

STEEL DESIGN

2027 STUDENT COMPETITION



PROGRAM

SPONSOR



2027 STEEL DESIGN STUDENT COMPETITION

27th Annual ACSA/AISC Student Competition

Category I **COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER**

Category II **OPEN**

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) is pleased to announce the 27th Annual Steel Design Student Competition for the 2026-2027 academic year. Administered by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), the program is intended to challenge undergraduate and graduate students, working individually or in teams, to explore a variety of design issues related to the use of steel in design and construction. Steel must be used as the primary structural material and contain at least one space that requires a long-span steel structure, with special emphasis placed on innovation in steel design.

THE OPPORTUNITIES

The 2027 Steel Design Student Competition will offer architecture students the opportunity to compete in two separate categories:

Category I COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER

Design a Community Youth Center in a site of your choice. Students are invited to submit design proposals that address how a youth center can contribute to the community as a more integral part of the neighborhood fabric.

Category II OPEN

Offers architecture students the opportunity to select a site and building program using steel as the primary structural material. This competition category permits any building type other than a community or recreational center.

Students may not enter both categories of the competition.

The competition allows students to explore the many functional and aesthetic uses for steel as a building material and structural system. Steel is an ideal material for multi-story building because it offers the greatest strength-to-weight ratio. In addition, steel can be constructed quickly and for all project site types with the use of labor-saving prefabrication methods such as kit-of-parts, panelization, and modular construction. A building built with steel is potentially more flexible and adaptable to allow for a change in program, occupancy, and loading needs over time. It is not required, but we encourage you to explore material reuse, steel framing and CLT decking hybrids, and new additions to existing buildings.

ELIGIBILITY

Because the support of AISC is largely derived from steel companies whose markets are mainly in the U.S., the ACSA/AISC Steel Design Student Competition is open to students and/or student teams from ACSA Full and Candidate Member Schools; as well as ACSA Affiliate Members Schools from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

All student entrants are required to work under the direction of a faculty sponsor. Entries will be accepted for individuals as well as teams. Teams must be limited to a maximum of five students. Submissions should be principally the product of work in a design studio or related class.

SCHEDULE

April 7, 2027	Registration Deadline (free registration)
June 2, 2027	Submission Deadline
Summer 2027	Winners Announced
Fall 2027	Publication of Summary Book

AWARDS

The design jury will meet in Summer 2027 to select winning projects and honorable mentions. Winners and their faculty sponsors will be notified of the competition results directly. A list of winning projects will be posted on the ACSA web site at www.acsa-arch.org and the AISC web site at www.aisc.org.

Winning students and their faculty sponsors will receive cash prizes totaling \$20,000 with distribution as follows:

Category I: Community Youth Center

First Prize

Student \$4,000

Faculty Sponsor \$1,500

Second Prize

Student \$2,000

Faculty Sponsor \$1,000

Third Prize

Student \$1,000

Faculty Sponsor \$500

Category II: OPEN

First Prize

Student \$4,000

Faculty Sponsor \$1,500

Second Prize

Student \$2,000

Faculty Sponsor \$1,000

Third Prize

Student \$1,000

Faculty Sponsor \$500

A limited number of honorable mentions may also be awarded at the jury's discretion. Prize-winning submissions will be exhibited at the 2028 ACSA Annual Meeting and the 2028 AIA National Convention as well as published in a competition summary publication.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Criteria for the judging of submissions will include the following:

- Creative use of structural steel in the design solution
- Successful response of the design to its surrounding context
- Successful response to basic architectural concepts such as human activity needs, structural integrity, and coherence of architectural vocabulary.

