

An aerial photograph of Chicago, Illinois, showing the city skyline along the Lake Michigan waterfront. The image captures the dense cluster of skyscrapers in the downtown area, with the city's grid pattern extending inland. The Lake Michigan shoreline is visible on the left, with a large body of water and a few smaller structures. The sky is a mix of soft orange and blue, indicating the time is either dawn or dusk. The overall scene is a high-angle, wide-view shot of the city.

Chicago Architecture Biennial Lakefront Kiosk Competition

Submission Deadline:
March 23, 2015

chicagoarchitecturebiennial.org

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Cover Photo:
Iwan Baan / Chicago, 2014

Introduction

The Chicago Architecture Biennial announces the Lakefront Kiosk Competition, organized in partnership with the Chicago Park District and the City of Chicago.

In keeping with the mission of the Chicago Architecture Biennial, the Lakefront Kiosk Competition is an opportunity to support innovative architectural work and to use the city—more specifically, the iconic shoreline of Lake Michigan—as a laboratory for architectural experimentation.

The competition calls for the inventive design of a new kiosk that will be installed on Chicago's lakefront, one of the city's most vibrant public spaces. The winning entry will be part of a broader initiative, envisioned by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the Chicago Park District, to enhance cultural life on the lakefront.

A jury of architects, curators, and city representatives will select one winner to receive the BP Prize. The winner will be awarded an honorarium for design development and a construction budget.

The winning competition entry will be constructed and displayed in Millennium Park during the Chicago Architecture Biennial (October 2015–January 2016) as a featured component of its exhibition program, and in the spring of 2016 the kiosk will be installed on the lakefront.

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Challenge

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Historically, the shoreline of Lake Michigan has played a central role in Chicago's urban identity. During the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, architect Daniel Burnham sought to incorporate the lake into the fairgrounds, and his 1909 Plan for Chicago proposed to reclaim the entire length of the lakefront as a place of leisure for all inhabitants of the city—an idea realized during the 20th century. Today, the lakefront is a celebrated and heavily used public space that is a major destination for both visitors and local residents. It features over twenty miles of public parks and beaches, as well as pedestrian and cycling routes.

The Chicago Park District currently oversees over forty kiosks that punctuate the shoreline, which during the summer offer food, retail, and recreational services—ranging from beverages to clothing to surf rentals. Although these kiosks are, by necessity, modest in size, these structures are an exciting opportunity to explore creative architectural solutions. The competition calls for the design of a new kiosk that will be a fully functioning commercial space during the summer, but also asks applicants to consider how the kiosk might perform as an architectural intervention on the lakefront when its commercial functions are inactive. When open, how does the kiosk engage with both visitors and the surrounding environment? When closed, how does the kiosk maintain an active presence on the lakefront and attract visitors year-round? How can its design adapt to changing programs, as well as different locations on the lakefront?

While Chicago is known for its towering skyscrapers and its expansive urban grid, the competition identifies the lakefront as a new realm of architectural imagination that operates on the scenic threshold of the city and at a more intimate scale. Though the winning kiosk will be a small structure—a work of micro-architecture—it will reinforce the city's broader commitment to forward-thinking design. The competition is a challenge to demonstrate how small-scale architectural design can transform public space.

Challenge

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The winning kiosk must fulfill the following programmatic requirements:

Part 1

The kiosk will have a commercial function on the lakefront during the summer (May-August). Its design must flexibly accommodate a changing roster of vendors, which may vary from year to year. In addition, the kiosk should be easily transportable for possible installation at different locations. After the jury has selected the winner of the competition, the Chicago Park District will determine a vendor and its location on the lakefront.

Part 2

An iconic work of architecture that will attract visitors and enliven the lakefront year-round—including the off-season months (September-April), when its retail services will be suspended.

Part 3

Prior to its installation on the lakefront, the kiosk will be exhibited in Millennium Park as part of the Chicago Architecture Biennial (October 2015–January 2016). Applicants should identify a compelling cultural program for the kiosk while it is on display in Millennium Park. The proposed program should engage a diverse audience, including the general public and visitors to the Chicago Architecture Biennial. Examples of possible programs include: performances, film projections, visual art displays, a community center, etc.

BP Prize

A jury will select one winner of the competition. The winner will receive the BP Prize, to be presented at the opening of the Chicago Architecture Biennial, and will be awarded a \$10,000 honorarium for design development and a budget of \$75,000 to realize the kiosk.

