50th Annual High School Design Competition
Dear High School Student & Educator,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco’s Fiftieth annual high school design competition. This is an exciting competition where high school students put their design skills, creativity, spatial and analytical thinking and craftsmanship to the test. With the guidance of instructors – or in some cases for those who opt to treat this creative challenge as an independent study endeavor – high school students design a building and communicate their solutions through drawings and models. All high school students in both public and private schools in the greater San Francisco Bay Area and beyond are encouraged to participate. This competition provides young thinkers with the opportunity to participate in what is a very unique learning project.

The Architectural Foundation of San Francisco is a nonprofit educational organization that involves San Francisco students in a mentored appreciation of architecture, engineering, construction and the design process. San Francisco reigns as one of the most architecturally significant and beautiful cities in the world. The environment of architectural diversity is extremely important to the vitality of this great city. Everywhere, the vibrant and complex layering of landscape, color, cultures and light produces experiences that unexpectedly reveal themselves. Since its inception in 1990, the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco has endeavored to reach out to the general public to establish an open dialogue on the architectural future of this community.

To receive more information about the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco, please visit the website at www.afsf.org or email Alan Sandler at alan@afsf.org. For specific competition-related inquiries and/or to receive competition updates, please contact Ryan Lee at ryan.lee@woodsbagot.com.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to seeing your designs!

Sincerely,

Ryan Lee
Competition Chair & Author
Board of Directors, AFSF
Senior Associate, Woods Bagot

Alan Sandler
Executive Director, AFSF
For fifty years, there has been an architectural design competition for Bay Area high school students. This annual event challenges students to create a design for a major new building, and requires students to submit presentation boards with drawings of their solution, a physical scale model and a written description of their approach to the design. Every year hundreds of students from various high schools participate. Many of San Francisco’s leading architects participated in the competition when they were in high school, and credit it with helping them decide on their career.

In 1969, the American Institute of Architects San Francisco Chapter established the Annual High School Architectural Design Competition. In 2000, sponsorship of the Competition was transferred to the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco (AFSF). Over the years AFSF has seen design technology evolve. When the competition began, renderings were completed in pen and ink, using drafting tools, and line weight and lettering styles were emphasized in the judging. With the introduction of Computer Assisted Design (CAD) in the 1990’s, more and more students began submitting computer generated designs on their presentation boards. In the 21st Century, we are seeing more Build Information Modeling (BIM) designs completed with software such as Autodesk Revit Architecture. In 2011, AFSF created a new category for the competition, allowing students who used 3D modeling software to include digital renderings on CDs or flash drives as a part of their submission, with a separate prize given for Best 3D Rendering. This has proven so popular that it is clear that most students now choose BIM software for their design work.

Program
Architectural design competition sponsored by the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco

Design Challenge
Design the new Tenderloin YMCA as part of the University of California Hastings’ Long Range Campus Plan.

Eligibility
The program is distributed to all high school students throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area but participation is both encouraged and welcomed from all high school-level students interested

Educational Objectives
• Increase your awareness of the relationships between space, human scale, and function
• Gain experience in communicating your planning and designing ideas through drawings and models
• Recognize the varied problems in planning and designing functional spaces for defined uses
• Develop design skills through sketching, hand drawing, computer-aided design platforms, and model making

Costs
No entry fee and no pre-registration is required

Awards
This is a judged competition with monetary awards

Schedule
• January 11, 2019 | competition distribution
• April 27, 2019 | competition entries due
• April 28, 2019 | awards ceremony and reception

Contact
Ryan Lee | Competition Chair and Author | 415.277.3041 | ryan.lee@woodsbagot.com

Sponsor
This year’s 2019 competition is sponsored by Forge Land Company | Sustainable and affordable living for the urban environment

For fifty years, there has been an architectural design competition for Bay Area high school students. This annual event challenges students to create a design for a major new building, and requires students to submit presentation boards with drawings of their solution, a physical scale model and a written description of their approach to the design. Every year hundreds of students from various high schools participate. Many of San Francisco’s leading architects participated in the competition when they were in high school, and credit it with helping them decide on their career.

