATURES

- **Welcoming Arrival Experience:** Widened entrance driveways with gentle gradients, seating with backrests at drop-off points, and dedicated family and accessible parking lots near lift lobbies ensure a smooth, barrier-free arrival for all users.
- **Inclusive Wayfinding and Circulation:** Multi-level atrium serves as a visual anchor across floors, complemented by repositioned escalators, consistent integrated signage, and colour-coded zones that support intuitive navigation and spatial orientation for all users.
- **Family-Centric Design:** Outdoor playground, rooftop terrace with child-friendly seating, and nursing rooms distributed across three levels create a comprehensive "live, learn, and play" environment for families and caregivers.
- **Urban Connectivity:** 24/7 step-free connections via basement linkages and pedestrian overhead bridge link the mall seamlessly to the MRT station and adjacent residential developments, reinforcing its role as an everyday community connector.

"The AEI is guided by three core principles: **family-centric design, community integration, and universal accessibility** — creating a destination that supports everyday living needs for families and multi-generational households.“ — Allgreen Properties Limited

Harmony Village @ Bukit Batok

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"This development envisions an inspiring living typology that embodies **deep respect for the connection between architecture and its elderly residents**, cultivating a built environment that encourages a vibrant, healthy lifestyle and fosters active, fulfilling ageing."
— AGA Architects Pte Ltd



Photo Credit to Finbarr Fallon

Developer Housing & Development Board (HDB)
Architect AGA Architects Pte Ltd

PROJECT DETAILS

Harmony Village @ Bukit Batok is Singapore's first Community Care Apartment (CCA) project that integrates senior-friendly housing with care services. Comprising 169 CCA units, it is designed around the needs of seniors, to create a dynamic, community-centred environment where seniors can age independently while remaining engaged with the wider community.

KEY UD FEATURES

- **Senior-Centred Living:** CCAs feature colour-contrasted grab bars, foldable shower seats, lowered counters, built-in entrance seating, and full-height sliding panels — enabling independent and dignified living for seniors
- **Inclusive Community Spaces:** Storey shelters are transformed into themed communal areas — including dining, exercise, arts and crafts, and reading rooms — fostering social interaction within the development.
- **Intuitive Wayfinding:** A colour-coded floor system with distinctive icons, dark grey tile band pathways, and grab bars along corridors guide residents intuitively from drop-off to lift lobbies, letterboxes, and communal spaces.
- **Accessible Roof Garden and Precinct:** A landscaped roof garden features senior-friendly fitness stations, a children's playground, trellis walks, and raised planters accessible to wheelchair users, complemented by a family-friendly hawker centre with dedicated nursing rooms. A barrier-free pedestrian thoroughfare on the ground floor connects the development seamlessly to its surrounding neighbourhood.

"HDB's role is to create vibrant and sustainable towns that enable residents of all ages and abilities to **live comfortably and independently in their community**."
— Housing & Development Board

Rainforest Wild Adventure EAST

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"By integrating universal design principles with an immersive, adventure-based wildlife park inspired by the rainforest, the development creates an inclusive, user-friendly environment. The result is **a space that is not only accessible, but also intuitive, and welcoming to all users**."
— Ar Toh Sze Chong, Director, DP Architects Pte Ltd







Photo Credit to Mandai Wildlife Group

Developer Mandai Wildlife Group
Architect DP Architects Pte Ltd

PROJECT DETAILS

Rainforest Wild Adventure is Asia's first adventure-based wildlife park, where adventure and wildlife come together to spark a deeper appreciation for the natural world. Spanning across two zones in the east and west of the Mandai Wildlife Reserve, Rainforest Wild Adventure East reflects landscapes and animal habitats inspired by Afro-Tropical regions and Madagascar. Visitors are invited to choose their own level of exploration, from strolling along wide and sheltered walkways that meander through the park to enjoying accessible yet fun Adventure+ activities for people of different physical abilities.

KEY UD FEATURES

- **Universally Accessible Elevated Walkway:** A sheltered elevated walkway with a gentle gradient brings visitors on a journey through an Afro-Tropical inspired rainforest. Pathways offer views through wire mesh balustrades that offer unobstructed views of animal habitats and lush greenery – ideal for young children, and wheelchair users from lower eye levels.
- **Inclusive Adventure Experiences:** Canopy Glider, one of the park's accessible Adventure+ activities, was refined after consultation with the Disabled People's Association. It was modified to include removable side guards and armrests, and trained staff would be on hand to assist with boarding and disembarking using a portable side-access ramp.
- **Multi-Sensory Interpretives:** Tactile animal sculptures paired with audio-based interpretives and help visually impaired guests appreciate and learn about the wildlife in the park.
- **Family and Caregiver Amenities:** Fully air-conditioned nursing rooms, accessible outdoor play features, and frequent rest stops with benches ensure comfort for families, expectant mothers, and elderly guests.

"Connecting with wildlife is something you should experience, not simply read about. Everyone should have the opportunity to discover that sense of wonder. This shaped how we designed our new parks, with **accessibility and inclusion considered from the outset so that every guest can connect with nature in their own way.**"
— Mr Bennett Neo, Group CEO, Mandai Wildlife Group

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WINNERS OF BCA UNIVERSAL DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARD 2026

PROJECT NAME	DEVELOPER	ARCHITECT
Enabling Village Extension (Vista Building)	SG Enable Ltd	Ar Phua Hong Wei WOHA Architects Pte Ltd
Great World Mall	Allgreen Properties Limited	Ar Ng Meng Hui RSP Architects Planners & Engineers (Pte) Ltd
Harmony Village @ Bukit Batok	Housing & Development Board	Ar Ng Hoe Theong AGA Architects Pte Ltd
Rainforest Wild Adventure EAST	Mandai Wildlife Group	Ar Toh Sze Chong DP Architects Pte Ltd

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