Guidelines

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Eligibility

The competition is open to domestic and international applicants. Individuals or design teams may apply. Design teams may be multidisciplinary, however the lead applicant of the team must have graduated from an accredited professional architecture program.

The winning designer or design team will work with a local architect of record appointed by the Chicago Park District and the Chicago Architecture Biennial.

Criteria for Evaluation

Originality

- Original and inventive contribution to the field
- Creative use of materials and technology
- Innovative fabrication
- Thoughtful engagement of the lakefront landscape
- Sustainability

Feasibility

- Realizable within the budget
- Ease of on-site installation
- Transportable
- Weather sustainable design
- Demonstrated capacity to complete the project

Schedule

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Dec 2014 | Competition announcement |
| Mar 23, 2015 | Submission deadline |
| April 2015 | Jury Deliberation |
| May 2015 | Winner announced |
| Jun–Aug 2015 | Fabrication |
| Sept 2015 | Installation at Millennium Park |
| Oct 2015 | Chicago Architecture Biennial Opens to public |
| Oct 2015 | BP Prize ceremony |
| April 2016 | Installation on lakefront |

Budget

The winning design team will receive a \$10,000 honorarium for design development and a budget of \$75,000 to realize the kiosk.

Design Specifications

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General Requirements

A freestanding, movable kiosk for a commercial vendor (retail or food) to be installed on the Chicago lakefront. Vendor will be determined by Chicago Park District after a winner has been selected. Proposed designs must be able to accommodate a range of commercial uses and should consider service area, outdoor seating, and engagement of the lakefront landscape.

Dimensions

- Maximum square footage: 200 square feet

Kiosk Features

- Structurally sound
- Interior workspace for one to two employees
- Opening(s) for commercial transactions
- Shade for service area
- Natural ventilation
- Incorporates signage strategy (primary and secondary, such as a menu)
- Easily maintained materials (interior and exterior)
- Vandal-proof security
- Durability

Apply

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How to Submit

- Register for the competition and submit your application electronically at chicagoarchitecturebiennial.slideroom.com by 11:59pm on March 23, 2015 CST.
- The competition registration fee is \$35.00.
- For general inquiries please email competition@chicagoarchitecturebiennial.org

Formatting Application Materials

- Application materials must be uploaded online at the competition application website.
- Each submitted PDF must include your team name on every page.
- All file names should include your team name, and should use the following format:
TeamName_CV; TeamName_DesignDocuments; TeamName_Portfolio.

Application Materials

1. Required Documents

- Designer/Team Bio (maximum 150 words).
- Abstract that identifies objectives of the proposed project (maximum 150 words).
- Written description that explains the proposed project's concept, design methods, and aspirations (maximum 750 words).
- An 8.5 x 11" PDF that contains current CV(s) for lead member(s) of the team.
- An 8.5 x 11" PDF of designer/design team portfolio (maximum 12 pages) that contains three design projects (built or unrealized) that are representative of the designer/design team's methodology and interests and that demonstrate an ability to conceptualize and successfully execute an architectural project at this scale.

2. Required Design Documents

An 11 x 17" PDF of no more than 10 pages that contains:

- Site plan, floor plans, elevations, and cross sections, in addition to any other renderings that convey the project's design and programmatic objectives.
- Applicants are required to construct a physical model (1:50 scale) and include at least three high-resolution digital photographs of this model. At this time, submission of physical model is not required. However, the Chicago Architecture Biennial may request your model to exhibit in Chicago.

An 8.5 x 11" PDF that contains:

- Itemized budget (maximum one page) that outlines costs including, but not limited to, materials, fabrication, as well as donated materials.
- Outline of fabrication and construction schedule (maximum one page); kiosk installation must be completed by mid-September 2015.

3. High-Resolution Images

- Three high-resolution images representative of your kiosk design proposal that may be used for press purposes.