Submissions must clearly represent the selected program. In addressing the specific issues of the design challenge, submissions must clearly demonstrate the design solution's response to the following requirements:

- An elegant expressive understanding of the material—structural steel—deployed with maximum innovative potential with a minimum of one long span space
- A strong conceptual strategy translated into a coherent integrated design proposal
- An articulate mastery of formal concepts and aesthetic values
- A compelling response to the physical and cultural context of the scheme
- A mature awareness of and an innovative approach to sustainability as a convergence of social, economic and environmental issues
- A thorough appreciation of human needs and social responsibilities

ADVANTAGES OF STEEL

Steel has a natural beauty that can be exposed to emphasize grace, slenderness and strength in space and form, as well as in building envelopes to enhance environmental performance and aesthetic character.

Resilience

Structural steel offers a number of benefits in building design including the capacity to bear great loads in tension and compression, high resiliency and performance under harsh and difficult conditions, such as earthquakes and hurricanes, and the ability to span great distances with minimal material. Steel can be shaped by many processes, ranging from standard rolled sections to custom castings and digitally generated components. It can be prefabricated and delivered for site assembly, and it can be erected quickly under almost any weather condition to meet tight construction schedules.

Efficiency

Steel offers the greatest strength-to-weight ratio of structural materials. In addition, steel can be constructed quickly and for all project site types with the use of labor-saving prefabrication methods such as kit-of-parts, panelization, and modular construction. A building built with steel is potentially more flexible and adaptable to allow for a change in program, occupancy, and loading needs over time. Steel, if desired by the architect, can be graceful, nimble, and minimal in its bulk both in plan and section, and it integrates easily with other systems and materials.

Sustainability

Using steel is a highly sustainable option. The production of raw US structural steel involves in upwards of 93% recycled content, keeping your old cars and appliances out of landfills. At the end of a building's life, 98% of all structural steel is recycled into new steel products, with no loss of its physical properties. As such, structural steel isn't just recycled but "multi-cycled," as it can be recycled over and over and over again. It is truly a cradle-to-cradle material, and few materials can claim that. [Steel Sustainability](#)

The U.S. steel industry provides industry-leading transparency through Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) (see [aisc.org/epds](https://www.aisc.org/epds)), enabling architects, engineers, and owners to compare products and specify lower embodied carbon materials. As fabricators continue reducing emissions through greater energy efficiency and increased use of renewable energy, EPDs help identify producers with the lowest carbon footprint. Steel's durability, adaptability, and ability to be reused or recycled further contribute to its long-term environmental performance.

Expression

Exposed and curved steel is an art, providing endless possibilities for architectural expression. Curved steel enhances the visibility of any building project – from the largest monumental project to that building down your street. Curved steel is one way to increase the design creativity of your next building project. And most importantly, curved steel is readily available nationally from a number of qualified AISC Associate Member Bender-Rollers. AISC information on curved steel: [aisc.org/curvedsteel](https://www.aisc.org/curvedsteel)

Category I – COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER

Youth centers play a central role in communities as they offer a safe and supervised space for young people to develop social, physical, emotional, and cognitive abilities – a place for kids to be kids while also inspiring self-advocacy and civic participation. Operating outside of both home and school, youth centers are immersed in and reflective of their local communities, representing their values, cultures, and needs. You are invited to site your project in the context of your choice, be it urban, suburban, or rural. As youth centers have the opportunity within a specific context to respond to unique needs, what else could the project contribute to the community to become an even more integral part of the neighborhood fabric? The project will include a defined program for the youth center, and each entry will include an added program specific to the chosen community context that cannot exceed 30% of the youth center area.

SITE

The site for the competition is the choice of the student and/or faculty sponsor. Selection of the site should consider its proximity to an understood user group and be accessible by multiple systems of transportation such as public bus routes, sidewalks, and/or greenways for walking and biking. Submissions will be required to explain the site selection, audience, public access, and other context strategies, graphically or otherwise.

PROGRAM

Community youth centers provide places for young people to meet and participate in impactful activities, ranging from organized recreation to educational and vocational mentorship to skills development to community service. Strategic and sustainable approaches to programming emphasize flexibility, hybridization, and long-term adaptability, where spaces may adjust to shifting needs on a daily basis and through the lifetime of the building as changes occur in the communities they serve.

