

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

Press Release

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10 finalists announced in second annual national high school architecture competition *Winner to be announced June 11, wins architectural trip to Chicago*

Chicago, May 28, 2013—The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) has announced 10 finalists in its second annual DiscoverDesign.org National High School Architecture Competition. Representing 32 high schools in 16 states, 226 teens submitted design projects to redesign their high school library to be people-centric, not just book centric – creating a library for the 21st century. A jury team of 63 architects, engineers and designers from across the country evaluated the entries. The winner will be announced June 11 and will win a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience Chicago's amazing architectural legacy. All 10 finalist projects can be seen at DiscoverDesign.org/competition2013.

CAF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing public interest and education in architecture. In January 2012, it launched DiscoverDesign.org, a unique web-based learning tool that gives high school students the opportunity to solve real-world design problems. Through project-based learning and social networking, students are connected with professional architects and engineers, allowing for real peer interaction and professional feedback during every step of their design process.

"In our second year of the national competition, the sophistication and problem solving skills of these teens continues to impress us and the architects serving on the jury." said Jen Masengarb, CAF senior manager of educational research and competition organizer. "The level of design thinking and architectural work submitted by high schools students across the country is inspiring and we're pleased to be a part of their learning process and foster 21st century skills with DiscoverDesign.org."

The final 10 projects will now be judged by a round two jury including the executive director of American Institute of Architects (AIA) Foundation, principal architect for Cannon Design, architect and founder of Brainspaces, principal architect with EHDD Architecture and the learning strategist with the Cleveland Public Library.

The winner will be announced on June 11.

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The ten finalists are from: Lincoln, Neb.; three from Brooklyn, N.Y.; North Caldwell, N.J.; Houston, Texas; McMurray, Pa.; Midlothian, Va.; Las Vegas, Nev.; and Sussex, N.J.

DiscoverDesign.org was awarded a 2013 AIA National Honor Award for Collaborative Achievement. The award recognizes the distinguished achievements of organizations, knowledge communities and others who have had a beneficial influence on or advanced the architectural profession.

DiscoverDesign.org complements the CAF high school textbook and teacher guide, *The Architecture Handbook: A Student Guide to Understanding Buildings*. It is the first high school architecture textbook published in the U.S. Created in partnership with the Chicago Public Schools, educators and students in 48 states and 17 countries currently use the handbook. In 2009, it earned a national honor award from the AIA.

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The Chicago Architecture Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspire people to discover why design matters. The CAF pursues this mission through architecture tours, exhibitions, panel discussions and youth and adult education programs. A permanent exhibition, *Chicago Model City*, includes a highly detailed scale model of Chicago. CAF is located at 224 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ills. 60604. For further information visit www.architecture.org or call 312.922.3432 or become a Facebook fan: www.facebook.com/chiarchitecture or follow on Twitter: www.twitter.com/chiarchitecture.