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BP Design Competition

ABOUT

The BP Design Competition is a local ideas competition which challenges participants to think outside the box and imagine a pocket park for a Chicago area neighborhood. Are you up to the challenge?

The competition is hosted by the Chicago Architecture Foundation, in partnership with the Chicago Architecture Biennial, North America's first architecture biennial. The Biennial's theme, "State of the Art of Architecture" provides a platform for creative minds to explore how our daily lives can be transformed by the built environment. How might your pocket park transform the lives of others?

Design Challenge

Design a pocket park that is less than a half acre in size that will improve access to public open space by providing a park within a 10-minute walk of every home in the Dunning, Chicago Lawn, or Roseland Community Areas in the city of Chicago.

About Pocket Parks

A pocket park is less than a half acre (50 feet x 125 feet; two city lots) and may contain recreation facilities such as a playground, sport court or other facilities and/or a passive park space used informally such as gardens, benches, walkways, etc. The Chicago Park District's goal is to preserve, enhance, and manage our historic parks as an integral part of our neighborhoods and our region's recreational, cultural, environmental and educational experience. The designs developed must be engaging, attractive, safe and accessible for children and families of all abilities and designed to enhance the unique qualities of the site and community.

The Communities

The Dunning Community area is 3.75 square miles with 80 acres of public open space located on Chicago's northwest side. It is bordered by Harwood Heights, Norridge, River Grove and Elmwood Park. The Chicago Lawn Community area is 3.49 square miles with 327 acres of public open space located on Chicago's southwest side. Its community neighbors include Gage Park, West Englewood, Ashburn and West Lawn. The Roseland Community area is 4.86 square miles with 120 acres of public open space located on Chicago's far southeast side. Its community neighbors include Fernwood, Princeton Park, Lilydale, Sheldon Heights and West Roseland.

WHAT DO I NEED TO SUBMIT?

Hand drawings, images of physical models, digital renderings and/or a combination of these will be accepted. Below is the complete list of submission requirements to be uploaded and submitted to the competition platform at architecture.org/BPCompetition.

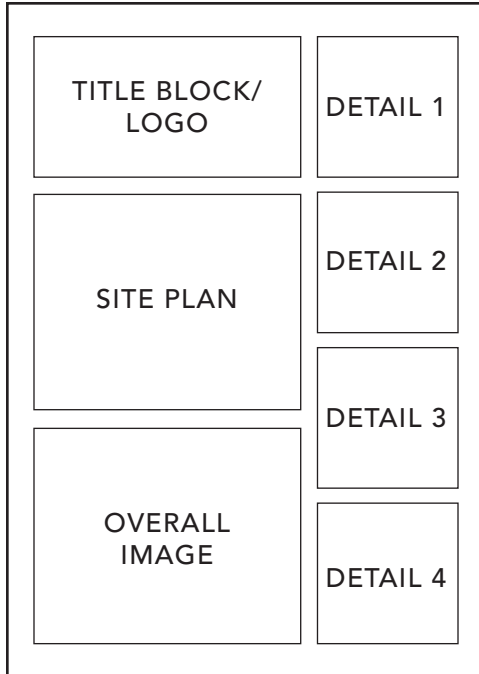
Student submissions will be input into a template for jury review by CAF staff.

1. **Title block and/or logo** indicating the name of your park. What is your park called? You also may design a logo for your park and submit it for this requirement.
2. **Site plan** of your park design in plan view. It should include the following:
 - Key including:
 - north arrow
 - symbols legend (if applicable)
 - Human figure in at least one drawing, image or rendering to help the judges understand the scale of your park and structures.
3. **Overall view** that shows a 3-dimensional view of your entire park. Be sure to include key structures and details that help us understand your site plan in 3D.
4. **Four (4) detail images** to showcase different perspectives and spaces of your design from eye-level perspective. Below are some suggestions for details to show:
 - Detail View 1: a view looking into your park from the main entry that shows how a visitor might travel through the park.
 - Detail View 2: a detail image of a special feature such as a fountain or custom pavilion. Be sure to show its surroundings and not just a zoomed-in view of the object.
 - Detail View 3: a view showing different material choices on a particular park feature.
 - Detail View 4: a view highlighting a number of special features so the jury can understand how they relate to each other.
5. **Written responses** about your design decisions such as park audience and material choices.
 - Persuasive Essay: Why do the people in this neighborhood need a park? (150–250 words)
 - Short Answer: Tell us about the materials you have included in your park and why. (100–150 words)

All files must be labeled in the following format: LASTNAMEFirstInitial_SubmissionType.jpeg

Examples for each submission piece are below:

1. Site Plan: SMITHJ_SitePlan.jpeg
2. Overall View: SMITHJ_OverallView.jpeg
3. Detail Images: SMITHJ_Detail1.jpeg; SMITHJ_Detail2.jpeg; SMITHJ_Detail3.jpeg; SMITHJ_Detail4.jpeg
4. Short Answer Responses: SMITHJ_PersuasiveEssay.docx –OR– SMITHJ_PersuasiveEssay.pdf



SAMPLE TEMPLATE

Student submissions will be input into a template for jury review by CAF staff. Templates with student work will be printed at 30" x 42." Final templates may look different than the sample to the left, yet will be consistent for all student work.