Traditionally catering to the youth, ages early teens to young adults, contemporary youth centers often expand their missions to support a wider range of community audiences, especially in areas where public venues are limited. Providing welcome to a broader public reinforces the center's importance as a community anchor and opens opportunities for intergenerational interaction and mentorship. It also requires thoughtful planning to maintain safety and age-appropriate programming. Such considerations may come into play when considering the added program.

The total area of the youth center may vary, depending on your population size, site limitations, assessment of the community's needs, and development of added program. The building area should range between **25,000** and **35,000** gross square feet. External spaces are limited by site and applicability.

The following programmatic spaces must be included in the building. For many of the spaces, a range of square footage is given to accommodate various community populations. Solutions should observe the given spaces and sizes within a range of plus or minus ten percent. Further deviation resulting from strategies of flexible programming is permissible but must be explained in the program summary. In addition to the required program, faculty and students are asked to assess their specific community's needs and define an auxiliary program or set of spaces, not to exceed 30% of the total square footage.

Entry Area

Lobby/Reception/Seating Area	300-600 sq. ft.
Public Restrooms	
2-4 lavatories per gender, or as code requires	300-600 sq. ft. total
1 single-user toilet room, unisex	50 sq. ft.
ENTRY AREA SUBTOTAL	650-1,250 sq. ft.

Interior Recreational Facilities

Gymnasium (may include performance stage)	6,400-7,200 sq. ft.
Fitness Area	400-800 sq. ft.
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES SUBTOTAL	6,400-8,000 sq. ft.

Educational Spaces

Classrooms/Vocational Training Room	960-1,200 sq. ft.
Multimedia Lab	260-520 sq. ft.
Mentoring Rooms/Study Spaces	2 @ 80-200 sq. ft. ea.
EDUCATIONAL SPACES SUBTOTAL	1,380-2,120 sq. ft.

Maker and Creative Spaces

Art Studio	960-1,200 sq. ft.
Maker Lab	960-1,200 sq. ft.
Technology Workshop	960-1,200 sq. ft.
MAKER AND CREATIVE SPACES SUBTOTAL	2,880-3,600 sq. ft.

General Services, Public Facing

Cafeteria Space	600-1,000 sq. ft.
Small Library	200-400 sq. ft.
Lounge or Game Room	400-600 sq. ft.
Conference/Meeting Room	400-600 sq. ft.
GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES SUBTOTAL	1,600-2,600 sq. ft.

Staff and Support Spaces

Staff Office(s)	165-475 sq. ft. total
Counseling Rooms	1-2 @ 120 sq. ft. ea.
Staff Restroom	
1 single-user toilet room, unisex	50 sq. ft.
First-Aid/Medical Room	80 sq. ft.
Kitchen/Catering Kitchen Area	480-800 sq. ft.
Storage (distributed throughout the center, as appropriate)	480-600 sq. ft.
Loading/Access for Delivery/Trash	300-600 sq. ft.
STAFF AND SUPPORT SPACES SUBTOTAL	1,675-2,845 sq. ft.

Required Programmatic Spaces Subtotal	14,585-20,415 sq. ft.
Added Programmatic Spaces (3/7 of required)	6,250-8,750 sq. ft.
Programmatic Spaces Subtotal	20,835-29,165 sq. ft.
Services at 20% (corridors, mechanical, and other service)	4,165-5,835 sq. ft.
TOTAL PROGRAM	25,000-35,000 sq. ft.

Outdoor Areas

Exterior spaces extend the programming potential of the youth center and often serve to connect the facility with its surrounding context. Depending on the site and community needs, these spaces should include, but are not limited to, the following.

Courtyard and/or Covered Patio/Porch	unspecified
Sports Field/Play Area	unspecified
Garden and/or Patio Garden	unspecified

Construction Type

The project must be conceived in structural steel construction and must contain at least one space/element that requires long-span steel structure, with special emphasis placed on innovation in steel design. The most compelling proposals will inevitably integrate the use of steel into the design of the project at multiple levels, from primary structure to building envelope and tectonic details.

