Council on
Vertical Urbanism

VU Summit
London 2026

Density and Identity:
Shaping Skylines, Elevating Culture

26–29 October
Hilton London Metropole
London, United Kingdom











The cities we work in are changing faster than any generation has seen. More people are moving to cities than cities are built to hold—and the answer, everywhere, is to build tall better.

The Council on Vertical Urbanism (CVU), previously the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH), exists because the professionals shaping that upward growth need a global community, not just a local one. We're the only cross-disciplinary body bringing together the designers, engineers, developers, and investors who define what tall buildings and dense cities mean next.

Council on
Vertical Urbanism

What we do

We shape the future of rising cities and share the knowledge to build them.

CVU members don't just attend events. They set the agenda, shape the research, define the standards, and build the relationships that move the industry.

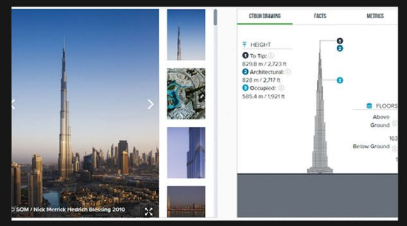
Your sponsorship puts your organization at the center of that work.



Convene a multi-disciplinary cohort of engaged members and industry-leading experts to define and advance sustainable vertical urbanism worldwide. This is the room where your next partnership begins.



Share best practices to deliver authoritative data and research your teams can use and provide design guidance and performance benchmarks that inform real decisions on real projects.



Track and activate detailed tall building information in a comprehensive database of 40,000+ skyscrapers across the globe, the most complete resource of its kind in the world.



Recognize and celebrate superior structures, technological and urban innovation, and exemplary leadership in the built environment through the foremost global awards program in vertical urbanism.

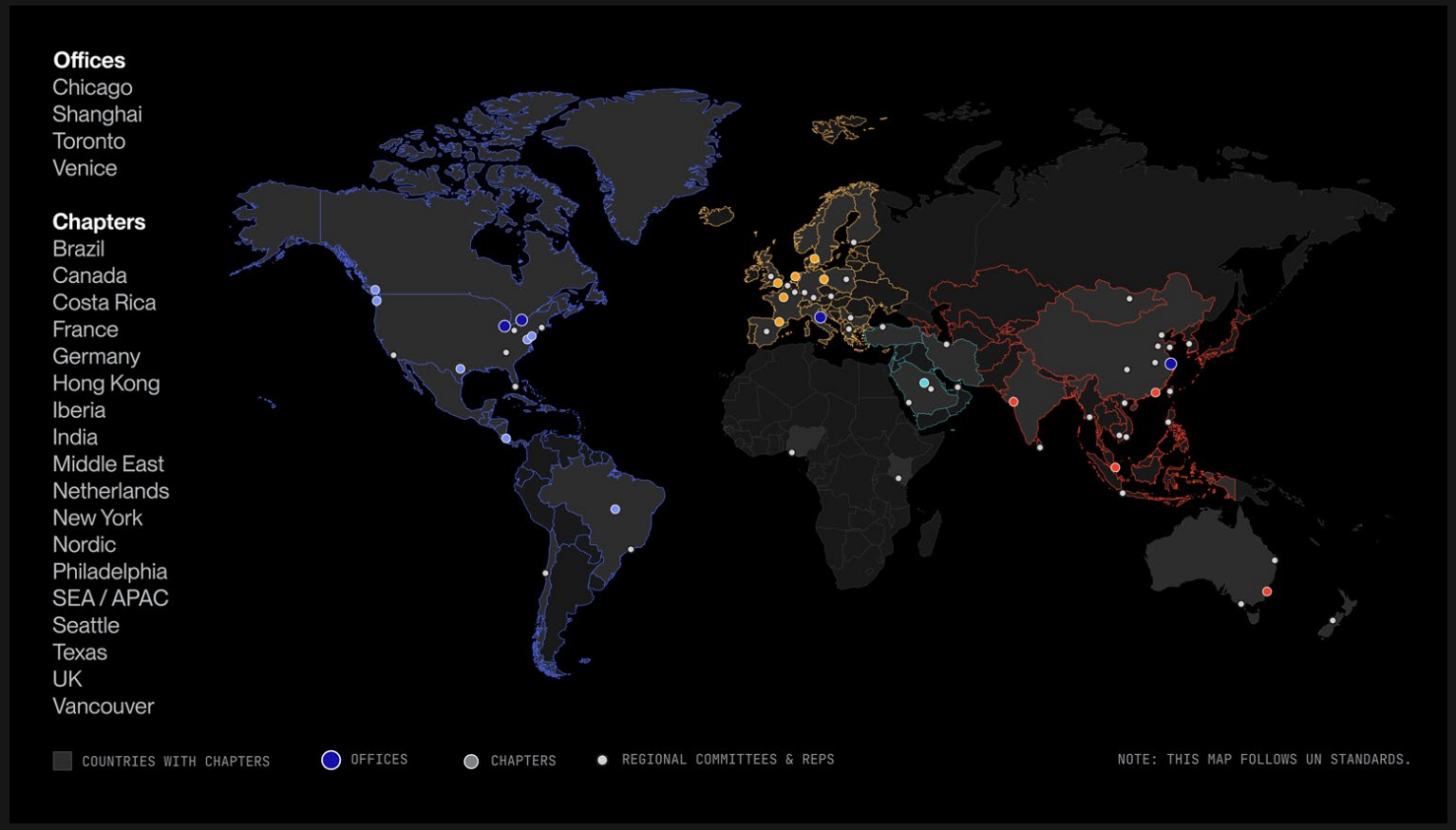


Advocate for responsibly dense urban solutions and promote policies that support livable, resilient, and sustainable cities, so that the regulatory environment keeps pace with the ambition of the professionals building them.

