



Coast has designs on winning admirers

By **KATHY SUNDSTROM**

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THE Sunshine Coast is renowned for having some of the best beaches in Australia, but the quality of its built environment is also garnering accolades.

Four Coast developments are finalists in the "Academy Awards" of the property industry, the 2008 Property Council of Australia Rider Levett Bucknall National Innovation and Excellence Awards.

In their second year, the awards aim to promote industry innovation and leading practice among the property investment and

development industries.

Queensland produced 23 finalists, and the Coast contributed its biggest number yet to the tally.

Juniper Development Group's Oceans Resort in Maroochydore was nominated as a finalist in the Mixed Use Developments; Australand Holdings Ivadale Lakes in Little Mountain was nominated for residential, and Investa Property Group's Bellflower estate and the University of the Sunshine Coast's Chancellery have both been nominated as finalists in the category of Sustainable Developments.

Property council executive director Steve Greenwood

said the Sunshine Coast finalists were "very high quality and we're hoping for good things".

"It's an indication of the exciting things happening on the Sunshine Coast," Mr Greenwood said.

"It is becoming a mature and sophisticated property development area."

Graeme Juniper was extremely proud that the Oceans development was nominated.

"Oceans is an outstanding building," he said. "With every building we raise the bar, but architecturally Oceans is a whole new level. We put copper on the outside of the

building – it was an expensive building, but we've been putting heart into building.

"We employed artists specifically to design and build artistic pieces, which became part of attachments to common areas in the building, and that's what the judges saw – that we would go to that level."

This year's finalists will be showcased at the Property Council's Downtown Luncheon at the Sofitel on Thursday, April 17.

The winners will be announced on Saturday, May 24, at Melbourne's Crown Casino.



FINALIST: The chancellery at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

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