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BP Student Design Competition

2017 Competition Packet | bpcompetition.org

About the Competition

The 2017 BP Student Design Competition invites young Chicagoans to solve a design challenge. Students can choose from two categories:

Graphic Design: Chicago Neighborhood Bus Shelter Advertisement

Architecture Design: Public Library Design

The competition is sponsored by BP America and organized by the Chicago Architecture Foundation, in partnership with the Chicago Architecture Biennial. The 2017 Biennial theme, "Make New History," serves as the inspiration for this year's competition. Strong entries will explore how the past informs the future and how our daily lives can be transformed by the built environment.

Registration

Register online at bpcompetition.org before November 30, 2017 to compete. The BP Student Design Competition is free to enter.

Project Submission

All work must be submitted to the competition portal at bpcompetition.org by 5:00pm CST on November 30 to qualify for jury review. See Project Submission section for details.

Competition Timeline

September 1	Competition registration opens
November 30	Registration closes; submissions due by 5:00pm CST
December 6	Jury day
December 12	Final showcase & winners announced

Winners + Prizes

The jury will select ten finalists to compete for first, second and third place in each division. Competition winners will receive free design software and varying cash prizes. They will receive public recognition at the final showcase and have their work on display at the Chicago Architecture Biennial. See the Prizes section for more details.

Final Showcase + Exhibition

The BP Student Design Competition Final Showcase takes place on December 12 at the Chicago Cultural Center (78 East Washington Street). All students, friends, families, teachers and principals are invited to attend to celebrate the accomplishments of all competitors! Competition winners and prizes Chicago Cultural Center as a part of the Chicago Architecture Biennial. The exhibition will be open December 10-23.

Design Challenges

LEVEL 1: GRAPHIC DESIGN

Chicago Neighborhood Bus Shelter Ad

Eligibility: Ages 10 and up. Must be a resident of the City of Chicago. Must attend an elementary or high school in Chicago.

The Challenge

Your challenge is to design a bus shelter advertisement for a Chicago neighborhood that will encourage people to want to visit. You can choose the neighborhood you live in or another neighborhood in Chicago. Your design must respond to the Biennial's theme "Make New History" by showcasing and celebrating a Chicago neighborhood's unique past, present and future.

Bus shelter advertisements are eye-level ads that give people something to look at while they are waiting at the bus stop, or passing by in a vehicle or on a bicycle. Chicago has more than 130 bus routes used by approximately 800,000 people each weekday. A typical bus shelter in Chicago includes a large poster that measures roughly 6 feet tall and 4 feet wide on one of the shelter walls. Use the template in this packet to create a graphic design that can be scaled up to bus shelter actual size.

Entries must be two-dimensional. You can use any media (crayon, paint, marker, photography, digital, etc.) or a mix of media. Your entry needs to be scanned or photographed and uploaded to the competition portal, bpcompetition.org, by November 30.

What do I need to submit?

The following must be submitted in order to qualify for jury review:

1. **One digital image of your bus shelter ad design** (uploaded as a PDF or JPEG)
2. **A 150-200 word written response to the following question:**
What makes the neighborhood you've chosen a unique and important place to visit?

Copy your written response into the submission form text field on the competition portal.

All work must be submitted to the competition portal at bpcompetition.org by 5:00pm CST on November 30 to qualify for jury review.

What kinds of things should I consider for my bus shelter advertisement?

Graphic designers think about the colors, lines, images, words, and how all of these things fit together when they create a two-dimensional design. [There are some 'rules' that help graphic designers create exciting and successful designs.](#) Think carefully about your composition. [Composition is the placement or arrangement of visual elements or ingredients in a work of art and means 'putting together'.](#)

Avoid using generic symbols like smiley faces, peace signs, rainbows, etc. The jury will be looking for original designs and community-specific details, objects and themes. Almost all of Chicago's neighborhoods have old and new buildings and a history of cultural and demographic changes. Many neighborhoods have parks, shops, sculptures or murals that make it unique. Think about what objects, places, people or stories you could include in your design.

Strong entries will include something from the neighborhood's past, something from the present and something about the neighborhood's future. (This could include something YOU would like to see in the neighborhood in the future).

