



Emerging
Green
Builders

Cascadia Emerging Green Builders Natural Talent Design Competition 2007 LEED-H Program Requirements

OVERVIEW

The USGBC Natural Talent 2007 Design Competition provides an applied learning experience in the principles of integrated design, sustainability, innovation, and social consciousness; all of which are components of the LEED™ Green Building Rating System. Participants will compete in a local competition, the top winner of which will move on to compete for a national award at Greenbuild LA 2007. Awards include Green Building Scholarships as well as travel and registration to Greenbuild (<http://www.greenbuildexpo.org>), the USGBC's Annual Green Building Conference and Expo, where finalists' entries will be displayed and where final judging will occur. Greenbuild 2007 will be held in Los Angeles, CA, October 17-19, 2007.

COMPETITION OBJECTIVES

- Broaden environmental education in the building professions within the university system
- To empower students and young professionals within the green building movement to become future leaders
- Highlight the presence, efforts, and initiative of students and emerging leaders in the green building movement
- Encourage the reduction of the dependence on fossil fuels within the building industry.
- Integrate students with esteemed individuals from the USGBC and green building industry
- Raise awareness of exemplary designs of future designers by displaying them at Greenbuild
- Utilize LEED™ as a guideline for building design and performance
- Recognize and award students and emerging green builders for their dedication, creativity, innovation, and commitment to sustainable design

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to all university level students (of any discipline and level) and individuals with less than five (5) years experience in the building industry.

- Teams and individuals wishing to participate in the competition will qualify to enter the nearest competition site to their residence.
- Both individuals and teams are permitted to enter.
- Multi-disciplinary and international teams are strongly encouraged.
- Teams are to be no larger than five individuals.
- Only one entry per team/person will be accepted.
- We encourage teams to secure a faculty member or industry professional to fill an advisory role.

REGISTRATION

1. Teams are required to complete an online registration form by visiting the Emerging Green Builders national website at www.usgbc.org\egb; only one form per team. All information must be complete to be considered a valid entry. A confirmation email will be sent from National within five (5) business days of receiving the registration, and will contain information on how to proceed. Registration is mandatory to receive additional instruction on project submittals.
2. There is a registration fee of \$25 per team member to encourage follow through of submissions. Team members will automatically be granted EGB membership (\$25), entitling them to event discounts and other benefits, along with a one-year subscription to Building Green to aid them in their research. Applicant Fee *and* chapter membership application should be sent to the Cascadia Chapter Headquarters at 721 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 280, Portland OR 97209 or be paid online at www.cascadiagbc.org.
3. Teams are required to identify a team contact. This person will receive important information from the local competition committee and is responsible for final submission. The team contact will be responsible for all communication between the design team and the Competition Committee. Additionally, the team contact should disseminate all information from the Competition Committee to their entire team.
4. Each team/individual may only enter one local competition. This competition should be the competition geographically closest to your current location.

COMPETITION CHALLENGE

Design a LEED-H Silver residence with a focus on innovative technology and integrated design strategies. The project will be required to address innovation and integrated design in four key areas. The four key areas to be addressed are Education, Natural Resource Use, Regional Relevance, and Materials. These four criteria should be used to guide the development of the project but should by no means limit the focus of sustainability in the design.

- **Education:** The project will be required to address education by documenting the reasoning and intent of innovative technologies used on the project to potentially contribute in the development of an educational homeowner's manual. This is to ensure that teams reflect on the relevance and accessibility of their design.
- **Natural Resource Use:** Teams will be expected to include resource use in the basis of their design decisions. This includes negotiating site positioning for the use of solar efficiencies, storm water runoff, and natural ventilation. This also includes choosing materials and technologies that preserve resources off site such as rapidly renewable resources and renewable energy.
- **Materials:** Material life cycles will need to be considered in terms of their durability, flexibility, VOC and other contaminate content, and recyclable or reusable content.
- **Regional Relevance:** Teams will also be asked to address the regional/cultural conditions of their site in regards to their choice of materials, cultural precedent, and community connection in developing a sense of place for the project.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The project must be designed to accommodate the program components listed below.

