Design Pittsburgh 2017
Young Architects Studio Competition (YASC) Submission Criteria

INTRODUCTION

Now in its seventh year, the goal of this competition is to engage young architects, emerging design professionals, and students, by challenging them to find innovative ways to approach a regional design challenge.

ELIGIBILITY

Enter the competition as an **individual** or **create a design team**!

Entrants are welcome to submit individual entries or design team entries. Individual entries must come from either an architecture graduate or undergraduate.

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; however, entrants must be located within AIA Pittsburgh's 11-county chapter area.

Architecture Undergraduates:
Individual architecture undergraduates, who are currently enrolled in an architecture program, are eligible to enter this competition. AIAS membership is not required; however, entrants must be located within AIA Pittsburgh's 11-county chapter area.

Design Teams:
The teams must be lead by an architecture graduate and/or undergraduate. Teams can include graduates, who have been out of school for no more than ten years, or undergraduates in a design industry related field which can include, but is not limited to, engineers, landscape architects, or artists. All team members must be located within AIA Pittsburgh's 11-county chapter area.

THE CHALLENGE

Equitable Pittsburgh: The Most Livable City for Everyone
#equitablePGH

Pittsburgh has been named the "most livable city" six times since 2000 by *The Economist*, *Forbes,* and *Places Rated Almanac* [1; however, in the past year Pittsburgh news has revealed how the Steel City is not treating all of its residents in equally. For example, insufficiency of affordable housing and the consequent gentrification demonstrates how the less wealthy portion of our population find Pittsburgh not that livable and are forced to move elsewhere. Nick Keppler on *Public Source* summarizes Pittsburgh's present situation very well by saying that "*rents are rising faster than renters' income. New developments are outside most Pittsburgh residents' price range. And the city has fewer income-restricted apartments than people who need them,*" (read the full article and data here).

Back in 2014, Mayor Bill Peduto declared he wanted to bring 20,000 new residents into the city over the next 10 years [2]. So far, and more than often than not, trauma and tensions have arisen in many communities in which new development created conflicts and added anxiety in neighborhoods already weakened by less favorable economic situations. Peduto has recognized this problem and in 2016 said that "we have to plan for a variety of options that allows long-time residents to stay in their communities, while also creating new housing in the city."

The challenge for Pittsburgh, though, is not only to provide affordable housing but also to foster fully equitable communities. Pittsburgh, and any city willing to be welcome new and existing residents, should assist all citizens in living and working with dignity while realizing their dreams and their hopes, no matter their income level. A truly livable city should allow equal access to resources, services, transportation, and education, and provide its residents with the freedom to make their own choices.

This year's challenge is to design a project that will make a statement on the theme of "Equitable Pittsburgh." Participants are asked **to describe a problem that makes Pittsburgh and/or its surroundings less welcoming, and to present a project that tackles that chosen aspect of inequality.** Design solutions can deal with, but are not limited to, affordable housing, public transportation, social services, public amenities, and racial injustice. Each submission should consist of a written statement that identifies the issue and a proposed design that addresses it. **The design should fit in a generic volume of 20'-25' x 100'**, which is a typical Pittsburgh-area lot, and can be freestanding or imagined to be an infill between existing buildings. The proposed projects can be located in an existing place, or be an adaptable solution for any lot with similar dimensions. The final goal is to identify a variety of issues, tackled by solutions that can make Pittsburgh more equitable to truly be most livable city - for everyone.

The Successful Design Shall:

Provide a short written statement on the theme of the equitable city and design a congruent project addressing <u>as many </u>of the following points:

- Equity
- Affordability
- Welcoming communities
- Accessibility to services
- Innovative policies
- Smart construction methods

The design should be both memorable and impactful while promoting principles of sustainability, resilience, and diversity that create healthy environments for all residents and visitors. The proposed design is supposed to develop an appropriate character/place/ experience suited to Pittsburgh, and respect historic assets when applicable.

JUDGING CRITERIA

All judging will be completely anonymous.

Judges will consider the following:

- Comprehensive quality of the author's written statement
- How well the design solution communicates its vision and detail.
- Creativity of the design, materials, explanation, and solution
- Innovative approaches to design and use of technology, materials, and renewable resources

AWARDS

The YASC entries will be judged by measuring the architect's performance against each project's potential and not in competition with each other. Thus, projects of ordinary program can merit an award based on the architect's skill in optimizing the design opportunity. The awards given will be:

Award of Excellence – Only one Award of Excellence will be given in this category. In addition to a certificate, the recipient(s) will receive an undisclosed gift to be revealed during the Design Awards Ceremony.

People's Choice Award - This category reflects the public's popular vote for a favorite project. Votes will be collected on the AIA Pittsburgh's online exhibit featuring Design Pittsburgh's Design Award Submissions.

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

For each project entry, please include the following items in your electronic submission folder via DropBox.com:
- Entry
- Project Summary
- Publication & Print

Entry
For Jury Use
- Four 8.5x11 pages compiled into a single PDF file (150 dpi). File names shall contain the name of the project title and the author's name:

  YASC_ProjectTitle_FirstLast.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 also encouraged on this slide.
- The remaining three pages must contain images illustrating the designer's understanding and solution to the design challenge.
- **There should be no reference to the author's identity in the body of any of the pages contained in the entry folder.**

Project Summary
For Jury Use
- The one-page project summary sheet must include key project images and an at-a-glance abridgment of the project, and be formatted for an 8.5 x 11 printout. File name shall be labeled:

  YASC_FirstLast_Summary.pdf

Publication & Print
Used for print, web, and exhibit publication. Should be the best representation of the designer's solution to the design challenge.

For Print: Please format to a SQUARE.

* One file formatted to 34" x 34" at 300 dpi, saved as a PDF. This file can contain text and imagery. It should focus on visual impact, as this will be displayed in the Design Pittsburgh exhibition viewed by the general public and the architecture community.
* File name shall be labeled:

    YASC_FirstLast_Exhibit_DP16.pdf

For Digital Gallery and Media Outlets: Two files not to exceed 1000 x 1000 pixels each, at 100 dpi, saved as a JPG or PNG. File name shall be labeled:

YASC_FirstLast_Media_01.PNG

DEADLINES

Friday, August 18th: Submission Request Forms must be turned in to the AIA Pittsburgh office. Please submit by email at submissions@aiapgh.org or via fax at 412.471.9501.

Friday, August 25th: Project submissions must be received by AIA Pittsburgh via DropBox by midnight to be eligible for judging.

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).

AIA Pittsburgh
info@aiapgh.org | 412.471.9548
925 Liberty Avenue, Suite 700
Pittsburgh, PA 15222