2018-2019 HS Design Competition: Program

The Challenge: “dwell L.A.”

The AIA HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION with three parts

1. Master Plan – Whole Class or School Participation
2. Individual Architectural/Drafting Design
3. Individual Visual Arts Design – Exploration through Alternate Media

Project Description:

Design a private dwelling on a tight site in the dense downtown area of Los Angeles.

Through history, when modern cities have sought to expand, they have done so at the expense of the smaller vernacular architecture that has occupied the valuable land upon which they want to build. When owners hold out, developers swallow up all of the available surrounding space—leaving a small property drowning in a sea of tall buildings. In other cases, development has occurred over time in such a way that leaves small slivers of wasted space scattered throughout the city. Artists and other creative individuals have challenged themselves to look at these spaces and provide “out of the box”—but completely functional—solutions.

This year’s competition reaches beyond the boundaries of our sprawling Las Vegas valley, and touches down in the bustling metropolis of Downtown L.A. In an area that has been well developed for over 100 years now, not many large vacant sites remain, and land value is at a premium. Students are tasked in developing one of these “tight” sites, while subsequently responding to the local and...
historical context of the neighborhood. Students should research architects and designers and are encouraged to borrow their selected architect or design firm’s aesthetic style, drawing techniques, floor and spatial arrangements and interpret them into their own designs.

**Design Guidelines:**

- Conduct a cohesive analysis of the surrounding area to determine the context within which you will be designing.
- Create safe pedestrian paths for residents.
- Design semi-private and private areas that provide opportunities for people to gather and interact.
- Create building/structure elevations that seek to provide visual variety through unique architectural features. Be considerate about the adjacent historical context.
- Remember to consider Sustainability in your thinking and design.
- Existing site entry to underground parking is to be maintained. This shall be the only vehicular access to the site. It is assumed that parking required for student submissions will be accommodated by this subterranean lot.
- Abide by the notion of a “**walkable city**” and “**New Pedestrianism,**” which for this competition means **NO ADDITIONAL PARKING LOTS, SPACES OR GARAGES** will be accepted or appropriate for either personal or guest use. Judges have been asked not to consider any new parking that has been included, while reviewing the site plan submissions.

**Site:**

**521-535 S Spring Street**  
**Los Angeles, California 90013**  
Parcel 1 (APN 5149035012): 0.32 Acres  
Parcel 2, Part 1 (APN 51409035BRK): 0.23 Acres  
Total Site: **0.55 Acres**

**Master Plan Requirements:**

The 0.55-acre property is a combination of several separate parcels. As a class, develop the site to provides the following:

- Provide open/seating area(s) as determined by the class.
- Propose programmatic elements based on the residents’ needs or the perceived needs of the immediate community. The following are suggestions to help the students get started: Grocery Store, Restaurant, Retail Store, Office Space, Day Care, Spa, Laundromat, etc.
- Building “footprints” for the programs that students decide on must be shown or proposed on the master plan.
- Provide safe walking paths and bicycle paths for residents to walk, ride, or exercise throughout the community.

- Provide a total of ten (10) adjacent lots for individual residences, with a width of no less than 10'-0". Provide a clear division of the individual lots within the site. There are no limitations to individual lot shape. (i.e. horizontal, diagonal, angle)

- The individual lot configurations of the site must be decided as a class. Individual lots should then be chosen by the students for their individual projects.

- Design the individual residential lots with thought to proper solar orientation.

- There are not any setback requirements for this site.

**Submittal Requirements – Master Plan:**

The Master Plan shall show the layout of the entire site. Locate the major elements listed in the ‘Master Plan Requirements’ section of the program. This plan should be designed as a class. The best designed master plan will be awarded the Dale S. Scheideman Award (prize is given to the school). Master Plan submittals are to consist of 1-2 presentation boards, mounted to foam core (approximately ¼" thick), 20"x30" each board. Program elements should be color coded. Include site analyses and other pertinent information such as concept sketches, perspectives, photographs of schematic models, and research completed to help you develop your site. Include an example of a landscape design for a portion of the site to properly represent the “look and feel” of the site. Provide only the following information located on the lower right-hand corner of the board(s):

- Name of High School
- AIA High School Design Contest 2018-2019

**THE MASTER PLAN SUBMISSION WILL BE DUE AT THE END OF JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY 2019, EXACT DATE TBD.** This is to allow students adequate time to develop their individual submissions.