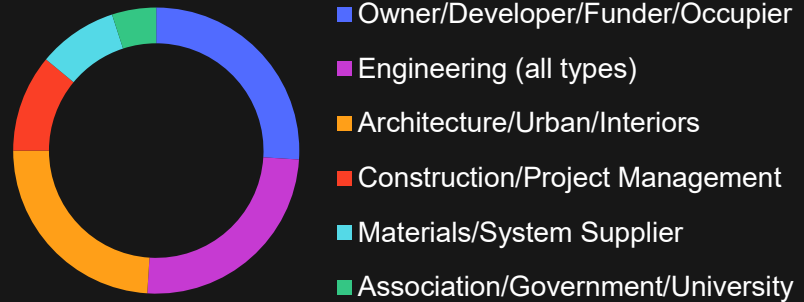
Global reach

The professionals shaping the world's skylines are CVU members. From the engineers designing the next generation of supertalls to the developers financing entire urban districts, CVU's network spans 10,000 offices in 120 countries across every discipline that determines how cities grow upward.

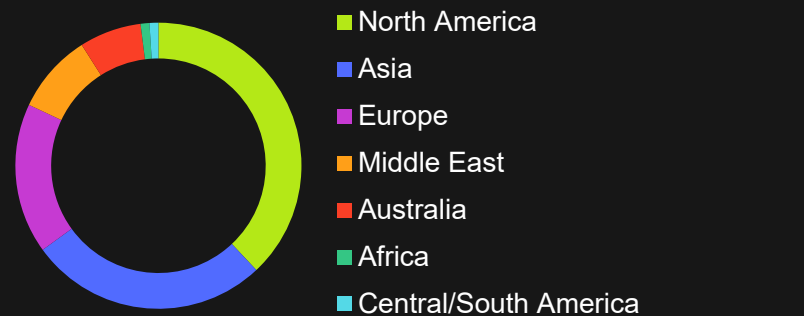
No other organization brings this community together in one room.



Members by profession



Members by region

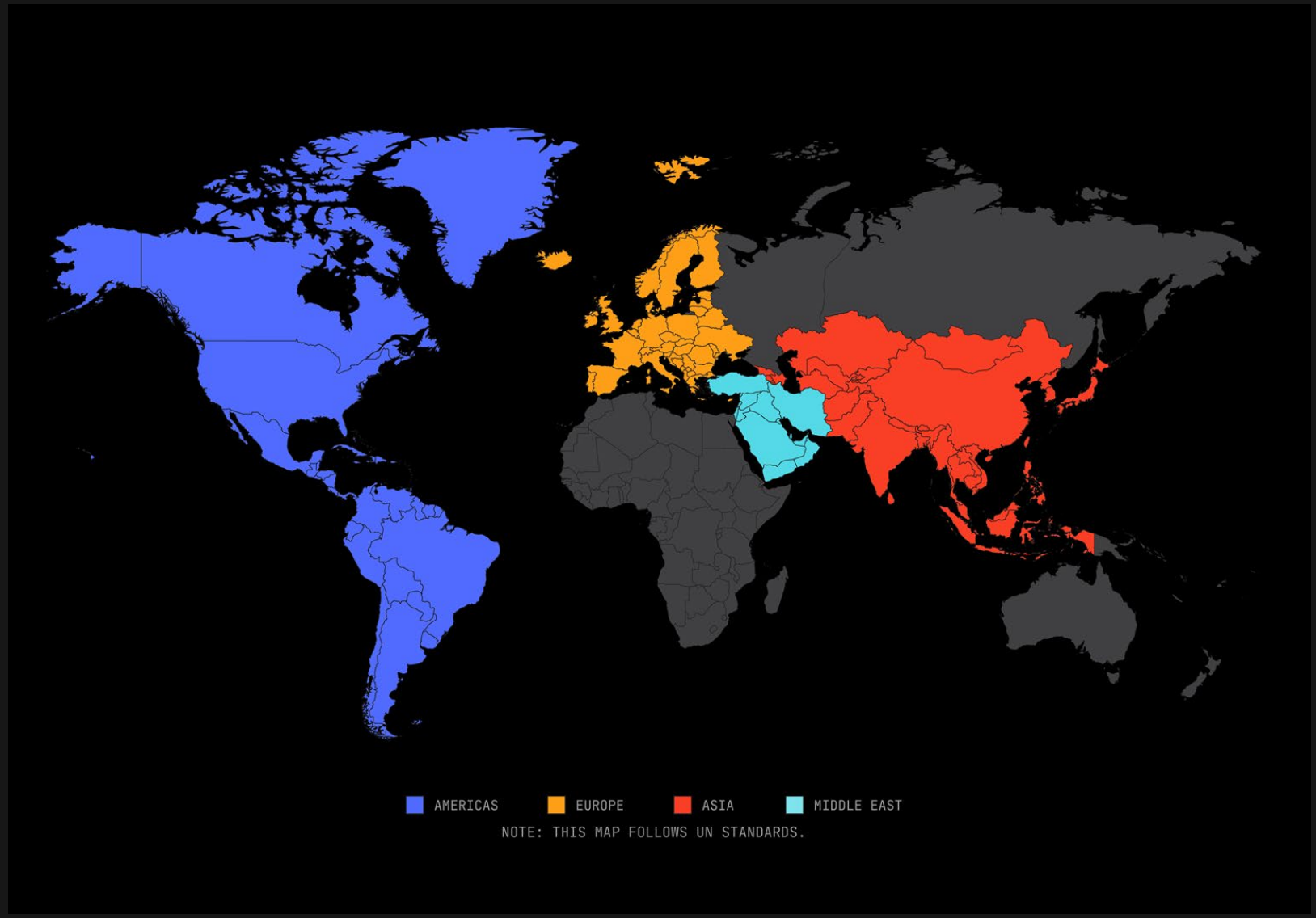


Regional hubs

CVU isn't headquartered in one city and exported to the rest of the world.

With offices across three continents, and regional chapters, committees, and representatives active in over 50 countries, the organization is built the same way the industry is: globally distributed, locally embedded.

Six offices. Three continents.
Fifty-plus countries.
One community.