Jury



David Adjaye

Adjaye Associates

David Adjaye OBE is recognized as a leading architect of his generation. Adjaye was born in Tanzania to Ghanaian parents and his influences range from contemporary art, music and science to African art forms and the civic life of cities. In 1994 he set up his first office, where his ingenious use of materials and his sculptural ability established him as an architect with an artist's sensibility and vision. Since 2000, Adjaye Associates has won several prestigious commissions, including the Nobel Peace Centre in Oslo (2005) and the Whitechapel Idea Store in London (2005). Adjaye Associates has offices in London, Berlin, New York, Accra and Shanghai and is working on projects throughout the world. In the United States Adjaye was the designer of a new home for the Museum of Contemporary Art in Denver (2007), two public libraries in Washington D.C. (2012), as well as of several innovative residential projects. In 2009 a team led by Adjaye was selected to design the new \$360 million Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington D.C, which will open in 2015.



Jeanne Gang

Studio Gang Architects

Architect and MacArthur Fellow Jeanne Gang is Founder and Principal of Studio Gang Architects, an award-winning practice based in Chicago and New York. Internationally recognized for her visually striking work and environmentally sensitive approach, Jeanne explores the role of design in revitalizing cities. Through projects ranging in scale from community anchors and cultural institutions to tall mixed-use buildings and urban design, she engages pressing contemporary issues and their impact on human experience. Guided by this approach, Jeanne has produced some of today's most innovative and compelling architecture, including the recently completed Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership, the WMS Boathouse at Clark Park, the Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo, and Aqua Tower. Photo by Jenny Hueston



Joseph Grima

Co-Artistic Director, Chicago Architecture Biennial

Joseph Grima is an architect, writer, curator, and researcher based in Genoa, Italy. From 2011 to 2013 he was editor-in-chief of *Domus*, a monthly magazine of architecture, design, and art. Grima recently curated the 2014 Biennale Interieur in Kortrijk, Belgium, one of Europe's oldest design biennials, and was co-curator of the first edition of the Istanbul Design Biennial, a major international exhibition inaugurated in 2012. He is the 2015 Director of IDEAS CITY, an ideas festival organized by the New Museum in New York and dedicated to exploring the future of cities. From 2007 to 2011 he served as Director of Storefront for Art and Architecture, a renowned non-profit gallery and exhibition space in New York, where he curated numerous exhibitions, symposia, conferences, and publications.

Jury



Sarah Herda

Co-Artistic Director, Chicago Architecture Biennial

Since 2006, Sarah Herda has been Director of the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts in Chicago, the largest foundation in the United States committed to awarding project-based grants to individuals and institutions working at the forefront of architecture, and its role in the arts, culture and society. Herda is credited with transforming the Foundation's headquarters, the historic Madlener House, into a world-class public venue for architecture exhibitions and building one of Chicago's most celebrated public programs. From 1998 until 2006, Herda was Director and Curator at Storefront for Art and Architecture, an experimental exhibition space in New York City. While at Storefront, Herda collaborated with hundreds of architects and artists on a variety of projects, including more than 40 exhibitions. In 2009, Herda was named one of *Icon Magazine's* 20/20—a list of 20 architects and 20 designers who are changing the way we work and think.



Sharon Johnston

Johnston Marklee & Associates

Sharon Johnston is a principal of Johnston Marklee & Associates based in Los Angeles. Founded in 1998, the firm has been engaged in a range of international projects of divergent scales and uses. Johnston Marklee's design for the Menil Drawing Institute, in Houston, Texas, will commence construction in March 2015. The work of the firm has been featured in national and international media, including *Abitare*, *Domus*, *Wallpaper**, *Metropolis*, *Icon*, *Architectural Record*, *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *l'Architecture Aujourd'hui*, and *Mark Magazine*. The collaborative work between the architecture of Johnston Marklee and the world of contemporary art has been the subject of the publication *Later Layer* and of the forthcoming book *House is a House is a House is a House is a House*. A monograph on the work of Johnston Marklee, published by 2G, was published in the Spring of 2014.

Jury



Michael J. O'Brien

Retail Design Director, BP

Michael J. "Mike" O'Brien is an architect who has concentrated on global brand and retail design architecture for 30 years. Mike has led BP's, and its heritage company Amoco's, sustainable designs, including the US's first LEED-certified fueling facility, Helios House, in Los Angeles; the first hydrogen fueling station in the US at Los Angeles International Airport; the first thin-film photovoltaic solar gas station canopies and forecourts globally; and the first retail partnerships including McDonald's, Burger King, Marks & Spencer UK, and TNK-BP. Mike also developed the Chicago pedestrian bridge linking the Prudential Building and Amoco Building (now Aon Center); worked on the re-clad of the former Amoco Building; and served on the Chicago Committee on High Rise Buildings. His other achievements include design and development of the new Amoco global brand image (1998); the new BP Retail image (2000); the Wild Bean Café global brand; and Ultimate gasoline and ARCO brand design. Before joining Amoco, Mike was a principal at O'Brien and Associates. He is a licensed architect and a member of both the American Institute of Architects and AIA Illinois.



