ARCHITECTURE IS COMPETITION.
Student competitions, professional competitions, open
cOMPETITIONS, single stage, multi-stage, ideas competitions,
INTERNATIONAL competitions, local contests, invited competi-
tions, nominations, RFQ’s, RFP’s, peer-reviews, fellowships,
awards, grants...we are always competing.

As competition entrants, advisers to students, jurors, and organ-
zizers, our small, two-person studio has been involved in over
40 architectural design competitions in the past fifteen years.

To us, competitions are a framework for architectural educa-
tion, practice, and advocacy. We believe competitions:

EVEN THE PLAYING FIELD
Competitions are an opportunity to reach a broader audi-
ENCE, in anonymity, detached from name, gender, school
prestige, nationality, personal brand, or architectural lineage.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL NARRATIVES
Competitions are a venue for research, speculation, and
discovery. They allow us to question our reality, offer a way
to explore beyond established boundaries and functional
constraints. Competitions serve as a platform to envi-
sion the future.

EXPOSE US TO NEW PROBLEM FIELDS
Architecture can be hyper-specialized. Competitions permit
exploration of new topic areas and typologies not confronted
in daily practice.

BUILD NEW COMPETENCIES
Participating in competitions facilitates learning. They are
safe places to test drive advanced software, practice new
tools of representation, and gain exposure to industry
best practices.

ACCELERATE THINKING
Short timeframes necessitate a charrette approach, require a
clear point of view, focus efforts toward big ideas, and hone
time management skills. Competitions build tacit knowledge
and design-muscle memory.

EMPOWER ARCHITECTS
Competitions are space for recovering our voice as designers
in a deconstructing, fragmented discipline and allow us to
reclaim participation in the genesis of ideas.
Architecture is Competition

COMPETITORS
9/11 Memorial Phase II Finalist, Exhibition 2003
ACSA Pavilion Finalist, Exhibition 2018
Chicago Prize “Urban Water Tanks” Selected for Exhibition 2005
C2C Home Selected for Exhibition 2004
Green Tent First Place, Exhibition 2004
History Channel’s “City of the Future” IBM Engineering Innovation Award, Exhibition 2006
McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum Sculpture Phase II Finalist, Exhibition 2005
New Orleans Sustainable Housing Design Competition Notable Entry Award 2006
Olympic Landmark for Paris 2012 Notable Entry Award, Exhibition 2004
The Shining Maze Finalist 2015
Architecture for Humanity & Nike “Community Center” 2010
Architecture for Humanity “Siyathemba Youth Sports Facility” 2004
Architecture for Humanity “Youth Sports Facilities for Africa” 2008
Calgary Artcity 2006
Cheogna City Tower Design 2008
Dwell Playhaus 2011
Flight 93 National Memorial 2005
Jardins de Metis International Garden Festival 2008
Jardins de Metis International Garden Festival 2009
Portland Housing Competition 2007
Ragdale Ring 2016
Re:Vision Dallas 2009
Rio City Tower 2009
Tsunami Memorial 2005

ORGANIZERS / CURATORS
Building Voices Competition & Exhibit 2017
Building Voices “Honolulu Connects” Competition & Exhibit 2018
Burnham Prize “Next Stop” Competition & Exhibit 2013
Chicago Prize “Future Prentice” Competition & Exhibit 2012
Currencies of Architecture Exhibit 2015
Emerging Visions Competition & Exhibit 2014

ACADEMIC ADVISORS
ACSA/AISC Steel Student Design Competition HM 2010
Building Voices Second Place, Third Place, HM, Citation, Citation 2017
ComEd Student Design Challenge First Place 2012
Metal Construction Association Student Design Competition Third Place, HM 2006
SOFA Design-Build Installation 2014
SOFA Design-Build Installation 2015

JURORS
ATA Houston Design Awards 2007
Art Institute of Chicago, Schiff Foundation Fellowship 2011
ASLA Hawai’i Design Awards 2018
Black Spectacles “The Un-Competition Project” 2012
Building Voices “Honolulu Connects” 2018
Chicago Architectural Club “Emerging Visions” 2014
University of Hawai’i “Ala Wai Challenge” 2017
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign “Green Re-scheme” 2010