



Architects Without Borders and Architecture for Humanity Present:

Libraries on the Loose!

A Little Free Library Design Build Competition

The Challenge:

Get ready to design, build and steward a Little Free Library prototype that promotes community and literacy in Seattle's neighborhoods! Little Free Libraries are small-scale book shelters that function as "take-a-book, leave-a-book" gathering places. They provide a location where the free exchange of books, ideas, stories, and interests contribute to a shared experience valued by neighbors and visitors.

Literacy forms the foundation of educational and professional opportunity. Our communities are our neighbors, family, and friends, providing a network of support and connection. Consider the library as more than just an enclosure for books, but as a part of a system that supports professional opportunity and community resiliency, through the ever-changing collection of books and the spontaneous interactions they provide.

Finding a location for and building a Little Free Library can be a significant challenge. This competition will focus on the affordability, adaptability, ease, and creativity with which a Little Free Library design comes to fruition and the resulting sense of community it provides.

Consider what design can do to foster community and literacy in our local neighborhoods and let your library loose! 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.

History:

The global Little Free Library movement started in 2009 by Todd Bol and Rick Brooks in Wisconsin with the mission of promoting literacy and building a sense of community. Today there are over 15,000 Little Free Libraries worldwide. The libraries vary in size, shape, design, and neighborhood, but share the common goal of connecting our communities with free communal resources.

Schedule

Competition Launch - June 16th

Registration Deadline - August 1st

Submissions Deadline - August 27th at 1 PM

Judging - September 6th

Winners Announced: Grand Prize - September 6th; People's Choice - September 14th

Exhibit:

September 6th - 7th during the Seattle Design Festival's Design Block

September 13th - 14th during the Seattle Design Festival Conference



Design Requirements:

Location - Locate the library within the Seattle metro area

Size - Provide space for a minimum of 20 medium-sized books

Protection - Shelter library contents from the weather

Stewardship - Provide a long-term steward for the library, typically the home/property owner

Criteria for Judges:

Affordability - Use of affordable materials and components. The materials cost should not be greater than approximately \$150. Reused, repurposed, or recycled materials are encouraged.

Adaptability - Ability for the library 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 library to accommodate different site conditions, contexts, and neighborhoods.

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

Community - Promotion of community interaction and growth

Creativity - Aesthetic / functional / installation / material creativity

Judging:

All entries will be presented in an exhibit as part of the Seattle Design Festival 2014. Judging will take place during the exhibit, on September 6th. Teams will be asked to provide digital and physical submission materials. Please see "Submission Requirements" for more details. Judges to be announced.

Submission Requirements:

ALL DIGITAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE E-MAILED TO:

LIBRARIESONTHELOOSE@AWB-SEATTLE.ORG BY WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27TH AT 1PM.

ALL PHYSICAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO:

901 5TH AVENUE, SUITE 2720 SEATTLE, WA 98164 BY WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27TH AT 1 PM.

Please Note: All teams will design, build, and install their Little Free Library entry on a site chosen by the team members. The Little Free Library itself will not be physically submitted. All submission requirements (listed below) consist of documentation of the Little Free Library entry:

1. A list of team members, main contact information, and location information for the built Little Free Library entry.
2. Seattle Design Festival Exhibit Content:
 - a) One 24" x 36" board (portrait format) with photographs, diagrams, drawings, or any other visual aid to comprehensively illustrate the merits of the built Little Free Library entry. Boards must also include a project description of 100 words or less explaining the design goals and decisions. Please submit this board as a digital PDF file.
 - b) Any other physical representation of the design that your team would like to include in the exhibit such as assembly instructions, process models, material palettes, etc.
3. Assembly instructions and/or assembly video. Visual aids are highly encouraged. Please include itemized list of materials, tools and components used in assembly and an indication of the amount of time needed for assembly. Please submit the instructions as a digital PDF or movie file.



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Winners + Awards:

Grand Prize - \$150 + 3 months of a Makerhaus Studio Membership

People's Choice - \$150

Honorable Mention - Little Free Library Starter Kit (sponsored by Elliott Bay Book Company)

PLUS:

Immortality in the Chronicles of Little Free Library History

Bragging Rights

Media Exposure

Marketing Opportunity

Portfolio Builder

Promoting Literacy and Community

Building relationships between members of your community!

To Enter:

Please complete the on-line entry form no later than August 1st, 2014.

www.awb-seattle.org/projects/libraries-on-the-loose

Entry Fees:

Firms/Businesses (based on size of business):

(10+ Employees): \$200

(1-9 Employees): \$100

Individual (1-2 People): \$75

University Team: \$50

Community Group: Free*

Under 18: Free

*Please contact us at librariesontheloose@awb-seattle.org to discuss your group's qualification as a "Community Group"

Resources:

<http://littlefreelibrary.org/> - Little Free Library.org

<https://www.facebook.com/SeattleLittleFreeLibraries> - Seattle Little Free Libraries Facebook Page

<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=Little%20Free%20Libraries> - Little Free Libraries on Flickr

Questions:

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



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Terms & Conditions:

I understand that by designing, building, and stewarding a Little Free Library that I accept a lifetime of community connections and literary exchanges.

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



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