CATEGORY II – OPEN

The ACSA/AISC 2027 Steel Design Student Competition also offers architecture students the opportunity to participate in an open competition with limited restrictions. With the approval of a sponsoring faculty member, students may select a site and building program.

- The Category II program should be of equal complexity as the Category I program.
- Students entering Category II must submit a written building program, including a brief description of the building type, gross square footage, and project location, as part of the online submission in the Program Edits (copy/paste text box).

Restrictions

To enter the open competition students may select any building occupancy other than a community or recreational center.

Students may not enter both categories of the competition.

Construction Type

The design project must be conceived in structural steel construction and must contain at least one space/element that requires long-span steel structure, with special emphasis placed on innovation in steel design. The most compelling proposals will inevitably integrate the use of steel into the design of the project at multiple levels, from primary structure to building envelope and tectonic details.

RESOURCES

An intention of all ACSA competitions intend to make students aware that research is a fundamental element of any design solution. Students are encouraged to research material properties and methods of steel construction, as well as precedent projects that demonstrate innovative use of structural steel.

Steel Construction References

1. AISC website: [aisc.org/archeducation](https://www.aisc.org/archeducation)
2. Sustainability Strategies: [Hybrid System Design](#), [Design Strategies](#), and [Material Reuse](#)
3. Modern Steel Construction: This authoritative monthly magazine is made available online free of charge. This magazine covers the use of fabricated structural steel in the variety of structural types. It presents information on the newest and most advanced applications of structural steel in a wide range of structures. Issues of Modern Steel Construction (1996 - Present) are available online. Visit [Modern Steel Construction](#) to view them.
4. Terri Meyer Boake. Complex Steel Structures: Non-Orthogonal Geometries in Building with Steel. (Birkhäuser, 2020)
5. Terri Meyer Boake. Architecturally Exposed Structural Steel: Specifications, Connections, Details. (Birkhäuser, 2015)
6. Terri Meyer Boake. Diagrid Structures: Systems, Connections, Details. (Birkhäuser, 2014)
7. Terri Meyer Boake. Understanding Steel Design: An Architectural Design Manual. (Birkhäuser 2013)
8. John Fernandez. Material Architecture. (Spon Press, 2006)
9. Victoria Bell and Patrick Rand. Materials for Design 2. (Princeton Architectural Press, 2014)
10. Shulitz, Habermann, Sobek. Steel Construction Manual. (Birkhäuser Basel 2000)
11. Annette LeCuyer. Steel and Beyond. (Birkhäuser Basel 2003)
12. Sutherland Lyall. Remarkable Structure: Engineering today's Innovative Buildings. (Princeton Architectural Press, 2002)

Community Center References

1. [Urban Wilderness Gateway Park, Baker Creek Pavilion](#) – Knoxville, TN. Architect: Sanders Pace Architecture, Structural Engineer: FE Design and Engineering, 2019
2. [Highlander Accelerator](#) – Omaha, NE. Architects: El Dorado, Landon Bone Baker Architects, and Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture, 2018
3. [Kamwokya Community Centre](#) – Kampala, Uganda. Architect: Kéré Architecture, Structural Engineer: AECOM, 2022
4. [Marvin Gaye Recreation Center](#) – Washington, D.C. Architect: ISTUDIO Architects, Structural Engineer: Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, 2018
5. [Public Condenser \(Lieu de Vie\)](#) – Paris-Saclay, France. Architect: MUOTO. Structural Engineers: Y Ingénierie and Bollinger + Grohmann, 2016 (*also see [Bollinger + Grohmann project page](#)*)
6. [Sede Social Community Center](#) – Lampa, Chile. Architect: DX Arquitectos, 2018
7. [Soweto Caracas Community Centre](#) – Khayelitsha, South Africa. Architect: UTT Empower (Urban-Think Tank Empower), 2025
8. [Village Hall](#) – Interior Architecture Studio + Studio Hu, School of Architecture and Urban Planning. Xiangtang Village, Jiangsu, China. Architects: Youpai Hu/Studio Hu, 2023, ArchDaily en Español
9. [Waterloo Youth Center](#) – Sydney, Australia. Architect: Collins and Turner, Structural Engineer: Arup, 2013
10. [Social Center 'Casino', Community Development Center \(CDC\) and Ecological Park](#) – Teapa, Mexico, KEN /Matías Martínez, Amazing Architecture
11. [Municipal Food Market and Youth Center Rehabilitation](#) – Ácrono Arquitectura + Blanca Esteras Serrano, ArchDaily

