

**CIRT  
DESIGN COMPETITION AWARDS PROGRAM  
2016**

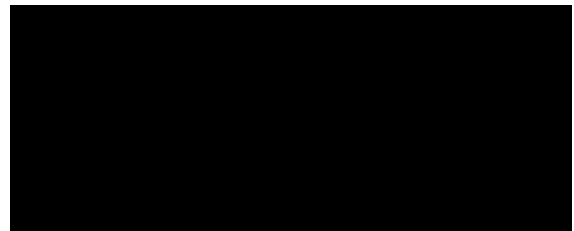
**PROGRAM INFORMATION  
PACKAGE**

*Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path  
and leave a trail.*

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**  
Poet



**Construction Industry  
Round Table**



**A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH THE  
ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF AMERICA**

## 2016 CIRT/ACE DESIGN COMPETITION AWARDS PROGRAM

### **AWARDS PROGRAM**

The CIRT/ACE Award competition is maintained, coordinated, and judged by Construction Industry Round Table and is intended for ACE Mentor Affiliates. Winning teams on behalf of the Affiliates will receive a monetary award which can be used for any purpose to support the operations, programs, grants, and/or needs of the Affiliate.

### **PROGRAM SPECIFICS**

- Sponsors: CIRT, ACE Mentor Program of America, and on voluntary basis some individual CIRT firms.
- Theme for the Program: Celebrating the innovations and contributions the design/construction community makes to the quality of American life, while understanding the issues and challenges the industry faces to deliver on this legacy.
- Award Approach: Any ACE Mentor Affiliate/Chapter can volunteer to participate in the CIRT Design Competition, which uses actual design challenges adapted and/or modified to accommodate the competition's parameters. The true goal is to judge the ability of the students to make a reasoned, coherent, well thought out, clear presentations on their team's design/construction approaches within the project's objectives and/or constraints, etc.
- Definition of a Team: The entries to the competition must be by a team comprised of three or more students. The intent is to encourage group dynamics that require assignments, compromise, and consensus building.
- Multiple Teams from One Affiliate: CIRT ardently requests and recommends that Affiliates with more than one team contemplate submitting entries in the different challenges rather than multiple ones in the SAME category. It would greatly increase the value of the competition and improve the odds of having one of the teams among the recognized entries.
- Program Schedule: The annual event is announced in the early fall and officially begins in January concluding at the CIRT Spring Conference (usually held in late April or early May) – where the winner(s) will be selected and announced. [Interim milestone and final submittal dates are included in this competition package].
- Program Awards: CIRT has made a commitment to finance prizes for the top awards and to provide some logistical/travel expense stipends (e.g. to cover the costs to attend the final round as the Affiliate/Chapter best determines).

### **PRESENTATION**

The presentation **BOARDS** submitted for the competition (will be retained by CIRT) are extremely important because they **will be used to make the initial cut down to three finalists**. The *design boards* therefore must be clear, concise, complete, and well thought out with sufficient and compelling information to stand independently from any written narrative or report. **[The judges are looking for clarity, understandability, constructability, completeness, flow of ideas and how the proposed solution realistically and fully meets the challenge].**

Drawings should be on a maximum of two (approx. 841mm x 594mm) panels and **mounted on two A1 lightweight boards**. A brief written explanation describing something about the context and thinking behind the scheme should be included on the board(s). Photographs (of the site, 3D model, etc) may be mounted or scanned onto the displays. No specific drawings or scales are prescribed, but the presentation must convey the ideas underlying the design (whether a building or not), its overall forms and spaces, its character and atmosphere. A narrative

addressing the design process (as described below), among other things should accompany the drawings. **Finalist** will be required to provide a digital copy of their entry].

## **REGISTRATION**

**ALL teams MUST complete and submit the “Registration Application Form” with the display boards. [FAILURE TO PROVIDE THIS FORM MAY RESULT IN NOT BEING JUDGED IN THE COMPETITION].** The registration form is critical for the competition to maintain contact with the teams and to establish identification of the various entries with their authors. Thus, the forms must accompany the entry AND also be attached to the back of the display board(s) themselves.

