

CIRT
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION
2017

PROGRAM INFORMATION
PACKAGE

There may be people that have more talent than you, but there's no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do.

Derek Jeter
Baseball Player

A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH THE
ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF AMERICA
&
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

CIRT DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION 2017

AWARDS PROGRAM

The CIRT Design & Construction Competition 2017 is maintained, coordinated, and judged by the Construction Industry Round Table and is intended for ACE Mentor Affiliate team entries. Winning teams, on behalf of their Affiliates, will receive a monetary award that can be used for any purpose to support the operations, programs, grants, and/or needs of the Affiliate.

PROGRAM SPECIFICS

- **Sponsors:** CIRT, ACE Mentor Program of America, and on voluntary basis some individual CIRT firms.
- **Collaboration:** The 2017 program marks the beginning of a new collaboration with the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) to provide an online digital platform to conduct the competition.
- **Theme for the Program:** Celebrating the innovations and contributions the design/construction community makes to the quality of American life, while understanding the issues and challenges the industry faces to deliver on this legacy.
- **Award Approach:** Any ACE Mentor Affiliate/Chapter can volunteer to participate in the National Design Competition, which uses design challenges adapted and/or modified to accommodate the competition's parameters. The true goal is to judge the ability of the students to make a reasoned, coherent, well thought out, clear presentations on their team's design/construction approaches within the project's objectives and/or constraints, etc.
- **Definition of a Team:** The entries to the competition must be by a team comprised of at least three or more students. The intent is to encourage group dynamics requiring assignments, compromise, and/or consensus building.
- **Multiple Teams from One Affiliate:** CIRT ardently requests and recommends that Affiliates with more than one team contemplate submitting entries in the different challenges rather than multiple ones in the SAME category. It greatly increases the value of the competition and improves the odds of having one of the teams among the recognized entries when spread amongst the various challenges.
- **Program Schedule:** The annual event is announced in the early fall and officially begins in January concluding at the CIRT Spring Conference (usually held in late April or early May) – where the winner(s) will be selected and announced. [Interim milestone and final submittal dates are included in this competition package].
- **Program Awards:** CIRT will present prizes for the top three national finalists (\$5/3/2K) plus some for runner-ups; in addition to providing a logistical/travel expense stipend (approximately \$1,000 per team) to put to costs associated with attending the final round as the Affiliate/Chapter best determines.

PRESENTATION

The presentation MATERIALS submitted for the competition (will be retained by CIRT) AND are extremely important because they **will be used to make the initial cut down to three finalists**. The *design materials* therefore must be clear, concise, complete, and well thought out with sufficient and compelling information to stand independently from any written narrative or report. **[The judges are looking for clarity, understandability, constructability, completeness, flow of ideas and how the proposed solution realistically and fully meets the challenge].**

IF YOUR TEAM becomes a FINALIST: Boards MUST BE CREATED (a maximum of two, approximately 841mm x 594mm) **mounted on two A1 lightweight boards**. A brief written explanation describing something about the context and thinking behind the scheme should be included on the board(s). Photographs (of the site, 3D model, etc.) may be mounted or scanned onto the displays. No specific drawings or scales are prescribed, but the presentation must convey the ideas underlying the design (whether a building or not), its overall forms and spaces, its character and atmosphere. As much narrative addressing the design process (as described below), should be on or presented as part of the boards! **[Finalists will be required to provide a digital copy of their entry]**.

STEPS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CIRT DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

STEP 1: Establish your team and choose your project challenge.

STEP 2: Begin working as a team as in the past (i.e., face-to-face, in-school program, afterschool, etc with your mentors).

NEW OPTION for 2017: Only if your team would like to augment the project challenge process with “online collaboration” please read on. **Otherwise, go to STEP 3.**

Through the DiscoverDesign platform hosted by the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF), the ACE Mentor Teams participating in the 2017 competition can work collaboratively through an online digital platform. To have your team work collaboratively as part of the competition you will be required to create a single team email account and password that all members can access. This should be done by the lead ACE Mentor for each team.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- a. Create a team account using a unique email for the team. For example: ACETeam1_Chicago@gmail.com
- b. Go to <https://www.discoverdesign.org/user/register> and using your team email address create one DiscoverDesign account for your team to use to work on your project challenge.
- c. The Lead Mentor (or Lead Student) should then select one of the three project challenges (from under Design Challenges) and then hit START which creates the platform for working collaboratively.
- d. Provide all team members the team email address and password to begin the online collaboration.
- e. Collaborate on the DiscoverDesign website. Login here: <https://www.discoverdesign.org/user/login> - see the red button at the top right of page and enter your Team email address and password to begin collaborating on your project.
- f. Only those who have the login information will be able to see the project, upload and leave comments (be sure to sign your name to your comment so everyone knows who is saying what).
- g. Work created in DiscoverDesign is private and cannot be viewed by other competing teams, unless permissions to publicize work are updated in the project settings. Please keep all CIRT competition work in the default private setting for the duration of the competition.

