



2023 AIA Central Valley

Design Competition

powered by the AIACV Emerging Professionals Committee

AIA Central Valley



2023 AIACV EMERGING PROFESSIONALS DESIGN COMPETITION

THREE SISTERS COMMUNITY GARDEN CENTER

INTRODUCTION

The American Institute of Architects, Central Valley Chapter, in partnership with a nonprofit organization, Three Sisters Gardens, announces a competition to successfully envision designs for a community center in West Sacramento.

ABOUT THREE SISTERS GARDENS

Three Sisters Gardens is an indigenous-led nonprofit organization bringing community members together to grow food and lives. It was founded in 2018 and currently operates four urban farms. Their mission is to teach members of the community how to grow, harvest and distribute organic vegetables.

Three Sisters Gardens is based on traditional native teachings of protecting Mother Earth and respecting ALL living things. Their main goal is to give back to the community by inspiring and empowering youth through gardening. Like the Three Sisters legend of companionship planting, Three Sisters Gardens believes that communities can begin to heal and thrive when all components, the youth, adults, and elders are working together as one.

COMPETITION OVERVIEW / PROGRAM

The site for the project is located at the northeast corner of C Street and 5th Street in West Sacramento and is approximately 12,000 SF, currently holding an unoccupied metal and flat roof building. The site's immediate context is a mix of one to two story residential and commercial properties. It is also directly across from one of the four Three Sisters Gardens urban farms - located to the south of the project site.



The primary goal of this competition is to develop design ideas for a Community Center that will establish a neighborhood presence for Three Sisters Gardens, allow them to expand on their urban farming programs, connect with the local community, and offer opportunities for training and education related to gardening. They envision a development that enjoys a relationship with their urban farms in the area. The farm and community center hope to play a part in addressing the West Sacramento food desert.

Precise programming for the competition is open to entrant discretion. Below are some program requirements to consider:

1. Level 01: Outdoor Plaza, Retail/Coffee Shop/Restaurant, Pantry, Seed Bank, Community Kitchen
2. Level 02: Daycare, Makerspace/Workshop for youth
3. Level 03: Admin/Office Area for Three Sisters Gardens Staff (6 staff members)

Note: while specifications have been provided for this specific site, the final location is subject to change. Please keep site adaptability in mind.

DATES AND DEADLINES

April 7	Registration Opens
April 18	Information Session + Community Engagement (12 – 1 pm, 317 5th St, West Sacramento)
May 30	Submittals Due (by 5:00 pm)
Week of June 12	Jury Session
June 19	Award Recipients Notified

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all AIA and Associate AIA members of the AIA Central Valley Chapter, as well as students attending CSUS Sacramento, UC Davis or a community college in the Los Rios District. High school students affiliated with the ARBX/CIEF Create Program may also enter.

Submissions may be created by individuals, or teams of up to (5) five members. Teams must have at least one AIA or Assoc. AIA Central Valley member on their team to participate. Non-members and allied members are encouraged to team with AIA and Associate members to form teams. College and High School individuals or teams do not need to meet this requirement.

ENTRY FEES

\$75 Individual AIA Member, or AIA team of up to 5

\$50 Individual AIA Associate / Emerging Professional, or team of up to 5

\$25 College or High School Student, or team of up to 5

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Entries are due May 30, 2023 by 5 PM PST and must include the following:

Design Team Information

Project Title

Team/Firm Name

Team Member Contact Information, including name, physical address, email address, and telephone number for each member

Design Concept Narrative

Narrative may not exceed two 8.5" x 11" pages addressing the evaluation criteria. Font must be 12 pt Arial.

One (1) 30"x42" Presentation Board with 150 ppi minimum resolution. File must be in PDF format--no others will be accepted. Must be in landscape format, and include all the following information:

- **Site Plan:** Minimum of one site plan that clearly identifies the concept as it relates to the requirements.
- **Elevations/Sections:** As necessary to explain the concept.
- **Floor Plan(s):** Minimum of one floor plan to explain the concept.
- **Context Illustrations:** Rendering or graphic that clearly indicates the design including how it interfaces with existing site features.

The AIA Central Valley will produce one complimentary (1) 24" x 36" hard copy presentation board for each submittal from the digital presentation board file for exhibition display.

NOTE: No identifying information of any kind (team or firm name, individual names, or logos) may be included on the Project Narrative or digital display Board, or the submission will be disqualified.

CASH PRIZE AND RECOGNITION

Awards will be given in each category: AIA, Associate / Emerging Professional and Student at the discretion of the jury.

A Grand Prize Award of \$500 will be awarded in the Associate / Emerging Professional category. The award will be given to either an individual or team. The individual or team may accept the cash award, or optionally donate it to Three Sisters Gardens.

Additionally, the award recipients will receive:

- The opportunity to share their concept/and design with key stakeholders, AIACV membership, and the general public.
- Recognition in a fall issue of Comstock's Business Magazine
- Recognition on AIA Central Valley and other key stakeholders' websites.
- Complimentary entry to the 2023 AIA Central Valley Design Awards, where individuals or team members will receive certificates and the Associate / Emerging professional team will accept the Grand Prize Award (or bestow it upon Three Sisters Gardens).

AXP HOURS

Under the design competition opportunity in experience setting O, unlicensed participants with an NCARB record may earn experience time by completing and submitting an entry to the competition. The competition must be completed outside of your employment and/or academic coursework.

If you participate in a design competition as part of paid work for a firm, your work should be reported under either setting A, [O: Other Work Under Licensed Professionals](#), or [O: Design or Construction Related Experience](#).

To report experience under this opportunity, the design competition must meet the following criteria:

- Be completed under the supervision of a mentor
- Align to at least one AXP® task
- Be for a building or planning project
- Be a structured competition with specific requirements
- Be sponsored by a recognized business entity, government agency, or professional association
- Include appropriate credit on the competition entry for your work

When you report this experience, you must also complete a Design Competition Verification Form, which can be submitted through your NCARB Record. For full information on this opportunity, please read the AXP Guidelines.

RESOURCES

Three Sisters Garden Website: <https://3sistersgardens.com/>

Meet the urban farmer giving back to the West Sacramento community:
<https://www.abclO.com/article/news/local/west-sacramento/national-farmers-day-three-sisters-garden/103-22b1d14e-6bc4-439f-bfle-a715239536e3>

Site Plan: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/OeKncpDeIm>
 Provided with permission by JTS Engineering Consultants

QUESTIONS

Please contact AIA Central Valley: info@aiacv.org, 916-444-3658.

AIA CENTRAL VALLEY APPRECIATES THE SUPPORT OF OUR 2023 SUSTAINING PARTNERS

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