

Inside:Out

Weaving Arts into the Urban Fabric

A Design Competition for the Public Spaces at The Boston Center for the Arts

The Boston Center for the Arts is sponsoring a two-stage, national open design competition for its public open spaces in Boston's South End neighborhood.

Set at the crossroads of widely divergent social groups and communities, the Boston Center for the Arts' campus includes theatres, art galleries, artist studios, the Boston Ballet, restaurants, residences, and the iconic Cyclorama in a tightly knit urban block that connects its many publics through the performing and visual arts. The competition seeks innovative ways to spatialize the BCA's mission by bringing the inside out and by weaving arts into the urban and social fabric of the Boston. Entrants will be asked to consider how public space design can expand the BCA's presence in the city, provide a flexible gathering place for special events, and guide visitors to the many venues within the urban campus. In January, a public visioning event will take place in the Cyclorama to explore the range of programmatic and spatial opportunities within the site. The results of this public event will be incorporated into the program requirements of the competition.

The Ideas Phase of the competition will be open to all interested persons regardless of professional training or status within the continental United States. Registration will begin in February 2006 and submissions will be due in May 2006. All entries from registered applicants meeting the qualifications of the competition will be posted on the competition website. A jury of design professionals will select up to five finalists to continue on to the Finalist Phase of the competition. Finalists will travel to Boston to review the site with members of the BCA and will meet with community representatives to discuss their initial proposals. At this point finalists will be expected to formulate a professional team that could successfully execute their proposal, provide a preliminary cost estimate, and selectively revise their proposal in response to client and community considerations. The design jury will reconvene to review the proposals and select a winner. The winning team will be invited to begin contract negotiations for design services related to the construction of their proposal.

Full details of the competition will be posted online February 1, 2006
<http://insideout.bcaonline.org>

Schedule

Ideas Phase

Open

Visioning Event	January 21, 2006
Registration opens	February 1, 2006
Registration ends; deadlines for questions	February 27, 2006
Answers posted online	March 6, 2006
Initial Submissions due	May 9, 2006
Finalists Announced	May 24, 2006
Initial Entries Exhibition	Monday June 19, 2006 – Sunday June 25, 2006

Finalist Phase

Invited Finalists

Community Review Event / Site tour	June 2006
Final Submissions Due	July 2006

Eligibility

Ideas Phase

In order to foster exciting and diverse proposals, Inside:Out - Ideas Phase, is open to all members of the public residing within the continental United States. Non-professionals, students, artists community members, urbanists, and public space advocates, etc. are invited to register and submit entries. Entrants may work in teams or individually for the Ideas Phase.

Finalist Phase

Finalists chosen to proceed to this phase will be asked to identify a team capable of producing professional design services for the construction of their proposal. This team must include a licensed architect, landscape architect, or engineer either as part of the design team or in association with the design team. Teams are encouraged to include design professionals with public space design and construction experience.

Finalist should be able to readily identify qualified design professionals through such sources as their local chapter of the AIA <http://www.aia.org/>, ASLA <http://www.asla.org/>, or AIA/AAICP. The Boston Society of Architects <http://www.architects.org/> can help entrants identify local design professionals most familiar with the specific context of Boston.

- ◆ Core members of the BCA Environmental Design Committee, their employees, or employees of the BCA are not eligible to compete in the competition as individuals or as part of design teams.
- ◆ One entry per registration is allowed. Each entry will require a separate registration.
- ◆ The Ideas Phase of the competition is anonymous.

Awards

Up to five registered entries will be chosen as Finalists from the submission received for the Ideas Phase. Finalists will receive \$2500 for each selected submission. This is intended to cover travel and accommodation costs for the required Site Visit/Community Review Event in June.

One finalist team will be selected as the winning team and will be invited to begin contract negotiations for design services related to the construction of their proposal.