- **LEED-H Credits:** An emphasis on the following credits is encouraged to help meet competition challenge requirements: **SS Credits 1 - 4, WE Credit 1, IEQ Credit 4, MR Credits 3 – 5, EA Credits 7 – 10**, and must include **HA Credit 1**.
- **Residential Units:** The design must incorporate a two unit attached housing residence with a maximum footprint of about 900 to 1,200 square feet per unit (1,800 to 2,400 total). Units should incorporate 2 – 4 bedrooms of about 100 – 120 square feet on average per room. These requirements are to save energy and insure teams consider site footprint and environmental impact of their designs.
- **Recycling and compost:** Must include adequate and easily accessible space designed specifically for household recycling and composting needs.
- **Garages are prohibited from the design**

PROJECT CONTEXT & LOCATION

Teams are encouraged to base their projects on the site nearest to their location, as travel for local award ceremonies will not be provided. Teams are allowed to use either the Portland Site or Vancouver BC site for their designs, provided they are consistent through out the competition.

SITE #1: Portland, Oregon 604 NE Webster, Portland OR 97221

The site is located in the Alberta neighborhood in upper NE Portland. The Alberta neighborhood is an old neighborhood currently going through an immense revitalization that has produced mixed feelings from a former predominantly older African American population and the younger more hip, eco-minded influx of the current population. The challenge will be to respect the history of the site, as well as reflect the artistic new flare that has taken the neighborhood captive.

Alberta Street has many newly renovated retail storefronts and restaurant spaces, mixed in with older pre-existing businesses. The neighborhood has been deemed the Alberta Arts district for its concentration of galleries, locally owned shops and strips of restaurants representing a number of different cultures and lifestyles. There is a strong sense of place and local pride in the neighborhood that existed well before the revitalization of businesses and homes that can be seen in the demographics currently taking shape as well. Alberta folks prize their individuality, and you'll find a multi-cultural mix of locals as well as visitors.

The residential area of the Alberta neighborhood is caught in the mixed controversy of gentrification, with many of the older houses being remodeled, and property values rising in a sharp upward curve. Former owners are no longer able to afford property taxes on houses that have been in families for generations. One estimate says property values have gone up 80% in this neighborhood, just in the last few years. A recent home search in the 97211 zip code showed homes for sale from as low as \$129,000, up to \$609,900, showing the wide variance in the housing market. In Alberta, you will typically find modest homes with older East Portland architectural styles such as Craftsman style Bungalows, and other mid-sized, one and two story homes. The neighborhood has a lot of style and unique charm.

SITE #2: Vancouver, British Columbia 4402 Kaslo Street, Vancouver, B.C.

The site itself is on the northern edge of Norquay Village Neighborhood, very close to 29th Avenue and to the 29th Avenue Sky train Station, 2 blocks away from Renfrew Ravine, where one of the few remaining streams in Vancouver – Still Creek - begins. (Most of Vancouver's streams were culverted and filled-in).

Norquay Village is currently in the midst of developing a neighborhood plan through the City of Vancouver's Neighborhood Centre Program. The Neighborhood Centre Program is designed to deliver improvements to the shopping area and to plan for small scale housing around it. The Norquay Village area was identified as a Neighborhood Centre in the Renfrew-Collingwood Community Vision in 2004.

The site has good access to transit: The sky train station is less than a block away and there is also a north-south bus route on Slocan Street, about a block to the west. In the near future, a new bus route will go from the 29th Street Skytrain station and head west to the University of British Columbia, along 33rd Avenue.

At this point in time the Norquay area is dominated by single family houses with a handful of multi-family housing sites. Commercial and mixed use buildings are located along Kingsway. While there are some houses which date back to the early 20th century, the majority of houses in this area were constructed post WW II – and a large proportion are houses constructed in the past 25-30 years.

Demographically, the neighborhood has a sizable proportion of recent immigrants combined with some long term residents. The largest non-English language group is Chinese (about 40%), followed by Vietnamese (About 12%).

