

2024 Middle & High School Student Design Challenge

Entry Deadline: Monday, September 16, 5:00 p.m. CT



Design Challenge Brief

Theme: **The Bridge: Community + Connector**

A bridge is often identified as a physical element tying two places together, often overcoming an impassable pathway. As designers, we have the rare opportunity to create something unexpected. While bridges can be recognized as a physical connector, it can also be a metaphorical bridge connecting communities, cultures, or persons. Students are encouraged to explore ideas to reimagine an existing bridge in or near the place of their choosing.

Sparkling Your Creativity

- » Can you activate an existing bridge in your community and make it a destination in addition to a connector — park, sporting field, dog park, farmers market, etc.?
- » Can you change the use of the bridge and reimagine new connections — public park, shopping mall, animal crossing, pedestrian crossing, sky bridge between buildings, etc.?
- » What is a gap in your community that could be redefined by the design of a “bridge”?
- » Study a particular environment or culture in your community and use those elements to influence your design for a built intervention to bring communities closer together.

Project Eligibility

To be considered for a 2024 Texas Society of Architects Student Design Challenge finalist, projects must be submitted in accordance with the following requirements:

- » Projects can be submitted by either an individual student or a group of students (max four people per group) currently in either middle school or high school in the state of Texas.
- » Projects must be submitted in their appropriate category based upon their current grade as of August 2024:
 - » Middle School Category (Grades 6 – 8)
 - » High School Category (Grades 9 – 12)
- » If a group of students that contains multiple grades submits, they must submit into the category of their oldest (by grade) student.

Complete submission guidelines and more details can be found at texasarchitects.org/student-design-challenge.