

# Design Pittsburgh 2014

## Young Architects Studio Competition

### ELIGIBILITY

#### **Architecture Graduates:**

Individual architecture graduates, who have been out of school for no more than ten years, are eligible to enter this competition. Entrants may or may not be licensed to practice architecture. AIA membership is not required.

#### **Architect Undergraduates:**

Individual architecture undergraduates, who are currently enrolled in an architecture program, are eligible to enter this competition. AIA membership is not required.

**New!** Team entries will be accepted. Entrants are welcome to submit individual entries or team entries; however, the teams must be made up of either all architecture graduates or all architecture undergraduates.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**Project Title:** Urban Voids: Opportunities Along the Rivers

#### **The Challenge:**

Two bodies of water meet to create a third in Pittsburgh at what is known as “The Point”, home to one of the oldest standing fortifications in the country – Fort Pitt. At one time, these three rivers brought soldiers and supplies to help defend our lands, at other times, travelers from afar seeking westward lands, and more recently they helped move home grown components of steel, glass, and aluminum, which would help to build the country.

As these three bodies have played a crucial part in defining Pittsburgh’s past, they continue to shape it’s future. For a long time, these waters served utilitarian functions, which greatly contributed to the smoke, smog, and soot that blanketed the city. Fortunately, Pittsburgh has grown out of the stigma of it’s industrial past in large part due to the great efforts that have been made to redevelop and reclaim the riverfronts, resulting in some of the most breathtaking and enjoyable public spaces and trails in the country. And while much of the waterfronts can now be explored and enjoyed with the transformation into beautiful bike trails, boat docking stations, and biergartens, many of these areas still remain untouched, underutilized, and forgotten, and yet, with this there is so much untapped potential.

The challenge for this competition is to identify an urban void along the riverfront that is believed, by the entrant(s), to have untapped potential, and to offer a creative solution to fill that void.

There are no particular requirements for presentation techniques. Entrants are encouraged to creatively use tools such as sketching, photography, selective modeling, or other visual media that successfully conveys the designer’s response to the challenge.

The Successful Design Shall:

- Make a place
- Create an experience

- Be located within the following geographical boundaries along the riverfronts and starting at the point downtown:
  - Down the Monongahela River to the Rankin Bridge
  - Up the Allegheny River to the Hulton Bridge
  - Up the Ohio River to the Sewickley Bridge
- Promote connection to our communities
- Promote connection to our riverfronts
- Promote principles of sustainability and resilience
- Develop a memorable and appropriate character/place/experience suited to Pittsburgh and its vernacular
- Acknowledge different user groups: cyclists, runners, pedestrians, families, etc.
- Be safe for use during day or night

## JUDGING CRITERIA

All judging will be completely anonymous.

The Young Architects Studio Competition entries will be judged by measuring the designer's performance against the project's potential, and the skill in optimizing the design opportunity. Judges will consider the following:

- Creativity of the program
- How well the design and program address the site vernacular
- How well the design and program address the past, present, and future of the Pittsburgh area
- Human scale
- Innovative approaches to design and use of technology, materials, and renewable resources
- How well the design and program communicate both vision and detail
- Comprehensive quality of the author's written statement

## AWARDS

### **Architecture Graduate(s):**

**Honor Award** - To honor the best of the submitted projects. In addition to a certificate, the recipient(s) will receive an undisclosed gift to be revealed during the Design Awards Ceremony. Only one Honor Award will be issued to an architecture graduate or a team of architecture graduates.

### **Architecture Undergraduate(s):**

**Honor Award** - To honor the best of the submitted projects. In addition to a certificate, the recipient(s) will receive an undisclosed gift to be revealed during the Design Awards Ceremony. Only one Honor Award will be issued to an architecture undergraduate or a team of architecture undergraduates.

## THE SUBMISSION PROCESS

### ALL project entries will be submitted via DropBox.

1. Submit a submission request form along with the entry fee. See submission request form for details.
2. Once AIA Pittsburgh has received your submission request form, you will receive an email inviting you to your personalized YASC DropBox folder.

Note: If you do not have a DropBox account, you will be prompted to create one when you receive the invitation.

### Digital Submission Requirements:

**Note:** Name identification is for office use only. **The information that is sent to the jury will not contain any personal identification to protect anonymity.**

#### DropBox Requirements

Once in your personalized YASC DropBox folder, you will see a folder with your name. Within this folder, you will see four more folders, titled:

- “Entry”
- “Publication”
- “Project Summary”

#### Add to the “Entry” Folder:

- 4 pages maximum, formatted to 11”x17” size and compiled into a single PDF file (150 dpi). File names shall contain the name of the project title and the author’s name:  
  
DP2014\_YASC\_FirstLast\_Entry.pdf
- One of the pages must be the title page and contain the designer’s written approach to the problem, research, ideas, and other statements supporting the author’s response to the challenge. Images are allowed on this slide.
- The other three pages must contain images illustrating the designer’s understanding and solution to the design challenge.
- **Note:** There should be no reference to the author’s identity in the body of any of the pages contained in the entry folder.

#### Add to the “Publication” Folder:

- Two files formatted to 11”x17” size, at 300 dpi, saved as PDFs.
- These images must include the name of the designer and the text “AIA Design Pittsburgh 2014 Young Architects Studio Competition” in its body.

- These images will be used for print, web, and exhibit publication and should be the best representation of the designer's solution to the design challenge. Landscape or portrait orientation should stay consistent.
- The file name shall contain the following info, along with the designer's name:

DP2014\_YASC\_FirstLast\_Publication\_01.pdf  
DP2014\_YASC\_FirstLast\_Publication\_02.pdf

**Add to the "Project Summary" Folder:**

A one-page project summary sheet formatted to 11"x17" PDF that includes:

- Key project images and an at-a-glance abridgment of the project
- Labeled as DP2014\_YASC\_FirstLast\_Summary.pdf

## DEADLINES

**Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>:** Submission Request Forms must be turned in to the AIA Pittsburgh office. Please submit via fax at 412.471.9501 or by email at [submissions@aiapgh.org](mailto:submissions@aiapgh.org).

**Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>:** Project Submission must be received by AIA Pittsburgh via DropBox by 5:00 p.m. to be eligible for judging.

If you have any questions regarding this competition, please email Kevin Kunak at [kevink@rdcollab.com](mailto:kevink@rdcollab.com)

## LIABILITY CLAUSE

AIA Pittsburgh assumes no liability for original drawings and other submission materials or loss or damage to any part of the submission. AIA Pittsburgh retains the right to reproduce any of the submission materials in its publications, educational programs, and web site, and guarantees that credit will be given to the designer.

Please check all information for correct spelling and accuracy since it will be used for publication. By making a submission, the entrant agrees that the information contained in this form is correct and complete, and that the entrant will hold harmless AIA Pittsburgh for any and all damage arising out of the use of the information contained herein. Any errors or omissions are the complete responsibility of the entrant.

The entrant further certifies that permission has been obtained from the owner, developer, and photographer of the project to publish photographs, drawings, and other information included in the submission (and releases and authorizes AIA Pittsburgh to use all such materials).

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