Steel Video Resources

1. Steel Shorts Videos - [VIDEO](#)
2. Architecturally Exposed Structural Steel (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
3. What is AESS (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
4. Steel Coatings & Protection (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
5. Steel Connections (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
6. Custom Steel (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
7. Tension: Force Differentiated Structural Steel Design (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
8. Span: Exploiting the Tensile Strength of Steel (Steel Video Resources) – [VIDEO](#)
9. Hybrid Steel Frame and CLT Decking - [VIDEO](#)

COMPETITION GUIDELINES (Category I & Category II)

REGISTRATION

Faculty to Complete One Online Registration for Each Entry

An [ACSA member school](http://www.acsa-arch.org), faculty sponsor is required to enroll students online (available at www.acsa-arch.org) by April 7, 2027. Registration can be done for your entire studio or for each individual student or team of students participating. Students or teams wishing to enter the competition on their own must have a faculty sponsor, who should complete the registration. There is no entry or submission fee to participate in the competition. Each registered student and faculty sponsor will receive a confirmation email that will include information on how the student(s) will upload final submissions online. Please add the email address competitions@acsa-arch.org to your address book to ensure that you receive all emails regarding your submission.

During registration the faculty will have the ability to add students, add teams, assign students to teams, and add additional faculty sponsors. Registration is required by April 7, 2027, but can be changed, edited, and added to until a student starts a final submission; then the registration is no longer editable.

Registration Steps

1. Faculty log into the [ACSA website](http://www.acsa-arch.org),
2. Click the "Register your Students" button,
3. Select the 2027 Steel Competition (Category I or II) from the submission type dropdown menu & Click "Enter",
4. Select "Individual Registration" to add individual student. Click "Save and Continue". You will need to know each student's first & last names, email, & institution, which are all required fields for each student,
5. Select "Team Registration" if this is a team registration, you may add additional students by clicking "Add Student" to the same submission to this team, teams must be limited to a maximum of five students,
6. Once the individual student or team is complete, Click "Submit",
7. Repeat steps 3 – 6 for each individual or team.

FACULTY RESPONSIBILITY

The administration of the competition at each institution is left to the discretion of the faculty within the guidelines set forth in this document. Work on the competition should be structured over the course of one semester during the 2026-2027 academic year.

Each faculty sponsor is expected to develop a system to evaluate the students' work using the criteria set forth in this program. The evaluation process should be an integral part of the design process, encouraging students to scrutinize their work in a manner similar to that of the jury.

RULES

USE OF STEEL

Steel must be used as the primary structural material. Design proposals must contain at least one space/element that requires long-span steel structure, with special emphasis placed on innovation in steel design. The most compelling proposals will inevitably integrate the use of steel into the design of the project at multiple levels, from primary structure to building envelope and tectonic details.

BUILDING CODE

Refer to the International Building Code and the local zoning ordinance for information on parking requirements, height restrictions, setbacks, easements, flood, egress and fire containment. All proposals must be designed to meet requirements for accessibility; for guidelines, refer to the Americans with Disabilities Act and the principles of Universal Design.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

Advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) and computational design are providing students and architects with new labor-saving tools and transforming many of the tasks associated with project delivery. The proliferation of AI use in practice and academia is raising legitimate questions about how the responsibility and accountability of the architect and students might be altered by this technological wave.

