



Construction Industry Round Table

2022

**NATIONAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
COMPETITION**

PROGRAM INFORMATION PACKAGE

**A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH
THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF AMERICA**

ABOUT

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer.” - Harriet Tubman author, abolitionist

AN AWARDS PROGRAM

The CIRT National Design + Construction Competition is maintained, coordinated, and judged by Construction Industry Round Table 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 - Construction Industry Round Table since 2017 as a 20th Anniversary Legacy Program.

COLLABORATION - The program is coordinated with the ACE Mentor Program of America (ACE).

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 CIRT National Design & Construction Competition, which uses project 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 and construction approaches that are *realistic and responsive* to the project’s objectives within time, budget, constructability constraints, etc.

PROGRAM AWARDS - CIRT will present prizes for the top three national finalists (\$5/3/2K) plus prizes for runner-up entries. In addition, CIRT will provide a logistical/travel expense stipend (approximately \$1,000 per team) to apply to costs associated with attending the final round as the Affiliate/Chapter best determines.

DEFINITION OF A TEAM - Entries to the competition must be from ACE teams 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. This will greatly increase 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 with the final round 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].

TIMELINE + LOGISTICS

TIMELINE

There are two rounds of judging in the CIRT Competition. The Preliminary Round involves an online review of all submission. The Final Round will be held in conjunction with the CIRT Spring National Conference in Washington, DC. Teams from ACE Affiliates/Chapters that wish to participate in the national competition must comply with the following time schedule:

January 2022 | REGISTRATION OPENS

March 16, 2022 | SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All registration and final entries must be officially submitted and complete by **midnight in your time zone** on March 16 (11:59:59 p.m.)

March 28, 2022 | PRELIMINARY RESULTS ANNOUNCED

A preliminary jury round will determine the Finalists and Runners-Up in each challenge. Finalists are notified and plans made to bring a representative(s) from each team to Washington, DC.

April 4, 2022 | FINALIST HOTEL RESERVATION DUE

Finalist teams will need to have made their hotel reservations in DC. Finalists will be provided precise hotel/logistical information upon being selected. The stipend will be available 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.

April 25, 2022 | FINALIST PRESENTATIONS

Finalists present to the CIRT Panel of Judges. Exact information on date, time, and place will be provided.

PROGRAM LOGISTICS

All competition information is available at www.cirt.org/competition including the link to register and submit your work at cirt.slideroom.com.

The national competition will use a dedicated digital platform, Slideroom, to conduct the process. **All forms and materials must be submitted via Slideroom with an official entry to be judged.**

The preliminary rounds will be determined by what is submitted to the platform as summarized on a maximum of two “virtual boards.” Each of the options or challenges will have their top three entries identified as part of selecting the national Finalists. However, only three teams will move onto the final “presentation round” in Washington D.C. to determine the National Champion. [There is no requirement that *each* challenge has a representative among the three finalists].



REGISTRATION + SUBMISSION

ONLINE ENTRY

In order to officially enter and compete in the Competition, all teams are **required** to complete and submit the following at cirt.slideroom.com:

1. **Create an account** at cirt.slideroom.com [available January 2022]
 - a. Note: If you have multiple teams per affiliate, multiple accounts will need to be made (one account per submission).
2. **Completed required “Registration Form”** online at the time their entries are officially submitted. The registration form is critical for the competition to maintain contact with the teams and to establish identification of the various entries with their authors. Thus, the forms must accompany the entry.
3. **Upload Competition Entry in the form of 1-2 boards.** Additional details below. PDF is the recommended file type.
4. **Hit SUBMIT to complete your entry.** Once submitted you cannot go back to change your entry.
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** The name of your Affiliate/Chapter is the ACE recognized entity for your area – NOT the name of your sponsors, mentors, firms, student group or school.

WHAT TO SUBMIT

In addition to submitting information in the required forms, the **MATERIALS submitted for the competition are 1-2 ‘virtual boards’ summarizing your proposed design solution** to one of the challenges.

The Boards are extremely important as **THE basis to make the initial cut to the three finalists**. The entry therefore must be clear, concise, complete, and well thought out with sufficient and compelling information to stand independently from any written narrative or report.

“**Virtual Boards**” (limited to two) can include: a brief written explanation describing the context and thinking behind the scheme; as well as photographs (of the site, 3D model, etc.). 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. Narratives addressing the **design process** (as described below) should be on or presented as part of the boards to the degree it helps clarify and enhance the entry.