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This year you are challenged to design the new Tenderloin YMCA as part of UC Hastings’ Long Range Campus Plan sited at the nexus of San Francisco’s Civic Center, Tenderloin, and Mid-Market neighborhoods.

The University of California Hastings College of the Law – a public law school in San Francisco is currently undergoing an expansion of its existing facilities to both upgrade its academic environments and increase the amount of affordable student and teacher housing available. As part of the master plan expansion, UC Hastings endeavors to embed itself deeper into the public realm by not only providing the infrastructure necessary for its students and teachers but for everyone in the community as well to best weave its academic campus aspirations into the overall neighborhood fabric. The new YMCA will be the centerpiece of these communal upgrades.

Text directly from the UC Hastings’ RFQ (Request for Qualifications) issued in February 2018:

“The YMCA is a unique organization that is skilled in serving diverse communities with recreational and wellness programs and opportunities for all ages. It also serves as a community hub that brings together disparate groups into a united community. In this partnership with UC Hastings, the YMCA seeks to incorporate a 39,000-square foot facility into one of the new buildings on the campus, most likely at 198 McAllister. On site, the YMCA would offer a new wellness, recreation and community services facility with aquatics, team sports, and multipurpose spaces. The YMCA would also partner with the legal and medical students and faculty to provide clinics and workshops that would benefit both students and the community members who participate.”

Another community-oriented tenant in the new campus facilities may be a Legal Services hub, which would accommodate a variety of nonprofit legal services organizations maximizing shared platform and space sharing opportunities. The co-location of these organizations would offer synergistic opportunities, including internships for law and other graduate students as well as being a source of legal services to the community at large.”

We would like you to consider what it means to enhance an upgraded academic campus with a communal amenity and design a building that is inclusive of all users. As always with this competition, you will be critiqued more on the aspirations of your “big idea” than your ability to problem-solve every technical detail of your design’s real-life features and ramifications. However, if you do choose to elaborate on certain technical aspects of your design, we will welcome anything and everything that intrigues you about your design. Have fun with it!
YMCA Development

For over a century, the Central YMCA occupied the historic 9-story 150,000 square foot building at 220 Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco's Tenderloin. Completed in 1910, the building was the oldest YMCA in the city and in need of seismic retrofitting, which the organization could not afford. Since its closure in mid-2009 and after the building was sold to the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corp. to be converted to supportive housing, the Central YMCA has been looking for a new home to bring back what was once an integral hub for the community at large.

“It resets our longest-term and deepest commitment in this city, which is to the Tenderloin. It opens an opportunity to show what the Y can bring in a holistic way to a larger vision around an academic village. It will be more than just a gym, a swimming pool and exercise space. We are interested in social justice, in youth development, in holistic and chronic disease prevention. We see a tremendous opportunity for civic engagement.”

Chuck Collins - President, YMCA of San Francisco

UC Hastings Campus Buildings

Below is a map indicating UC Hastings' property portfolio and their respective construction dates. 333 Golden Gate is targeted for late 2019.

Project Background Links

- UC Hastings
  http://building.uchastings.edu/

- UC Hastings RFQ Feb 2018

- SF Chronicle Feb 2018

- SF Examiner Dec 2015
  http://www.sfexaminer.com/ucsf-uc-hastings-team-up-to-develop-new-campus-housing-for-students-faculty/
Located in the Tenderloin, the design site sits just across from the Van Ness/Civic Center boundary along McAllister Street and is within very close proximity to Mid-Market.

Zoomed in view on the design site’s surrounding context.
Expand Your Design Thinking Scope

When considering your design proposal, be mindful of not just the program components within your building but of the greater neighborhood context as well. Please research the links below to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the ongoing efforts to create an enhanced public domain.

Civic Center Public Realm Plan

Currently, San Francisco’s Civic Center is undergoing an upgrade of the surrounding area to unify the existing public open space network, update infrastructure and increase activation. In addition to UC Hastings’ “LRCP,” the Civic Center Public Realm Plan “will create a long-term vision for improvements to Civic Center’s plazas, streets, and other public spaces. The Public Realm Plan is part of the City’s larger Civic Center initiative to improve the area as both a neighborhood gathering space and a public commons for all San Franciscans.” How does the design for your building, especially given its communal mission, embed itself into the larger vision of creating a common space for everyone?