RESTRICTIONS

- You may NOT use SketchUp Warehouse or other pre-made, downloadable digital models as-is; this is considered plagiarism. Pre-made persons and trees are acceptable as they help to show scale.
- Pre-made, downloadable models MAY be used if altered beyond 50% of the original template/rendering.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply applicants must:

- Live within the city limits of Chicago
- Be enrolled in a Chicago Public School
- Be at least 13 years of age by September 1, 2015

To be eligible for judging applicants must:

- Submit all required content per the outlined requirements
- Adhere to the Additional Terms and Conditions as outlined in this document (see Terms and Conditions section)

Teams up to 5 participants are welcome to apply. Together they will submit one complete design.

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

September 1, 2015	Competition and registration opens
November 11, 2015	Registration closes
November 20, 2015	Submissions due; competition closes
November 30, 2015	Submission review
November 30–December 3, 2015	Jurying process
December 3, 2015	Top 10 finalists announced
December 15, 2015	Final showcase and top three winners announced

PRIZES

Awards will be presented at the Final Showcase on December 15, 2015.

First Prize Winner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$500.00 • Recognition by the Mayor • One-year subscription to Black Spectacles • Four (4) CAF walking tour passes • One-night family stay in a Chicago Hotel • One family dinner voucher • Digital Achievement Badge • Framed certificate signed by the jury
Second Prize Winner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$350.00 • Recognition by the Mayor • One-year subscription to Black Spectacles • Four (4) CAF walking tour passes • Digital Achievement Badge • Framed certificate signed by the jury
Third Prize Winner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$275.00 • Recognition by the Mayor • One-year subscription to Black Spectacles • Four (4) CAF walking tour passes • Digital Achievement Badge • Framed Certificate signed by the jury
Finalists (7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$125.00 each (\$875 total) • Recognition by the Mayor • Four (4) CAF walking tour passes • Digital Achievement Badge • Framed certificate signed by the jury

NOTE: Should a team entry be chosen as a prize winner, cash would be distributed between team members at their discretion. Other prize offerings may be expanded to award each team member.

JURY REVIEW

All eligible projects (see Project Requirements) will be reviewed by a jury of design field professionals selected by the Chicago Architecture Biennial committee. Jurors have been selected based on their personal and professional success in design, involvement in local design issues in Chicago, and commitment to supporting youth. Projects will be reviewed in person between November 30 and December 3, by a Round 1 and Round 2 jury, culminating in final recommendations for the winning projects.

Jurors

See architecture.org/BPCompetition for Jury information.

Judging Process

All entries meeting the submission and student eligibility requirements will be printed and displayed for jury review.

Initial submission review will be during the week of November 23, 2015. The jurying process will begin on November 30. Submissions will be judged by a panel of professional designers and/or design educators. Ten finalists will be announced on December 3, 2015. The top three winners will be announced on December 15, 2015.

If none of the design entries meet the requirements, the panel reserves the right not to award a winner. All decisions made by the panel are final.

Judges will provide online feedback on the top three winning student projects.

Judging criteria

- Originality in your design
- Your ability to creatively solve the design challenge
- How well your pocket park uses energy and natural resources in order to minimize the building's impact on the environment
- The quality of images, sketches, drawings and models you have uploaded in each of the required submission categories
- How well you have written about and explained your thinking in each of the short answer essays

PLATFORM

The competition will be hosted on an online competition platform:

- Link to competition: architecture.org/BPCompetition
- Live date: September 1, 2015

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

See the Quick Links on architecture.org/BPCompetition for more information about the Jury, Facilitator Guide (step-by-step help on the competition platform), and related readings.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This competition is open to any student at least 13 years old as of September 1, 2015, and currently enrolled as a Chicago Public Middle or High School student. You may only submit one design project, either as an individual participant or as a part of a team up to five (5) participants.

There is no cost to enter this competition. Mail-in submissions of design projects will not be accepted.

By participating you understand and will comply with these guidelines established in all competition requirements.

Ineligibility

The children, relatives or household members of CAF 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.

Applicants may be disqualified if they:

- Are not registered as a Chicago Public Middle or High School student, within the city limits.
- Are under the age of 13 after September 1, 2015.
- Do not upload content (text and/or images) in to the competition platform.
- Do not submit a consent form signed by a sponsoring teacher and also 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.