Rob Rejman

Director of Planning and Construction, Chicago Park District

Rob Rejman joined the Chicago Park District in 2003 and has served as Director of Planning and Construction since 2011, where he oversees long-range capital planning, acquisition, design, and construction of Chicago's parks. Previous roles at the Park District include Director of the Departments of Capital Construction and Facility Maintenance. Rejman's diverse array of projects include harbors, beaches, sports complexes, community centers, playgrounds, historic restorations, and large park developments such as Northerly Island and Maggie Daley Park. The Chicago Park District currently holds the National Gold Medal for Excellence in Parks and Recreation, and is the largest park district to achieve this honor. Rejman received a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1995. His early career in architecture included design of domestic and international commercial projects, followed by in-house design and real estate management for a Fortune 500 company.

Competition Partners

Chicago Architecture Biennial

Chicago Architectural Biennial

The Chicago Architecture Biennial is a vision of Mayor Rahm Emanuel for a major international architectural event and an outcome of the comprehensive cultural plan developed by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. It is presented through the support of BP, and in partnership with the City of Chicago and the Graham Foundation.

Through its constellation of exhibitions, full-scale installations, and program of events, the Chicago Architecture Biennial will invite the public to engage with and think about architecture in new and unexpected ways, and to take part in a global discussion on the future of the field. For the Chicago Architecture Biennial's inaugural edition, Co-Artistic directors Joseph Grima and Sarah Herda have selected the title "The State of the Art of Architecture."

Chicago Architecture Biennial, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit corporation charged with executing the inaugural 2015 Biennial and subsequent biennials. Chicago Architectural Biennial, Inc. is dedicated to creating an international forum on architecture and urbanism through the production of exhibitions and public programs. Chicago Architectural Biennial, Inc. seeks to convene the world's leading practitioners, theorists and commentators in the field of architecture and urbanism to explore, debate and demonstrate the significance of architecture to contemporary society.

Chicago Park District

The Chicago Park District (CPD) oversees and produces programs for over 570 public parks around the city including 26 miles of public beaches along Lake Michigan's shoreline. CPD supports innovation and new ideas through various programs and project initiatives including but not limited to public art projects, commerce and public programs. Each park seeks to enhance the quality of life in Chicago by becoming the leading provider of recreation and leisure activities.

BP

Over the past five years, BP has invested nearly \$50 billion in the U.S. – more than any other energy company. BP is a leading producer of oil and gas and provides enough energy annually to light nearly the entire country for a year. Employing approximately 20,000 people in all 50 states, BP supports more than 260,000 jobs total through all of its business activities.



Resources

Chicago Park District

www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events

www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dca.html

History of Chicago's Shoreline

www.cityofchicago.org/dam/city/depts/cdot/ShorelineHistory.pdf

Examples of Kiosks on the Lakefront



Assaf Evron / Chicago, 2014

FAQ

Can students apply?

Yes. However, the lead applicant of the team must have graduated from an accredited professional architecture program

Should I submit a portfolio for each member of the design team?

Teams should use their best judgment and select projects that are representative of the team as a whole.

Is there a specific site designated for the winning kiosk?

After the winning design is selected, the Chicago Park District will identify a site for the kiosk on the lakefront.

Will the competition winner be able to visit the designated site for the kiosk?

Representatives from the winning design team will be invited to Chicago for a site visit during the design development stage (May 2015).

Who owns the winning kiosk?

During the fabrication and construction of the kiosk, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Inc. will be the owner of the kiosk. Upon completion of the kiosk's construction, ownership of the kiosk will be transferred to the Chicago Park District.

What are the weather conditions in Chicago?

Chicago summers (June-August) are generally hot and humid. Temperatures range from 75°F to 100°F. Winter (December-March) temperatures can fall below 0°F. Snow and high winds are typical weather patterns throughout the winter months. Spring (April-May) and Fall (September-November) temperatures are mild and range between 45°F to 75°F, with periods of rain storms and high winds.

What is a kiosk?

A kiosk is a small open-fronted structure used for the sale of food or retail goods.