Civic Center Commons

“The Civic Center Commons Initiative is a collaborative effort to breathe new life into the City’s central civic spaces, changing how people engage with the place and with each other so that everyone can feel welcome and experience the best of San Francisco every day.”

1 https://civiccentersf.org/
2 https://www.civiccentercommons.org/about/

Vicinity Map

Civic Center Public Realm Plan areas in relation to both UC Hastings’ existing and future buildings and your design site.
The area colored in red below is the building footprint that you have to design within. The site area totals 18,540 square feet and dimensions are clearly marked on the plan for your reference. The residential tower above (dashed line) sets back 5 feet along the east and west boundaries and 40 feet at the south along McAllister Street. A central tower atrium is dashed as well, indicating a void beginning at level 4 upwards - you may choose to integrate this into your design and carry the opening through your proposal. You may also choose to utilize the red boundary however you may see fit. Note: you do not have to occupy the full extent of the design footprint to build on. Massing strategies on the next page are provided for reference. You may download CAD drawings of the design footprint on the competition Google folder here: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nRPZwdR1D3yU1eWRtpRuKFCpVk_cwF4

### DesignFootprint

There are an infinite amount of ways you may choose to configure your building massing below the residential tower above in order to arrange your program components. These are a few examples of how these strategies may differ and how you may consider approaching your design intent.

#### Open Space Setback

Utilizing the residential tower's 40' setback above, this strategy considers maintaining that distance to create a ground level open space along McAllister Street as shown in Figure 2.1. In this case, all of the building's massing is condensed into a 3-story stack directly below the tower.

#### Maximized Roof Deck

Establishing a primarily 2-story full floor massing, this strategy looks at occupying a maximized roof deck solution that even includes semi-protected outdoor space below the residential tower as shown in Figure 2.2. The building holds a consistent street presence around the site’s perimeter edge and offers lifted outdoor amenity space.

#### Stepped Variation

Combining strategies from the above two iterations, this stepped variation breaks up the massing to allow for multiple open space opportunities at different levels as shown in Figure 2.3. Much of a street edge is maintained while depressing the massing at the corner for stepped back entry moments.
Existing UC Hastings building at 198 McAllister St.

Southern frontage along McAllister St.

View up Hyde St.

Snodgrass Hall to be demolished for new housing and YMCA

Elevated plaza

View towards the Asian Art Museum

SF Public Library - Main Branch

SF Federal Building

Asian Art Museum

UC Hastings Academic Building - 200 McAllister St.
You may view and download these site images on the competition Google drive here:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nRPZwdR1D3U1wWRgaRUiwKFcPYk_oEFs
You are tasked with designing the new Tenderloin YMCA at the base of UC Hastings' new 14-story residential tower. You have a 3-story volume to work with at 198 McAllister St. (at Hyde St.). Your design intervention should consider pedestrian access to the building in relation to the greater site context. Given the nature of the YMCA’s all-inclusive objective, how you engage the public realm and create an inviting entry sequence will be critical. Please limit the height of your structure to 40’ maximum − for your level heights, you may assume an 18’ floor to floor ground floor height and 11’ floor to floor heights for levels 2 and 3. You may also adjust these heights if necessary to better conform to your objective, how you engage the public realm and create an inviting entry sequence will be critical. Please refer to page 14 for your plan dimension reference. Your design will include the following spaces listed below. Additional spaces may be added at your discretion; however it must add value to the building program and be in line with the YMCA’s mission.

Building Program: Your building design must include spaces for the following uses:

- **Main Entrance & Lobby:** (500 ft.²) This will serve as the gateway into the building from the exterior and must be easily visible to the public. Due to the various uses within the building, be mindful of the entry sequence and how users can utilize wayfinding techniques to successfully navigate the building. You should incorporate a welcoming element that hints at the use of the space. This can be in the form of a digital display wall, a direct visual connection to key interior spaces, an area dedicated for art installations, etc.

- **Basketball Court:** (6,572 ft.² minimum) Include a full-size basketball court that measures 94’ long by 50’ wide. Include a minimum 6’ run-off border on all sides. Your minimum floor to ceiling height should be 10’ clear. It is at your discretion to include additional area for spectator seating. Refer to the plan diagram on page 22 for dimension reference.

