



powell street festival society

パウエル祭協会

3rd Annual Design Competition for Powell Street Festival

Presented in partnership with Revery Architecture and Abaton Projects, students are invited to design an interactive artwork for the 42nd Anniversary Powell Street Festival, scheduled for August 4 and 5, 2018. The winning submission is awarded mentorship from Revery Architecture and Abaton Projects, and a commission and production budget to build their design.

The submission deadline is April 3, 2018 at midnight.

About Powell Street Festival

Powell Street Festival, an annual celebration of Japanese Canadian arts and culture, is the longest running community arts festival in the Lower Mainland and the largest event of its kind in Canada. The festival honours Vancouver's original Japanese Canadian neighbourhood and provides the Vancouver community-at-large with a fully accessible, diverse, innovative, and challenging Japanese Canadian voice while encouraging a deeper sense of interconnectedness and exchange. To further interconnectedness, our annual programming includes collaborative and/or intercultural explorations within our geographic and cultural umbrella communities (including the Asian Canadian, arts and culture, and Vancouver's Downtown Eastside communities). The festival's overnight security, which is provided by Oppenheimer Park Fieldhouse and Lookout Society, is an example of our community partnerships.

Design Brief

The Design Competition for Powell Street Festival challenges art students to take into account civic engagement, cultural relevance, environmental sustainability and practical design limitations in the design of an interactive artwork.

The design proposal is to create a visually engaging, experiential installation or experimental spatial setting that creates opportunities for interaction at the festival site.

Interaction should be conceptualized in a multitude of ways: between the park and the neighborhood; between the designers and the various constituencies that could engage the pavilion in its development, installation, and afterlife; between the human and animal occupants of the park; between the history of the Japanese Canadian community in the Powell Street neighborhood and the community that resides in the neighborhood today. As an example, a Tanabata-inspired installation might invite the 17,000 festival-goers to make a wish.

Students are encouraged to work in robust design teams and to consider the site through its respective historical, cultural, and environmental layers.

Site location

Oppenheimer Park (400 Powell Street). Three potential sites are identified in the park, (approx. 100 square feet/site).

Site A is on the north side of the walkway across from the festival information booth.

Site B is located on the main green close to the festival information booth, the main stage, and the sumo ring.

Site C is at the corner of Cordova and Dunlevy and could mark a threshold into the park and the festival.

Limitations

- design will not be constructed without certification by a structural engineer
- there is no access to electrical power or water
- stakes cannot be used to anchor the structure into the ground; cement blocks are permissible
- site installation on Friday, August 3 (between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.) and de-installed Sunday, August 4 after 7 PM (i.e. early installation is not possible due to security and permit restrictions)
- use materials that reflect PSFS's Zero-Waste commitment and limit the amount of landfill waste after the event, innovative repurposing of materials is encouraged.

Submission Requirements

Submit one Arch D (24" x 36") poster in horizontal orientation and include a site plan, plan(s), a section(s), and a perspective view. Detail on the materiality and construction details of the design are to be included. Each submission must have a title and an artists' statement that is no longer than 200 words. Additionally you can submit a drawing, sketch, photomontage, or any images which helps to represent the project. Please exclude any reference to authorship on the panel itself but include name of team members, faculty and institution within your email.

The submission is electronic; email a .pdf to production@powellstreetfestival.com.

Timeline

- February 1, 2018: Competition Launch
- March 12, 2018: deadline to submitted questions and request links to additional resources (production@powellstreetfestival.com)
- April 3, 2018: submission deadline @ Midnight
- April 26, 2018: winner announced
- May 1 -July 15, 2018: production
- July 15-25: documentation for PSF's promotion
- August 3: installation to be assembled on site

- August 4-5: installation featured at the 42th Powell Street Festival, Oppenheimer Park
- Aug 5, 7 pm: deinstallation

Jury

The competition jury is comprised of:

- Joseph Fry, Hapa Collaborative
- Tania Willard, an indigenous curator and artist from the Secwepemc nation
- plus one representative each from Revery Architecture, PSFS and Abaton Projects.

Prize

\$1000 to winner(s)

In addition to a cash prize/commission and will receive mentorship from Revery Architects and Abaton Projects throughout the final design and production stages.

Production budget

TBD (estimate is \$5000)

Site Map

