

Learning by Design VT •

thinking outside the box

AIA Vermont
1662 Mill Brook Road
Fayston, VT 05673

September 2009

Dear Art Instructor/Drafting Instructor/Teacher/Principal:

We are pleased to invite your students to enter the Learning By Design Committee of aiaVT's fourth STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION. All students in grades 4-12 are encouraged to participate, either as individuals or in teams. Enclosed is a copy of this semester's program details.

We are very excited to continue this collaboration between students, teachers, architects, and the greater architectural community. Submission of entries and awards will be in conjunction with aiaVT's annual awards dinner and reception, where we hope to have a public exhibit of the student submissions. Final entries for the student competition must be submitted by Monday, November 23, 2009. Awards will be presented for each grade level represented.

If requested, the Learning By Design Committee will arrange for a local architect to be available to visit your classroom and discuss the program with your students. Lauren Davis, the Learning By Design Committee co-chair will be the contact person. She can be reached at 802.862.9631 or lad@gvvarchitects.com.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email. Thank you in advance for your interest and support for this program. We look forward to future collaborations.

Sincerely,

The Learning By Design Committee of aiaVT
Lauren Davis, Committee Co-Chair
Lisa Rovner, Committee Co-Chair
Flor Smith Diaz
Jean Terwilliger
Guy Teschmacher

Encl:
Program Outline
Educational Objectives/Presentation Requirements
Entry Form

DESIGNING

LEARNING BY DESIGN COMMITTEE OF aiaVT

Presents

The 2009 Architectural Design Competition for School Students

Program

Rethinking the Classroom Space

You are invited to help redesign the classroom of the future; to help create a better, smarter, more sustainable learning environment. As student populations increase, our school buildings have begun to feel space constraints. Many schools have introduced temporary structures that lack the sense of place and belonging that is so important in a learning environment.

Imagine that your school has decided to build a new classroom space that is more in touch with today's methods of learning. The school administrators are looking to you the students for feedback on how best to use and design this space. You have been asked to design a place to help educate the administration on your needs and wishes as the primary users.

Process

You might begin by thinking about your favorite place or building to learn. What makes it a good learning environment? What about the space appeals to you? Now think of a place that is hard to learn in. What makes it difficult to think? What would you do to make it better?

This project is about one space to be used by many. Whether it is a one on one student teacher interaction, or a whole classroom project, this space should make the user feel safe, healthy and inspired. As the designer some basic needs to think about include scale- this space will be used mostly by children and should be scaled accordingly. Let the sun shine in. Think about the acoustical qualities, bodies in motion, play space, learning space, teaching space, and thinking space.

The classroom maybe sited anywhere on the school grounds. It needs to maintain a connection to the main building. It could be redesigning an existing space or a freestanding structure.

Encourage new ways of learning. Technology is advancing faster then our buildings can adjust. Think about flexibility and adaptability.

This project should be mindful of economic issues and should respect the sustainability goals of your school.

Eligibility

The Competition is open to all students in grades 4-12, either as individuals or in teams.

Schedule

Entry forms due Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Project submissions due Monday, November 23, 2009

Submissions will be delivered to aiaVT, details to be determined.

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EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

To increase your awareness of the relationships between space, human scale and function.

To gain experience in recognizing the varied problems, and solutions, in planning and designing indoor and outdoor spaces for specific uses.

To exercise your analytical abilities and creativity in solving the problems you have defined.

To gain experience in communicating your planning and design ideas through drawing and models.

PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Drawings of design and photos of models mounted on **one rigid 24" x 36" board oriented vertically**. Drawings may be done directly on a white board or drawn on paper mounted on board.

Provide drawings as follows:

- A. Drawings that show the project in your town. The drawings should show what the building looks like as you walk toward it and how it fits into the surrounding buildings and community. These can be **perspectives** drawn from photographs.
- B. Floor **plan(s)** at scale $\frac{1}{4}''=1'-0''$ *. Include furniture or other indications of the use of the spaces on your plan(s). Indicate North arrow on plan(s).
- C. One or more **elevations** at scale $\frac{1}{4}''=1'-0''$ *. (Any views that you think best explain your scheme.)
- D. One building **section** at scale $\frac{1}{4}''=1'-0''$ *, if applicable.
- E. One **site plan**/town map that shows where the building is located and the surrounding buildings. Scale as applicable.
- F. (Optional, PHOTOS ONLY for submission). Build one model at scale $\frac{1}{4}''=1'-0''$.*
*If your building is too large for $\frac{1}{4}''$ scale, you may use $\frac{1}{8}''=1'-0''$

Include at least one drawing of a person in each elevation and section drawing to help show the scale of the project.

2. **Write** a brief paragraph, typed or neatly printed, describing your design, its use and features. Include this on the front side of the presentation drawing board.
3. Entrant's name and school must be written on the presentation board.
4. All entries will be returned following the jury review, and possible exhibitions. Details to be determined.

DESIGNING

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STUDENT ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN COMPETITION

Entry Form

School Info

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

Teacher contact for submission

Name _____

Phone _____ email _____

Submission Info

Student(s) Name(s) _____

Grade Level _____

If more than one team per school:

Student(s) Name(s) _____

Grade Level _____

Student(s) Name(s) _____

Grade Level _____

Student(s) Name(s) _____

Grade Level _____

Student(s) Name(s) _____

Grade Level _____

*Entry forms due Wednesday, October 7, 2009.

**No entry fee is required.

Please mail or fax this form to:

Lauren Davis
LBD competition, aiaVT
284 South Union Street
Burlington, VT
05401
FAX: 802.660.9010