**Resources:**


**Individual Architectural / Drafting Requirements:**

**Individual Criteria (Small House):**

The size and division of individual property lots shall be determined by each class. Students are encouraged to engage in discussions with their “neighbors,” to make the most of the tight sites. In developing the individual sites, provide the following:
- A ground floor commercial space to provide historical ties to the long-lost Mercantile Place that once connected Spring Street and Broadway where the adjacent Spring Arcade Building now sits.
- Private/Semi-private outdoor spaces.
- No more than (4) stories total above grade.
- Varying programmatic elements (the following are suggestions only):
  - Bedrooms (minimum of one window per bedroom)
  - Family Room / Den
  - Kitchen
  - Laundry Room
  - Bathroom(s)
  - Additional Rooms as students deem appropriate

*Hint:
- Create a fictional tenant. What is his/her profession? What are his/her interests? What might he/she like to see, in terms of site amenities?

Example:
- “Keret House” - Jakub Szcesny – Warsaw
- “Sliver House” – Boyarsky Murphy Architects – London
- “Minimalist House” – Dierendonck Blancke - Ghent

Submittal Requirements - Individual Architectural/Drafting Design

An individual student is to choose and develop a residence on a lot on the site, as laid out by the class. The cover sheet of the submittal should show either the master plan locating the house on the selected lot with the roof clearly visible, or a rendering of the project. If the student needs to include a revision to the previously submitted site plan for their own personal design submission, said revisions may be included and should be clearly noted. Individual student submittals will be judged for: Citation Award, Merit Award, Honor Award and Honorable Mention. The following drawings are required:

- **Site Plan / Master Plan** – The developed lot must be clearly highlighted. This should be on the first page of the drawings, or the second page if the student chooses to include a rendering on the cover. Private/Semi-Private outdoor spaces should be adequately developed and shown. Clearly note any personal revisions to the previously submitted class master plan.
- **Floor Plan(s)** – Provide a floor plan for each level.
- **Enlarged Floor Plan(s)** – If required due to scale of primary floor plans, provide an enlarged floor plan for at least one room or space in the residence. Plan should be scaled at no less than \(\frac{1}{2}'' = 1'-0''\).
- **Interior Elevations** – Student to select at least one room/area and develop the interior elevations of that space.
• **Building/Structure Elevations** – Building/Structure elevations capturing the student’s innovative design approach. The building façades should enhance and create visual variety through its unique architectural features and use of materials. Provide elevations of all exposed/primary building elevations.

• **Building Sections** – Building sections (one minimum) showing spatial variation and the hierarchies of the various programmatic elements.

• **Perspective Drawing** – One minimum (Revit, AutoCAD, Hand-Drawn, etc. are all acceptable). Perspective drawings can be of an exterior view or interior view. (Hint: Quality over Quantity. Rather than taking several undeveloped views of a model, consider taking one or two exceptional views with a higher degree of development.)

• **Design Statement** – Write one short paragraph describing what you are trying to achieve in your design and how your concept ties to a selected architect / firm’s ideas (maximum of 150 words).

• ** Highly Recommended** – Include a sheet which illustrates any site or building analyses, concept sketches, photographs of schematic models, and research completed to help you develop your site. **HINT:** This sheet has, in past years, been very helpful to judges, as it helps describe the process of your design (which is something that those who continue on to Architecture programs in college will have to do).

• **Optional** – Students may also include additional drawings that help describe / explain their project. These may include additional sketches, details, landscape plan, renderings / perspectives, etc.

*Use spell check and have a mentor, parent, and/or teacher read your design statement!!!

*Be considerate of the layout of sheets, text size, etc. Once complete and prior to submitting, check your project and sheet set one more time to ensure no sheets are missing.

Individual student submittals are to consist of original plots, sized at 18” x 24” or 24” x 36”. All work presented and submitted must be completed by the individual student. Projects may be worked on in class, at home or as determined by the teacher. Bind the sheets along the left edge, either by stapling or coil binding. Do not tape, fold together or paper clip the sheets. Provide only the following information on the title block located on the lower right-hand corner of all sheets:

- Student initials (do not include names)
- Student ID number
- Name of High School
- AIA High School Design Contest 2018-2019

**Judging Criteria for Individual Architectural/Drafting Design:**

Awards will be made based on the merits of your design, the validity of the programming solution, and completeness of drawings. The design statement should inform the judges about your design intent so that they may judge how well you have met your design goals. The top entries will be those whose
architectural aesthetics are innovative and enhance the architectural and community based needs of the surrounding area.

**Technical Approach**

The top entries will be those that accurately graphically represent their design ideas through plans, enlarged drawings, sketches, sections etc. The top entries will meet all the requirements listed under the ‘Individual Student Submittal’ section of this program and should be graphically represented in a clear and neat manner so that it is easy to read and understand.

