

urbanSHED

International Design Competition

*For Immediate Release:
October 9, 2009*

THREE FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR INTERNATIONAL SIDEWALK SHED DESIGN COMPETITION

Finalists Receive \$5,000 to Further Develop Designs for Sidewalk Shed of the Future

Winner Will Receive \$10,000 and See their Design Built in Lower Manhattan

The New York City Department of Buildings (DOB) and the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIANY) announced the three finalists for the urbanSHED International Design Competition. The finalists will now advance to the final and second stage of the unique competition, which seeks to create a new standard of sidewalk shed design that improves the pedestrian experience while maintaining or exceeding the required safety standards in New York City. The competition is being sponsored by DOB, AIANY, Alliance for Downtown New York, ABNY Foundation, Illuminating Engineering Society New York City Section (IESNYC) and New York Building Congress with additional support from the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT), the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP) and the Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY).

"The quality of the submissions made selecting the finalists a difficult decision," said Commissioner Robert LiMandri. "We were impressed with the new and creative ways the design teams re-imagined New York's sidewalk shed. The rare opportunity that this competition has offered the global design community will have everlasting impact on this City's streetscape, and I look forward to the next stage of the competition."

"The AIA New York Chapter is gratified that the international design community responded to the urbanSHED call with creative solutions to redefining sidewalk safety and amenity," said Rick Bell, Executive Director of AIANY. "The winning solutions and the honorable mentions focus attention on how our streetscape can be improved by attention to the basics of architecture: light, air, materials, structure and form. Design matters!"

Of the 164 innovative designs submitted by architects, engineers, designers and students from around the world, the finalists are: "urbanCLOUD," developed by Kevin Erickson, Brodie Bricker, Dan Campbell, Johann Rischau and Mathew Strack of KNEStudio in New York, NY; "Urban Umbrella," developed by Young-Hwan Choi from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA; and "Tripod MOD(ule)" developed by Jonace Bascon, AIA, Derrick Choi,

AIA, Lynn Hsu, RA, Stephen Lew, PE, and Andrew Stark, PE, of XChange Architects in Brookline, MA.

Honorable mentions were awarded to: Tenzin M. Phuntsok of the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, MI; “Kit-Of-Parts,” developed by Craig Tooman, Asaf Yogev, Frank Scanlon, Tim Jagisch and Jiro Baskin of New York, NY; and “64.8265,” developed by Michael Sullivan of the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, MI. The finalists and three honorable mention winners were announced last night at the AIANY’s annual Heritage Ball at Chelsea Piers in Manhattan.

The submitted designs addressed New York City’s dense urban environment in a variety of innovative ways, from suspending the shed from the roof of the building to slanting the top of the shed away from the street to allow more light and space. Designs were evaluated by the competition’s jury on criteria such as safety, sustainability and constructability, as well as the impact on the streetscape and pedestrian experience, use of both natural light and the required electrical lighting, and improvements to structural components. Each finalist will receive \$5,000 to further develop their design in Stage II of the competition. The grand prize winner, to be announced in December, will be awarded \$10,000. As part of the top award, the Alliance for Downtown New York will facilitate the construction of a full-scale prototype on a job site in Lower Manhattan as part of its RE: Construction art program. All designs will be featured at www.urbanshed.org.

The jury was comprised of City Planning Commissioner **Amanda M. Burden**, FAICP; **David M. Childs**, FAIA, of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill; **Craig Dykers**, AIA MNAL, of Snøhetta; Buildings Commissioner **Robert LiMandri**; **Jean Oei** of Morphosis; Department of Transportation Commissioner **Janette Sadik-Khan**; **Craig Michael Schwitter**, P.E., of Buro Happold North America; **Frank Sciame** of the New York Building Congress; and **Ada Tolla** of LOT-EK. Susanna Sirefman of Dovetail Design Strategists is the competition advisor overseeing the development and management of the competition.

The three finalists will receive recommendations from a technical advisory group of leading design and construction industry stakeholders led by: **Fatma Amer**, P.E., First Deputy Commissioner at DOB; **Rick Bell**, FAIA, Executive Director of the AIANY; **Carl Galioto**, FAIA, senior principal at HOK New York; **Dan Eschenasy**, P.E., Chief Structural Engineer at DOB; **Ken Buettner** of the Hoisting and Scaffolding Trade Association; **John Delucia**, Director of Street Reconstruction at the NYC Department of Transportation; **Skye Duncan**, Urban Designer at the NYC Department of City Planning; **Andrew Hollweck**, Vice President of the New York Building Congress; **Laurie Kerr**, Senior Policy Advisor on Buildings and Energy at the NYC Mayor’s Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability; **Caleb McKenzie** of IESNYC; **Brigit Pinnell**, Executive Director of the Jamaica Center BID; and **David N. Rackmales**, P.E., of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Further information on the competition is available at www.urbanshed.org.

Contact: Tony Scalfani / Carly Sullivan (DOB) (212) 566-3473
Emily Nemens (AIANY) enemens@aiany.org or (212) 358-6126



CORRECTION:

The original release issued on October 9, 2009 erroneously stated the name of the winning design submitted by XChange Architects and did not include two contributing members. The press release was amended on October 13, 2009. The correction is reflected in the text above.