



Construction Industry Round Table

CIRT News

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4/26/2016 – ACE Greater NYC- Team 30 Named 2016 National Design Competition Champion

A standing ovation greeted the final three teams as the 2016 champion was announced for the 10th Anniversary CIRT-ACE National Design Competition on Monday, April 25, 2016 in Washington, DC. Given the quality of the intensely contested final competition round, it took a distinguished panel of judges two ballots to settle on a winner. In the end, it was the entry from ACE of Greater NYC/Team 30, that earned the sought-after national title and \$5,000 in prize award.

Judges analyzed the teams' abilities to formulate coherent, well thought-out, clear presentation on the design/construction approaches within the project's objectives while being fully responsive to the competition package elements in the challenge/RFP. Based on this thorough analysis, the three National Finalist teams order of finish was:

- **First Place:** ACE of Greater New York City/Team 30 for *"RESILIEN-City"* (\$5,000 prize)
- **Second Place:** ACE of Eastern PA for *"The Last Stop"* (\$3,000 prize), and
- **Third Place:** ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida/Orange Park HS Team for *"Unity Bridge"* (\$2,000 prize)

The "cross-cutting" championship round presentations were conducted before five judges and an audience of over 150 people, as the three teams squared-off in a high stakes finale pitting the survivors of the semi-final rounds. Earlier in the day, three teams in each of the three design challenge categories (a total of nine), competed for the chance to move-on to the final or championship round. The semi-finals saw a more "apples to apples" comparison of entries in the following categories, with the runner-ups being:

- **Bridge Design/Redesign & Construction Challenge:**
 - 1st Runner-Up (\$1,000 prize) going to **ACE Mentor San Fran Bay Area/Peninsula Team-1** for *"Connecting the Bay"*
 - 2nd Runner-Up (\$500 prize) going to **ACE Mentor Program of Eastern PA** for *"Make a Wish Bridge"*
- **Historical Revitalization Challenge:**
 - 1st Runner-Up (\$1,000 prize) going to **ACE Mentor Program of Central Iowa** for *"The YMCA"*
 - 2nd Runner-Up (\$500 prize) going to **ACE of Frederick, Maryland/Team Retroit** for *"Detroit Terminal Harbor Revitalization"*
- **Shoreline Design Challenge:**
 - 1st Runner-Up (\$1,000 prize) going to **ACE of Houston, TX/Galleria Shore Tect Team** for *"Guwahati's Waterfront Development Plan"*
 - 2nd Runner-Up (\$500 prize) going to **ACE of New Haven, CT/Wednesday Team** for *"River Street Resiliency District"*

A record 55 entries (representing 20 Affiliates/Chapters) from across the country competed for top honors in the 10th Annual National Design Competition. To recognize this milestone in the competition, for the first time ever nine teams were invited compete in two presentation steps: a semi-final round (for each project option) and a final national championship round. Those making it into this select group were a mix of veterans, recent competitors, and new-comers to the competition representing every region of the country. The competition was held in conjunction with the ACE Mentor of America, National Board Program.

Again this year, a special award was also given to a non-finalist team for the "Best Presentation Boards" (\$250 award). The ACE Mentor Program of Seattle, Washington received this recognition for its entry "Sound Connection" which was viewed as particularly effective with respect to its visual presentation. CIRT also recognized and congratulated the greater Houston area Affiliate for having the most entries in the competition (10 total).