LEVEL 2: ARCHITECTURE DESIGN

Public Library Design

Eligibility: Ages 14 and up. Must be a resident of the City of Chicago. Must attend a high school in Chicago.

The Challenge

Design a library on a 75'x125' lot for the Little Italy neighborhood

Strong entries will reflect the Biennial theme, "Make New History" by highlighting unique qualities of the specific site and the Little Italy community.

[The site is located on an empty lot at the northwest corner of West Taylor Street and South Ada Street, Chicago.](#) For your design project and this competition, the site measures 75' (east/west) along West Taylor

Street and 125' (north/south) along South Ada Street. 75' x 125' is the size of three typical Chicago residential lots. Total lot size available = 9,375 square feet. Libraries typically contain elements such as an information center, a children's area, an adult reading room, teen media rooms and community meeting spaces. Designs must be engaging, attractive, and accessible for all ages.

The site is currently a parking lot, but [a new mixed use building \(with library on the lower floor and a mix of low income, affordable, and market rate apartments above\) has been proposed by the City of Chicago for the same site.](#)

About the Challenge and the Site

Chicago Public Library's (CPL) goal is to encourage community interaction by creating more open spaces and transparency in their buildings, which increases the richness of interactions among patrons and their local communities. There are 79 public libraries in Chicago that serve as community anchors - yet not everyone has access to a library within walking distance of their home. This design challenge addresses this goal.

Little Italy's local population has shifted over time from predominantly Italian immigrants in the early 1900's, to a now ethnically and socioeconomically diverse population. This changing Near West Side neighborhood has a rich history deeply tied to immigration and gentrification in Chicago. How might a new public library enable this changing, local community make a new history?

What do I need to submit?

Entries may be 2-dimensional, 3-dimensional or both, and can use any media (cardboard, paper, foam board, pencil, digital, etc.). A photo or digital file of your entry must be uploaded to the competition portal, bpcpetition.org. The following images and written elements must be submitted in order to qualify for jury review:

1. **Write a response** (150-300 words) **to the following question:**
Why is it important for the Little Italy community to have this library? How does your proposal embody the Biennial theme?
Copy your written response into the submission form text field on the competition portal.
2. **Digital images** (PDF, JPEG files) that showcase your design, highlight details that reflect Little Italy's history and the unique site:
 - a. **One (1) overall view:** (view oriented horizontally)
An image that shows a 3D view of the entire structure. This should be a good "overall" image and will be the largest on your final board (See Project Submission).
 - b. **Two (2) floor plans:** (view oriented horizontally)
Drawings that show how the rooms are arranged and how space is being allotted on each of the two floors of the library.
 - c. **One or more (1+) eye-level detail view(s):** (view oriented horizontally or vertically)
Showcase details of your design in a close-up, eye-level image. You can include an image from the exterior or interior. Up to 3 detail images is recommended.



Important Tips

- This is an ideas competition, so be creative and explore new options for a unique library design!
- Research the Little Italy/University Village neighborhood to learn more about the people who live in the area and what has happened here in the past. Think about how you might create an inviting space that is unique to the local community.
- Research the Chicago Public Library to learn more about their mission and vision.
- Consider the climate in Chicago and how it will impact the materials you choose. Consider how your library uses energy and natural resources to minimize the building's impact on the environment.
- Your overall 3D view and the site plan should show the street and neighboring buildings, to help the jury understand how your building sits on the site. Include trees and people to help the jury understand the scale of your building.
- If you are creating a physical model, take a high-quality, high-resolution picture with a high quality camera or use the HDR setting on a phone. Take the photo against a blank wall or surface and get close! Do not include a lot of stuff or people in the background of your photo.
- If you are working in a digital design software like SketchUp, 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 graph paper to help you keep your drawing to scale. A ¼" graph paper means 4 squares = 1 foot in real life.



What types of spaces need to be included in and around this library?