## **DESIGN PROCESS**

The following questions are representative of the type of information that would be expected along with the design concepts, renderings, etc. (**Please note:** Jurors will carefully consider your replies to these questions when evaluating your overall project as they work thru your BOARDS.)

Question A: Define and/or describe the problems/challenges you faced when deciding on the design project you chose to do for the competition.

Question B: Thoroughly describe your design process, in writing and through visuals on the boards (e.g., sketches, renderings, stepped process, before and after, budgets, timelines, etc.)

Question C: Explain how your design approach is an appropriate, innovative solution that *realistically* responds to the precise design competition problem. Explain how your design is different from other approaches or processes, if such is the case; and/or meets budgetary constraints, timeline issues or other challenges.

Question D: Describe any social/ecological or otherwise beneficial qualities of your design solution. (For example, is it a universal design? How? Is it environmentally friendly? Does it use cost-effective or recyclable materials?)

Question E: Describe what you learned from this design competition.

## **DESIGN ASPECTS/CONSTRUCTION ELEMENTS**

The following design/construction aspects **will be evaluation criteria**, and should be explained where appropriate:

- site selection and its context (built and/or natural)
- constructability (structural challenges, materials, textures, colors, etc.)
- strategy for sustainability
- surrounding landscape/external spaces
- life and activities, in and around the building, including the qualities of enclosed spaces showing furniture, fittings and finishes (where needed or appropriate to the design competition selected).

## **JUDGING**

The panel of judges will be mainly comprised of CIRT member CEOs of the leading design and construction firms in the United States. As such, the overall theme or evaluation criteria for the competition is one founded on the practical aspects of the profession, particularly with respect to constructability, use of materials, meeting deadlines, and establishing realistic/reasonable expenses or budgets. ***More important than the actual design solution, is the methods and processes used to arrive at a solution. Fundamentally, the spirit of this competition is one of design and construction.*** During the final round, great weight will be given to the ability of the ACE students (i.e. their selected representative) to articulate a clear, comprehensive, coherent, and cogent presentation that persuades the judges as to selecting his/her team as the winning entry. (Preparing the student representative is part of the overall process that the other team members will receive benefit from as well).

## **TIMELINE**

**NOTE for the 2016 Competition, due to scheduling conflicts necessitating date changes, the time and place for the *final round* will be different from past years; and it will be impossible to have any flexibility on them.** Those ACE Affiliates/Chapters that wish to participate in the national competition must comply with the following time schedule:

- **March 8, 2016** – All entries must be POST-MARKED for submittal to the **CIRT national office** in Washington DC by this date. [**8115 Old Dominion Drive, suite 210, McLean, VA 22102**]
- **March 18, 2016** – Finalists are notified and plans are made to bring a representative(s) from each group to Washington, DC. [A stipend will be established for each team to be used to help cover cost to attend the final round based on need, etc. from the requests of the teams].
- **April 1, 2016** – Mentors and students will need to have made their hotel reservations in DC. [The finalists will be notified with precise hotel information at the time of their selection].
- **April 25, 2016** – Finalists present to the CIRT Panel of Judges. The winners of the semi-finals will go on to the final round, where the panel of judges will vote to determine the order of finish. [Exact information on date, time, and place will be provided finalist].

## **FINAL ROUND of NINE [NEW]**

**New this year, to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Competition, a total of NINE TEAMS will be invited to Washington DC, to compete for the national awards. Three teams from each Project Option/Challenge will be selected to participate in a semi-final presentation round before judges. The winner of each of the three semi-final rounds (morning) will then compete representing their option in the FINAL ROUND (afternoon) for the National Championship.**

## **RESOURCES/INFORMATION**

**Mark A. Casso, Esq.**  
**President**

Construction Industry Round Table  
8115 Old Dominion Drive, Suite 210  
McLean, VA 22102  
202.466.6777 – office  
[mcasso@cirt.org](mailto:mcasso@cirt.org)

**Jack Kalavritinos, Esq.**  
**President/CEO**

ACE Mentor Program of America  
150 S. Washington Street, Suite 303  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
703.942.8101 - office  
[JKalavritinos@acementor.org](mailto:JKalavritinos@acementor.org)

