

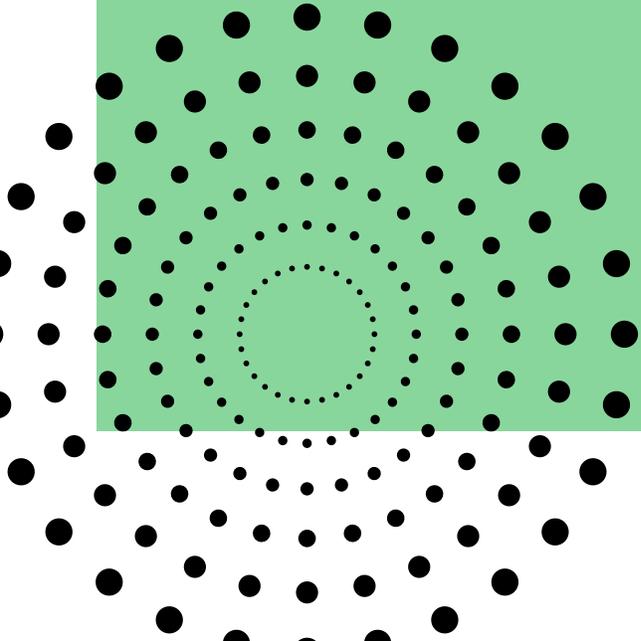
2021

# STUDENT IDEAS COMPETITION

CHICAGO  
ARCHITECTURE  
BIENNIAL

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## **WINNERS + PRIZES**

The jury will select 10 finalists to compete for first-, second- and third-place prizes. Competition winners will receive varying cash prizes and opportunities to work with the Biennial and local designers. They will receive recognition at the final showcase and have their work displayed at public sites across the city. See the Prizes section on Page 10 for more details.

## **VIRTUAL SHOWCASE + CEREMONY**

A virtual showcase and awards ceremony will be held in May to award prizes to competition winners. All students, friends, families, teachers, and principals are invited to attend to celebrate the accomplishments of all competitors. Details about the showcase will be announced closer to the event date.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Students in grades 7-12 (as of February 15, 2021) are eligible to participate. Students must live/attend school/be homeschooled in the Chicagoland area. Individual and group submissions will be accepted.



## CHALLENGE DETAILS

The Spring 2021 Student Ideas Competition asks young people to look to the needs and interests of local communities as they imagine new uses for existing city sites or infrastructure. The prompt encourages innovative and creative solutions for how Chicagoans move around the city, eat and shop, learn, play, and gather.

We are living in the midst of a historic period: a global pandemic, the ongoing fight for racial and social justice, and environmental changes are shifting our world and our lives at a rapid pace. At the same time, in a pattern we have seen throughout human history, people are working at an equally fast speed to adapt and innovate in inspirational ways. Recent examples right here in Chicago include: the transformation of McCormick Place into a field hospital during the early days of COVID-19; the initiative to repurpose city streets to include space for pedestrians, bikers, and outdoor dining; and murals that have gone up across the city representing the Black Lives Matter movement.

Inspired by these examples and more, we are asking young people to share ideas and solutions for what their neighborhoods and the larger city need most right now. The competition prompts students to consider a form of urban design that centers hyperlocal input, interests, and urgent needs. Submissions could include: installing a solar power farm in your neighborhood; rehabbing a vacant building into a new grocery store; re-mapping streets to create safe passageways for students to and from school; building a theater in a local park for outdoor concerts and performances; or, adding a median to a large boulevard planted with flowers and trees. Proposed projects can be practical and possible, aspirational and inspirational, or even better, a combination of both.

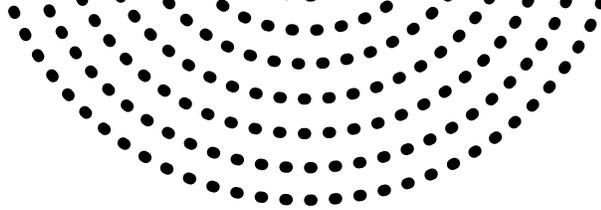
The Spring 2021 Student Ideas Competition prompt is inspired by the theme and title of the 2021 Chicago Architecture Biennial, *The Available City*, led by Artistic Director David Brown. *The Available City* looks for opportunities to reimagine and remake the city through community-based design interventions on vacant lots in Chicago. *The Available City* proposes that if residents work to create spaces in their neighborhoods that meet local needs, the whole city could be transformed for the better. The Student Ideas Competition seeks to bring young people into this important conversation about how to make Chicago the best possible city for all of its residents.