Libraries have spaces that serve different audiences and different functions, resources and ages. Consider these typical library spaces and square footage needed when you design the interior of your library:

Spaces	Square Footage
Entry vestibule and lobby	1,300 square feet
Information Center	800 square feet
Early Childhood Learning Area (ages 0 – 5)	900 square feet
Children’s Learning Area (ages 5 – 12)	2,000 square feet
Teen Area / You Media Maker Space Lab (ages 13 – 18)	900 square feet
Adult Reading Room and Senior Learning Area	4,500 square feet
Community Meeting Rooms	1,500 square feet
Public Restrooms	400 square feet
Staff / Head Librarian	200 square feet
Staff / Workroom	1,300 square feet
Staff / Miscellaneous	300 square feet
Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing systems and spaces	1,900 square feet
TOTAL building size	16,000 square feet
TOTAL lot size available for this challenge	9,375 square feet

Note: To accommodate many of the spaces a library needs, your design must be more than one story to fit on the available lot size. (75’ x 125’)

Project Submission

All work must be submitted to the competition portal at bpcompetition.org by 5:00pm CST on November 30 in order to qualify for jury review.

What types of materials can I use when creating my design project?

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 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.

Suggestions

- Consider a mix of drawing and collage for a 2D design.
- Choose media that best represents what materials would be used in the real world. Think about unexpected items like cling wrap, recycled materials, variety of papers or popsicle sticks and how they can represent building materials like glass, wood, or metal.
- Use careful craftsmanship. Avoid gloppy glue, messy scribbles or crumpled tape. The jury will notice if you were careful (or not) with your materials.

How do I submit my project?

Any media will be accepted, however, all final submissions must be uploaded as digital files (JPGs or PDFs) to the competition platform at bpcompetition.org. You must scan drawings, photograph physical models, or export views of your 3D digital model to be uploaded.

Highly Recommended

- Take time to explain your ideas in the written portion.
- Proofread and be tidy.
- Scan in drawings to create high quality a JPG or PDF file.
- If you 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.

File Name Requirements

Files must be labeled in the following format: LastNameFirstInitial_Division.jpg.

Example: "SmithJ_GraphicDesign.pdf"

If you have multiple images, include a number for each file. For example:

SmithJ_Architecture1.jpg

SmithJ_Architecture2.jpg

Where do I submit my files?

Go to bpcompetition.org to access the competition submission portal.

Jury Review

All eligible projects will be reviewed by a jury of design 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 by the jury between November 30 and December 6.

Jurors

See bpcompetition.org for jury information.

Judging Process

All entries meeting the submission and student eligibility requirements will be printed and displayed for jury review. A jury will be selected for each design challenge and judge elementary school and high school projects separately.

An initial review of submissions will take place the week of November 20. The jury will reconvene December 6 to determine the finalists. Ten finalists will be announced on December 7. The top three winners will be announced at the final showcase on December 12.

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

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

- Originality in your design
- Your ability to creatively solve the design challenge
- 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 the written responses

Prizes

The jury will select ten finalists to compete for first, second and third place in each division. They will receive public recognition at the final showcase for their friends, family and teachers. Winners' work will be on display at the Chicago Architecture Biennial in December.

First Prize Winner

- \$500.00
- 1-year subscription to design software
- 4 CAF walking tour passes
- 1 night stay in a Chicago Hotel
- 1 dinner voucher downtown
- Digital Achievement Badge
- Framed certificate signed by the jury

Second Prize Winner

- \$350.00
- 1-year subscription to design software
- 4 CAF walking tour passes
- Digital Achievement Badge
- Framed certificate signed by the jury

Third Prize Winner

- \$275.00
- 1-year subscription to design software
- 4 CAF walking tour passes
- Digital Achievement Badge
- Framed Certificate signed by the jury

Finalists (7)

- \$125.00 each (\$875 total)
- 4 CAF walking tour passes
- Digital Achievement Badge
- Framed certificate signed by the jury

Additional Information

PLATFORM

The competition will be hosted on an online competition platform:

- Link to competition: bpcompetition.org
- Live date: September 1, 2017

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

See bpcompetition.org for more information about the jury, step-by-step help on the competition platform, and related readings.