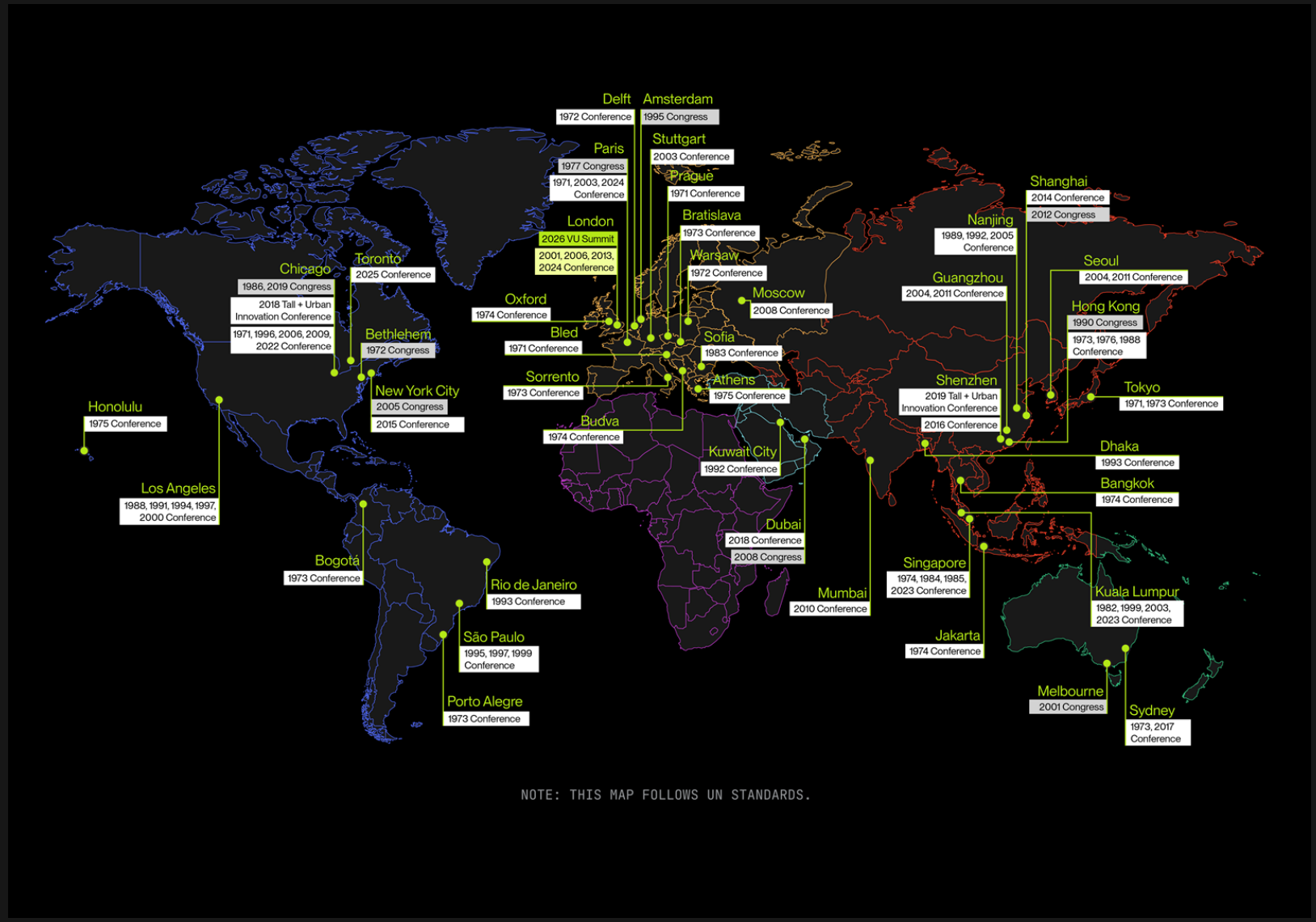
50+ years. Every continent. One conversation.

The VU Summit moves because the work does.

Vertical urbanism isn't a problem being solved in one city. It's being negotiated simultaneously in every market where land is scarce, populations are growing, and the skyline is the answer.

CVU has always believed that the organization should go to where the conversation is most alive.

That's not a logistical decision. It's the mission, made visible.



Recent VU Summits

Previously International Conferences



2025—Toronto

From the Ground Up: Tall Buildings and City-Making



2024—London & Paris

New or Renew: Addressing the Density Dilemma



2023—Singapore

Humanizing High Density: People, Nature & the Urban Realm



2022—Chicago

Tall Excellence: Seeking the Ideal in Vertical Urbanism



2021—Colombo, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Singapore, Taipei, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Berlin, Copenhagen, London, Paris, Madrid, Vienna, Chicago, San José, Toronto, Vancouver

The Future City: Addressing Carbon, Climate & Societal Changes



2020—Live Stream: London, Singapore, Chicago

The Post-Crises City: Rethinking Sustainable Vertical Urbanism

Council on
Vertical Urbanism

Density and Identity: Shaping Skylines, Elevating Culture

2026 VU Summit

Every city building upward is navigating the same tension: how do you grow without losing what makes a place worth living in?

This is not a theoretical question. It's the live question shaping how entire city districts are planned, financed, and built right now. **The pressure to densify is real. So is the cost of getting it wrong.**

Density and identity are not competing forces. Managed well, they're complementary, and the professionals who understand how to hold that balance are the ones shaping the next generation of cities.

The CVU Summit exists because that work requires a global community. No single market has solved this. No single discipline has solved this. The answer is being built collectively, by the practitioners, institutions, and investors in this room.

2026 is an invitation to be part of that.