DESIGN GOALS

- Conceptual Design and Program fulfillment: how the project's vision meets requirements
- Integration of green design strategies and applicability to LEED criteria
- Creativity in process, design and innovation
- Engagement of environmental, economic, and social aspects of program and site
- Overall energy reduction and its documentation

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for submission at the Local level

- At minimum, boards submitted at the local level must include:
 - Site analysis and plan providing context and existing conditions
 - Two sections
 - Floor Plan
 - Details of innovative technology systems used, along with reasoning and intent
 - Specifications of material and products used on the project
 - Effectively address the four key areas specified in the design challenge
 - Adhere to ADA and local building code regulations
 - Each entry must also provide a digital file of the image as a JPEG or TIFF format at 300dpi, full size

Requirements for submission at the National Level

(upon winning local competition, teams must also provide the following requirements)

- At minimum, boards submitted at the national level must include:
 - Site plan providing context (scale at the discretion of the entrant)
 - Building Section
 - Floor plan
 - Illustration of key elements of sustainable infrastructure and building systems
 - Wall section OR detail illustrating special environmental features
 - **Do not** include names or the name of your team on the board
- All entries must remain anonymous at all levels.
- Each entry must also provide a digital file of the image as a JPEG or TIFF format at 300dpi, full size.
- Failure to follow the submission requirements could result in disqualification. This will be left up the judges' discretion.

Other important notes:

- LEED is a design guideline only. It is understood that this will not portray an accurate LEED score.
- No LEED credit interpretation rulings will be provided.

FINALISTS (competing at Greenbuild)

Finalists at the local level will be given additional time to develop and detail their designs. Finalists will be permitted two 30"x40" presentation boards for final presentation at Greenbuild in Los Angeles. The finalists may be given specific LEED credits to consider, including material samples and details.

An electronic copy of the two boards for entry will be due to the National EGB Competition Committee October 1, 2007. These electronic copies should be PDF files formatted to fit on an 11x17 sheet. Entrants are responsible for ensuring both boards are physically present at the Greenbuild Conference and Expo in Los Angeles, CA, for display and final judging. This will be coordinated with the National EGB Committee toward the end of September. Finalists are strongly encouraged to attend Greenbuild but are not required to. All projects in the final round of judging will also be posted to the Emerging Green Builders Website.

As earlier stated, final presentations can be further developed and modified from the original project submission, although not redesigned. There must be a clear relation to the original submission. *The Competition Committees at both levels reserve the right to disqualify any entry perceived to be redesigned.*

JUDGING

There will be two phases of judging in the 2007 competition. The first will take place at the local level by May 25, 2007, which is the date set by the local EGB group. Judging at the national level will take place at Greenbuild in Los Angeles, CA, by an esteemed panel of green building experts. More detailed judging criteria will be available after project registration.

AWARDS

The local jury will award a first, second and third place, as well as a People's Choice Award. Winning teams will receive the following awards:

- **1st Place: \$1,000**
- **2nd Place: \$500**
- **3rd Place: \$250**
- **People's Choice: Honorable mention**

NOTE: Team representatives for first place winner will receive travel, lodging and registration to Greenbuild in Los Angeles. International entrants, should they win the competition at the local level, will be awarded comparable stipends to aid in their travel to Greenbuild for the National judging. The entire cost may not be covered.

National awards are as follows:

- **1st Place: \$5,000**
- **2nd Place: \$2,000**

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

- **December 15, 2006:** Registration goes live on the national USGBC website.
- **May 25, 2007:** Latest date to submit projects for local judging
- **June 11, 2007:** Latest date for local judging to be complete.
- **October 1, 2007:** National deadline for those chosen to compete at Greenbuild 2007.

DISCLAIMER

The National EGB Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry. The USGBC is not liable for lost or misdirected, late or substantially incomplete entries, as well as any entries containing text/images that identify the designer to jurors. The decisions and opinions of the jurors represent their professional viewpoints, not the opinion of USGBC. All prizes will be awarded at the discretion of USGBC and all decisions are final.

All drawings, photographs, photocopies and other physical materials submitted to the competition become the property of the USGBC and will not be returned. It should be emphasized that this competition is purely conceptual, and the selection of finalists or prize-winners in no way indicates intent of the property owners to implement the proposed schemes. Upon registering for this competition, all competitors agree to waive any and all claims against the USGBC as a result of the competition. Also, by registering, the entrants transfer unlimited use for publication, exhibition and electronic posting of all entries to the USGBC. All images must either be created by the team or sufficiently cited. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. Fill out and return the Image Use Form found on the national EGB website prior to submitting for your local competition.

This competition, headed by the USGBC Emerging Green Builders Committee, is not a binding contract to award or grant any building contracts for the designs submitted in this competition.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact your local EGB Leaders with questions or for more information.

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