The judges are looking for clarity, understandability, constructability, completeness, flow of ideas and how the proposed solution realistically and fully meets the precise elements of the challenge.

TECHNICAL NOTES:

- **File Type:** PDF, JPEG; Maximum of 2 pages/images
- **Size:** Boards should be created as “print-ready” for a standard poster or A1 board. (approximately 841mm x 594mm)
- **Quality:** The jury will review boards digitally; Please ensure all content is clear, in focus, and an appropriate size. If they cannot see/read details they cannot consider it in the overall scoring.
- Additional materials or links will not be reviewed by the jury. Digital files will be retained 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 consider the summaries of your replies to these questions when presented as part of your “virtual board” entry.)

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

Question B: Thoroughly describe your process, in writing and through visuals (e.g., sketches, renderings, stepped process, before and after, budgets, timelines, workflow, 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 approach is an appropriate, innovative solution that *realistically* responds to the precise project challenges (including use of materials/construction methods, etc.). Explain how your entry is different from other approaches or processes, if such is the case; and/or meets budgetary constraints, timeline issues, or other construction challenges.

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

Question E: Describe what you learned from this competition.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

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) – before and after
- constructability (structural challenges, materials, schedules, textures, colors, etc.)
- strategy for sustainability (resulting from design and construction decisions)
- surrounding landscape/external spaces, etc.
- 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 and groups 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, workflow, 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 presenting ACE student (each team selects ONE representative) to articulate a clear, comprehensive, coherent, and cogent presentation that persuades the judges that his/her team has the winning entry most responsive and complete with respect to the challenge goals. (Preparing the student representative is part of the overall process that the other team members will receive benefit from as well).

FINALIST LOGISTICS

If your team becomes a Finalist:

- **Physical** Boards MUST BE CREATED from your original submission and mounted on two A1 lightweight boards for your presentation (maximum of two boards, approximately 841mm x 594mm).
- These boards MUST BE identical to what was submitted online as “virtual boards.” Any change is potential grounds for disqualification.
- The Finalist will also be required to provide a hi-resolution digital copy of their entry.
- Finalists will choose one representative to give a 20 minute presentation and Q+A with the jury. Additional details will be shared.

RESOURCES + INFORMATION

WEBSITES

Competition Information: www.cirt.org/competition
Registration + Submission: cirt.slideroom.com [opens January 2022]

KEY CONTACTS

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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 ACE 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!

2022 CIRT COMPETITION CHALLENGES

SPECS for Project Options/Challenges | Select one RFP for the competition



Photo Credit: Time Out

URBAN RENEWAL / REBIRTH

This competition's objective is to envision an imaginative, sustainable, viable design/construction solution to attract the resources, energy, and activity to an area threatened by economic displacement, urban decay, and/or population flight. Submissions may focus on a range of scales and methods, such as innovate planning, reuse of individual structures, new/upgrade of infrastructure, neighborhood rebirth design, and tactical urbanism. The entry must show how design and construction elements will drive or fuel the renewal/rebirth of the urban environment – taking on elements discussed in an overall approach or targeted to a specific area w/in the urban space. Vital to success: (1) site selection (why, where, how, etc.), (2) before and after depictions, (3) demolition, disruption, traffic impacts, (4) construction timelines, etc., (5) budget, per square foot estimates. As in the other challenge solutions, the proposal must be accomplished to meet the precise needs of this RFP in a realistic and doable way consistent with the resources/financial support likely available in the locale. Moreover, the proposal **MUST** also include the precise CONSTRUCTION steps, stages, and remedies for this challenge, like demolition or other pre-retrofit work described and detailed.