Density and Identity: Shaping Skylines, Elevating Culture

Quick facts

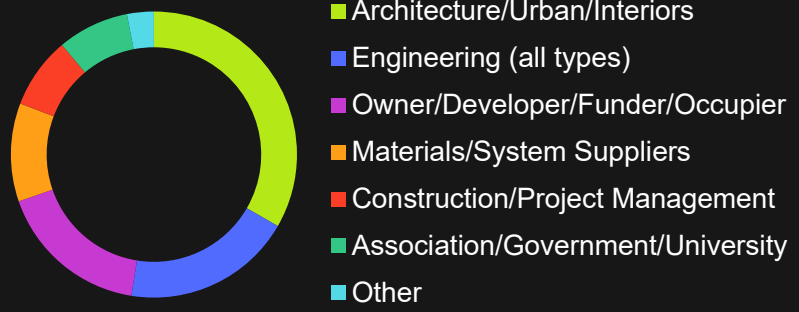
2026 Expected attendance

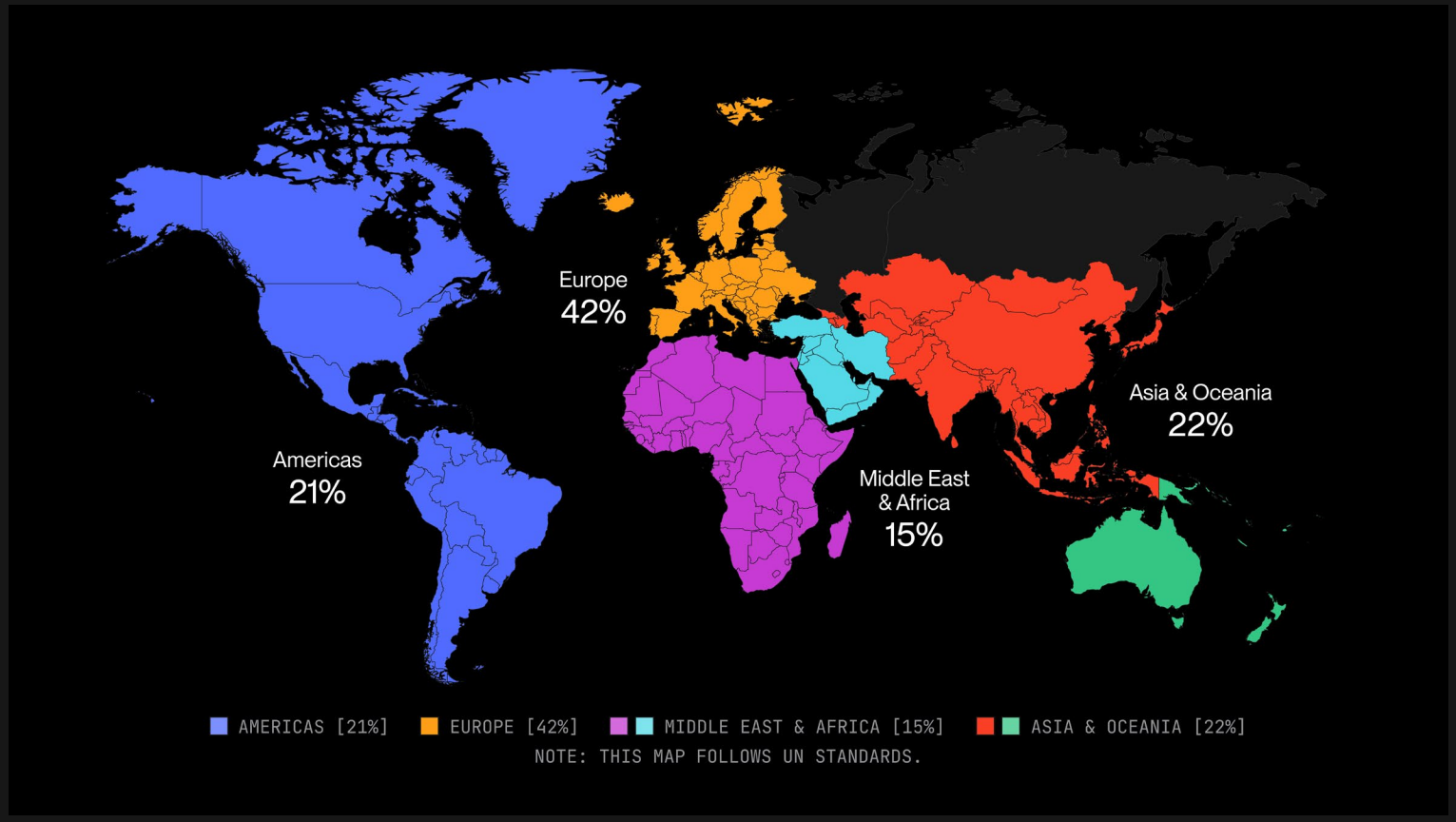
The VU Summit draws its strength from who is in the room.

Across 1,100+ attendees from 50+ countries, every discipline that shapes a city's skyline is represented: the developers financing it, the engineers designing it, the architects imagining it, and the policymakers governing it.

That breadth isn't incidental. It's the point.

1100+	400+	175+	50+	4	1
Attendees	Companies	Speakers	Countries	Evenings of Social Events	Great event





Council on
Vertical Urbanism

VU Summit Program

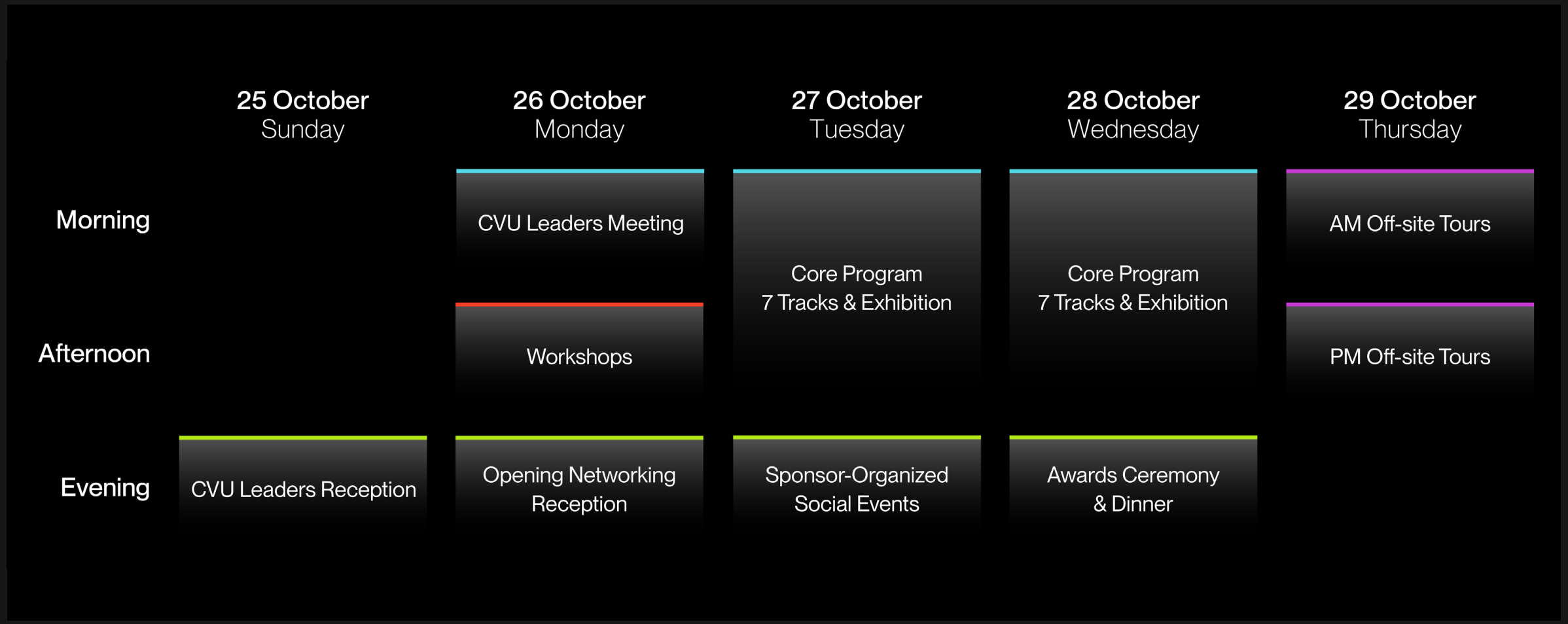
The program is where sponsorship becomes presence.