Use your mentors. Have them show you the many great examples that are out there to spur imagination. Let them help you develop your designs and drawings throughout the year. Be open-minded to their suggestions and be willing to experiment.
**Individual Visual Arts Design:**

This portion of the competition allows for students to explore and address the design challenge using alternate media.

**Submittal Requirements: Individual Visual Arts Design**

Students may submit work in any/each of three categories:

1. **Drawing Media:** examples include pencil, pen, paint, pastel, chalk, watercolor, etc.

   ![Drawing Media Example](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architectural_drawing#mediaviewer/File:Y-blokken_som_plassvegg.jpg)

2. **Electronic Media:** examples digital photography (and photo editing), graphic art software (ex. Adobe Illustrator), 3D computer graphics/modeling.

   ![Electronic Media Example](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architectural_drawing#mediaviewer/File:Campus-SKOLKOVO.jpg)

3. **Sculpture/Model Media:** examples include cardboard, museum board, foam core, wood, etc.

   ![Sculpture/Model Media Example](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architectural_model)

Each category submission requires an artist statement, which must

- Include a title for the work
- Explain the architectural intentions of the envisioned design,
- Evaluate the work’s response to influences inherent in the subject,
- Justify the application of the given media, techniques, and processes in the work.

The artist statement shall be part of the presentation and must be permanently affixed or integrated into/onto the artwork. An additional copy of the statement shall be included with the entry form. The statement for this option of conceptual submittal is not limited to 150 words.
Flat media may be no larger than 20”x30”, and it must be mounted to foam core board (approx. ¼” thick). Three-dimensional work may not exceed 2’-0” ft³, and it must not weigh more than 20 lbs.

*Please Note:* Duplication and placing of Revit views taken from a student’s “Individual Architectural/Drafting Design” submission on a presentation board will not be accepted. Visual Arts submissions in Electronic Media require a higher level of finish (entourage, post production, allure) to graphically convey the design.

**Judging Criteria for Individual Visual Arts:**
Works will be evaluated on technical, practical, and theoretical merits – on a scale of 1 to 10 – with ten being the highest value. Evaluation will include the following:

- The work demonstrates a creative use of media and explanation thereof.
- The work demonstrates technical skill in the application(s) of media.
- The work demonstrates a thoughtful approach to envisioning how architectural spaces can enhance community.
- The work demonstrates an understanding of real-world factors that influence design decisions.
- The work demonstrates an ability to communicate abstractions of what is there and what could be… the signifier and the signified…
ALL SUBMISSIONS Due Dates

Entries must be accompanied by the competition entry form and a disk with PDF versions of the work.

Due Dates:
2019 March 29 Submit Participation Form (emailed or delivered)
2019 April 5 Submit Projects to:
Attn: Ryan Sisti
Gensler
3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 650
Las Vegas, NV 89169  p.702.893.2800
2019 April 8 Judging
2019 April 24 Awards Ceremony - 5:30PM
Architecture Studies Library
UNLV School of Architecture
Brussels Street, UNLV Campus
Las Vegas, NV

AIA Las Vegas Awards Ceremony

Award recipients from each of the three competition areas will be announced at the AIA Las Vegas Awards Ceremony being held on Wednesday, April 24th at 5:30PM in the Architecture Studies Library of the UNLV School of Architecture, located on Brussels Street on the UNLV Campus. Students, their parents and friends, instructors and all interested persons are invited to attend.

PARKING ON CAMPUS FOR THE AWARDS PROGRAM:
On Wednesday, April 24th from 5:00PM to 8:00PM AIA Las Vegas has arranged for parking on campus, in the south, west and north parking areas adjacent to the UNLV School of Architecture. Do not park in faculty designated lots. If you park at a meter, you will need to pay but if you park in a student designated area there will be no charge and no parking tickets. Thank you.

The event will begin with a reception at 5:30PM, and all student work will be on display. The program will begin at 6:30PM. Awards and cash prizes will be given in the following categories:

- Citation
- Honorable Mention
- Merit Award
- Honor Award
- Individual Visual Arts Award

Be creative. Have fun.
2018-2019 HS Design Competition: Participation Form

Please print legibly or type all information

Student Name: ________________________________________________

Student ID Number: ________________________________________________

School: ________________________________________________

Instructors Name: ________________________________________________

I will be attending the awards program on April 24, 2019:

______Yes ______ No

______ People will be attending the awards program. Students are allowed to bring (2) additional guests to the reception for a maximum of (3) attendees. (Please insert a number of attendees, including yourself).

I plan on attending UNLV in 2019-2020:

______Yes ______ No ______ Other College or University

I have included a disk with PDF versions of the work

______ Yes

Design Statement: Additional sheets may be added to the design statement (150 word maximum).