## SUBMISSION TIPS

- There is no restriction on the media and/or materials used to complete the design challenges. Hand drawings using crayon, pencil, marker, colored pencil, etc. will be accepted. Physical models or sculptures can be made using any studio supplies, such as cardboard, matte board, pipe cleaners, tin foil etc. Digital renderings and/or a combination of these will be accepted. Performance-based submissions may include dance, theater, or digital media.
- Scan (rather than photograph) drawings and other 2D materials to create a high quality JPG or PDF file (there are apps that allow you to scan using your phone).
- If you do photograph a drawing, be sure to crop out everything in the background. Use the HDR setting on your phone to ensure the picture is a high quality and will print clearly.
- If you are creating a physical model or another 3D submission, take a high-quality, high-resolution picture with a high quality camera or use the HDR setting on your phone. Take a photo against a blank wall or surface and get close! Do not include unrelated items or people in the background of your photo.
- If your submission is performance based, take a high-quality, high resolution video with a high quality camera or use the HDR setting on your phone. To avoid shaky video, set up your camera on a tripod or a steady surface rather than having someone hold your phone and tape the performance. Make sure you practice your performance several times before you record your submission.
- If you are working in a digital design software like SketchUp or Adobe Suite, do not submit a screenshot of your work. These files will be too small and blurry for the jury to review. Export your files at a large size.
- Use careful craftsmanship. The jury will notice if you were thoughtful with your materials.
- Take time to explain your ideas in the written portion.
- Proofread and be tidy.



## RESOURCES

Visit [bit.ly/studentideascompetition](http://bit.ly/studentideascompetition) for student and educator resources along with additional competition details. Feel free to reach out to [education@chicagoarchitecturebiennial.org](mailto:education@chicagoarchitecturebiennial.org) with any questions about resources, sharing the competition with students, or submission guidelines.

## JURY REVIEW

Once all submissions have been received, they will be reviewed virtually by a jury of professionals selected by the Chicago Architecture Biennial. Jurors are selected based on their personal and professional success in design and the arts, involvement in local issues in Chicago, and commitment to supporting youth.

## JUDGING PROCESS

All entries meeting the submission and student eligibility requirements will be shared for jury review. An initial review of submissions will take place once registration has closed. The judges will review submissions independently and then convene to determine the finalists. Ten finalists will be announced before the final showcase. The overall winners will be announced at the final showcase. If none of the entries meet the requirements, the panel reserves the right not to award a winner. All decisions made by the panel are final.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Each submission will be judged on its ability to meet the requirements presented in this packet and on the following overall criteria:

- Originality of ideas
- Creativity in responding to the prompt and in use of materials
- Thoughtfulness in how well your submission reflects the needs and interests of yourself and other local residents





## PRIZES

The jury will select 10 finalists to compete for first, second and third places as well as honorable mentions. Winners and finalists will be awarded the prizes below, as well as being recognized at the final showcase and having their work exhibited by the Chicago Architecture Biennial.

### FIRST PRIZE

- \$500
- Laptop computer
- Chicago Architecture Biennial Catalogue Set
- Chicago Architecture Biennial SWAG
- Framed certificate signed by the jury

### SECOND PRIZE

- \$300
- Tablet
- Chicago Architecture Biennial SWAG
- Framed certificate signed by the jury

### THIRD PRIZE

- \$200
- Chicago Architecture Biennial SWAG
- Framed Certificate signed by the jury

### FINALISTS

- \$100
- Chicago Architecture Biennial SWAG
- Framed certificate signed by the jury

The supporting educator/s of the first-place winning project will receive a gift certificate to be used for instructional supplies and Chicago Architecture Biennial SWAG.