Here's what that looks like.



VU Summit

Program overview



Core Summit sessions

4 Total plenary sessions

The plenary is the moment the entire Summit is in one room.

Four sessions anchoring the opening and close of the program each day, bringing the full delegation together around the questions that matter most to the future of vertical urbanism.

Speakers at CVU plenary sessions are not chosen for availability. **They're chosen because they're shaping the conversation the rest of the industry is trying to catch up with.**



Plenary sessions

40+ Sessions.
150+ Peer-reviewed presentations.
One conversation that moves the industry.

The core program is where the work happens. Over multiple days and parallel tracks, global thought leaders present, challenge, and build on each other's thinking across every discipline shaping the vertical city.

Every session is organized around the theme: how does high-density urbanism respond to climate, mobility, and housing pressure while strengthening identity rather than diluting it? **That question doesn't have a single answer. The program exists because finding better ones requires the whole room.**



Core presentation at the 2025 CTBUH Conference in Toronto.



Andy Dean, WSP, presenting during the core CTBUH 2018 Conference in Dubai

Summit workshops

Focused. Practitioner-led. Sponsorable.

Workshops go deeper than the main program. Each one gathers a smaller, more focused group around a specific challenge in tall building performance or the urban environment, creating the conditions for genuine dialogue rather than presentation.

Attendance requires advance registration. Space is intentionally limited. **Sponsoring or co-developing a workshop puts your organization at the center of the most substantive conversations at the Summit.**



Shonn Mills presenting in the Modular High-Rise workshop in Dubai 2018.



Breakout session at the Cost and Construction Workshop at the 2025 Conference in Toronto

Awards program

20+ Sessions. 10+ Categories.
The Industry's Most Recognized Built Environment Awards.

The CVU Awards Program sets the global standard for excellence in vertical urbanism. Projects and innovations from across the world are peer-nominated, reviewed by an international jury, and presented live during the core Summit, where the audience experiences each shortlisted entry before the winners are announced.

For a sponsor, the Awards Program carries something no other element of the Summit does: prestige by association. The projects recognized here set the global benchmark for excellence in vertical urbanism.

Your brand stands alongside that standard.



Juries watching Award of Excellence winners present live before bestowing overall awards.



Award presentation at the 2025 International Conference in Toronto

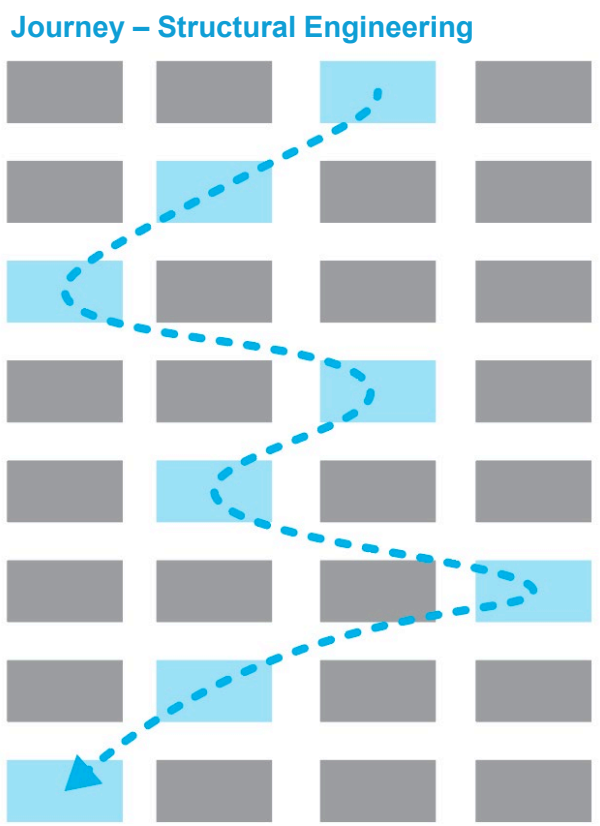
Thematic journeys

6+ Thematic journeys.
Every discipline.
Your program, your way.

The Summit program is deliberately broad. Thematic Journeys exist so that breadth doesn't become noise.

Each Journey is a curated pathway across sessions, designed around a specific discipline, project type, or regional focus. Rather than navigating the full program alone, attendees follow a sequence built for someone who does what they do and cares about what they care about.

For a sponsor, a Thematic Journey is an opportunity to be present at every stop along a pathway your target audience is already following.



Example Journey schedule, suggesting specific sessions for engineers.



Attendees transitioning to a different room during the 2025 International Conference in Toronto.

Networking & social events

The relationships that last Beyond the program.

The most important conversations at the VU Summit don't always happen in session rooms. They happen over lunch, at the bar after the Awards Dinner, and in the quieter moments between sessions where **two people realize they're working on the same problem from opposite sides of the world.**

The Summit is structured to create those moments. Daily networking lunches and coffee breaks run throughout. Evening events include the opening networking receptions, the Awards Ceremony and Dinner, and sponsor and CVU leader hosted social events by invitation.

For a sponsor, these moments are yours to own.