## **PRINTING/BOARD RESOURCES (Local to CIRT)**

ABC Imaging  
1120 20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 102-103  
Washington, DC 20036  
703/848-2997  
[www.abcimaging.com](http://www.abcimaging.com)

ARC  
8245 Boone Blvd.  
Vienna, VA 22182  
703/893-0335(o), 703/893-0336 (f)  
[www.e-arc.com](http://www.e-arc.com)

## **CIRT DESIGN COMPETITION AWARD PROGRAM 2016 PROJECT/OPTION CHALLENGES OR RFP'S**

### **List of Project Options/Challenges (select one RFP for the competition):**

- **Shoreline Design Challenge**
- **Bridge Design/Redesign & Construction Challenge**
- **Historical Revitalization Challenge**

#### **Shoreline Design Challenge**

This construction/design competition seeks to explore the best practices and innovative strategies for the planning, design, and construction of resilient and sustainable developments in waterfront areas (river, lake, or sea shores). The competition aims to provide ideas and the basis of a master plan for the sensitive development of Flood Hazard Area Zones that experience significant storm surge inundation, flooding, or water invasion. Think of this challenge as creating a prototype for long term planning and development strategies in densely populated seaside communities. Again, as in the other challenges: successful proposals will show before/after, new uses, etc. – with a cost estimate that must be realistic and doable for the resources/financial support likely available in the locale. [The proposal should focus or concentrate on an identifiable stretch of water front, NOT the entire shore]. The outcome of the solution/construction should be to help the local municipality to preserve the value of its neighborhood and/or heritage as a water shoreline/coastal community.

#### **Bridge Design/Redesign & Construction Challenge**

They are iconic signature pieces, marvels of engineering and construction ability . . . but, they also are invaluable to commerce, connectivity, and community. Whether spanning majestic gaps or simply crossing a stream or deep ravine, bridging forms a vital function that must be maintained, upgraded, replaced, or initiated – and that is the core of this challenge. No matter new, renewed, or updated to take on this challenge you *must* demonstrate: (1) the importance of your site selection, (2) why is it critical to undertake your plans, (3) what value does it provide, (4) balance of functionality and design, (5) impacts and approaches, and (6) lay-out the solutions as well as provide a cost estimate (per foot) to address the needs that is realistic and doable for the resources/financial support likely available in the locale. Due to the likely displacement and logistical problems this project will create in a community, the proposal **MUST** include the precise steps, stages, and remedies for these problems (e.g. traffic).

#### **Historical Revitalization Challenge**

The challenge is to create a complete concept of the area used to develop and/or revitalize its *historical nature or roots* for the local town/city or location of your choice. The anchor can be rehab of a historical landmark or row of buildings/homes (but need not be the central element) or an open park-like landscaped setting commemorating a historical theme. Key will be to explain the reasons for site selection, what historic element is being showcased and how the solution will repurpose/revitalize and attract all elements of the community and/or visitors. The entry should identify a cohesive vision for a long-term successful future thru CONSTRUCTION related changes (the built environment, whether rehab/new/repurposed structures, or opening-up, developing spaces, etc.). This is an ideas competition: proposals may be innovative, transformative, and challenging, BUT *must* also present viable ways to implement real, holistic change. Successful proposals will show before/after, new uses, etc. – with a per foot cost estimate that must be realistic and doable for the resources/financial support likely available in the locale.

**Multiple TEAMS from ONE Affiliate/Chapter**

*CIRT STRONGLY requests and recommends that Affiliates with more than one team consider submitting entries in the different challenges rather than multiple ones in the SAME category. It would greatly increase the value of the competition and improve the odds of having one of the teams among the recognized entries.*

**Please Note**

*The project options for the CIRT Design Competition may have been derived from actual competitions that are underway or have been recently completed. The information furnished has been edited and/or modified so as to meet the needs and form the basis of the CIRT competition.*

*If for any reason you believe a key piece of information is missing or you are unclear as to a specific reference in the information provided – please make an educated guess or assumption that would further your proposal (and simply indicate what that assumption was and why you made it). Please do not let a geographical reference or other individual piece of information prevent you from completing the CIRT design competition submission!*