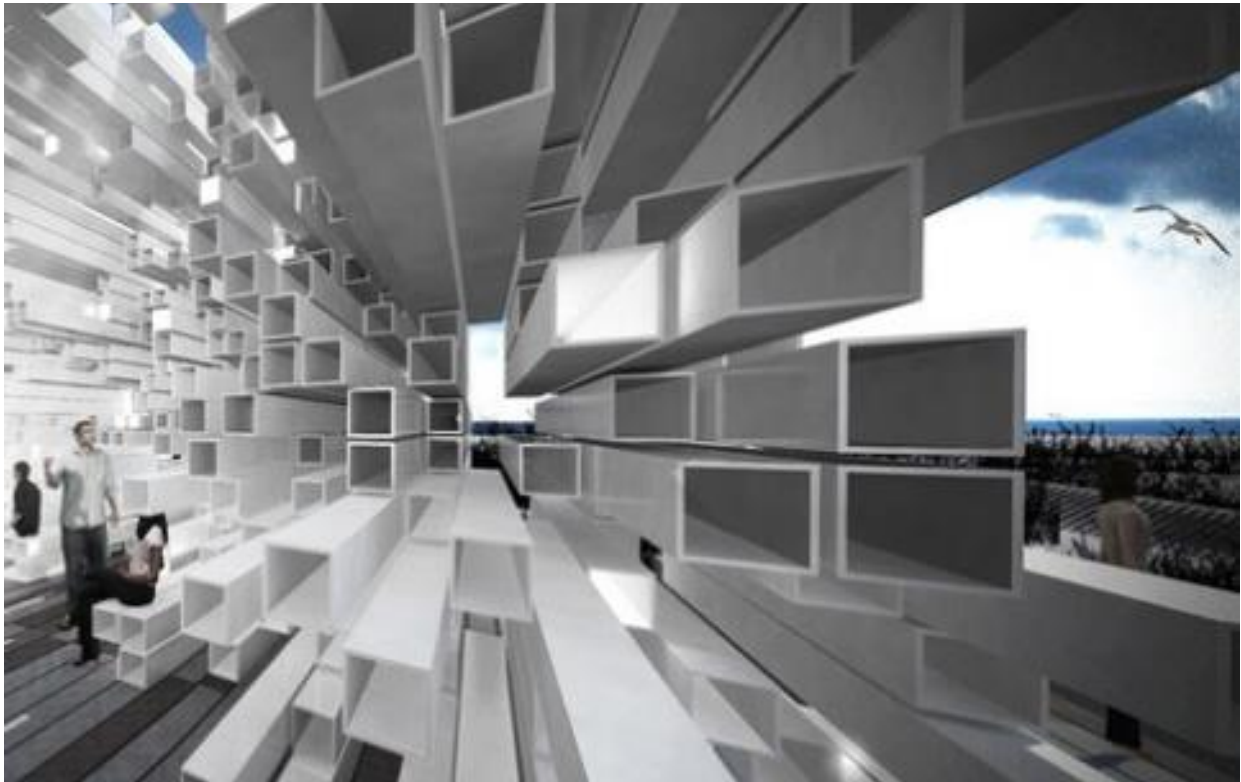


Photo Credit: Web Urbanist

MEMORIAL OF THE FUTURE

Conceive, plan, and create and/or revitalize a place or site that will be cherished, respected as a gathering place to memorialize an important event, occurrence, or chapter in the life of the local community or nation. Elements of the site are within your decision-making process, whether physical structures (new/rehab), although they need not be the central element; or an open park-like landscaped setting commemorating a historical theme to be memorialized. The key will be to explain the reasons for site selection, what historic factor is being showcased and why/how it relates to the site and audience, and how the solution will attract all elements of the community and visitors in order to educate, inform, and create an immersive experience. The entry should identify a cohesive vision for a long-term successful future through CONSTRUCTION related changes (the built environment, whether rehab/new/repurposed structures, or opening spaces, etc.).

This is an ideas competition: proposals may be innovative, transformative, and challenging, BUT *must* also present viable ways to implement real, holistic change. Successful proposals will show before/after, new uses, etc. – with a per foot cost estimate that must be realistic and doable for the resources/financial support likely available in the locale, construction timelines, flows, etc.



Photo Credit: GCP Applied Technologies

STRONG + SUSTAINABLE

Cement: one the oldest, most reliable, efficient building materials, (along with concrete) has played a role in the human built environment – leaving its footprint on much of our structural heritage over the ages. BUT, can it be used in sustainable, resilient, carbon neutral modern endeavors – to achieve the goals set for today and the future? The challenge is to find inventive reuses/purposes and methods to capture the potential and necessary “smart” aspects of cement to take on the LEEDS goals, sensors, renewal, etc. in any and all forms or structures you wish to select (or across multiple applications). Success will turn on fully explaining your approach(es), how they are innovative, creative, and achievable – both through the design aspect and the CONSTRUCTION methods, means, techniques, materials, and finishes that will promote sustainability. As in the other options, the proposal must meet the precise needs of this RFP in a realistic and doable way consistent with the resources/financial support likely available in the locale; while providing a full understanding of the construction timelines, budget, and per square foot estimates. [Since all entries in this challenge will be using a common element (cement) it is extremely important to show where your proposal stands out and makes a contribution to the use or re-adaptation of cement to meet sustainability goals].