



3/28/13 – 2013 CIRT-ACE Design Competition National Finalists Announced

Today, CIRT announced the three national finalist teams that will compete in the presentation round in the 2013 CIRT-ACE Design Competition to be held in the National Building Museum at the end of April. A record 43 entries (representing 24 Affiliates/Chapters) from across the country competed for top honors in the Seventh Annual competition with only three garnering the coveted right to be named a national finalist. Those earning this distinction in 2013 are a healthy mix of veteran, recent competitors, and new-comers to the competition including:

- **ACE Northern Rhode Island (Providence)** for their *“Riverwalk Park”* entry;
- **ACE Mentor Program of Central Iowa** for their *“Modular Reset”* entry; and
- **ACE of Frederick, Maryland** for their *“Universal Design Home Retro-Fit”* entry

These teams will now have an opportunity to vie for a top prize of \$5,000 before a panel of distinguished judges composed of CIRT members. These judges will analyze the team presenter/spokesperson’s ability to make a 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. In the presentation round the three teams will be judged on two major elements: quality of presentation and competence of the overall entry.

In addition, CIRT also recognized six other teams for either First Runner-Up (\$1,000 award) or Second Runner-Up (\$500 award) in the three different design challenges or options:

Local Playground/Small Community Park Challenge:

- 1st Runner-Up: **ACE Mentor Program of Eastern PA/Team #8** for *“The Park at Belmont”*
2nd Runner-Up: **ACE Houston/Team Bechtel** for *“Stude Street Park Renovation”*

Modular Education Addition Challenge:

- 1st Runner-Up: **ACE Greater Bridgeport/Shelton-Trumbull Team** for *“Corrugated Classrooms”*
2nd Runner-Up: **ACE Houston/Team T-3** for *“T-3 Building of the Future”*

Universal Design/Home Retro-Fit Challenge:

- 1st Runner-Up: **ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida/Orange Park HS Team**
2nd Runner-Up: **ACE Santa Ana, CA/Century HS Team**

Again this year, a special award was given to a non-winning team for the “Best Presentation Boards” (\$250 award); the winner for the 2013 competition was: **ACE Mentor of New Haven, CT** for their *“C-9 Urban Infill Park”* entry boards. Also, CIRT congratulated the greater Los Angeles metro area for having the most entries in the competition – teams participated from L.A. proper, Santa Monica-West L.A., Inland Empire, and Santa Ana.

“All of the projects were well done, making it a difficult task for the judges to narrow the field to three,” commented CIRT President Mark Casso. “But in the end, the choices were unanimous as to which entries should be selected to move-on to the finals. The Round Table is looking forward to a spirited and exciting final competition on the afternoon of April 30th at the National Building Museum as part of the CIRT Spring Conference to be held in Washington, DC next month,” Casso said.