Opening VIP Reception at the CIBC Square food hall before the 2024 London Conference.



Closing Networking reception at Atlantis, The Palm following the conclusion of the 2018 Conference in Dubai.

Awards ceremony & dinner

The crowning moment of the VU Summit.

The Awards Ceremony and Dinner is the event within the event. It's where the year's most significant projects in vertical urbanism are recognized before the industry's global leadership, and where the 2026 Best Tall Building Worldwide is announced.

Tables and individual seats are available for organizations who want to be present for that moment. **This is not a side dinner. It's the room where the industry takes stock of itself for the year.**

For a sponsor, it's the most prestigious single moment the Summit offers.



2025 Awards Ceremony & Dinner



2024 Awards Ceremony & Dinner

Building, district & off-site tours

10+ Tours. Behind the scenes.
Inside the buildings that define the discipline.

The tours are where the program leaves the conference room and enters the city. Each one is led by professionals directly involved in the projects, giving attendees **access that isn't available through any other channel:** the structural engineer explaining a decision made at height, the developer walking you through a district still under construction, the urban planner mapping a neighborhood that didn't exist ten years ago.

Attendees register in advance for morning or afternoon programs; each built around a specific theme connected to the Summit's broader conversation. Space is limited by design.

For a sponsor, a tour puts your organization's name on an experience your audience will remember long after the conference ends.



Off-site tour of The Well during the 2025 CTBUH Conference in Toronto.



Construction tour of the Museum of the Future during the 2018 CTBUH Conference in Dubai.

Council on
Vertical Urbanism

Sponsorship Opportunities

The right room changes what's possible.

Here's what that looks like.













CVU is where the global vertical urbanism community does its most significant work. **Not just convenes. Works.**

Sponsoring the VU Summit puts your organization inside that work: present in the sessions where standards are set, visible at the moments the industry remembers, and connected to the practitioners, developers, and investors shaping what cities look like next.

We go beyond visibility. We deliver relevance.

Why sponsor

Your sponsorship is part of how the industry builds tall better.

Be in the room where decisions are made

The VU Summit brings together the global decision-makers shaping how cities are built upward. Your team leaves with relationships that take years to build any other way. **One conversation at the right moment with the right person changes the trajectory of a project, a partnership, or a firm.**



Align your brand with what the industry cares about next

The questions CVU asks become the questions the industry asks.

Sponsoring the Summit puts your organization on the right side of those questions before your competitors are.

That's not positioning. That's leadership.



Invest in a community, not just an event

CVU's network doesn't stop when the conference ends. Your sponsorship extends into CVU's research publications, regional programmes, and a global membership spanning 10,000 offices in 120 countries. **The Summit is the entry point. The relationship is the return.**



VU Summit sponsors

Selected Investors, Funders, Owner & Developers

They're already in the room.



Sponsorship Levels: An Overview

CVU Summit sponsorships are structured across five levels, each designed around a specific kind of presence and purpose. Every level includes program access, brand visibility, and direct engagement with the global vertical urbanism community.

The right level depends on what your organization needs most: influence over the program, visibility at a signature moment, access to a specific audience segment, or association with CVU's research and academic leadership.

The pages that follow detail each level. **We're also happy to build something around your specific objectives.**

Contact jhall@cvu.org to start that conversation.

Diamond: Premier Level

Cost: US$75,000

Diamond is the Summit's founding level of presence. You're a co-convener of the entire event, with the visibility, access, and influence that reflects the scale of what you build.

Reserved for Diamond Sponsors:

- Address the full delegation during a plenary session.
- Host a dedicated Summit Session Room.
- Formal recognition from Summit leadership during the Awards Ceremony, with a reserved VIP table for 10.
- Eight complimentary registrations and Opening Reception invitations.
- Priority exhibition positioning and featured homepage placement.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.



Platinum: Exclusive Event

Cost: US$60,000

Platinum Event sponsors own one of the Summit's most anticipated moments.

Your representative addresses the room.

Your brand is the name on the evening.

Choose one of three exclusive reception sponsorships:

- Opening Networking Reception Host
- Opening Networking Reception Sponsor
- Awards Ceremony Supporting Sponsor

Includes Core Summit Presentation, 7 complimentary registrations and Opening Reception invitations, featured homepage placement, and the opportunity to host a Sponsor Networking Event.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.

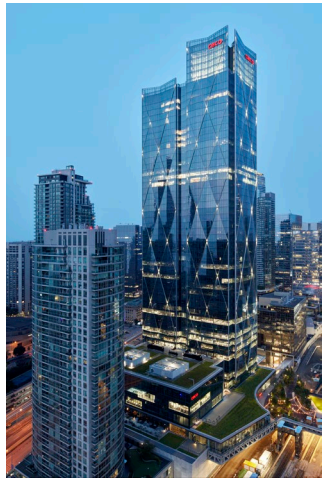








Past Networking Reception Venues



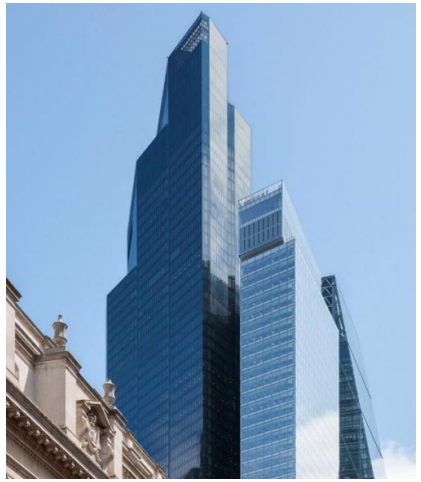
2025 Toronto

CIBC SQUARE

Hosted by:

CIBC SQUARE

Hines



2024 London

8 Bishopsgate

Hosted by:

MITSUBISHI ESTATE

STANHOPE



2023 Singapore

CapitaSpring

Hosted by:

CapitaLand



2017 Dubai

Burj Khalifa

Hosted by:

EMAAR BURJ KHALIFA



2016 Hong Kong

International Commerce Center

Hosted by:

新鴻基地產 Sun Hung Kai Properties



2015 New York

One World Trade Center

Hosted by:

The Durst Organization

Platinum: Exclusive Item

Cost: US$60,000

Platinum Item sponsors choose one high-visibility asset that carries their brand throughout the entire Summit experience. **Each item is exclusive to a single organization. No other sponsor shares it.**

Digital Charging Station

The designated **Digital Charging Station** sponsor receives prominent visibility on the conference's primary charging hub, placing the partner at a high-use touchpoint where delegates recharge devices and stay connected throughout the event.