- **Lap Pool:** (5,952 ft.²) To accommodate an aquatics program, incorporate a 5 lane lap pool that measures 75’ long by 50’ wide. Allocate a minimum of 6’ along both lengths and one width as a maintenance border. The other width should account for a minimum 15’ dry-off border edge. The pool is to be divided into five 10’ wide lanes. A 2’ pool depth should be accounted for – consider what program (if any) sits below your pool to account for ceiling heights. Refer to the plan diagram on page 22 for dimension reference.

- **Family Changing Room:** (400 ft.² total split into four 100 ft² changing rooms for individual family use)

- **Fitness Center:** (4,500 ft.²) Individual use of cardio equipment and free weights – the space may be broken up into two sections, one for each use if you so choose.

- **Large Exercise Studio:** (1,500 ft.²) Include a room to accommodate exercise classes for up to 30 people. Activities in this space include but are not limited to: yoga, pilates, tai chi, dance, spin, rowing, etc.

- **Small Exercise Studio:** (1,000 ft.²) Include a room to accommodate exercise classes for up to 20 people. Activities in this space include but are not limited to: yoga, pilates, tai chi, dance, spin, rowing, etc.

- **Exercise Studio Storage:** (200 ft.²) Include storage space for equipment to be used in the studio spaces.

- **Locker Rooms:** (2,000 ft.² total, split into two 1,000 ft² locker rooms for both men and women) Consider the Locker Room’s proximity in relation to the exercise spaces. While each space will accommodate lockers, showers, and toilets, it is not necessary to lay out each plumbing fixture in your drawing.

- **Multi-purpose Room:** (1,500 ft.²) This space will hold various activities from community meetings, to weekend arts and crafts, to ping pong, to Y-organized family dinners and much more.

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- **Fitness Center:** (4,500 ft.²) Individual use of cardio equipment and free weights – the space may be broken up into two sections, one for each use if you so choose.

- **Large Exercise Studio:** (1,500 ft.²) Include a room to accommodate exercise classes for up to 30 people. Activities in this space include but are not limited to: yoga, pilates, tai chi, dance, spin, rowing, etc.

- **Small Exercise Studio:** (1,000 ft.²) Include a room to accommodate exercise classes for up to 20 people. Activities in this space include but are not limited to: yoga, pilates, tai chi, dance, spin, rowing, etc.

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Total program area exclusive of circulation: 28,774 ft.²

*Minimum required as you may see fit to expand certain program elements such as spectator space for the basketball court.
Dimension Reference Diagrams:

Please refer to the basketball court and lap pool dimensions below. The red border indicates the minimum buffer you must provide. You may extend the size of your basketball court to include spectator seating on any or all of the four sides beyond the 6’ buffer.

Sustainability & Construction Methods:

A fundamental goal of this exercise is to also embrace sustainability and consider the lifespan of the building. In order to reduce the overall impact of the building on the natural environment, the new YMCA should consider integrating innovative green building strategies that help increase energy and water efficiency, use renewable energy and materials, and reduce consumption, pollution, and waste. The building should consider careful building orientation, natural daylighting, smart shading systems, water conservation, and photovoltaic solar collectors among other strategies. Where possible, the building and site should showcase green building methods used to educate the public on sustainable architecture. Research into the US Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system is encouraged.

You are also encouraged to contemplate various methods of design and construction for this competition. You may consider but are not limited to any of the following solutions for your campus center design: modular/prefabricated, stationary or portable architecture. Given the site’s unique constraints, you may choose to design a single structure as a whole or a cluster of several building components placed throughout the site that link the program in a cohesive manner.

Below is a list and breakdown of judging criteria that will be used to evaluate your submission.

- **Big Idea**
  What is the narrative for your building? Each project should be grounded in a big picture idea that may be inspired by your interest in the site, the program, the users, building composition, history, view corridors, etc. Develop a concept for what you’re trying to achieve and make that evident in your drawings, model and written description.

- **Design Function**
  How does your building function and is your building layout conducive to a realistic working solution? Consider programmatic adjacencies of rooms, circulation routes to and from spaces and access to light, air and views. User experience should be carefully considered – think about the different type of people who may be visiting the space and how their interactions might differ.