STEP 3: Work collaboratively on your project challenge using either or both of the above options through the deadline for submitting final project: March 4, 2017. Be sure to review the Jury Criteria on the FAQs page

STEP 4: Submit the Team Project. Once your project challenge is finalized and ready to be submitted on or before March 4, 2017, you will do two steps:

1. Register your team under the Submit Your Project button from the main using your team email account. The precise ACE Mentor Affiliate's name and contact information will be required as will each of the Mentors and Students names and emails on the registration form.
2. You will then be asked to upload the team's final presentation board(s). A minimum of 1 – 2 images must be uploaded: pictures up to 5MB each; or PDFs up to 10MB each.

PLEASE NOTE: Once you hit "SUBMIT" you will NOT be allowed to make any changes to your project application. All submissions are final.

ALL TEAMS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE STEP 4 BY MARCH 4, 2017 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2017 COMPETITION.

Clarifications/Points of Interest:

- While the actual effort for the entry is still expected to be part of the team's ongoing face-to-face interaction (mentors, students, etc.), there is the OPTION to augment this process with an online collaboration through the DiscoverDesign. Work on DiscoverDesign is intended as a team workspace, is not visible to other teams and will not be reviewed by the jury. [Access and use of this optional process is part of the online information provided as part of the CIRT Competition page].
- The CIRT Competition webpages are hosted within CAF's online learning platform DiscoverDesign.org. If you navigate into other areas of DiscoverDesign, you will find access to CIRT content through the "Competitions" link and under "Getting Started" in the top navigation bar (blue).
- Only ONE Registration Application per Team is needed and/or expected. [All Team members should use the same password, etc. Separate Registrations are NOT appropriate. See the FAQ page on the online platform for more information.]
- The FINAL ENTRY is what is submitted for the judges to review and evaluate. Once sent or submitted this ENTRY cannot be further edited or changed. [This final process is part of the "SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT" portion of the online platform]
- Technical assistance is available from the CAF DiscoverDesign Helpdesk team (as part of the online platform), general or overall questions about the competition, as in the past, will be responded to by CIRT.

DESIGN PROCESS

The following questions are representative of the type of information that would be expected along with the design concepts, renderings, etc. (**Please note:** Jurors will carefully consider your replies to these questions when evaluating your overall project as they work thru your ENTRIES.)

Question A: Define and/or describe the problems/challenges you faced when deciding on the design project you chose to do for the competition.

Question B: Thoroughly describe your design process, in writing and through visuals (e.g., sketches, renderings, stepped process, before and after, budgets, timelines, etc.) that specifically and realistically meets the PRECISE or exact nature of the challenge and/or the client goals/needs.

Question C: Explain how your design approach is an appropriate, innovative solution that *realistically* responds to the precise design competition problem. Explain how your design is different from other approaches or processes, if such is the case; and/or meets budgetary constraints, timeline issues or other challenges.

Question D: Describe any social/ecological or otherwise beneficial qualities of your design solution. (For example, is it a universal design? How? Is it environmentally friendly? Does it use cost-effective or recyclable materials?)

Question E: Describe what you learned from this design competition.

DESIGN ASPECTS/CONSTRUCTION ELEMENTS

The following design/construction aspects **will be evaluation criteria**, and should be explained where appropriate:

- site selection and its context (built and/or natural)
- constructability (structural challenges, materials, textures, colors, etc.)
- strategy for sustainability
- surrounding landscape/external spaces
- life and activities, in and around the building, including the qualities of enclosed spaces showing furniture, fittings and finishes (where needed or appropriate to the design competition selected).

JUDGING

The panel of judges will be mainly comprised of CIRT member CEOs of the leading design and construction firms in the United States. As such, the overall theme or evaluation criteria for the competition is one founded on the practical aspects of the profession, particularly with respect to constructability, use of materials, meeting deadlines, and establishing realistic/reasonable expenses or budgets. ***More important than the actual design solution, is the methods and processes used to arrive at a solution. Fundamentally, the spirit of this competition is one of design and construction.*** During the final round, great weight will be given to the ability of the ACE students (i.e. their selected representative) to articulate a clear, comprehensive, coherent, and cogent presentation that persuades the judges as to selecting his/her team as the winning entry. (Preparing the student representative is part of the overall process that the other team members will receive benefit from as well).

TIMELINE

For the first time the 2017 Competition, will conduct its preliminary rounds on a digital platform. All entries and materials must be through this medium so that they can be judged accordingly. The FINAL ROUND, will still be held in conjunction with a national conference in Washington, DC. [This year, it will be with the ACE National Board of Directors meeting]. Those TEAMS from ACE Affiliates/Chapters that wish to participate in the national competition must comply with the following time schedule:

- **March 4, 2017** – All entries must be OFFICIALLY submitted as required by the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) using their online digital platform: <https://architecture.slideroom.com/#/Login>
- **March 21, 2017** – Finalists are notified and plans are made to bring a representative(s) from each group to Washington, DC. [A stipend will be established for each team to be used to help cover cost to attend the final round based on need, etc. from the requests of the teams].
- **MARCH 31, 2017** – Mentors and students will need to have made their hotel reservations in DC. [The finalists will be notified with precise hotel information at the time of their selection].
- **April 24, 2017**– Finalists present to the CIRT Panel of Judges. [Exact information on date, time, and place will be provided finalist].

