The Challenge

Get ready to design and build a prototype for a portable urban garden! In an effort to help promote equal access to fresh food, Architects Without Borders - Seattle is hosting a design/build competition to create replicable garden beds that can be easily assembled for use in a variety of locations!

Urban garden beds provide access to fresh food, regardless of location and available outdoor space. These garden beds can also help eliminate food deserts in urban neighborhoods, where there is little access to fresh, healthy and affordable food. Food deserts typically occur in impoverished urban areas due to a lack of grocery stores, farmers' markets and other food providers. By providing a prototype for urban garden beds, you'll be helping to create a replicable, low cost means of growing fresh and healthy food!

This competition will focus on the affordability, adaptability, ease, and creativity with which the urban garden comes to fruition, with an emphasis on the universality of the design and construction. After the competition is finished, instructions for all the prototypes will be posted on our website for anyone to download and build themselves. Consider what design can do to help provide access to fresh food in our local neighborhoods and get gardening!

All entry fees benefit Architects Without Borders - Seattle, a local non-profit that provides ecologically sensitive and culturally appropriate design assistance to communities in need.
**Schedule**

Registration Deadline - August 17th at 12pm  
Submissions Deadline - Sept. 8th at 12pm  
Judging - September 12th  
Winners Announced: Grand Prize & Under 18 Winners - September 12th  
People's Choice - September 15th

**Exhibit**

September 12th - 13th during the Seattle Design Festival’s Block Party

**Urban Garden Design Requirements**

Size - Garden beds should fit within a 3’ wide x 3’ wide x 6’ high cube

Soil Depth and Drainage - Provide proper soil depth and drainage for the plant type to be grown

Stewardship - Provide a long-term owner for the urban garden bed. The designer can be the long-term owner but a partnership with a local community group is highly encouraged.

Portability - Final design should be able to be moved easily by two people.

**Criteria For Judges**

Affordability - Use of affordable materials and components. The materials cost should not be greater than approximately $50. Reused, repurposed, or recycled materials are highly encouraged.

Adaptability - Ability for the garden beds to be personalized by individual owners to reflect their individual, aesthetic sensibilities and give them a sense of ownership. This criteria also includes the ability for the gardens to accommodate a variety of small urban site conditions and contexts.

Assembly - Use of readily available materials and parts. Instructions for assembly and installation will be judged and should be easy to follow.

Creativity - Aesthetic / functional / installation / material creativity

Mobility - The ability of the garden beds to be relocated easily will be judged. Garden beds should be portable by two people (wheeled, collapsible, modular etc.).

**Judging**

All entries will be presented in an exhibit as part of the Seattle Design Festival 2015. Judging will take place during the exhibit on September 12th. Teams will be asked to provide digital submissions of their entry with an optional physical submission to be on display at the Seattle Design Festival Block Party. Please see “Submission Requirements” for more details. Judges to be announced.
Submission Requirements

Required Submission - Digital submission
Email the following items to getgardening@awb-seattle.org by 12pm Sept. 8th:

1. Completed Team Information Form (page 5 of this document)
   PDF

2. One 24” x 36” board (portrait format) including photographs, diagrams, drawings, or any other visual aid to comprehensively illustrate the merits of the entry. Boards must include a project description of 100 words or less explaining the design goals and decisions.
   PDF - 24” x 36” (portrait)

3. Assembly instructions formatted to letter size paper (this can be a pamphlet, booklet or one page diagram). Visual aids are highly encouraged. Please include itemized list of materials and components used in assembly.
   PDF or Word Document - Letter Size

4. One image of your completed urban garden for promotional materials.
   JPG - Min resolution of 1600x1200 pixels is recommended

Optional Submission - Physical submission
You also have the option of submitting the actual urban garden to be on display at the Seattle Design Festival Block Party! Check the appropriate box in the entry form on page 5 and we’ll contact you to have your urban garden on display to the public during the block party. Ideally, urban gardens should arrive pre-planted and must be dropped off on Sept. 11th between 4pm-6pm and picked up on Sept. 13th between 4pm-6pm. Entrants are responsible for drop-off/pickup and unfortunately, submissions that are not picked up within this timeslot will be discarded.

By Tuesday September 8th at 12 pm, all digital submission requirements should be e-mailed to: Getgardening@awb-seattle.org

Winners + Awards

Grand Prize - $150 Award • Urban Earth ‘gardening starter kit’
People’s Choice - $150 Award
Under 18 Winner - Seattle Architecture Foundation Workshop Pass • Family Membership

PLUS
Helping Eliminate Food Deserts
Bragging Rights
Media Exposure
Marketing Opportunity
Portfolio Builder
Promoting Healthy Food Access
**To Enter**

Complete the on-line entry form no later than August 17th, 2015. Entry form can be found at: www.awb-seattle.org/projects/get-gardening

Entry Fees:

Firms/Businesses (based on size of business):
- (10+ Employees): $200
- (1-9 Employees): $100

Individual (1-2 People): $50

University Team: $25

Community Group: Free*

Under 18: Free

*Please contact us at getgardening@awb-seattle.org to discuss your group’s qualification as a “Community Group”

**Resources**

http://everybodygrows.org/start-a-garden/
http://www.ghorganics.com/page2.html

**Terms & Conditions**

By entering materials in the Get Gardening! Design/Build Competition, participants grant Architects Without Borders-Seattle permission and a non-exclusive license to use all materials and copyrighted work submitted for inclusion in the Get Gardening! Design/Build Competition.

All material received by the organizers becomes their property, including reproduction rights, and will not be returned. The intellectual property rights in each project remain the exclusive property of the author(s) of the project.

With designer credit, all entries will be open sourced online and the winners will be highlighted through promotion of the competition results and future outreach.

**Questions**

Questions may be emailed to getgardening@awb-seattle.org.

**Thanks To Our Sponsor:**

Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA)

ARCADE

Young Architects Forum

Seattle Architecture Foundation

Design in Public

**Thanks To Our Co-Promoters:**

 Architects Without Borders

awb-seattle.org
Team Information:
Project Name

Team Member(s) / Firm / Community Group

Submission Type:
- Firm
- Individual
- University Team
- Community Group
- Under 18

Contact

Email Address

Required Digital Submission - Checklist
Email the following items to getgardening@awb-seattle.org by 12pm on September 8, 2015:

☐ Completed Team Information Form (page 5 of this document)
  PDF

☐ One 24” x 36” board (portrait format) with photographs, diagrams, drawings, or any other visual aid to comprehensively illustrate the merits of the entry. Boards must include a project description of 100 words or less explaining the design goals and decisions.
  PDF - 24” x 36” (portrait format)

☐ Assembly instructions formatted to letter size paper (this can be a pamphlet, booklet or one page diagram). Visual aids are highly encouraged. Please include itemized list of materials and components used in assembly.
  PDF or Word Document - Letter Size

☐ One image of your completed urban garden for promotional materials
  JPG - Min resolution of 1600x1200 is recommended

Optional Physical Submission
Submit the actual urban garden to be on display at the Seattle Design Festival Block Party!
Check the appropriate box below and we’ll contact you to have your urban garden on display to the public during the block party. Ideally, urban gardens should arrive pre-planted and must be dropped off on Sept. 11th between 4pm-6pm and picked up on Sept. 13th between 4pm-6pm. Entrants are responsible for drop-off/pickup and unfortunately, submissions that are not picked up within this timeslot will be discarded.

Will you like to submit your physical urban garden to be on display at the SDF block party?
- Yes
- No
If Yes:  Approximate Size: W_______ x D_______ x H_______

Contact Phone Number