- **Design Aesthetics**
  Do you have a compelling solution that visually carries forth your big idea? Note that a visually pleasing solution does not necessarily mean you have to derive ambitious forms beyond 90° geometry as composition, regardless of shape, will carry more weight. Your design proposal should demonstrate an understanding of the balance between transparent and opaque surfaces.

- **Technical Execution & Clarity**
  Is your design thinking made immediately apparent through a proposal that is clearly articulated through well-executed drawings and a model? Attention should be made to make sure drawing lineweights read properly and rooms are correctly tagged, that deliverables are correctly scaled and labelled and that model construction is clean (sharp edges – change blades frequently!, proper adhesive application, etc.)

- **Process**
  Did you include visualizations of your thought process leading up to your design solution? From conception to execution, the journey is just as important as the final product and we would like to see some of your process work. Document study models, include diagrams, sketches, whatever it may be that helped lead you to your conclusion.
Deliverables

There are three ways in which you may choose to enter the competition: as an Individual Entry participant, as a Group Entry participant or as a Digital Entry participant. Students may choose to enter as both an Individual or Group Entry participant and as a Digital Entry participant.

Individual & Group Entry* required deliverables:

Drawings
Provide the following presentation drawings:
- Floor plans: 1/16" = 1'-0" scale – include a north arrow and room names, furniture for scale optional
- Elevation: 1/8" = 1'-0" scale – elevation view that best describes your design, include at least one person for scale
- Section: 1/8" = 1'-0" scale – section view that best describes your design, include at least person for scale.
- Site plan: 1/64" = 1'-0" scale – include the building and surrounding site. See Figure 3.4 for reference – this cropped view enables you to capture UC Hastings’ buildings to the east and west as well as a portion of the Civic Center Public Realm plan scope. Utilize these factors when considering your site plan design. Please label all site elements and include a north arrow.

Drawings must clearly document the design solution through selection of appropriate drawing views and clarity of line work. Each drawing must be labelled with the correct drawing name (i.e. First Floor Plan, West Elevation, etc.) and drawing scale. Rendering materiality and casting shadows is encouraged. Figure 3.4 provides you with a template for how to layout your drawings, which you may download from the competition folder – this ensures that no entry requires more than one presentation board as well as competition uniformity. Layout space is provided for you to include additional drawings, be it process sketches, diagrams, renderings, etc. that help explain your design intent. Presentation drawings must be mounted on rigid 30" x 40" boards. Drawings may be printed or drawn in ink and/or pencil. Hand-generated or CAD drawings are acceptable. Use of color, while not required, is permissible to enhance the reading of your drawings. Please label your drawing board on the back side with your name(s), school and grade level.

Model
Build one physical architectural model of your building design at 1/8" = 1'-0" scale.
Your model may be made of any material; museum board, card board, wood, foam core board, found objects, etc. are all acceptable options. Use of color, while not required, is permissible to enhance the reading of your model. You do not need to construct a site base for your model as one will be provided for you at the competition. Please note that this means your model must conform to Figure 3.2 as these dimensions will plug right into the provided site model. Please label your model on its underside with your Name/School/Grade Level.

Design Description
- Design Solution Title | Give a project title to your design that best describes your design solution and strategy.
- Design Narrative | Compose a thoughtful and concise description of your design solution and strategy. This may include your design inspiration and what you are trying to achieve with your design. This is your opportunity to articulate any other ideas you may have that aren’t as easy to read from your drawings and models alone such as building material choices or site ideas relative to the greater master plan. Your narrative should be no more than 500 words and should be typed or neatly hand printed and mounted on the front side of the presentation drawing board along with the drawings. Again, focus on articulating what your “big idea” concept is for this project.

*As a Group Entry participant, you must submit all of the required deliverables mentioned above. You may, however, work in teams ranging between 2-4 people. This will be a separately judged category.

General
No names or identifying marks shall be placed on the front face of any drawing or model. Student(s) must ensure that their entry adheres to the submission guidelines. Any deviation may disqualify the entrant from that portion of the competition. If you're considering alternative submittal options, please confer with Ryan Lee at ryan.lee@woodsbagot.com.