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Contact Information

education@chicagoarchitecturebiennial.org

Tess Landon, Manager of Learning Initiatives, Chicago Architecture Biennial

## Terms and Conditions

- This competition is open to 7th- to 12th-grade students (as of February 15, 2021) enrolled in Chicagoland elementary, high school, or homeschool.
- You may only submit one design project, either as an individual entrant or as part of a team entry.
- There is no cost to enter this competition.
- Mail-in submissions of design projects will not be accepted.
- By participating, you agree to comply with all competition requirements.
- Students creating a digital design may NOT use SketchUp Warehouse or other pre-made, downloadable digital models as-is. This is considered plagiarism. Pre-made model elements, such as people and trees, are acceptable, as they help to show scale. Pre-made, downloadable models MAY be used if they are altered beyond 50% of the original template/rendering.

## Ineligibility

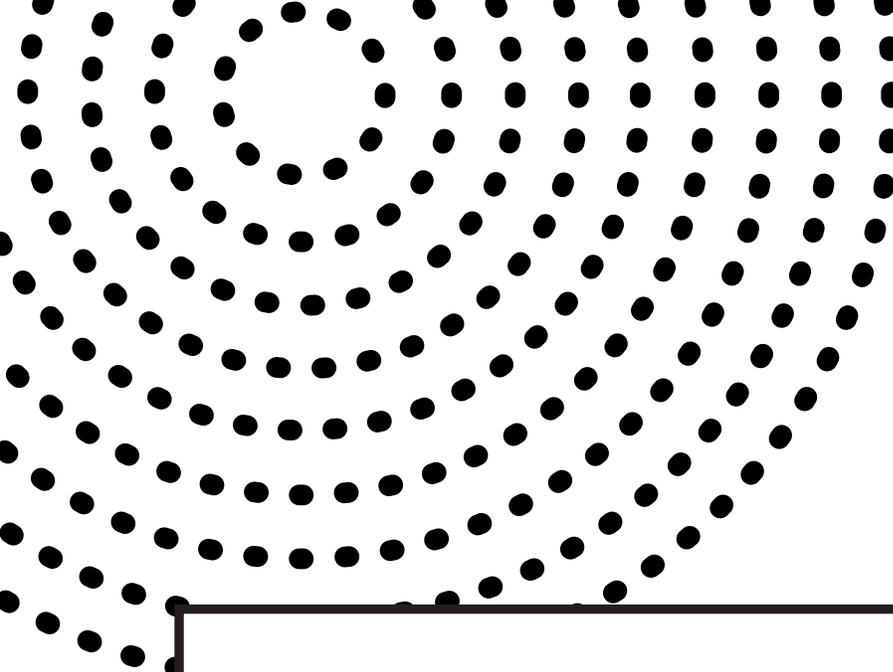
The children, relatives or household members of Biennial employees are ineligible. Additionally, no child, sibling or immediate family member of a jury member may participate. No member of the jury shall assist a student or act in any other capacity whatsoever to advise or aid a competition entrant in the development of his or her submission.

Other disqualification factors include:

- Are not registered as an elementary school or high school student in the Chicagoland area as of February 15, 2021.
- Are not in grades 7 through 12 as of February 15, 2021.
- Do not upload all required content (text and/or images, video) onto the competition platform.
- Do not submit a consent form signed by a sponsoring teacher and a parent/guardian if under age 18.
- Do not adhere to the design, writing and presentation requirements.
- Plagiarize or violate copyright rules by submitting non-original material—whether student or professional, built or unbuilt—or original materials that have been submitted to another student competition.

## Permissions

By submitting to the Student Ideas Competition, you grant permission to the rights of your image(s)/ video(s)/writing to be used for educational purposes such as presentations, advertising and promotional materials, exhibitions, informal presentations or online. Images may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed.



# CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL

## **ABOUT THE CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL**

The Chicago Architecture Biennial (CAB) is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating an international forum on architecture and urbanism. Through a diverse program including exhibitions, commissions, publications, workshops, performances, and more, CAB advances architectural innovation and thinking by engaging practitioners, students, and the public to re-imagine the built world both globally and locally. CAB is committed to highlighting a future for architecture that is community-driven, sustainable, and equitable.