The 7th Annual
PROJECT DESIGN CHALLENGE 2020

A space to gather at the crossroads of St. Louis landmarks

Sponsored by AIA St. Louis
High School Design Competition

1. AIM OF THE CHALLENGE

- Engage more youth and especially minority youth to become familiar with the fields of architecture, engineering and construction through the involvement of a city-wide high school Project Design Challenge. The idea is to expose more high school students to these professions through a design challenge competition.

- AIA St. Louis invites participants to explore the conceptual re-design of a city plaza in an area of revitalization in the City of St. Louis. The major design elements include a structure for music performance, public transportation access, shade, and the incorporation of a water element.

2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All high school students of any grade in one of the St. Louis City public, private or charter schools are eligible to participate in this competition. Proposals may be presented individually or in teams of no more than 6 people. Only one proposal may be presented by each team.

3. SCHEDULE AND DEADLINES

- Announcement of the Competition: Monday, December 16, 2019
- Team Registration Deadline: Friday, January 17, 2020
- Project Submission Deadline: 3:30pm, Monday, April 13th, 2020
- Oral Presentations and Jury Review: Monday, April 20th, 2020
- Award Ceremony: 6pm, Wednesday, April 29th 2020

Both the presentations and the Award Ceremony will take place at the T-Rex building and hosted by AIA St. Louis.

911 Washington Ave # 100, St. Louis, MO 63101
PROJECT DESIGN CHALLENGE

4. REGISTRATION AND ADMISSION OF PARTICIPANTS

The registration period for teams will end Friday, January 17, 2020 at 4pm.

The Team Registration Form is displayed at the end of this document. Fill in all required information and submit to: Michelle Swatek via email: mswatek@aia-stlouis.com / Attn. Design Challenge

Once received, each team will be emailed a Team Number that will be used to identify their project and which must be displayed on each submission board. Mentors will be assigned as soon as possible to each team to help guide them through the design process. Mentors will be professionals from St. Louis companies in the fields of architecture, engineering or construction.

5. THE PROJECT

• Teams will be given specific design essentials that are to be represented within the final design but teams also have the ability to elaborate with additional design elements where appropriate.

• AIA STL is not searching for profound technical or construction detailing but rather encourages teams to develop original conceptual ideas.

• Original, contemporary, creative and risky proposals from a planning and landscaping point of view will receive the greatest consideration.

• The competitors or teams will be given background on the planned site adjacencies and influences. Teams are encouraged to expand knowledge with their own additional research.
6. SITE LOCATION OF PROJECT DESIGN CHALLENGE

This site is an existing plaza bounded by 20th street (to the west), Chestnut Street (to the north), Market Street (to the south), and Aloe Plaza to the east.
7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

• Innovation and Creativity – Exploration that explores innovative sustainable design solutions, accessible and inclusive to all St. Louis citizens and visitors

• Conceptual landscaping design of drainage areas

• Coherence and functionality of the proposal

• Design completeness with regards to proposal requirements

8. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

A. Design Essentials

• Design a new plaza just west of Aloe Plaza

• Design a space or structure for performance; shall be flexible for various performance mediums

• Explore access to public transportation

• Illustrate storm water drainage plan and types of sewer/curbs/inlets, grating, etc.

• Provide shade and/or shelter from the elements

• Investigate permeable sidewalk and street materials.

• Consider directional signage for vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

• Consider site lighting for the plaza to be used after sundown

B. Landscaping Essentials

• If included in the design, select appropriate plant species appropriate to site, use, and native species

• Provide landscaping solutions to enhance the quality of the layout and integrate seamlessly into the overall design.

C. Project Description Requirements

• Provide a project description between 300-500 words explaining design theory and solution by submission deadline.
D. Drawing Requirements

• No more than three (3) - A1 (841 x 594 mm) boards in a horizontal arrangement to include:
  
  - Aerial Location Plan
  - Site Plan (1” = 30’)
  - Enlarged Details and/or Elevations (as needed to describe project)
  - Perspective Drawing (optional)

  Note: Scale of Drawings at the discretion of the competitors

E. Model Requirements

• Provide a maximum of one (1) 3-D Model securely fastened to a board for ease of transportation.
9. PROJECT SUBMISSION

Deadline: 3:30pm, Monday, April 13th 2020

The submission will consist of 1) photos of the 3-D Model 2) photos of 3 boards 3) an essay of 300 to 500 words which will be a synopsis of the oral presentation. The photos and the essay must be sent electronically to Michelle Swatek at mswatek@aia-stlouis.com by submission deadline.