Digital Entry required deliverables

Computer Perspective Renderings
Provide a minimum of three (3) 3D computer generated perspective renderings of your building design – you are not restricted to a maximum amount. Two of the renderings must be exterior views and one of the renderings must be an interior view. These should be the best views describing your design solution.

You may utilize any 3D modeling software at your disposal to create your images. Your submission will be in the form of high resolution images in JPG format. Post-production image work in Photoshop is not required but is strongly encouraged. You will bring a flash drive to the submittal location and a competition representative will assist you in downloading your entry. This will be a separately judged category.

Figure 3.1

Figure 3.2

Figure 3.3

Computer Perspective Renderings

Figure 3.4

Design Solution Title

Design Narrative

3D computer generated perspective renderings of your building design
Competition Start Date
January 11, 2019
Competition packet is distributed to high schools in the San Francisco Bay Area and posted to the Architectural Foundation of San Francisco’s website at www.afsf.org.

Design Period
January 11, 2019 – April 26, 2019
Students work on their designs, drawings and models. Progress critiques may be scheduled with Competition Chair, Ryan Lee. Email Ryan at ryan.lee@woodsbagot.com to schedule a review.

Competition Entries Due
Saturday April 27, 2019. Drop-off window: 10:00am – 12:00pm (noon)
Submittal location to be determined and once confirmed, details will be posted on the AFSF website at least (2) weeks prior to the submittal due date. Instructors will also be notified.

Please bring your submission: presentation drawing board, model (no site base needed), and/or flash drive to the submittal within the 10:00am to 12:00pm drop-off window. You will be asked to fill out a registration form when submitting your entry. Please note that late submittals will not be accepted. No exceptions. For those participating from locations beyond the San Francisco Bay Area, please email Ryan Lee to discuss submission logistics.

Judging
Sunday April 28, 2019 from 9:00am – 4:00pm
Location is the same place as the submittal location.
Judges Only. A distinguished panel of judges will review every submission in private and determine the award winners.

Awards Ceremony
Sunday April 28, 2019 from 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Location is the same place as the submittal location.
All are invited including entrants, their family, friends, and school faculty members. Winners will be announced and awards will be presented at this time. Jurors & the Competition Committee will be available after the awards reception to answer any questions you may have about the competition.

Entry Pick-up
Sunday April 28, 2019 at 5:00pm
All entries must be picked up following the awards presentation including the winning entries. Any entries left after the reception will be discarded.

For competition updates or specific inquiries, please email to Ryan Lee, ryan.lee@woodsbagot.com.

Best Individual Entry
Awards for best Individual Entry submitted design solution
Design solution, graphic presentation, model
1st Place | $200.00 & CCA Summer Scholarship*
2nd Place | $150.00
3rd Place | $100.00

Best Group Entry
Awards for best Group Entry submitted design solution
Design solution, graphic presentation, model
1st Place | $150.00
2nd Place | $100.00
3rd Place | $75.00

Best Digital Entry
Awards for best 3D computer generated renderings describing design solution
Minimum 3 images – 2 exterior views, 1 interior view
1st Place | $100.00
2nd Place | $75.00
3rd Place | $50.00

Certificate of Participation
A Certificate of Participation will be presented to all entrants

*CCA Summer Scholarship
Through the generosity of the California College of the Arts, the Best Individual Entry 1st Place winner will be offered a full tuition scholarship to CCA’s Summer Pre-college Program in Architecture. CCA’s Pre-college Program is a four-week intensive studio experience offered in July, Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm. The student will earn 3 units of college credit. The value of the scholarship is $3,425.00 per student.

For more information on CCA’s summer program, please follow this link: https://www.cca.edu/academics/precollege

As stated prior, please note that depending on which option you choose to enter as, you will only be eligible for certain award categories. The award categories, listed above, are broken up into the three ways in which you may choose to enter.

Entrants may submit separate Digital Entries in addition to either Individual or Group entries. Please note that awards for Honorable Mention may be presented to any participant(s) in any submission category at the discretion of the judges.
Thank you for participating in this year’s competition.
Best of luck to you all!

—

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Richard Hannum  Board of Directors, AFSF
Ryan Lee  Chair
Alan Sandler  Executive Director, AFSF

—

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