- AI usage in student submissions must ensure the students remain responsibly in control and continue to be accountable for all images and likenesses in their submissions.
- AI is a tool — it is not a replacement for professional judgment. Regardless of the AI tools used, it remains the architecture student's responsibility to provide designs in conformance with academic integrity.

Students choosing to use AI as a tool must attribute this use in their design essay (abstract). Students are accountable for the originality, validity, and integrity of the content and designs of their submissions. In choosing to use AI tools, students are expected to do so responsibly and with a high standard of ethical conduct. This includes reviewing the outputs of any AI tools and confirming content accuracy.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

DIGITAL SUBMISSION FORMAT

Submissions must be presented on four 20" x 20" digital boards. All boards are required to be uploaded through the ACSA website as BMP, GIF, JPEG, JPG, or PNG files. The names of student participants, their schools, or faculty sponsors, must NOT appear on the boards, or in the project title or project title file name(s).

DESIGN ESSAY or ABSTRACT

A brief essay, 300 words maximum, is required as part of the submission describing the most important concepts of the design project. Keep in mind that the presentation should graphically convey the design solution and context, and not rely on the design essay to convey a basic understanding of the project. The names of student participants, their schools, or faculty sponsors, must NOT appear in the design essay. This abstract is included in the final online submission, completed by the student(s) in a simple copy/paste text box.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

A program summary of spaces and areas is required as part of the submission. Include a narrative that explains the auxiliary program and any substantial deviation from the required program, 300 words maximum. All interior and exterior spaces are to be included; total net and gross areas are required.

REQUIRED SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS

Submissions must include (but are not limited to) the following required drawings:

- Three-dimensional representations - in the form of axonometrics, perspectives showing the proposal in its context, montages and/or physical model photographs – to illustrate the character of the project;
- Site plan showing proposal in its context of surrounding buildings and topography, together with details of access/circulation;
- Building/site sections sufficient to show site context and major spatial and program elements, and primary structural elements;
- Floor plans to show program elements, spatial adjacencies and navigation strategies;
- Large scale drawing(s), either orthographic or three dimensional, illustrating:
 - the use and detailing of steel for building structure and/or envelope
 - integrated design

Incomplete or undocumented entries will be disqualified. All drawings should be presented at a scale appropriate to the design solution and include a graphic scale. The site plan should include a north arrow.

ONLINE PROJECT SUBMISSION

The student is required to submit the final entries that must be uploaded through the ACSA Competition website at www.acsa-arch.org by 11:59 pm, Pacific Time, on June 2, 2027. If the submission is from a team of students, all student team members will have the ability to upload the digital files. Once the final submit button is pressed no additional edits, uploads, or changes can be made. You may “save” your submission and return to complete. Please note: The submission is not complete until the “complete this submission” button has been pressed. For team projects, each member of team projects may submit the final project, but each project should be submitted only once. Once the final submission is uploaded and submitted, each student will receive a confirmation email notification.

The final submission upload must contain the following:

- Completed online registration including all team members and faculty sponsors
- Each of the four 20"x20" boards uploaded individually as a high resolution BMP, GIF, JPEG, JPG, or PNG file,
- A design essay or abstract (300 words maximum)
- A program summary and narrative text (300 words maximum)

The names of student participants, their schools and faculty sponsors must NOT appear on the boards, abstract, program summary, or in the file name.

Winning projects will be required to submit high-resolution original files/images for use in competition publications and exhibit materials. By uploading your files, you agree that the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) has the rights to use your winning submission, images and materials in a summary publication, online and in promotional and exhibition resources. ACSA will attribute authorship of the winning design to you, your team, faculty and affiliation. Additionally, you hereby warrant that the submission is original and that you are the author(s) of the submission.

BUILDING PERFORMANCE

Design performance accountability is an important aspect of today's architectural profession and education. While it is not required this year, the competition is an opportunity for programs to consider how assessment can be integrated at their schools. Below are some examples.

