



2014 CIRT-ACE Design Competition National Finalists Announced



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
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April 3, 2014 – McLean, VA - Today, CIRT announced the three national finalist teams that will compete in the presentation round of the 2014 CIRT-ACE National Design Competition to be held in conjunction with CIRT's spring conference in Washington, DC at the beginning of May. A record 44 entries (representing 21 Affiliates/Chapters) from across the country were submitted to vie for top honors in the Eighth Annual competition with only three garnering the coveted right to be named a national finalist. Those earning this distinction in 2014 are a healthy mix of experienced teams, which should make for a hotly-contested final round; they include:

- **ACE San Francisco Bay Area, CA/Peninsula One Team** for their "*Library Relevance Challenge/Varsity Library*" entry;
- **ACE Mentor Program of Miami-Dade County/Miami-Coral Park Senior H.S.** for their "*Defined by Architecture/Marine Stadium*" entry; and
- **ACE of Frederick, Maryland** for their "*Universal Design Home Retro-Fit/Aging in Place*" entry.

These teams will now have an opportunity to win the top prize of \$5,000 before a panel of distinguished judges mostly 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 to the three National Finalists, CIRT also recognized a **First Runner-Up** (\$1,000 award) and a **Second Runner-Up** (\$500 award) in each of the three different design challenges or options:

- Library Relevance Challenge: **ACE Chicago, IL/Team 1** (1st Runner-Up) for "*Harold Washington Library Center*"; **ACE New Haven, CT** (2nd Runner-Up) for "*The Institute Library*"
- Defined by Architecture Challenge: **ACE Houston (Gallena II)/Weli Wagoco Team** (1st Runner-Up) for "*Bayou City Park*"; **ACE Houston/BecXon** (2nd Runner-Up) for "*Exxon Building Rehabilitation*"
- "Universal Design"/Home Retro-Fit Challenge: **ACE San Francisco Bay Area, CA/Peninsula One Team** (1st Runner-Up); and **ACE Northern Rhode Island** (2nd Runner-Up)

Again this year, a special award was given to a non-winning team for the "**Best Presentation Boards**" (\$250 award). The winner of this award for the 2014 competition is: **ACE Mentor Program of Miami-Dade County/DASH Team** for their "*Symbios*" entry boards. Also, CIRT wishes to recognize and congratulate the greater **Houston, TX Affiliate** for having the most entries in the national competition.

It is a difficult task for the judges to narrow the field to three, 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 May 5th (4:00pm) at the CIRT Spring Conference (May 5-7, 2014) in Washington, DC in the Park Hyatt Washington, 24th & M Streets, NW.

For more information please contact Mark Casso, CIRT President; or Jane Bonvillain, Director of Association Programs at 202-466-6777.