Please note:

• The only identification should be the Team Number located at bottom left corner of each board and on the essay.

• No logo, trade mark, insignia or any identifying symbol may be included in submitted boards. Proposals with any of these characteristics will be rejected.

• All graphic technique is open.

• Oral Presentation of project needs to be prepared by each team for a verbal explanation to the Jury at the Oral Presentations and Jury Review.

Any proposals arriving after the deadline will not be accepted under any circumstances.

10. ORGANIZER OF THE COMPETITION

All correspondence related to this competition will be directed to:

AIA St. Louis / Attn. Michelle Swatek / 911 Washington Ave # 100, St. Louis, MO 63101

Phone: 314-231-4252 / Email: mswatek@aia-stlouis.com

All questions referring to the competition will be handled by email.
11. COMPETITION JUDGING

Oral Presentation of Project to Jury

- Each team will be assigned a time to present to the jury sometime after project submission.

- Teams will bring their 3-D Model and 3 Boards to the judging and will take them with them when they leave. We ask that the teams bring back their projects to the Award Ceremony for public display.

- Teams must be ready to present their projects at their assigned time. A strict schedule will be kept.

- Teams will give an oral presentation to a team of judges, explaining their design and the choices they made in the design process.

- An exact time limit for presentations will be given to teams after submission of final projects. Generally presentations will be about 15 minutes followed by a 10-minute Q&A with judges.

- While it is highly encouraged that the entire team be present and that each team member contribute in some way to the presentation, it is not required that each team member present or be in attendance.

- Teachers may accompany their team but may not contribute to the oral presentation in any way.

- Guests of each team are invited to be present for their presentation but it will be closed to other teams and their guests.

- This is a private competition that will be decided in an open process in a single stage Jury.

- The competition will be governed by the requirements stated within this document by AIA St. Louis and at a later time, by the Jury, to resolve all issues that are not explicitly stated in it. All decisions made will preserve the principles of anonymity and non-discrimination.

Composition of the Jury

Jury will be composed of six (6) individuals representing the design profession, engineers, neighborhood liaisons and representatives of AIA St. Louis.

Jury’s Tasks

- Evaluate each project based on meeting submission requirements, clarity of design, innovation, constructability and connection to surrounding neighborhood.

- Great weight will be given to the Oral Presentation of each team to clearly explain design intent and execution.

- Selection of winning proposals will be by majority vote and jury’s decision is final.
Documentation of unacceptable submitted proposals due to:

1. Late delivery
2. Failure to comply with submission requirements
3. Including work that was not created by the students

12. PRIZES

The awards will be awarded to each member of winning team:

• 1st Prize: Gold Medal
• 2nd Prize: Silver Medal
• 3rd Prize: Bronze Medal

13. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

• Registration of the teams immediately formalizes their unconditional acceptance of the Competition program and rules, as well as final decisions of the Jury.

• In case of an exceptional situation, AIA St. Louis reserves the right to make improvements to the Competition requirements provided these changes serve the common good of the competitors.

• AIA St. Louis and the Jury are exempt from any possible claim (civil or criminal) if Competitor does not agree with final decisions.

14. A SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special thank you to Karen Bahr and M Property Services for their vision, beginning this program, leading the Project Design Challenge for six years, and her guidance as AIA St. Louis takes on the chance to continue to promote architectural education in the St. Louis region.
PROJECT DESIGN CHALLENGE REGISTRATION FORM

School Name: ________________________________

School Address: ________________________________

City, State and Zip: ________________________________

Team Name: ________________________________

Team Number (to be assigned): __________

Mentors (to be assigned): ________________________________

Mentors Phone # and Email: ________________________________

School Rep. Name: ________________________________

School Rep. Email: ________________________________

School Rep. Phone: ________________________________

This form must be completely filled out and returned to AIA St. Louis by the Registration deadline. Submit to: Michelle Swatek via email: mswatek@aia-stlouis.com

Or mail to:
AIA St. Louis / Attn. Michelle Swatek / 911 Washington Ave # 100, St. Louis, MO 63101

#1 Team Member Name
#1 Team Member Email

#2 Team Member Name
#2 Team Member Email

#3 Team Member Name
#3 Team Member Email

#4 Team Member Name
#4 Team Member Email

#5 Team Member Name
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