Special Opportunity

Students entering the Architecture Design Division can also compete nationally in the [2017 National DiscoverDesign Competition](#). To enter, complete the online design challenge at DiscoverDesign.org and include the link to your project when you submit. Learn more at DiscoverDesign.org/Competitions

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This competition is open to any student enrolled in an elementary or high school in the City of Chicago who is age 10 or older as of September 1, 2017. You may only submit one design project, either as an individual participant or as a part of a team with 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 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 models, 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

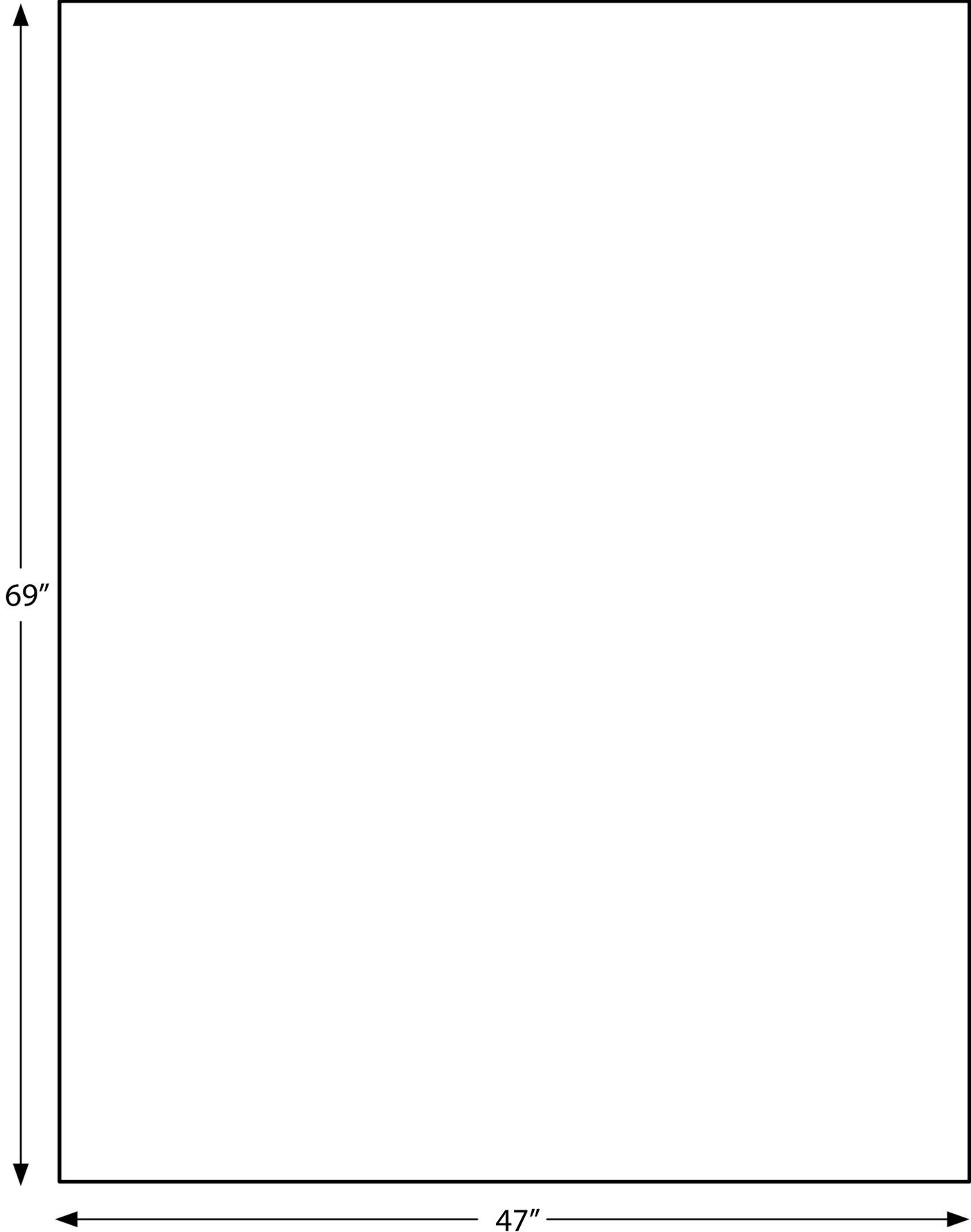
The children, relatives or household members of CAF employees are ineligible. Additionally, no child, sibling or immediate family member of a jury member may participate. No member of the jury shall assist a student or act in any other capacity whatsoever to advise or aid a competition entrant in the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

Applicants may be disqualified if they:

- Are not registered as an elementary school or high school student within the city limits.
- Are under the age of 10 after September 1, 2017.
- Do not upload content (text and/or images) 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.

Permissions

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



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