PRINTING/BOARD RESOURCES (Local to CIRT)

ABC Imaging
1120 20th Street, NW
Suite 102-103
Washington, DC 20036
703/848-2997
www.abcimaging.com

ARC
8245 Boone Blvd.
Vienna, VA 22182
703/893-0335(o), 703/893-0336 (f)
www.e-arc.com

Multiple TEAMS from ONE Affiliate/Chapter

CIRT STRONGLY requests and recommends that Affiliates with more than one team consider submitting entries in the different challenges rather than multiple ones in the SAME category. It would greatly increase the value of the competition and improve the odds of having one of the teams among the recognized entries.

Please Note

The project options for the CIRT Design Competition may have been derived from actual competitions that are underway or have been recently completed. The information furnished has been edited and/or modified so as to meet the needs and form the basis of the CIRT competition.

If for any reason you believe a key piece of information is missing or you are unclear as to a specific reference in the information provided – please make an educated guess or assumption that would further your proposal (and simply indicate what that assumption was and why you made it). Please do not let a geographical reference or other individual piece of information prevent you from completing the CIRT design competition submission!



Construction Industry Round Table



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

CIRT DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION 2017
PROJECT/OPTION CHALLENGES OR RFP'S

List of Project Options/Challenges (select one RFP for the competition):

- **Presidential Library/Museum Challenge**
- **Upgrade a Structure Challenge**
- **Open Spaces Design Challenge**

Presidential Library/Museum Challenge

With the President leaving office in January 2017, historians, academia, and the general public will turn to the creation of a "Presidential Library," which will also serve as a Museum, to reflect-on and capture the key events of eight years of the Obama Administration. As with any new library this endeavor cannot be just a musty, silent holding area for books, records, and other materials. Instead, this project **MUST** display an ability to showcase BOTH elements of library technology to emerge as a digital repository of information, while ALSO having aspects of a Museum capable of attracting all ages, ethnic groups, and interests. The challenge is to create a space that emphasizes natural light, sustainability, education, and community while representing a new understanding of what this presidential library/museum can feature for the Obama presidency – thru the BUILT environment! What would you, as a designer using construction materials and ideas, do to attract, engage, excite, and enliven the public to visit such a site in your community? [Dimensions, size, costs, etc. must be determined by the team, but all decisions should be explained and warranted based on the resources likely to be attracted to such a proposal. A square foot cost estimate must be provided]. Use of materials, building techniques, and approaches that emphasize sustainability, energy efficiency, and recyclable eco-friendly products as well as being equipped with the latest smart building and security technologies should be integral to the design proposal. [NOTE AS TO SITE SELECTION: The actual Presidential Library is planned for Chicago, HOWEVER, for this competition you can site the project anywhere, including your home town/city, just justify the reasons for your site as part of meeting the overall goals for this challenge – i.e., a place where people will want to come or gather].

Upgrade a Structure Challenge

Upcycled Architecture is defined as the art of redesigning an existing structure for purposes other than those for which it was originally intended. Upcycled Architecture additionally advances an existing building's sustainable, dynamic, and programmatic uses. Some contend social and economic changes are creating phenomenal possibilities to upcycle older structures. Very often, buildings outlive their original purposes and today's designers and builders face the challenge of creatively bringing new life and function to them. Upcycled Architecture offers the chance to embrace our past designs while looking to the future for more adaptive uses. Key to success in this challenge: (1) identify the structure(s), (2) provide the reasons for your selection, (3) give clear explanation of former or current uses/purpose and what you intend to change it to, (4) support for your intended purpose(s), and (5) you **MUST** use *design and construction* materials, building techniques, and approaches (e.g., speak to the structural engineering and construction) that are the essence of your new approach/purpose. [Dimensions, size, costs, site, etc. must be determined by the team, but all decisions should be explained and warranted based on the resources likely to be attracted to such a proposal. A square foot cost estimate must be provided].

Open Spaces Design Challenge

Reimagining and/or opening space formerly occupied by buildings and/or storefronts that are in disrepair or not any longer used (or fully used) into attractive, inviting, common area or park-like space can bring not only aesthetics back to an urban center but vitality and livability. This option challenges the teams to (1) make a site selection (can be open under-used or wasted areas, or replace structures, etc.), (2) show before and after (geospatial mapping, etc.), (3) make it inviting exciting and sustainable to the public, (4) select landscaping and/or other structures for the reimagined space, and (5) you **MUST** explain how your *design and construction* choices will accomplish your goals to make the changes you plan. [Dimensions, size, costs, site, etc. must be determined by the team, but all decisions should be explained and warranted based on the resources likely to be attracted to such a proposal. A square foot cost estimate and timeline must be provided. Demolition and hazardous material removal should be taken into account as well and be fully discussed/shown].