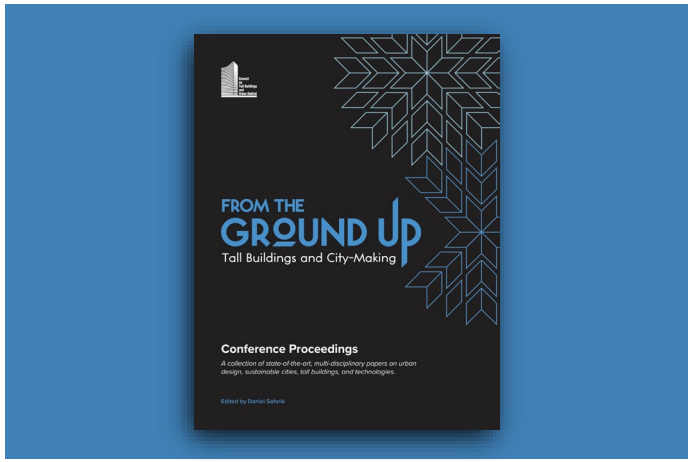
VU Summit Photo Step & Repeat

This backdrop is the centerpiece of the **VU Summit's most photographed moments**—captured by media, promoted across global social channels, and used in post-event publications. Your company's logo will be featured ensuring strong visibility in delegate photos, media coverage, and social posts.



VU Summit Proceedings

Your organization will be prominently acknowledged as the sponsor of the **digital VU Summit Proceedings**, a curated collection of thought leadership articles from event presenters, distributed globally to the full CVU network and extended audience of industry leaders.



Platinum: Exclusive Item

Contact **jhall@cvu**.org to reserve your 2026 VU Summit sponsorship

Cost: US$60,000

Includes Core Summit Presentation, 7 complimentary registrations and Opening Reception invitations, featured homepage placement, and the opportunity to host a Sponsor Networking Event.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.

VU Summit Attendee Bag [SOLD]

Your organization's branding will appear on the official **VU Summit attendee bags**, carried by all delegates throughout the event and beyond, providing continuous visibility across sessions, venues, and city tours while reinforcing your presence as part of the Summit experience.



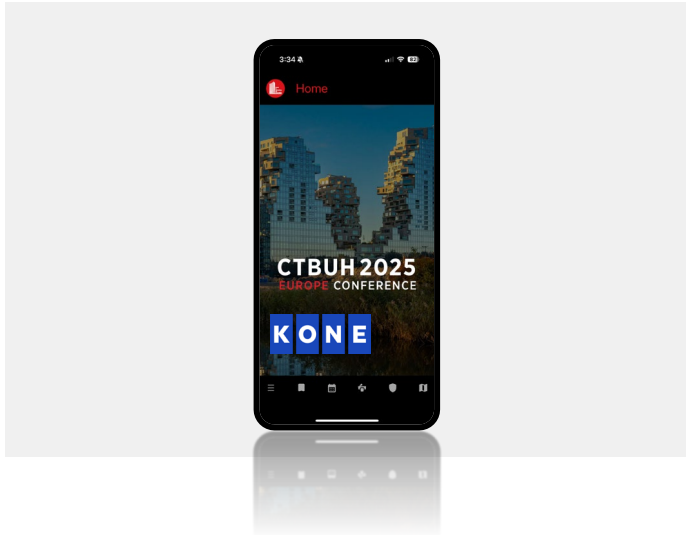
Name Badge Lanyards [SOLD]

Every attendee will wear a VU Summit name badge featuring your organization's **branded lanyard**, ensuring continuous visibility and brand recognition in all VU Summit sessions, meetings, and networking spaces.



VU Summit App [SOLD]

Your organization's branding will be prominently featured on the **official VU Summit app**, utilized by all delegates before, during, and after the event as the primary tool for program access, session planning, and networking.



Gold: Exclusive Event

Cost: US$40,000

Gold Event sponsors own a specific Summit moment.

Each option delivers **your brand directly to a focused audience at a high-engagement touchpoint**, from a lunch to a workshop to a targeted networking reception.

Choose one:

- **Day 1 Lunch Sponsor**
- **Day 2 Lunch Sponsor**
- **Day 3 Lunch Sponsor**
- **Arrival Networking Sponsor**
- **Women Rising Reception Sponsor**
- **Summit Workshop Sponsor:** Sponsorship across seven disciplines including: *Development, Façade, Construction, Cost, Smart Tech, Vertical Transport, Mass Timber, Engineering, Urban Habitat, Academic, Circular Economy, Property Management, Sustainability*

Includes Core Summit Presentation, 6 complimentary registrations, featured homepage placement, and the opportunity to host a Sponsor Networking Event.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.