Sociological

- User behavior: How do different people use the space? How have you analyzed that to assess, and perhaps influence, your design? How can you determine whether your design is successful if responding to how people use the spaces is a goal of yours in the project?
- Accommodation/response to needs of different user groups: This might include the needs of trainees, instructors, researchers, fabricators, or managers etc. How do you assess whether your initial goals of accommodation were actually met?
- Inclusivity and/or accessibility: Are you creating equally dignified experiences in your design for all users? Or did you make changes to create a more accessible entry? What does “more accessible” entail?

Technical

- Structural performance- member sizing: Did you calculate the depth of your roof beam or trusses based on the forces and the span? Did you compare its performance to code minimums or adjust your spacing to get a more efficient or economical layout? A more dramatic effect?
- Efficiency of use of steel in the project: One of steel's benefits is how it can integrate with other systems. Did you make adjustments to a steel member's depth or spacing to refine the integration with a facade or environmental system?
- Daylighting quantity and/or quality: Some modeling plug-ins not only measure daylight quantity, but also daylight quality- does it cause glare or heat gain? Does that impact energy use?
- Energy Use Index or Embodied Carbon Index: Modeling plug-ins are available to help measure both operational energy used during the time a building is occupied and embodied energy over a project's lifetime.

Construction

- Project Cost or Schedule: Did you study a steel system, member, or detail?
- Life Safety: Were you able to improve the life safety of your design

COMPETITION ORGANIZERS

Administrative Organization

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA)

Leading Architectural Education and Research

ACSA is a nonprofit, membership association founded in 1912 to advance the quality of architectural education. The school membership in ACSA has grown from 10 charter members to over 250 schools in several membership categories. These include full membership for all accredited programs in the United States and government-sanctioned schools in Canada, candidate membership for schools seeking accreditation, and affiliate membership for schools for two-year and international programs. Through these schools, over 5,000 architecture faculty members are represented. In addition, over 500 supporting members composed of architecture firms, product associations and individuals add to the breadth of interest and support of ACSA goals. ACSA provides a major forum for ideas on the leading edge of architectural thought. Issues that will affect the architectural profession in the future are being examined today in ACSA member schools.

Competition Sponsor

American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)

The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), headquartered in Chicago, is a non-partisan, not-for-profit technical institute and trade association established in 1921 to serve the structural steel design community and construction industry in the United States. AISC's mission is to make structural steel the material of choice by being the leader in structural-steel-related technical and market-building activities, including: specification and code development, research, education, technical assistance, quality certification, standardization, market development, and advocacy. AISC has a long tradition of service to the steel construction industry providing timely and reliable information.

Membership to AISC is free to university faculty and full-time students, and AISC membership provides valuable benefits. Information can be found at www.aisc.org/archeducation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Program updates, including information on jury members as they are confirmed, may be found on the ACSA web site at www.acsa-arch.org/competitions. Additional questions on the competition program and submissions should be addressed to:

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Awards and Competitions Manager

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Competition Program written and developed by: Katherine Bambrick Ambroziak, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, along with ACSA & AISC.

Katherine Bambrick Ambroziak, AIA, is an associate professor and associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Her research examines how designers and users become conscious of their built and natural environments and what this may mean to the generation of healthy perceptions and memory. She focuses on spatial theory related to sensory response and body perception, ritual theory, and contemporary memorial theory.

Ambroziak received her Master of Architecture from Princeton University and Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Virginia. A licensed architect in the State of Tennessee, she is active in community engagement as both an academic and civic pursuit. Since 2009, she has served as the primary researcher, designer, and coordinator of the Odd Fellows Cemetery Reclamation, a public space initiative of the Knoxville Re-Animation Coalition that aims to engage and support the communities of East Knoxville through the design and implementation of a sustainable memorial landscape.

Image Credits: [2021 Steel Competition, Category II: Open, 1st Place](#)

Project Title: Clouds Over Regent Park

Student: Thomas Gomez Ospina, Ryerson University

Faculty: Vincent Hui, Ryerson University