2024 Summit Workshops





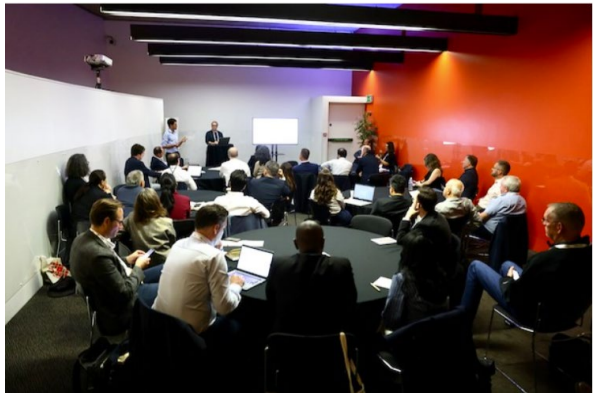




















Gold: Academic Patron

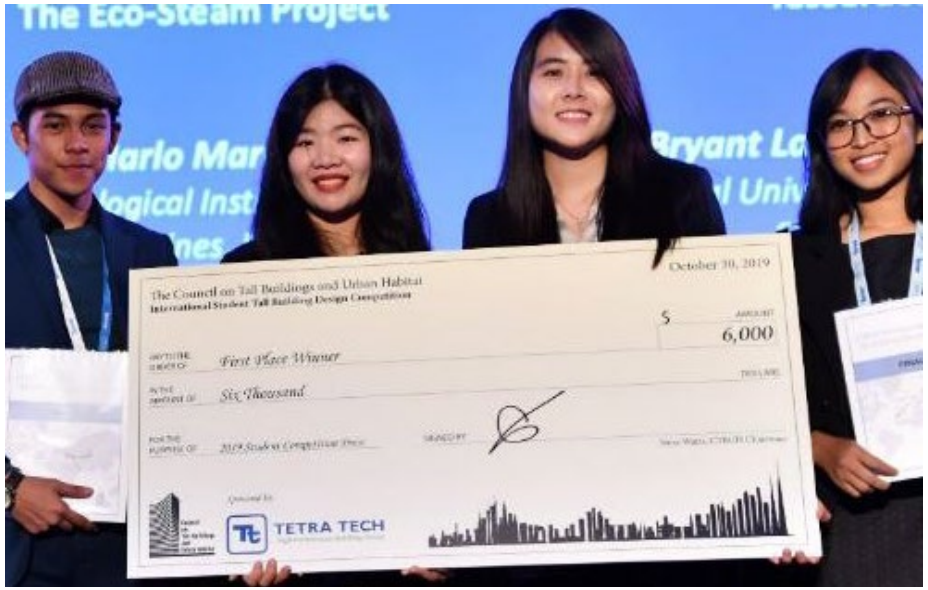
Cost: US$40,000

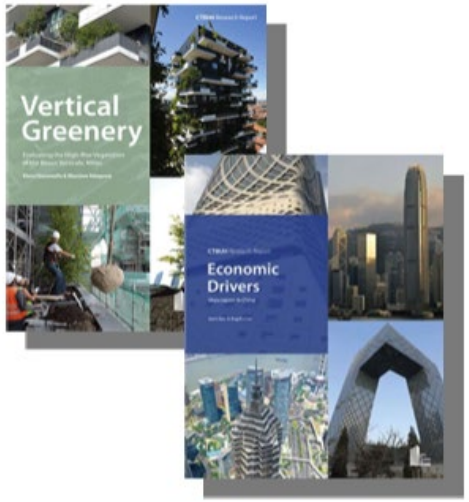
Academic Patronage positions your organization at the forefront of the next generation of vertical urbanism thinking. Choose one of three programmes and align your brand with **the emerging talent and original research shaping the discipline's future.**

- **International Seed Funding Competition:** Support early-stage research with the potential to influence the tall building field globally. **[SOLD]**
- **International Student Research Competition:** Fund student-led research teams tackling real-world challenges in tall buildings and urban design. The winning team receives $20,000.
- **Traveling Student Design Studio:** Graduate students from the Master's in Tall Buildings and Vertical Urbanism program at Illinois Institute of Technology visit your city or project site and design a visionary tall building or urban solution tailored to your specific context. Your team engages directly with students as their ideas take shape, provides feedback, and receives a full set of original design concepts. $20,000 of your Gold sponsorship covers all travel and studio costs.
- **International Student Tall Building Design Competition:** Inspire the next generation of designers to rethink the role of tall buildings in contemporary cities. **[SOLD]**

Includes Core Summit Presentation, 6 complimentary registrations, featured homepage placement, and the opportunity to host a Sponsor Networking Event.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.







Silver

Cost: US$25,000

Silver sponsors own a specific daily touchpoint within the Summit program.

Each moment puts your brand in direct, repeated contact with the full delegate body at a natural pause in the conference day, **when attention is high and conversations flow easily.**

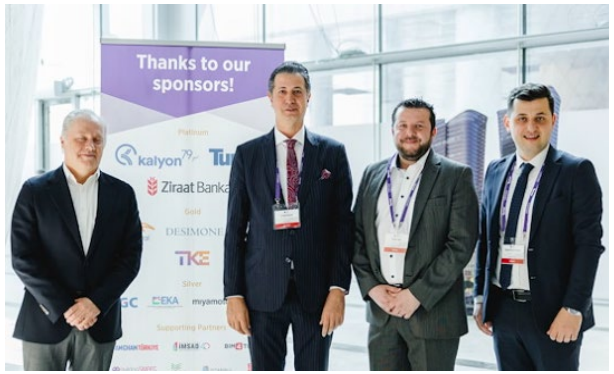
Choose one:

- **Day 1 Afternoon Coffee Break**
- **Day 2 Morning Coffee Break**
- **Day 2 Afternoon Coffee Break**
- **Day 3 Morning Coffee Break**
- **Day 3 Afternoon Coffee Break**

Includes 1 Session Chair or Moderator role, 3 complimentary registrations and Opening Reception invitations, and Sponsor Appreciation Reception access for all registered company members.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.













Bronze

Cost: US$15,000

Bronze sponsorship delivers consistent brand visibility across every Summit platform and direct access to the global vertical urbanism community throughout the conference. This is the entry point into the CVU sponsor community and **the starting point for many organizations that have grown their investment year on year.**

Includes 1 Session Chair or Moderator role, 2 complimentary registrations and Opening Reception invitations, special badge designation for increased visibility among delegates, and Sponsor Appreciation Reception access for all registered company members.

Full benefits available on request. Contact jhall@cvu.org to reserve your place.









Exhibitor

Cost: US$12,500

An Exhibitor booth gives your organization a dedicated physical presence at the Summit, positioned within the flow of programming and adjacent to catering areas to ensure consistent delegate traffic throughout the event.

Space and basic shell setup are included, along with two Exhibitor Passes for your team. The Exhibition runs during the Tuesday and Wednesday core conference program with set-up taking place on Monday.

This is **the most direct way to showcase your work**, demonstrate your capabilities, and build new relationships across the global vertical urbanism community in a focused, high-quality environment.

Contact jhall@cvu.org to discuss positioning and availability.









The conversation starts here.

Every sponsorship begins with a conversation about **what your organization needs and what the Summit makes possible.**

We'd love to have that conversation with you.

Jen Hall
Global Development
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VerticalUrbanism.org

Council on Vertical Urbanism

VerticalUrbanism.org